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## **Through Thick and Thin Season 2 by Cassie**

### **Chapter 1**

LEONOR

I looked at the pictures she had sent and smiled.

I was very happy for my best friend.

She was getting married and I couldn't wait for that.

I immediately called her and she picked up.

I screamed, making her laugh.

Me: "I'm so excited babe. Congratulations "

She chuckled.

Aphiwe: "I know. It still hasn't sunk in. I'm getting married! "

We both screamed and Bandile came running down the stairs.

I laughed, and he rolled His eyes.

Me: "So, when's the wedding? "

Aphiwe: "I got engaged today bitch"

Me: "Yeah yeah but we have to at least plan the engagement party"

Aphiwe: "Of course. I'll come over on Friday so we can talk about it"

Me: "Definitely. It has to be a prestigious event"

Aphiwe: "Yeah. I'll invite my sister and make this a girl thing. Plus she's the best cook"

I almost rolled my eyes.

I didn't like her sister because of how she'd always throw insults at me.

I heard Bandile clearing his throat, probably because of my expression.

My phone was on loudspeaker.

Me: "Awesome. I'll organise a setting with snacks and drinks"

Aphiwe: "Alright. I love you"

Me: "I love you too"

Then we hang up.

Bandi: "I thought someone had died"

I chuckled.

Me: "Sorry to disappoint. Did you know about this? "

Bandi: "Craig and I do talk about things if that's what you're asking "

Me: "Yeah well. I'm happy "

Bandi: "I can't believe this fucker is getting married before me. Again "

I laughed.

Me: "You wanted to be the first? "

Bandi: "He was always too serious when it comes to relationships "

Me: "He fucked Diana while dating your niece, that's being serious? "

Bandi: "What do you have against Diana? "

Me: "She always rubs me off the wrong way "

Bandi: "She's your bestie's sister"

Me: "She calls me a slay Queen "

He laughed.

Me: "It's not funny"

Bandi: "Sorry baby but you know I love you just how you are, right? "

I nodded.

Me: "And I love you"

I said, going to him.

He picked me up and put me on the kitchen counter.

Bandi: "How much? "

Me: "This much"

I pulled him towards me and kissed him.

He was in between my legs.

I was just in his T-shirt.

Unlike Aphiwe, I wasn't working.

I didn't mind just staying in the house and spending my boyfriend's money.

I was used to privilege and he provided that for me.

That is why my parents loved him so much.

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GINA

He pulled a chair for me and I sat down.

We were having dinner.

I don't know why I'd still get scared in his Presence.

Xolani: "You should learn to relax "

I giggled.

Me: "I don't know why I can't. "

He laughed.

Xolani: "It's been three months"

Me: "You've been counting? "

He nodded, biting his lip.

I just chuckled.

Me: "I never imagined myself having a black boyfriend "

Xolani: "Racist much? "

Me: "No but my father is. He doesn't even hide it"

Xolani: "I'm glad you see a future with me"

He was smiling, which made me blush.

Me: "I do. "

I admitted

Me: "I don't think I would have given you a chance if I didn't "

I added and he smiled. His smile was really going to be the end of me.

Xolani: "And I love you. I mean it. I see a future with you too"

He held my hand, sending chills down my spine.

Our food came and his eyes never left mine.

Even when he was eating, he still looked at me.

I might be outspoken but he made me very shy.

Me: "Stop... Stop staring please"

Xolani: "I can't help it"

Me: "You making me shy X"

I couldn't pronounce his name.

Xolani: "I'm sorry"

Do you think he stopped? No.

I had a good time with him and he made me laugh, at some point.

I finally relaxed.

He took me back to the flat around 9pm.

I was a bit tired and had morning classes.

Xolani: "Enjoy your night. I love you"

Me: "I love you too"

We kissed and I got out.

I walked into the flat with a smile on my face.

Diana was having wine while sitting on the counter.

Me: "You can't drink while you're pregnant "

Dee: "Oh, you're back? "

Me: "Diana! "

Dee: "I'm not keeping this baby Gina. I don't have to stop drinking. It's not even a baby yet. It's just a bunch of cells"

Me: "You haven't even thought about it"

Dee: "I have. I'm not having a baby. Never"

Me: "What if it's your last? "

Dee: "I'd be the happiest woman on earth. "

Me: "Think about this. Do you really want to kill an innocent child? What about his father? "

Dee: "What he doesn't know won't kill him"

I raised my hands in surrender.

It was clear that her mind was made up and knowing Diana like I do, there was no changing her mind.



I just went to my room, undressed then went to shower.

When I was done, I wore my sleeping dress then slept.

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DIANA

I spent twenty four hours trying to think of how it's possible that I'm pregnant.

I've always been careful and this was one thing I couldn't comprehend.

This wasn't good on my future and I was worried about my bursar.

I didn't even know how I was going to hide this.

Waking up

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I had a little headache because of the wine.

I had drank the whole bottle alone.

Anyway, I went to stand in front of the mirror and lifted my top up.

My stomach was still very flat. I wasn't going to stress about this because I was seriously going to terminate.

I went to take a shower, coming back, my phone was ringing.

Me: "Hello? "

It was an unknown number.

"Good morning Diana, it's Joshua"

My heart started racing.

Me: "Good morning Doc"

Josh: "I'd like us to meet today. During lunch "

Me: "I thought we were only meeting next week, with all due respect Sir "

Oh, he was the one who awarded me this bursary.

I was going to work for him after, for two years.

Josh: "Change of plans. See you then"

He hang up on me.

I knew I had to do this as soon as possible, having a baby out of wedlock would mean termination of the agreement and I would end up owing them.

I knew I had no other choice.

Me: "Morning"

I said to Gina, who was having cereal.

Gina: "Good morning babe"

I took a bowl and made some cereal for myself.

I was so nervous.

This man is very intimidating and I hoped that it wasn't any bad news.

Gina: "Are you OK? "

Me: "Uhm yeah, just a little nervous. I have a meeting with my bursar"

Gina: "Oh babe, all the best"

Me: "Thank you"

I took a taxi to the hospital right after my morning classes.

I didn't want to be late.

The receptionist allowed me go through immediately when I arrived.

Knocking on his door, I was shaking.

"Enter"

He said from inside. I took a deep breath then got in.

Me: "Good day Doc"

Josh: "Sit down "

He wasn't even looking at me.

He was going through a certain file.

I sat down and waited for him to finish.

He did, after about ten minutes. I could hear my own heartbeat.

Josh: "How are you? "

Me: "I.. I'm fine "

Josh: "Are you? "

Me: "Yes. "

I couldn't even look at him.

Josh: "Look at me"

I looked at him.

Josh: "You're lying. Lying is a sin Diana. I'm going to ask you again, how are you? "

Me: "To be honest, I don't know. I'm nervous right now "

Josh: "I've booked an appointment for you with our gynaecologist. I would handle it but I want to relax "

Me: "I'm not sure I follow "

Josh: "I know you're pregnant Diana"

I swear I almost had a heart attack.

I swallowed hard.

Josh: "And you're not going to terminate that baby. You'll just have to convince your baby daddy to marry you. I'm giving you a month. You know our deal"

I nodded. I wanted to cry.

Josh: "She'll email you with the details. For now, you're dismissed "

I went out with a tail between my legs.

He knew before I even thought of telling him.

I had just found out.

This was really complicated and once again, I was in a situation.

I really thought my life was coming together but now this.

I sank down on the bench outside and just cried.

I was tired, really tired.

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DIANA

On Friday, I got ready to meet up with my sister.

I was really trying to avoid the issue at hand and I felt that this was the way to do it.

Joshua crept me out the first time I saw him when he told me stuff about me before I could even greet him.

I think from there, I got used to it but I didn't think he'd know about this.

Anyway, I had gotten my hair done yesterday.

I was stepping into the lion's den so I had to look good.

It was an 8inch Bob weave, brown in colour.

I was tempted with going with something colourful but I decided against it.

Anyway, I had just gotten from my classes when I decided to take a hot shower.

After that, I wore Ruffle floral Maxi dress with pink fluffy slippers.

I did my makeup, and went light on it.

I know I didn't have to put in much effort because I look good without it anyway.

When I was done, I took my bag which had my wallet and phone then left.

Me: "Don't miss me too much "

I said to Gina who just chuckled.

Gina: "I'll be busy riding"

Me: "Eeuw"

We bid farewell and I left.

Just after closing my door, there was Bandile and I rolled my eyes.

Bandile: "Hi"

Me: "What do you want? "

Bandile: "I came to pick you up. I know y'all are meeting at my house "

Me: "Well, I just saved on uber. Your ass better bring me back"

He chuckled.

Bandile: "Of course "

Me: "And how will you explain that to your girlfriend? "

I said. We were now at the parking lot where he opened the door for me.

Bandile: "I know she's going to go hard on the wine, considering you'll be there"

I laughed.

Me: "Seems like you got this all figured out"

Bandile: "You look beautiful "

Me: "I know. "

He chuckled, shaking his head.

My phone beeped. It was a message from Joshua.

"You can use the moment to tell him. The month includes your wedding. I better be invited "

I rolled my eyes and groaned.

I seriously needed a drink but he'd know.

Bandile: "Is everything OK? "

Me: "Just drive Dlamini!"

I was really so frustrated. The thought of this douche bag being my baby daddy was enough to make my stomach turn.

I know you guys are probably wondering how that came to be so I'll tell you. The short version of course.



it all started December the previous year.

I went to the club because I was stressed.

Hugh had really walked out on me and even now, I still hadn't heard from him or seen him.

Anyway, this fucker came to me and as usual, he was trying to piss me off.

I'd be lying if I said I knew how we ended up leaving together but I woke up in a hotel room while sleeping next to him.

We hadn't done anything then because I never Fuck drunk but that morning , I let him do as he pleases with my body.

It had been a while and salt was killing me.

OK, so I avoided him until last month where whatever happened then rekindled.

His dick game is dope so I'd never say no to that.

Anyway, I still don't know how I'm pregnant because we've always been safe.

He opened the door for me and I got out.

His girlfriend was the one who opened the door when I knocked. Bandile just dropped me and left.

Leonor: "Hi"

She said with a fake smile.

Me: "Hey there, is my sister here? "

Leonor: "Yeah

we were just waiting on you"

She made space for me to enter. She opened with a glass of wine in her hand so it seemed Bandile was right.

Aphiwe came to me and we hugged.

Me: "I see this party started without me"

She laughed.

Aphiwe: "You look great "

She kissed my cheek. I had to grab hold of that hand to see her rock.

I really never imagined myself getting married.

Me: "It's beautiful babe"

Leonor: "It is"

We sat down and she offered me a glass of wine.

Me: "Rather not"

Aphiwe gave me a weird look.

Me: "I'm pregnant "

She laughed. Maybe it's because she thought I was joking but I wasn't.

Aphiwe: "You're serious? "

Me: "I really wish it was a joke but it's not"

Aphiwe: "Who's the father? "

Me: "Some occasional Fuck. I don't even want to think about that son of a bitch "

She laughed.

Aphiwe: "Congratulations. I really can't wait for that "

She gave me a hug.

Anyway, it was nice being with them though they were both going hard on the wine.

As much as I wanted to be part of that, I didn't yet we still had a good time.

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LEONOR

I was tipsy, and didn't even think of food while that was all Diana had been doing.

Surprisingly, she wasn't getting on my skin but the alcohol can make one press buttons.

Me: "Don't you think you're already fat? "

I said, trying to tease her.

Diana: "At least I don't look hungry. Look at those bones on your chest doll"

Aphiwe laughed. I just rolled my eyes.

Bandile came with Craig.

Craig: "Ladies"

Me: "Hey"

Aphiwe: "Baby, guess what? "

Diana: "Oh God"

She rolled her eyes and I laughed.

Aphiwe: "I'm going to be an aunt "

Me: "Hey babe"

I said to my boyfriend who kissed my lips.

Bandi: "You're drunk "

I giggled.

Me: "Diana is pregnant. I guess I'm the only one who won't have a baby. Not that I'm complaining "

Craig: "I pity that child"

Diana: "Fuck you Craig"

He laughed.

Aphiwe: "We all know how much you hate kids babe"

Me: "Makes two of us. You should try being on birth control"

Diana: "Well, I'm having an abortion. "

Bandile coughed.

I went to get him some water.

Bandi: "Thanks"

Aphiwe: "That's a bit drastic, don't you think? "

Diana: "I know but I can't possibly keep this baby "

Craig: "Guys, excuse us. Baby, you'll tell me when you want us to leave "

Aphiwe: "Alright "

Bandile kissed me and they left.

Me: "Happens when you go for random fucks. You should consider settling like some of us. I mean, you're the oldest yet the only one who isn't in a serious relationship. "

She laughed.

Aphiwe: "I think you've had a lot to drink"

I laughed.

Me: "As if you hadn't "

Diana: "You're actually right. I mean, Remo is married and Aphiwe will be soon. If I get married, you'll be the odd one out"

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "I'm not in any rush to get married, thanks"

I yawned.

Me: "I'm Calling it a night. "

Diana: "It was about time"

I rolled my eyes and hugged Aphiwe.

I took a bottle of water then went to my room. I drank before then slept.

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BANDILE

Craig: "Dude, you're making me dizzy "

We were in my study and I was pacing back and forth, trying to think.

Me: "She can't do that, can she? "

He laughed.

Craig: "She sure as hell can. Diana never changes her mind once it's made up"

Me: "I'm the father. I must have some fucken rights. I can't lose any child dog"

Craig: "Talk to her"

I stopped and looked at him.

Me: "Do you think she's going to listen? She only knows me when she's horny"

He laughed.

Craig: "Then use that to your advantage. "

Me: "I was with her today and she never mentioned it. "

Craig: "And you heard how she announced the abortion? Like there's no harm in that "

Me: "Fuck"

I sat down.

Craig: "Weren't you guys using protection? "

Me: "We were but there was a time it burst. "

Craig: "You're happy about this, aren't you? "

Me: "What are you talking about? "

Craig: "You wanted this. I know you've wanted Diana since you first saw her"

I smirked.

Me: "I won't deny that but I have Leonor now"

Craig: "She's just a spoilt brat who's feeling entitled because her parents are rich. Diana is a woman"

Me: "Stop talking about her like that "

I took my phone and sent her a text.

"We need to talk! " She replied after 5 minutes.

"Tomorrow. I'll send you the location"

I breathed out. Craig: "I gotta go"

We both went downstairs and she was gone.

Aphiwe: "Finally. Baby, pick me up"

I went to my room after they left to find Leonor passed out on the bed.

I kissed her then went to take a shower.

I was suddenly nervous about this meeting.

I have to convince her to keep the baby. I just have to



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LEONOR

The first thing I noticed when I woke up was my boyfriend who was not next to me.

I could hear the shower running so I got off bed and went to the bathroom.

Me: "Where are you going so early? "

I asked, looking at my reflection on the mirror.

Drinking water before I slept helped. I had no hangover.

Bandi: "Good morning baby"

He got out, wrapping a towel on his waist and kissed my lips.

Me: "Morning but you still haven't answered my question "

Bandi: "I have to run a few errands. What do you want to do today? "

I shrugged.

Me: "Go do my hair maybe. "

Bandi: "Shopping? "

Me: "Maybe. I'm yet to decide "

Bandi: "I'm going home after my meeting. Just want to visit "

Me: "I miss my parents too now that you mention it"

Bandi: "You can come with me"

Me: "Rather not. Let me shower "

Bandi: "Not before you kiss me"

Me: "My mouth stinks babe"

Bandi: "I don't care "

He pulled me in for a kiss that had me wanting more.

Bandi: "I love you"

I giggled.

Me: "You don't ever give me a moment to forget "

Bandi: "Because I don't want you to"

He kissed my forehead and when he left the bathroom, I stripped and took a shower.

"I'm leaving! "

He shouted when I was still showering.

I'm used to taking long showers.

Me: "I love you! "

Bandi: "I love you more! "

My phone was ringing when I got back to the bedroom.

It was my father.

Me: "Daddy! "

Dad: "Baby, how are you? "

Me: "I'm good. I miss you"

Dad: "Good because I'll be there in the afternoon. I want to see you"

Me: "I'd love that"

It was like he knew that I missed him.

We talked for some time and hung up. I wore black torn bum shorts with a pink cropped hoodie and sneakers.

I then did my makeup and wore a cap. I took a few pictures which I posted on my instagram.

I took my bag and went downstairs. The chef had made breakfast so I dished up for myself.

After eating, I took my car keys and left.

I didn't need an appointment to do my hair.

The stylist removed my weave and washed my hair.

I wanted an extension so she did that in grey. I looked beautiful.

I paid with Bandi's card and decided to do some eye shopping.

That was when I bumped into Diana's ex with a toddler.

Me: "Wow. You're alive "

Hugh: "Surely you didn't think I died"

Me: "Still have a nasty attitude. That's what you and Diana have  
In common "

Hugh: "You're wasting my time "

I laughed.

Me: "Does she know you're back? Maybe you're the mysterious  
baby daddy "

He looked at me blankly.

Me: "Anyway, bye"

I left him there and went on my way.

I must admit that Diana has taste.

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DIANA

Me: "I wasn't expecting you so early"

I said, after Letting him in. I wasn't expecting him at all, matter  
of fact.

I woke up feeling lazy so I was still in my pyjamas.

Bandi: "I had to come before you did anything drastic "

I laughed.

Me: "Anything to drink? There's no food"

Bandi: "I hope you're not starving my baby "

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "I thought I said I'll text you the location"

Bandi: "You didn't and besides, I have other commitments "

Me: "Let's go talk in my room"

I poured myself a glass of milk and we went to my room.

Getting there, I closed the door and sat on the bed.

Me: "So, talk"

Bandi: "It's mine, right? "

Me: "Ha.a , let's start at that part where you tell me how this happened "

He ran his fingers through his dreadlocks and I just looked at him, drinking my milk.

Bandi: "You should know that condoms aren't 100% effective "

Me: "Oh cut the crap "

He sighed.

Bandi: "Fine, it burst"

Me: "And you didn't tell me? "

Bandi: "We were both in the moment. Come on Diana and we're here now, aren't we? "

I huffed.

Me: "I'm not having an abortion

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if that's why you're here"

I saw him breathe out in relief.

Bandi: "You're not? "

Me: "You heard me. I want to, trust me I wanted to but I can't. I would have done this without you knowing "

Bandi: "So, how do we do this? "

I knew I had to tell him. Josh didn't leave me much choice.

I sighed.

Me: "The agreement that I signed forbids having children out of wedlock and abortion. My bursar is quite spiritual. I think he's some prophet, I don't know these things. If I do either, I lose my bursary and I'll have to pay them back all the money"

Bandi: "But I can afford your fees"

Me: "Don't fucken piss me off Dlamini! I'm not Leonor. Diana works hard and I earned this. It's a good deal and I get to work after. I can't lose it"

Bandi: "What do you suggest? "

Me: "I've been given a month to... To... "

Bandi: "Just speak Diana. I don't have all day "

Me: "You have to... I have a month to get married "

He didn't say anything for about a minute.

I was nervous because my future was in his hands and I hoped that he agrees.

Bandi: "That's crazy "

Me: "Look. It won't change anything. We're just going to go to home affairs and get married. No one has to know about this and we can divorce after I get my qualification. Please think about it. If not for me, then for our child"

Bandi: "I have a girlfriend Diana, who I love and see a future with. If I wanted to get married, it'd be to her. "

Me: "Do you want this child or not? "

Bandi: "I'll have to talk to my lawyer regarding the terms and conditions of this marriage "

Me: "Fine"

Bandi: "And we'll have to be discreet. No one can find out about this. "

Me: "Bandile, I have absolutely no interest in you. You practically complicated my life "

Bandi: "It takes two to tango "

Me: "Get the Fuck out"

He laughed and got up.

Bandi: "I thought we'll have a quickie"

Me: "I know I'm good in bed but I'm done with you. I just want us to do this then I never want to see you again "

Bandi: "Unfortunately, that's impossible. I'll see you on Monday "

He went out and I breathed out.

Joshua had put me in a difficult position. The thought of marrying Bandile was one I couldn't stomach but I had no choice.

None of this would be happening if I had just decided to focus on my books.

I took a shower. Gina was nowhere to be found but I understood.



Anyway, I wore a black Maxi dress when I was done and black slider.

I went to the kitchen where I made myself some popcorn.  
Caramel popcorn.

"You Still look just as beautiful "

I knew that voice very well

Turning back, he had his back against the door. I didn't even hear him come in.

Hugh: "Hi baby"

Me: "Wh... No"

Hugh: "I'm back"

He started getting closer but I was just shocked.

I hadn't seen him since he left me and I had managed to move on with my life.

Hugh: "Congratulations are in order"

I just looked at him.

Hugh: "I heard you're pregnant "

Me: "Get out! "

He laughed.

Hugh: "I'm not going anywhere. We have to talk"

Me: "It's been more than a year Hugh. Leave! "

Hugh: "This is overwhelming. I get it so I'll leave but I'll be back  
"

He kissed my cheek and I watched him leave.

He looked so good, he smelled even better.

Seeing him just brought back so many memories and emotions.

Again, my life was getting even more complicated.

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APHIWE

The door bell rang.

I was alone with the kids because Craig had to go somewhere.

I opened and it was Mpilo's grandmother.

Me: "Hi"

Her: "Are you going to open so we can get in? "

I made space for her to get in.

I didn't understand why she had to be so rude to me.

She was with her husband.

Her: "Where's my grandson? "

Thando: "Stop being so rude "

Her: "Luthando, don't piss me off. I want my grandson "

Mpilo came holding Summer's hand.

As soon as he saw them, he ran to them and she picked him up.

My baby came to me.

Her: "I'm taking him with "

Mpilo: "And Summer Mama"

Her: "I missed you nje. She'll come next time"

Me: "With all due respect Ma but you can't just come here and take him. He's under my guidance and you should at least inform me before hand"

Her: "This is my daughter's son. He's the only reminder I have of her. I'm talking about my first born. I don't need to ask anything from you"

She clicked her tongue and left.

I wanted to cry.

I didn't know why she hated me but I knew she did.

Summer: "Mama? "

Me: "You want ice cream? "

She nodded. My heart was very heavy.

I was looking forward to spending time with the kids and just bond.

For her to show up unannounced, that was rude and uncalled for.

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APHIWE

Craig: "Aphiwe! "

Me: "Huh? "

My mind wasn't here.

I had spent the whole day battling in thought, wondering what I had done for this woman to hate me this much.

I also thought that my baby didn't deserve this.

It was night and Craig was watching a rugby match. We enjoyed watching together, even though I didn't understand anything but I loved it.

Well, except for this night.

Craig: "What the Fuck is going on with you woman? "

I sighed.

Me: "It's nothing Craig"

Craig: "Surely you don't expect me to buy that, Now speak"

Me: "She was rude"

Craig: "Who? "

Me: "Khensani. She just got here and took Mpilo, she didn't even ask for my consent. She hates me Craig"

Craig: "I'm sorry baby"

He said, brushing my back.

I wasn't crying but I think he knew that I was close.

Me: "She hates me"

Craig: "She still haven't gotten over Sphe's death. She expected me to mourn forever "

Me: "But I didn't kill her"

Craig: "I'll talk to Luthando. He's the only one who can put her in her place "

Me: "Thank you "

Craig: "You're my future wife. I'd do anything for you "

He kissed the top of my head.

Craig: "Can we watch the game now? "

Me: "I have something else in mind "

I said, getting on top of him.

Craig: "Oh? "

Yes and I kissed him. His hands went to my butt and closed whatever gap there was between us.

.

DIANA

I had been doing a lot of thinking lately and I didn't think it's a good thing.

I was constantly trying to not think but I couldn't.

Now Hugh had to come back from whatever hole he had been hiding in to make me think even more.

Gina: "Morning "

Me: "Hey. When did you come? "

Gina: "I think you were sleeping "

Me: "You're glowing "

She laughed.

Gina: "I got some"

She grinned.

Me: "Yes girl! "

We high fived and laughed.

Gina: "How are you though? "

Me: "Horrible. My life keeps getting more and more complicated. To add to that, Hugh is back "

Gina: "What? "

Me: "And I... I think I still feel something for him. I mean seeing him... Arg, this is just confusing"

Gina: "Did he tell you where he was? "

I shook my head.

Me: "I chased him out but I know he's going to keep bugging me. I already have a lot on my plate right now"

Gina: "Stressing is not good for the baby "

Me: "I don't care about this baby Gina. I don't want to be pregnant, OK. I just want to go back to the Diana who had a stress free life, not this"

Gina: "You have to accept what you can't change "

Me: "I'm going to church today"

She laughed.

Gina: "Wow"

Me: "Hai, don't judge me"

Gina: "Sorry "



I called Remo after showering. It had been years since I went to church and I knew it was going to be weird for me.

Me: "Mrs Smith"

I said after she answered.

Remo: "Hey babe, how are you? "

Me: "I wanna die"

Remo: "What? "

I laughed.

Me: "Are you going to church? "

Remo: "Yes, I am but Diana, we have to talk"

Me: "Don't leave without me"

Remo: "What? "

Me: "Stop with the what. I'll be there In an hour "

I hung up before she could ask anything more.

I was Willing to get to her so she can bombard me with the questions.

I wore a white high waist skirt with a baby pink long sleeved top and black heels.

I didn't put on any makeup but fixed my bag.

I didn't even have a bible.

I just took my phone and bag then left.

I had called an uber.

Gina: "I really thought you were lying "

I laughed.

Me: "Nop. I hope I find my plate in the microwave "

Gina: "Yes

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I'll cook"

I kissed her cheek and left.

I paid after I got off and went to ring the bell.

Marcus opened and gave me a hug.

Marcus: "Little one. It's been a while "

Me: "And you're getting old"

He laughed.

Marcus: "I'm old. Anything to drink? "

Me: "A milkshake "

Marcus: "It's Remo's but I'm sure she won't mind "

Me: "I don't care "

He laughed and went to get it.

I greeted the kids. They were watching TV.

Me: "Thanks"

Marcus: "So, what's bothering you so much that you're turning to the almighty? "

I sighed.

Me: "My whole life nje. I wish I could turn back the hands of time and make better decisions "

Marcus: "Diana, it's called growing up"

I laughed.

Me: "Is that your way of trying to make me feel better? "

Remo: "I thought you were playing "

She was coming from a room downstairs.

Me: "Nope"

I got up and we hugged.

Remo: "So, what is it? "

Marcus: "I'm sure you don't want to be late. Boys, let's go"

Remo: "We're still going to talk "

And we did after church, while waiting for her husband.

I admit that I felt easy on the shoulders.

Maybe I was going to come back.

I only told her about the baby and Hugh. I couldn't tell her off the marriage.

Remo: "Woah, I can't imagine you as a mother"

Me: "I can't imagine myself as a mother, trust me"

Remo: "So, Hugh? "

Me: "I don't want to stress about him now "

Marcus came and I asked that he drop me first.

Remo wanted me to join them for lunch but I couldn't.

I had asked Gina to cook but I did promise to pop by more.

I wish Lunga was here. They both always managed to cheer me up.

.

**BANDILE**

I was excited about becoming a father but I had to hide it.

When she told me she's not terminating, relief embraced me.

I knew that if she were to decide to change her mind, there was nothing I could basically do.

I hoped she didn't.

I didn't want to lose another child, especially after what happened with Hope.

I was over it yes but I had learned my lesson.

Leonor was with her father. She had been with him since yesterday.

I decided to go home and have lunch with them.

I didn't get to go yesterday but met up with my lawyer.

I wanted to get this marriage thing over and done with.

I didn't know how I was going to keep this or the baby away from Leonor.

I knew I wouldn't be able to keep it a secret for long but for now, I had no choice.

Dad: "Don't you think you should be married now with at least two kids? "

I laughed.

Me: "There's no rush. You should know that dad"

Dad: "Same old excuse "

Mom: "Lunch is ready"

Dad and I had been chilling outside and just talking.

I loved being home. I came here whenever I wanted a break from the suburbs.

Mom: "So, where's Leonor? "

Me: "She went out with her father"

Wandiile came and greeted.

Dad: "You really love these coloured girls. I don't know why you can't go for a normal, black woman "

Me: "I'm not racist like you"

Wandile: "I should also go for coloureds. I see the relationships last"

Mom: "You're always moving from one girl to the next. You should consider a serious relationship "

Wandile: "I tried that and it didn't work "

My phone rang during dessert and because it was Diana, I excused myself.

I didn't even know how I was going to break this to my family. My brother would probably hate me.

I can already imagine the accusations.

Me: "Diana"

Diana: "I have my first appointment on Wednesday. Josh wants you there"

Me: "No greeting? "

Diana: "We're not Friends Bandile. It's at 2pm"

Then she hung up on me.

I guess we were back to her hating me.

I didn't care though. I have a girlfriend who loves me and whom I've disappointed.

Now, I really hoped she won't leave me after this gets to her.

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TWO WEEKS LATER

DIANA

I was at a point where I had accepted the things I cannot change.

I only had a week left and a few days to get married and Hugh bothering me.

I had agreed to finally meet up with him later during the day.

A lot has happened in the two weeks that had passed.

I had my first ultrasound and it felt weird hearing that heartbeat. I think that's when it finally sunk in that I'm pregnant.

It didn't help that I had Bandile who couldn't even hide his excitement. He was like a toddler after getting a candy.

Now, I also had to deal with being horny. It sucked because I couldn't help it and I knew that I was going to sleep with someone just to relieve the sexual frustration.

I was a month pregnant now and well, my only problem was the morning sickness.

Josh did give something to help with it but the nausea was there and I couldn't eat any meat.



Apart from that, I was fine.

I had signed the contract. A non-disclosure agreement. The terms included me concealing this arrangement and the conditions thereof. I was to keep my surname, which I didn't mind and for my baby to have his surname. However, Josh wasn't having any of that so I had to go for a double barrel surname. I was to wear a ring on my right finger, instead of left and to make sure that no one ever suspects anything.

It was like a state secret to be honest. I had to go on with my life normally and if Bandile and I were to meet, it had to be at a secret apartment that was under my name.

I didn't mind though. As long as it meant not seeing his face all the time.

I could have only one boyfriend and were to get some allowance which I will spend on myself and the baby. I didn't care about that but he felt it was his way of accepting his responsibility.

Josh wanted him to always be there during my appointments.

I just wanted to have this over and done with and go on with my life.

It wasn't anything heavy and I was glad I get to keep my bursary.

The duration had to be extended to three years including the present year because well, that's what Josh wanted.

Yes he knew about the contract and everything.

Anyway, I was going to the salon to do my hair.

I also wanted to do my nails and some shopping.

It's not that I had money but I wanted to spoil myself plus my step father just had to send me something. He did that every month but I didn't think it was necessary.

Anyway. It was Wednesday and I wasn't going to campus.

It was just the beginning of May and there wasn't much going on there for me.

I had just gotten off the shower when my phone rang.

I ran to my bedroom to answer.

Me: "Hello? "

Bandi: "Hi, are you busy? "

Me: "Yes. I just took a shower. I'm going somewhere "

Bandi: "I want us to talk about the wedding "

Me: "It's not a wedding Bandile. We're just going to sign"

Bandi: "When? I think we should do it on Friday "

I sighed. The sooner the better I guess.

Me: "Fine"

Bandi: "And you should wear a white dress. Which ring would you like? "

Me: "Anything that's over 200k. I'm sure you can afford it"

Bandi: "That's insane "

Me: "You asked. Are you done? I have to go"

Bandi: "Bye"

I hung up on him and threw my phone on the bed.

Anyway, I dressed up in black leggings, a black sweat top and black sneakers.

I wore a beanie, even though it wasn't hot, took my bag and phone then left.

Gina was probably at campus.

I found someone I wasn't expecting by my doorstep, Lunga and I threw myself into his arms.

Lunga: "I was missed"

Me: "Fuck you"

We laughed and he kissed my forehead when I broke it.

Me: "I didn't know you were coming "

Lunga: "You haven't been talking to me so I was worried. I had to hear from Remo that you're pregnant "

Me: "I'm sorry baby. My life has been so messed up lately. "

He took my hand and we went to his car.

Lunga: "Who's the father? I hope it's not that bastard Hugh who left you with a broken heart"

I laughed.

Me: "No. But before I tell you, you have to promise to keep it a secret. I signed a non-disclosure agreement which could have me with a huge lawsuit if break the terms"

Lunga: "Of course I will. How many secrets have I kept? "

Me: "True. It's Bandile "

He literally stopped the car on the road. I just laughed, good thing I had my seatbelt not.

Lunga: "What? "

Me: "Drive"

He started the car again.

Lunga: "How? "

Me: "We had a fling that ended before it began. We didn't hit it raw but the condom burst"

Lunga: "That's like your ex's brother. "

Me: "I know and to top it off

I'm getting married on Friday"

Lunga: "That's bullshit "

I sighed.

Me: "Tell me about it"

Lunga: "Doesn't he have a girlfriend? They're all over instagram "

Me: "He does hence the agreement. Even our marriage is a secret "

Lunga: "Yoh, that's hectic "

Me: "Yeah but will you be there? It'll only be you and Josh on my side plus I need another witness"

Lunga: "Lucky for you, we're here until Sunday. We can go clubbing after, though you won't drink"

Me: "I'd love that"

So, I started at the salon with my hair and nails.

I did thick cornrows in white and my nails were baby pink.

Lunga: "I need to do something too as the best man "

I laughed. He plaited his hair like priddy ugly and my bestie looked hot.

I only bought shoes. Two pairs and we left.

I was tired and he had to get to a meeting.

Lunga: "I'll see you tomorrow "

We hugged.

Getting in my flat, Hugh was seated comfortably on my couch.

Me: "Really? "

Hugh: "Hello Diana"

I rolled my eyes and went to my room to put the bags down before going back to him.

Me: "We were meeting later"

Hugh: "It's 3pm. Pretty late for me"

Me: "Anything to drink? "

Hugh: "Beer"

I went to the fridge and gave him one of Gina's beers.

Hugh: "I'd like us to go talk in my house"

Me: "Why not here? "

Hugh: "I left my son with someone and she's been blowing up my phone "

I had even forgotten about the son.

Me: "What's his name? "

Hugh: "Lonwabo. Let's go"

I just took my phone and we left.

We arrived at his house and he got out to open the door for me.

His door wasn't closed. We went in and his son was the first to come running.

He picked him up. He had grown.

Lonwabo: "Molo sisi"

Me: "Hi"

I must admit that he sounded cute.

Hugh put him down and the woman came.

Her: "Finally. I almost missed out on my dick appointment"

Hugh laughed.

Hugh: "Thanks"

They hugged and she left.

His son had disappeared again.

Me: "So, how old is he now? "

Hugh: "He's four"

I nodded.

Hugh: "He's turning five though and I'm throwing him a party next week. Please come"

Me: "Why would I come to a kiddies party? "

Hugh: "Bring the baby then"

Me: "You're still not giving me a reason to"

I was sitting on a bar chair in the kitchen.

He came to me and turned the chair over.

He kissed me. Stupid me replied and gosh, his lips tasted so good. I didn't want to stop but he broke it.

Hugh: "Is that motivation enough? "

Me: "I'm only coming because of your cute son"

He laughed.

Hugh: "Thanks. I know he looks like me"

I rolled my eyes.

Hugh: "You look beautiful by the way "



Me: "I know "

He playfully slapped me.

Hugh: "Show some gratitude "

Me: "I'm an ungrateful bitch"

Hugh: "I miss having you"

Me: "Hugh, please "

Hugh: " I mean it "

I was about to reply when he kissed me again

"Dad, eeuw"

I laughed into his mouth. Lonwabo was looking at us.

Lonwabo: "I'm hungry"

Hugh: "Let's go out. "

He just had to hold my hand.

I don't know what I was doing or why but I was doing it.

I was going out with him and his son who couldn't stop talking in the car. He had a nice English accent but he'd mix with Xhosa.

I knew that he was going to be such a charmer when he's older.

.

BANDILE

I was in my office, on my laptop and searching for this ring that Diana wanted.

She didn't give me much, just the price tag and that alone made things difficult for me.

I knew I didn't have to go to such extremes but I was convinced I'm doing it for the mother of my child.

Leonor: "You've been in there for too long "

She was outside the door.

I quickly closed my laptop. She opened and walked towards me.

She sat on my lap.

Leonor: "I miss you"

Me: "I miss you too baby. Just give me ten minutes and I'll be all yours "

Leonor: "Ten minutes and I'll be counting "

I chuckled.

Me: "OK baby "

I kissed her lips and she left. I opened my laptop.

The wedding was on Friday which meant there was no way she'll have that ring by then, unless I pull some strings.

I ended up going for one at R285k. I thanked God Leonor didn't have access to my accounts Or I would have some serious explaining to do.

It was a engagement ring, a platinum diamond ring.

When I was done with everything, I went out, making sure to lock the door and found Leonor on the couch.

Me: "I'm all yours "

Leonor: "You realise we haven't been spending much time together "

Me: "I know baby and I'm sorry. I promise by the end of this week, I'll be all yours"

Leonor: "You haven't touched me in two weeks Bandile. Don't you find me attractive anymore?"

Me: "I know baby but you're perfect. I'm sorry for making you feel that bad "

Leonor: "Then make love to me"

Me: "Are you sure? "

She bit her lip and nodded.

I picked her up bridal style and went up the stairs with her.

I wasn't cheating on her, thank God but I was busy with looking for an apartment and everything.

I figured I had been distant and I needed that to change.

I kissed her. I didn't want to rush this and it was my way of apologising to her for making her feel unwanted.

I had to.

6

LEONOR

Me: "Can we just stay in bed like this? "

I was sleeping on his chest after our love making session while listening to the rhythm of his heart.

Bandi: "I want us to go out. There's this club that I like and we haven't done that in a while "

Me: "So, you want to get me drunk? "

He laughed.

Bandi: "No, I want us to have fun. Craig and Aphiwe will be there"

Me: "In that case, I'm going "

I kissed his lips.

Me: "I love when we're like this "

Bandi: "Me too baby. Me too"

We went to take a shower together, an innocent one then after dried and lotioned.

I wore a black latex short dress with red heels.

I curled my hair and left it loose then I did my makeup.

Bandile was all done and waiting for me downstairs.

I was about to leave when my phone rang.

It was mom.

Me: "Mother "

Mom: "Baby, how are you? "

Me: "I'm good mom and you"

Mom: "I'm fine. Look, I have a business proposal for you"

I laughed.

Me: "Me? "

I was really surprised.

Mom: "Yes, you. I know you're probably busy right now but I'll call you tomorrow so we can talk about it OK. "

Me: "Will I like it? "

Mom: "You'll be a fool not to. I love you and enjoy your night "

Me: "I love you too Mom"

I hung up and went out.

Bandi: "Finally"

I laughed. He gave me a hug.

Bandi: "You look beautiful love "

I smiled.

Me: "Thank you "

He took me by the hand and we left. He was looking dapper in all black.

One would swear we spoke of this.

Anyway, we arrived at the club and straight to the VIP.

Aphiwe and Craig were already there so we hugged.

Aphiwe: "You look hot and fuckable "

I laughed.

Me: "Thanks babe. You look sexy"

Aphiwe: "You know me"

She went to sit on Craig's lap.

Bandi: "Anything to drink? "

Me: "A martini babe"

He kissed my lips and called the waiter.

The vibe was nice.

.

**BANDILE**

I needed to go out to get my mind off things.

I had been stressing a lot and still trying to find a way to tell Leonor what's happening.

I hated keeping it from her but I was also scared of how she'll react.

The last thing I wanted was for her to leave me but I knew I had to do it before I get married.

I never imagined my marriage in a court but well, I had no choice.

I didn't think things would turn out like this but it was too late now.

Leonor: "I love that song"

We had been in the club for an hour and I could tell she was drunk already.

As for me, the alcohol didn't do anything to me.

Craig: "That looks like your sister"

Leonor had went to dance. I was watching her but my mind was here.

Aphiwe: "And she's with Hugh. I didn't know they were back together "

I looked at where everyone was looking.

Craig: "They do look kinda cosy"



I didn't know how to feel about that, considering she was going to be my wife soon.

I wondered if he knew about this or about me being the baby daddy.

She looked at us then whispered something to this guy who kissed her cheek.

She then came towards us. She looked beautiful.

Diana: "Baby"

She said to Aphiwe and they hugged.

Aphiwe: "And you two? "

Diana: "Definitely not what you think. He came to sort out a few things here"

Aphiwe: "Mm but what we all saw.. Hmm"

Diana laughed. Leonor came back and sat on my lap.

Diana: "I'm not going to comment on that. I see this is a couple's thing so I'll excuse you lot"

Me: "You didn't even greet us"

Diana: "Unfortunately, I don't have any manners. "

Leonor: "I'm not surprised "

Diana: "Shut up doll. I can say one sentence that would ruin your entire night"

I looked at her and she smiled.

I was praying she doesn't say anything. She kissed Aphiwe's cheek and left.

I could finally breathe out.

.

DIANA

Hugh: "Let's go"

Me: "Are you finally going to tell me what I want to hear? "

Hugh: "Yes"

We walked to his office.

He closed the door and locked it.

I sat down on his comfortable, soft leather chair.

Me: "So? "

He poured himself a glass of whisky and looked at me.

He took a sip, still standing and just looking at me.

Me: "Hugh? "

Hugh: "Who knocked you up? "

Me: "Ha.a, you're not one to ask the questions. You owe me answers and you're not about to flip this on me"

He gulped all the contents then sat down, facing me.

Hugh: "OK. Firstly, you know that I don't lead quite a normal life and a person like me tends to have a lot of enemies

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mostly gangs that I refused to join "

Me: "Why couldn't you tell me? "

Hugh: "I was trying to protect you. That day when you told me about your history with that Craig guy, It became an opportunity for me to become distant. I didn't want you to end up being attacked for my sins. "

Me: "So you knew even at that time? "

He nodded.

Me: "Oh wow"

Hugh: "I don't want to expose you to that life Diana. I love you too much. Anyway, I had to disappear and it didn't help that your step father didn't want me near you"

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "He has a history with my father and well, he did say that the apple doesn't fall too far from the tree. When I broke up

with you, it wasn't because I wanted to and I couldn't even explain what's going on. To cut the story short, everything is alright now and I'm not about that life anymore. I'm tired of my family being in danger and always running. I surrendered but the good thing was, I had invested in a few things, which is what keeps me going now"

Me: "I see"

Hugh: "I know I messed up and maybe you think that I just come and go in your life but it's not like that. Things were tough baby. I missed out on more than a year of my son's life and that killed me. You're now pregnant with some fucker's baby and I hate that. But, I want us to start on a clean slate "

Me: "Things are too complicated now Hugh and it sucks because I can't tell you "

I said, looking down.

Hugh: "Whatever it is, we can work it out. I just can't lose you again "

If only he knew what I was going through.

I wished I could tell him but I couldn't and besides that, I know the kind of person he is.

The last thing I wanted was to put Bandile's life in danger. I might not like him but he remained my baby's father.

Hugh: "Look Dee, there are a lot of things that I can't tell you that I had to do so I can come back. But I did and it was for you and my son. I need you please"

I could see he meant it. God knows I still loved him.

Me: "I don't know Hugh "

Hugh: "Can I try to prove it to you? Maybe then you'll give me a chance "

Me: "You don't understand. It's not that easy"

Hugh: "Diana, I don't want to run a tail on you. I don't want to kill anyone "

I rolled my eyes. He had no right.

Me: "I need a few days "

Hugh: "I'm giving you two"

I bit my lip. It was exactly what I needed but he didn't know that.

We left his office and went to his car.

I was tired and just needed to sleep.

He drove me to my flat then went on his way.

I switched on the light and from how silent it was, I knew that Gina was probably not here.

It was like I lived alone.

Anyway. I went to drink a glass of milk and someone knocked on my door.

Me: "What do you want? "

He pushed me and got in.

Bandi: "Are you alone? "

Me: "Yes. What are you doing here? "

Bandi: "I came to check if you're home. I saw you with that hooligan of yours"

I laughed.

Me: "Are you jealous? "

Bandi: "What? No but I don't want him near my child"

I walked closer to him until he was towering over me.

Me: "Really? "

Bandi: "Yes"

Me: "I bet if I were to kiss you now, you would reply"

Bandi: "Diana, don't fucken test me. I'm serious "

I laughed.

Me: "Who are you fooling Bandile? I know you're attracted to me"

Bandi: "You're being crazy "

I stepped back and took off my dress, I was just in my underwear. I had not been wearing a bra.

Me: "You gonna say no to this? "

I could see his erection and there was no way he'd say he's not feeling me.

Bandi: "Diana"

I went to him.

Me: "Stop fooling yourself fiance "

I took my dress and just left him there.

I maintained A slow, sexy walk.

I could see the lust in his eyes but I did say I won't sleep with him ever again.

I was tempted though.

7

## BANDILE

The first thing I did when I got in my flat was take a cool shower.

Leonor was dead asleep and even snoring.

I had to take Diana out of my mind and the temptation she came with.

I wasn't about to allow myself to have any mixed feelings about her. We had an agreement and she highly emphasised that we were never going to share sheets again.

Knowing how things can get, I knew there were high possibilities of it happening but I couldn't hurt my girlfriend any more.

I dried, lotioned and just wore my boxer.

I got in bed next to her and just slept.

I woke up alone in the bed. I looked at the time on my phone and it was 12pm.

Me: "Shit! "

I didn't think I'd sleep for that long. I guess I was really tired.

I was hungry but I took a bath first.



After bathing, I wore a pair of shorts and sliders then went downstairs.

Leonor was no where to be found.

I called her while having breakfast.

Leonor: "Baby"

Me: "Uphi? "

Leonor: "I'm driving. I'll be there now now"

Me: "Leonor! "

She hung up on me. I sighed and continued eating.

She arrived within ten minutes and came to kiss my cheek.

Me: "I'm mad"

Leonor: "I'm sorry for hanging up on you"

Me: "Why did I wake up alone? "

Leonor: "My mom called me. She's opening a beauty store in Sandton and wants me to manage it. I went to check out the space she got. "

Me: "Oh"

Leonor: "Yes and this branch is going to be 100% mine and I can choose how I want everything to be. I'm really excited about this baby "

Me: "I'm happy for you"

Leonor: "You don't sound like it"

Me: "But I am... It's just... We need to talk "

Leonor: "Oh? "

Me: "Yes. Please sit down"

Leonor: "You're scaring me Bandi"

She said as she sat down next to me. I held her hands. This was hard for me but I had to come clean.

Me: "You know I love you right? "

She nodded.

Me: "With all of my heart and I don't see a future without you in it"

Leonor: "Are you dying? "

Me: "No. Baby, you everything that I want and more. I'd never want to hurt you deliberately but please understand that I'm not all perfect. "

She looked at me.

I think she knew where I was going with this.

Leonor: "What did you do? "

Me: "I cheated. It was foolish of me, I know but I can't keep this in forever "

It took a minute for it to register before she freed her hands from mine.

Her tears fell.

Me: "I'm really sorry baby, from the bottom of my heart "

Leonor: "Tell me you used protection "

Me: "I did but... It broke and now... Now she's pregnant "

Leonor: "Bandile! "

She screamed.

Me: "I'm sorry baby"

I tried touching her but she yanked me off.

Leonor: "What's her name? "

She asked, still crying.

I looked down.

Leonor: "Tell me it's not Diana"

Me: "I'm sorry "

She slapped. I had never seen her so hurt.

She cried, as she shrunk down to the floor. That alone broke my heart.

Me: "Baby, talk to me"

She just wailed. I swear I almost cried.

Me: "Baby, I love you"

Leonor: "You cheated on me Bandile, cheated! You're having your first child with someone else! Diana, out of all people, knowing how much that bitch always disrespects me! "

How was I going to tell her about the marriage now?

I couldn't and it was clear it was better as a secret.

She broke down again and I pulled her into my arms.

She was still too weak to push of.

I messed up, I really messed up.

.

LEONOR

I've always been treasured by my parents like a delicate glass, an egg that they held with caution and care.

I grew up showered with love, care, joy and of course gifts.

They did everything to make me happy and ensured that no tear touches my cheek.

I'd be lying if I said I knew pain. I didn't until my own boyfriend betrayed me.

My heart was so heavy. I couldn't stop crying.

I didn't know what to do with myself. This was all too much for me.

To think I was so excited about this beauty store only for this to happen. I was having a good day until I came home.

I got up from the floor and wiped my tears.

I didn't want to see him. I didn't want to be reminded of his betrayal, his infidelity.

I had been so good to him. I didn't deserve this.

I had been faithful, loyal and always by his side.

What is it that I didn't give him that he had to seek from outside? With Diana, of all people.

I was torn, hurt but most of all, I was angry.

If it was someone else, I'd be mad yes but it was Diana, someone I despised.

I walked up the stairs, trying not to over think but I couldn't.

He was following me but I closed the door soon after I got in. I didn't want to see him.

I went to take a hot shower and just let the tears fall.

I didn't understand why he had to do this for me.

I hated feeling so insecure about myself.

I had dated before yes, but I always got out before I could get hurt.

I hated that I still loved him

Advertisement

that I still wanted to be in his arms.

I wanted him to hold me and tell me that everything will be alright, that we'll be OK and that this doesn't change anything.

The thought of Diana just agitated me. Getting out of the shower, I dried then got dressed in black skinny jeans, with Bandi's hoodie and black Military boots.

I had to confront her, woman-to-woman.

When I opened the door, he almost fell in.

He looked like a mess but I wasn't about to give in easily.

Bandi: "Can we talk please? "

Me: "About what? You cheating on me or rather, your coming baby? Don't you understand how much this affects our reputation? "

Bandi: "That's why we have to keep it a secret. I know you're mad baby but please"

Me: "Bandile, I'm not a kid. I know these things. You seem to forget that we're a team and I won't let your little fling destroy what we've built "

Bandi: "Thank you baby "

He tried hugging me but I shook my head

Me: "You're sleeping in the guestroom until further notice. "

I walked away from him and ran down the stairs.

I didn't even put on makeup so I wore shades.

I raced to her flat, not caring about the consequences.

It was her roommate who opened.

Me: "Where's Diana? "

"I'm here"

I let myself in.

Me: "We have to talk "

She looked at her roommate.

Her: "I was leaving anyway. Bye babe"

Diana: "Bye love"

As soon as she left, Diana looked at me. I was so mad, I felt like beating the daylights out of her.

Diana: "Are you just going to stand there and stare at me? "

Me: "I know "

I said, trying to sound calm.

Diana: "Know what? "

She was really testing my patience now.

Me: "I know that the father of that bastard is my boyfriend "

Diana: "So? "

Now, I was so mad.

I went to her and just strangled her. She tried fighting me off but I had power, I was after all a woman scorned.

I saw that she was losing breath so I got off her and she started coughing.

Me: "You better stay away from him or else, I'll kill you with my bare hands and trust me sweetie, I'll get away with it"

I clicked my tongue and left.

I didn't even care if she dies. My hate for her just accelerated to a thousand and I hoped that she takes my advice or else, I swear.



I didn't go back home. I wasn't in the mood for Bandile so I drove to a hotel.

When I finally got a room, I went and immediately ordered a bottle of cognac.

I needed it.

.

DIANA

I got up so I can have a glass of water.

My neck was in pain and I wasn't about to let that bitch get away with it.

I wanted to call the police but remembered the agreement I signed, the last thing I wanted was a scandal.

I drank, trying to suppress the pain. I swear I almost passed out.

I never imagined her having so much strength but if she wanted a fight, I was going to give her one.

I went to my room and looking at my neck on the mirror, it was bad.

I wore a scarf then called an uber.

I was driving to Josh's hospital.

I needed to check if she didn't do any damage.

I met him at reception.

Josh: "Diana, this is a surprise "

Me: "Don't act like you don't know "

Josh: "Know what? "

Me: "Mxm"

Josh: "Let's go talk in my office "

I followed him to his office and sat down.

Josh: "Talk to me"

Me: "I've been attacked. I came for a checkup"

Josh: "What do you mean attacked? "

I took off my scarf.

Me: "I was strangled "

Josh: "it really looks bad. Are you in any pain? "

Me: "Of course. My throat is on fire"

Josh: "Who did this to you? "

Me: "Bandile's girlfriend. She knows about the baby "

Josh: "I see. Well, I can prescribe painkillers for you but I'm sure the baby is fine"

Me: "That's it? "

Josh: "You girls will learn to co-exist, for the sake of your little girl. "

Me: "Girl? "

Josh: "This is the prescription. You're excused "

I clicked my tongue, took it and left.

It felt like I had just exhausted my energy coming here.

Now, I really needed a drink.

My phone rang when I was outside.

Me: "What? "

Lunga: "Hai suka wena, where the hell are you? We have to go dress shopping "

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "I'll send you the address so you can come get me"

Lunga: "Alright babe"

I sent it to him and sat on a bench outside as I waited.

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Lunga: "Al, I don't get it babe. You let that bitch strangle you and didn't even attempt to kick her skinny ass away? What the hell is wrong with you woman? Are you crazy because the Diana I know, could have rearranged her face "

I laughed.

We were having drinks after our shopping.

He was on alcohol while I had non-alcoholic beverages.

Me: "I wanted to report her"

Lunga: "Then what are you waiting for? "

Me: "My wedding "

He looked at me like he wasn't sure where I was going with this.

Me: "After I'm Mrs Dlamini, then I'll deal with her. For now, I'll just let her think she's won"

He high fived me

Lunga: "That's the bitch I know "

I laughed.

I saw Wandile come in.

Lunga also saw him and of course spoke.

Lunga: "Your Ben 10 "

Then, he laughed.

I chuckled.

He came to us. The last time I saw him was the previous year.  
He had graduated.

Wandile: "Diana, hi"

Me: "Hi"

I was actually surprised he was talking to me, after all the bad  
blood.

We hadn't talked since our breakup.

Wandile: "You look good. Can we uhm... Can we hang out  
sometime? "

Lunga: "Haibo"

He clapped his hands dramatically.

Me: "Uhm, sure. You'll tell me"

He nodded.

Wandile: "Thanks. Are you still using that number? "

I nodded.

Wandile: "I'll call you"

Then he left.

Me: "Why did you have to be so rude? "

Lunga: "He's crazy. Why does he suddenly want to hang out? "

I shrugged.

Me: "There's only one way to find out "

Lunga ended up having too much to drink that I had to drive him to their house.

That being Luke's house.

He was the one who opened up for us.

Luke: "Finally "

Me: "You should know he's safe with me"

Luke: "Thanks for bringing him"

Me: "He's my baby"

Lunga rolled his eyes.

Lunga: "Please drive her home"

Luke: "Of course "

We didn't talk much because we're not Friends anyway.

I went to put the bags in my room then called Bandile.

He picked us like someone awaiting my call.

Bandi: "Hi"

Me: "Do you have my ring? "

Bandi: "Someone should buy you some manners"

Me: "You should. Now, back to my question "

Bandi: "Yes, I do"

Me: "Good. Your little mosquito was here. Can you believe I almost died because of her? "

Bandi: "What? "

Me: "She strangled me. I can send you pictures if you want "

Bandi: "I'm really sorry about that. Please don't press charges "

I laughed.

Me: "I'm getting a restraining order against her"

Bandi: "Diana, please"

Me: "No. I had to go for a check up because I was scared that maybe my baby got harmed. She's a danger to my life and that of my unborn baby "

Bandi: "I'll talk to her, I promise "

Me: "You better"

Then, I hung up on him.

My phone beeped.

"You have less than 24 hours "

It was Hugh. I just rolled my eyes.

.

BANDILE

Craig: "So you're really getting married before me? "

I laughed. He was making this too much of a big deal.

Me: "You know it's not by choice "

Craig: "And Leonor? "

Me: "I think it's best she doesn't find out "

We were in the lounge and I was drinking a glass of whisky.

Leonor had still not come.

She had slept at some hotel, which I found out after tracking her but I understood she needed space.

Everything was too overwhelming for her but I was going to go to her after this wedding.

Craig: "Do you have everything? The rings? "

We were leaving now.



I just wanted to get this over and done with so I can go back to my normal life.

I still had to get my girlfriend back.

We arrived at court. We had to go in through a private entrance because you can never know who's watching.

I just wore a suit for formalities.

My lawyer, Tshepo shook my head.

Me: "Is she here? "

Tshepo: "Not yet but the weird doctor is here"

I groaned.

We all walked there.

Josh: "Mm, the groom"

Me: "Do we really have to do this? "

Josh: "It's too late now. Your bride is here"

She came in with her friend in a short, tight white dress that made me wonder if my baby can breathe in there.

He had his hand on her waist and gosh

she looked so beautiful.

Her curves were all out, and her nipples were pressing against the fabric of the dress.. The sight alone was a turn on and then, her beautiful legs.

Her shoes were made of glass, revealing her perfect little toes.

Craig: "Snap out of it"

Then he chuckled.

Me: "Fuck you "

I whispered.

Diana winked at me. Her lips were red and the makeup had her eyes popping out.

OK, I had to stop myself.

Josh: "You don't have to fantasise about her. She's all yours "

I swear that was embarrassing because everyone laughed.

Me: "I wasn't "

Josh: "Try convincing yourself. "

Diana: "OK, I don't have all day "

Some moments are ones we cannot quite process.

I was there when it all happened but it also seemed like I was just watching my life story.

Everything happened fast.

Josh: "Wait, where's his ring? "

Diana: "He doesn't see the need to have one"

Lunga: "Hai Joshua, we have places to be"

He just had to take out a ring that I apparently had to wear.

Diana took it and put it on my finger.

Josh: "You may kiss the bride"

Diana: "Is it necessary? "

Craig: "Hell yeah. I'm sorry man but I'm capturing this moment  
"

I sighed.

Josh: "I have lives to save. Just get this over and done with "

So, we did.

The kiss took longer than we both intended but I had to break it before I lost myself in front of everyone.

And just like that, I was married.

Driving home, My mind was afar.

Craig: "Man, you sure look sour for someone who just got married"

Me: "That's exactly how I feel. I can't believe it"

Craig: "It wasn't that bad"

I looked at the ring on my middle finger.

Me: "I just don't know how to feel"

Craig: "It'll sink in eventually "

.

LEONOR

I drove to Aphiwe.

I wondered if she knew about what her sister got up to with my man.

I had drank myself to sleep the previous night and waking up, I knew I had to get my shit together.

I wasn't going to let Diana or her baby bring me down.

She tried hugging me when she opened but this, wasn't no friendly visit.

Me: "Did you know? "

I asked, immediately when I got inside the house.

Aphiwe: "What? "

Me: "Don't act dumb with me Aphiwe "

It was around 6pm so I knew that I'll find her home.

Aphiwe: "I don't know what you're talking about Leonor"

Me: "That hoe you call a sister is pregnant with my boyfriend's child"

Aphiwe: "What? "

I saw the shock in her eyes and it was clear she didn't know.

I sat down.

Me: "Yep. I had every reason not to like her. She was being bitchy towards me while she wanted my man "

Aphiwe: "Are... Are you sure? "

Me: "He confessed straight to my face. I've never felt so broken"

Aphiwe: "I'm so sorry. I didn't know "

Me: "Well, now you know "

I stood up

Me: "If I were you, I'd be careful. She might come for yours "

I walked out.

Getting into my car, I knew I had to fix my relationship.

I love Bandi and I wasn't going to allow a hoe to destroy all of that.

I got relieved when I saw his car packed outside.

I got out and he ran to me and gave me a tight embrace.

I couldn't even breathe.

Me: "That's... Enough "

He broke it and smashed his lips on mine.

I couldn't do anything else other than reply.

Bandi: "I'm really sorry baby "

Me: "I know and it's OK. We'll get through this"

I hugged him again.

Me: "I believe we will "

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APHIWE

Leonor's words lingered in my mind even after she had long left.

I must admit that I never saw this coming. I always thought that she and Bandile are In love and happy, and I never thought he'd cheat on her.

As for my sister, I never thought she'd go for Bandile.

They never got along so I did wonder how that came to be.

I wasn't pleased with Leonor calling my sister all those names.

I also didn't get why she had to blame Dee alone while it takes two tango.

They were both wrong and Diana didnt force Bandile into anything.

The two knew what they were doing.

I needed to talk to Diana and hear her side of the story.

What Leonor said didn't get to me. I trusted my fiance and my sister and wasn't about to let her plant any doubts in my mind.

The following day, a Saturday, I woke up and immediately took a shower.

Craig was still sleeping.

I kissed his lips then got dressed. He looked peaceful so I didn't want to wake up.

I went to make breakfast. He came down with the kids.

I just had a lot in my mind to pay any attention to them.

Craig: "Ok, what's up? "

Me: "Good morning Craig"

Craig: "You're distant. You were even last night "

Me: "You found me in bed. How will you know?"

Craig: "I know you moss. So, tell me"

Me: "Leonor was here yesterday. She told me about Diana and Bandile and how much of a whore she is. She went as far as warning me against her, even saying she might come after you "

Craig: "That's hectic "

Me: "Yeah. I wanna go see her though. Diana I mean and hear her side"

Craig: "That's good"

Me: "And I don't get why she doesn't blame Bandile too. I mean, they made the baby together "



He nodded.

Craig: "They both wronged her "

Summer cried when I was about to leave and wanted to go with me.

Craig: "Should I drop you off? "

I shook my head.

Me: "I'll drive"

I ended up leaving with her.

Dee: "This is a surprise "

She took Summer from me, who clearly missed her.

Me: "Yeah, we need to talk "

Dee: "Leonor NEH "

I nodded.

Me: "I know Bandile is the father"

Dee: "I should have known she'll run to you. Are you here to crucify me now? The bitch strangled me"

Me: "What? "

Dee: "Yeah

with those anorexic fingers. I should really fuck her up now"

Me: "You seem to forget that you're holding my baby "

Dee: "She's so heavy"

She put her down.

Me: "So, how did it happen? Were you guys dating or? "

Dee: "Never. It just happened man. Like I was at the club then he came, obviously to mess with me then boom, I wake up in his bed. We'd argue then suddenly, we're exchanging spit. I think once we started, we sort of couldn't get enough of each other. It was just sex but it ended after I found out I'm pregnant. "

Me: "So, you guys are over? "

Dee: "We weren't dating. It was just a fling"

I nodded

Me: "I really don't want to take sides. You're my sister and I love you but I'm not agreeing with this. Leonor is like my best friend and she's also hurting because of you and Bandile "

Dee: "We're all grown ups. It's good that you're not taking sides. I thought you were here to stand up for your friend"

I chuckled.

Me: "Sorry to disappoint "

I was glad she was honest about this.

I just hoped that the baby doesn't bring them together, cause it's possible and would definitely hurt Leonor.

.

DIANA

A month later and we were busy with preparing for the engagement party.

The last time I saw Bandile was during my doctor's appointment and I was cool with that.

He was mad because of what I did to his girlfriend but the bitch deserved it.

I never wanted to hurt her but she kept provoking me.

It happened about a week ago when we were meeting with Aphiwe, with regards to the party.

Let me just say, I ruined her barbie face.

It was June now and having a winter engagement party was something I was yet to experience.

It was to be held at a hotel and I personally thought it was unnecessary spending.

Gina: "How's this? "

Me: "Fine"

I laughed as I read a text Hugh had sent.

Well we were giving it another go, taking things slow of course.

Gina: "You're not paying attention "

She groaned and I look at her.

Me: "What's wrong? "

Gina: "You know I'm meeting Xolani's family so I want to make a good first impression "

Me: "Make sure it's not skimpy. Their black and we talk"

Gina: "He said they're religious but his father is traditional "

Me: "Then you must look like the perfect makoti "

Gina: "But how? "

I laughed.

Me: "By being yourself. Like be classy, with minimum makeup but no cleavage. Just look good"

Gina: "I think I know what to wear "

Me: "Good"

My phone rang.

Me: "I have to take this"

I got out of her room and went to my room

That's when I answered.

Me: "Babe"

Hugh: "I miss you"

I giggled.

Me: "We were just chatting now "

Hugh: "It's not the same. I'm coming to get you"

Me: "It's late"

Hugh: "I don't care. You don't stay with your mama moss "

I laughed.

Me: "What about Lonwabo? "

Hugh: "He's with my mom. I'm at your door now. Should I knock? "

Me: "That would be a first "

He hung up on me and I laughed.

I knew he wasn't going to knock anyway.

10

DIANA

I didn't pack much. Just toiletries and tomorrow's outfit.

He was standing in the lounge, busy tapping his foot down.

Hugh: "It was about damn time"

I laughed.

Me: "Don't start. Let's go"

He took my bag and we left.

I must admit I loved the peace he came with and how he had accepted my child, amidst the circumstances I found myself in.

Hugh: "Would you like anything? I know pregnant women eat like crazy "

I laughed.

Me: "I haven't got to that point but, I'd like a milkshake. "

He nodded.

We went to Wimpy, where he bought my milkshake then went back to his car and drove to his house.

Upon arrival, he switched on the lights.

Me: "I thought we were sleeping "

Hugh: "No. We need to talk Diana"

He sounded too serious for my liking.

Me: "You weren't like this when we left. What's going on? "

Hugh: "I've been waiting for you to come clean for a while now  
"

I didn't say anything but just looked at him.

Hugh: "I bumped into that skinny bitch and oh, did she sing"

Me: "Do you think I'm proud? "

I asked, sitting down.

Hugh: "I just can't seem to figure out how it came to be"

Me: "I didn't have unprotected sex with him if that's what  
you're asking. "

Hugh: "But, why him? "

Me: "I don't know OK. It just happened and it was just sex"

Hugh: "The same sex that has you carrying a human being  
within you right now"

I sighed.

Me: "I know. It's not an ideal situation. I didn't want this baby.  
Truth is, I hate kids and the thought of having one right now... "

I shook my head.

Hugh: "I just... You should have told me"

Me: "It's suppose to be a secret. He doesn't want people knowing and neither do I "

Hugh: "The only reason he's still alive is because of that baby in your stomach "

I could feel that he meant every word.

Me: "I thought you left that life"

Hugh: "I'd kill for the ones I love. That will never change "

Me: "Hugh! "

Hugh: "Are we still on for the engagement party? I need to get my outfit sorted"

Me: "Of course. There's no way I'm turning up there without my handsome boyfriend "

He came to me and kissed me.

Hugh: "Good, plus I need to have a talk with your baby daddy "

Me: "Hugh, no"

Hugh: "Ha.a baby, you're not going to change my mind. He needs to be aware of his place "

Me: "But he is"



Hugh: "I'm not really sure"

He took my hand.

Hugh: "Nice ring. Looks helluva expensive "

Me: "Thanks"

He looked at me.

Hugh: "Let's go sleep "

He took my hand and we left.

Gosh, I knew he was close to finding out about the marriage.

How will I even break it to him?

Hugh is not someone predictable. I can never know how he'll react to a situation.

.

GINA

I've never been this nervous.

I had been reading articles about interracial relationships and the stories there proved it was challenging when it comes to meeting family members.

Anyway, there was no escaping this.

I had given Xolani the run around long enough and I knew I had no excuse now.

He was happy it was finally happening and I couldn't really back out now

I went to open up for him and he got in with a smile on his face.

Xolani: "My love, good morning "

Me: "Uhm, morning"

Xolani: "What's with the frown now? "

Me: "I woke up on the wrong side today"

Xolani: "Baby, I know this is about meeting my family and I can assure you that you have nothing to worry about "

Me: "Easy for you to say. They're your family "

Xolani: "You think I won't be freaked out when I meet your family? It's worse because your father is racist "

I sighed.

Me: "I guess you're making sense"

Xolani: "Now relax. Let's make breakfast so we can leave "

Well, good thing I hadn't eaten.

We left immediately after breakfast.

We were going to come back on Sunday, it was Friday.

He had booked a hotel for us, which I loved because I wasn't ready to stay at his parents house yet.

I needed to be comfortable anyway.

We went to drop off our bags at the hotel then we were to have lunch with his family.

Me: "I'm not feeling too good "

He gave me a bored expression.

Me: "I mean it"

Xolani: "Don't piss me off Gina"

I rolled my eyes and sunk down on the seat.

I was quiet through the rest of the ride.

Their house was in the township and already there was a buzz going around.

It was a big single storey house that filled half of their huge yard.

I swear I started shaking immediately when I got off his car.

He pinned me against the car, probably to calm me down.

Xolani: "I love you"

I nodded, still breathless.

Me: "I'm horny "

He chuckled.

Xolani: "Let's go"

He didn't even knock but just threw himself inside the house.

Xolani: "Molweni! "

I really don't get why he had to shout.

A little boy came running to him and he picked him up.

Xolani: "This is my little brother, Musa"

Me: "He's cute"

Xolani: "Runs in the family "

Me: "Must have skipped you "

He looked at me and I laughed.

Someone came, whom I assumed was his mother.

Her: "You made it"

He put Musa down and they hugged.

Xolani: "Meet my girlfriend, Gina and baby, this is my mom, Ntombi "

She hugged me.

Ntombi: "Heh, I wasn't expecting umlungu. I hope she'll be able to eat the food I cooked"

He looked at me.

Xolani: "Don't worry. She will "

If only he knew how choosy I am when it comes to what I consume.

Ntombi: "You look beautiful dear "

Me: "Thank you Ma"

She looked younger than I expected, which explained why Xolani had a younger brother who's around six.

We went further into the house and I greeted.

There was a man who looked just like him and a girl probably my age. I assumed the man is his father.

He pulled a chair for me so I can sit down.

Xolani: "Baba, this is Gina"

Him: "From where? She looks familiar "

I had never seen him in my life.

Me: "We're originally from Kimberley but we have been here since I can remember "

Him: "I want your surname"

Me: " Louw "

Xolani: "She's my girlfriend "

Girl: "I'm Linda, seeing I wasn't introduced. I'm his sister"

Xolani: "Little sister "

She rolled her eyes. His father was just looking at me.

It was scary but there was nothing I could do.

.

LEONOR

Me: " I think we could go with a pink and silver decor, with white somewhere. I need it to be feminine. "

She nodded.

Me: "How's it going with the caterers? "

Her: "Good. I'll let them know about the colours. For the cupcakes and the cake"

Me: "Good. I want this to be perfect "

Her: "Your launch is in good hands. You don't have to worry "

Me: "I think we're done here"

She nodded again and took her stuff and left.

She was my planner for the official launch of the store.

I was excited and I loved the feeling of accomplishing something.

It was the feeling I had when I got my degree and I didn't want to mess this up.

"You look sexy in that chair "

I giggled. It was Bandile who was leaning by my door.

Me: "Baby"

Bandi: "I got you lunch. This looks beautiful "

Me: "Thank you. The design was my idea"

I said proudly.

Bandi: "It's beautiful baby. "

He came and kissed my lips.

Bandi: "You're beautiful "

I blushed.

Me: "Baby"

Bandi: "I mean it"

Well, my face was covered in makeup because of what Diana did.

I really underestimated her but I'm definitely no match for her.

I couldn't even do anything about it because of the media and it sucked.

Again, I was the one who provoked her so I wasn't innocent in all of this.

Me: "Thank you. And for lunch "

Bandi: "You're my baby. I have to feed you"

I giggled, rolling my eyes.

Me: "Oh please"

So, we had lunch together and I was so sad when he had to leave.

I was enjoying his company.

Bandi: "I'll see you at home OK. Duty calls "

Me: "OK baby"

We kissed and he left.

I continued with my job. I had hired three beauty consultants who were the best for this job.

I needed everything to run smoothly.

When I was done, I took my bag and decided to rather just shop around.

I saw Diana with Hugh and they had shopping bags.



Now, this was really a surprise.

I bumped into her on purpose and she laughed.

Hugh: "Don't start something you wouldn't finish. You seem to forget what you're hiding under all that makeup"

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "It was a mistake "

Diana: "Don't be bitter Barbie. It doesn't suit you"

I just clicked my tongue and left.

Gosh, I hate her.

I don't even know what she's doing in Sandton.

I seriously hoped that she's not spending my boyfriend's money.

Hugh didn't seem like someone who could afford to shop there, considering his car and just how he looks.

Argh, I stopped thinking about it.

It was definitely going to drive me crazy.

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GINA

I didn't even stay for dessert. I had to get out of there.

I couldn't even process the food that I was eating.

His father didn't even hide his disapproval of me, all because of my surname. He didn't say it but his stares did.

Xolani: "You don't hate me, right? "

He asked, immediately when we arrived at the hotel.

Me: "No baby, of course not"

Xolani: "I'm sorry about my father"

I took off my shoes.

Me: "If your father was like that, I can't imagine how mine is gonna be. "

He held my hands.

Xolani: "As long as we're together, we'll conquer it all"

I smiled.

I kissed his lips.

Me: "I love you "

Xolani: "I love you too"

.

APHIWE

It was Sunday and I was meeting with the girls to discuss the finer details of the party.

It was to happen on the coming Friday night and I was excited.

It was something for me to look forward to, not forgetting getting married to the man that I love.

Me: "Baby, I'm leaving "

Craig: "They're in good hands. You don't have to worry"

Me: "I trust you "

I said and kissed his lips. He was talking about the kids.

I kissed my babies, took my car keys and left.

We were meeting at news cafe.

I drove there and Leonor was already seated.

She stood up and we hugged.

Me: "How are you? "

Leonor: "Good. And you? Are you excited? Friday is just around the corner "

Me: "Oh, I am. I'm looking forward to this and the wedding of course "

Leonor: "Everything is just going good for us. Your engagement party, my launch. Man, I'm proud "

We both laughed.

Me: "And I didn't see this. I mean, I know you're going to make a success of this. You're already a brand"

Leonor: "I plan to. There's nothing stopping me"

Dee: "Morning "

She said after just sitting down.

She was wearing shades.

Me: "And then? "

Dee: "Long night. I'm hungry "

Leonor: "That's all you know "

Me: "Leonor, please "

She rolled her eyes.

We called the waiter who took our orders.

Dee: "So, we're here. How's your outfit coming up? "

Me: "Good. My dress is arriving tomorrow with the shoes so I'm going to check it out then"

Dee: "Hopefully you haven't gained weight "

Leonor: "Like you? "

She was beginning to irritate me but like Diana, I kept my cool.

Me: "Oh

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I've been eating right. I can't afford that now"

Dee: "Good. I'm the only one allowed to eat like a pig"

I laughed.

Me: "We both know it makes you more sexy"

Dee: "Well, you know our parents didn't play "

Leonor: "So, the guest list? "

Me: "Yeah. My parents are going to be there. Well, my mom and her husband. They're coming on Thursday. From there it's Lunga with Luke, Remo and Mike, Dee and Hugh, You and Bandz and Craig's friends with their dates"

Dee: "That's all? "

Me: "No but those are the important ones. It's not going to be a huge thing though "

Leonor: "Well, we have a spa booking on Friday morning, the hair and nails appointment too then I think that's it"

Me: "Yes and my mom doesn't mind looking after the kids then. I don't want to deal with Mpilo's rude grandmother "

Dee: "Well I want to. You can't let her get away with mistreating you. "

Me: "It's not a big deal "

Dee: "Babe, she's never been good to you. It is a big deal "

Leonor: "That's Bandile's sister "

Dee: "And I don't give a Fuck "

Me: "It's cool. I don't want to entertain her really"

Dee: "If you say So but if she ever starts shit in my presence, she's gonna get it"

I laughed.

I knew she wasn't playing.

.

LEONOR

When I got home, I went to pour myself a glass of wine.

Gosh, seeing Diana always left me in a mood.

I was just tolerating her for Aphiwe's sake.

Bandile came down the stairs looking all pretty in casual.

Bandile: "It's just after lunch "

He was looking at my glass.

Me: "Argh, I don't care. I need this"

Bandile: "What's wrong? "

Me: "Your baby mama, that's what's wrong. She just rubs me off the wrong way "

Bandile: "Are we back there? "

Me: "I'm sorry Bandile but I can't just forget "

Bandile: "Did she do something? "

Me: "Does her breathing count? "

He chuckled.

Bandile: "Let's go"

Me: "Where? "

Bandile: "Home"

I didn't even finish that glass.

I took my bag and we left.

I needed this to take my mind off things.

I was never going to make peace with Diana being his baby mama. Never.

His father greeted us with a smile as usual. I admired that man and his wonderful English.

He was with Kitso(wife) and Wandile but they were inside the house.

I greeted and sat down.

Bandile remained outside with his father.

Kitso: "At least you guys miss us once in a while "

I laughed.

Me: "It's not like that. It just gets busy and I've been busy with the launch"

Wandile: "My girlfriend can't wait. I wonder where she thinks I get the money"

I laughed.

Me: "You must be happy that you're acquainted to the owner"

He laughed.

Wandile: "Thank God for my brother. We deserve some discounts "

Me: "Worry not"



Kitso: "I think I deserve grandkids "

I laughed.

Me: "I think maybe in five years time"

Wandiile: "Bandile should put a ring on it now, he's old"

Kitso: "I agree. "

Bandi: "Agree with what? "

He was coming in with his father.

Me: "Oh no, we're not in any rush "

Kitso: "We're getting old now"

Dad: "I agree. Look at all this grey hair "

We laughed. I called him dad because he was like my second father.

Bandile: "Leonor and I are not ready yet. We're still exploring "

Wandile: "I thought that was my thing"

Dad: "Kids of today "

I laughed again.

Kitso: "Hopefully we'll still be alive in that five years "

12

BANDILE

it was hard for me at first but I've really moved on from my devious reality.

Devious because I never imagined myself getting married like this or having to hide my first born child. That can't be right but I had accepted it.

Leonor: "I missed the folks"

Me: "I did too"

Leonor: "Are you OK? "

Me: "Yeah. I'm just tired"

I was meeting up with Diana tomorrow. We were actually going to meet up at the doctor for her checkup.

Josh wanted us to arrive at the doctor but we were going to meet at the door.

That was something that would make me elapse. As much as I've accepted everything but seeing her would remind me of it all.

I woke up the following morning, which was a Monday and took a bath.

I was going to work first then go there at 10.

Me: "It'll take me a while to get used to you working"

I said to Leonor who had just showered.

I was done, just going through my emails.

Leonor: "I know, right. But you better get used to it"

Me: "I'm a proud man. "

I said and pulled her towards me.

We kissed shortly.

Me: "I have to go now"

Leonor: "Breakfast? "

Me: "Send it to my office baby"

I played some music while driving to work.

Arriving, I met up with my assistant who told me I have a visitor.

Me: "Who? "

Her: "A Mr Hugh"

I nodded and proceeded to my office.

He was sitting comfortably in my couch.

Hugh: "You sure can keep a man waiting"

Me: "What do you want? "

I asked, sitting on my chair.

I wasn't any scared of him nor intimidated.

Hugh: "Straight to business, I see"

Me: "I don't have all day man. I have serious business that I need to attend to"

He took out a gun and pointed it at me.

I was shocked and wondering how was it possible that he entered these premises with a gun.

Hugh: "Mm, your security is not that tight. That bitch you have over there allowed me to make myself comfortable in here too"

Me: "This is about Diana? "

Hugh: "Man, you're just a sperm donor as far as I'm concerned "

Me: "Then what do you want here? "

he chuckled while I just looked at him.

Hugh: "Fair warning. You are still alive because of the baby. If you ever come closer to Diana, I'm going to kill you and better believe it"

He pulled the trigger and shot at a random object then left.

Going to the doctor, I knew I had to tell Diana about the stunt her man pulled.

I didn't know why she was still with that criminal but I guess it's all love.

We met at the entrance and it looked like she had been waiting for me.

Diana: "My handsome husband "

The sarcasm was too loud.

Me: "Wifey, unjani? "

Diana: "I'm good love, yourself? "

Me: "I'm amazing. Your nigger paid me a visit"

Diana: "And you're still breathing? I'm disappointed "

I laughed.

Me: "I don't think you're ready to be a widow. Let's go in"

Josh: "Oh, my favourite couple. Nice seeing you again "

He said, immediately when we got in his office.

Diana: "Joshua, some of us have classes to attend "

Josh: "I just wanted to see you both. "

Me: "I thought we're here because of the baby"

Josh: "Mm

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you thought wrong. The baby is fine but are you? "

He was looking at me.

I cleared my throat.

Me: "Yes"

Josh: "The truth is going to come out and it won't be nice.  
However, everything will happen as it should. You're excused "

Diana laughed.

I stood up, clicked my tongue and just walked away.

What a waste of my time.

.

DIANA

Hugh was the one who picked me up.

I wasn't any surprised by Joshua's actions but Bandile was quite  
pissed when he left.

I didn't say anything when I got into the car, until we arrived  
home.

At his place that is.

Hugh: "udikwe yintoni? "

I kept quiet.

He followed me inside the house.

Hugh: "Eh wena! "

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "What's up with you? "

Me: "I'm just tired"

Hugh: "Is it because of your baby daddy? I knew the son of a bitch was gonna run to you "

Me: "He's not a threat "

Hugh: "My hands were itching to touch him but... His time will come"

Me: "Can we rather focus on us? "

Hugh: "Of course baby"

He held me by waist and kissed me.

Hugh: "I love you"

Me: "I love you too"

A few days later, it was Friday and the day of the engagement party.

I was looking forward to it and my sister was excited.

I was legit happy for her.

Anyway, she had forced us to sleep at her place, which meant seeing Mom and Damon.

He came up to me holding Summer.

Damon: "So, you get married and not invite me? "

I wasn't even surprised that he knows.

We were alone. Thankfully.

Me: "Does anything ever get past you? "

Damon: "Nop. So, when am I meeting him? "

Me: "Damon, this is suppose to be a, secret"

Damon: "I know now, unfortunately. So, tell me"

Me: "He can't know that you know "

Damon: "Nothing is going to happen to you Diana"

I sighed.

Me: "Let's not talk about this"



Damon: "That thug of yours is going to find out. It's only a matter of time "

I sighed.

He reminded me of what Josh said

Something that I wanted to forget.

.

LEONOR

Me: "You look beautiful. One would swear it's your wedding already "

She laughed.

Aphiwe: "You did this to me. Thank you"

We hugged.

It was already time for the engagement party.

I tried Bandile's phone again and it took me straight to voicemail.

It was around 6pm.

Me: "He's still not picking up"

Diana barged into the room.

I rolled my eyes.

Diana: "We're waiting for you. "

Aphiwe: "I'm all done"

Diana: "Let's take a picture "

She took out her phone and I watched them taking the pictures.

I tried Bandile one more time then we got out.

I sighed. His phone still didn't get through.

The engagement party was amazing. From the food, the drinks, the company and the wonderful speeches.

My mind wasn't here.

I looked at Diana cosy with her boyfriend while mine wasn't here.

I couldn't even blame her for it.

I pulled Craig.

Me: "Where's Bandile? "

Craig: "He had to fly to Cape Town urgently"

Me: "What? "

Craig: "You didn't know? "

I shook my head.

He shrugged.

Craig: "Sorry"

I left him, clicking my tongue.

I couldn't believe that Bandile would do this to me.

13

LEONOR

I had been questioning myself about Bandile's behaviour while everyone was enjoying.

I wondered about my launch and if he'd even make it.

On Saturday, he was still not back and his phone was still off.

I took a shower in the morning then went downstairs for breakfast.

I was trying to assure myself that there's a reason for his sudden disappearance and why he didn't let me know about this trip.

He had completely made a fool of me at the engagement party and I was trying not to get mad at him for that.

My phone rang and looking at the caller ID, I was disappointed to find out that it's not him.

Me: "Mother "

I said and I couldn't even hide my disappointment.

Mom: "You can at least try sounding like you want to talk to me"

I sighed.

Me: "I'm sorry. I thought it was someone else"

Mom: "Oh, anyway, your father and I are flying there today. We were wondering if you and Bandile are keen on having dinner with us"

Me: "We... uhm... We sort of already have plans. Why are you guys coming so soon? "

Mom: "The launch is on Wednesday. I want to help where I can "

Me: "Oh. OK "

Mom: "We're also coming because we miss you and from what I gather now, we're not making a mistake. You sound like you're in distress "

Me: "I'll see you guys tomorrow then. Maybe we can go out for breakfast or have lunch as just us"

Mom: "I'd love that baby"

Me: "OK mommy, I love you"

Mom: "I love you too"

She hung up and I breathed out.

I didn't know when Bandile was going to come and I knew I'd be the one having to answer questions about his whereabouts like I know.

He came in the evening and I threw myself in his arms.

He hugged me back after a while.

Me: "I was so worried "

Bandile: "I'm here, aren't I? "

I had showered and was on the bed on my phone when he graced me with his presence.

Me: "My parents are here. I guess we can meet up with them for breakfast "

Bandile: "I'm tired Leonor. I want to shower then sleep "

Me: "You're not going to tell me why you left without informing me and where you were? "

He didn't say anything but just walked to the bathroom.

I sighed, wondering if maybe I had done something wrong.

Me: "Bandile? "

I said when I got in the bathroom.

He didn't say anything but just started undressing.

Me: "Babe? "

Bandile: "Leonor, I don't want to fight"

Me: "Why are you being like this? "

Bandile: "I'm just tired. We'll talk in the morning "

I sighed and went back to the bedroom.

I got in bed and just lay there.

When he came back, he hugged me from behind and started snoring a few minutes later.

I ended up falling asleep too.

the following day, we had breakfast with my parents and I was glad to see him cheerful.

We hadn't talked yet and he even excused himself when we were almost done because he had to go somewhere.

Mom: "Are you guys OK? "

Mom asked, a few minutes after he left.

Me: "We're fine mom"

Dad: "That's not convincing "

Me: "I mean it. We are. He's just going through something. Work thing"

Mom: "If you say so. Just know we'll always be here if you need to talk "

Me: "I know mom"

I spent the Monday with my mom, and she really came through for me.

On Tuesday we went to the spa where we had a full body massage and face masks.

Aphiwe had joined us.

From there, I did my hair then we parted ways.

Everything was all set.

I was having a glass of wine in the kitchen when the door bell rang.

Bandile was still at work. It was just around 5pm and he had called saying he'll be late.

There was no one when I opened but just a nicely wrapped gift box.

I took it and walked back into the house with it.

Looking at the tag, it was for me.

The box was big and I was curious.

Anyway, I opened it to find a brown envelope.

Me: "This is weird"

When I opened the envelope, I saw pictures.

It was of Diana in a white dress and from what I gathered



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they were getting married.

My heart slowly broke as I went through more of them, with pictures where he placed a ring on her finger.

There were documents too and one had the ring transaction.

Me: "What? "

The price was R285 K. I couldn't believe it.

The other was a copy of their marriage certificate.

Me: "No, no, no! "

I sunk down and just cried.

I couldn't believe this.

I really couldn't.

How could he do this to me after all we had been through?

This was worse than him having a child with her. They were married, in community of property which made me wonder where I stand.

Did he love me? Was I just Someone for the public?

Why the hell was he with me?

.

## BANDILE

IT was around 7pm when I Finally gathered my things to go home.

I missed Leonor and I was looking forward to seeing her.

I stopped by the liquor store first to buy her a bottle of wine then went home.

I figured I owed her an apology for my behaviour and I needed to appreciate her a little more.

The house was very quiet when I arrived and I thought that I'd find her downstairs.

I was about to go up the stairs but something caught my attention.

I went to this box on the coffee table and my mouth shot open.

Me: "What the... "

I said, going through the pictures.

I was so mad but also so hurt.

I knew she hated me wherever she was so I ran up the stairs in my pursuit to find her.

Me: "Leonor?! "

I shouted when I got up and to no reply.

I ran to our bedroom but she wasn't there.

There were clothes splattered on the bed and from what I saw, she definitely wasn't here.

I went to the closet and saw that one of her luggage bags was missing which meant she had left.

I took out my phone and called her.

Her phone rang and that was a relief.

Leonor: "Bandile"

Me: "Uphi? "

Leonor: "I need space. Please don't come to the launch tomorrow, I don't want to breakdown. I'll come back when I'm ready to talk but for now, let me be. I'm switching off my phone "

Me: "Ba-"

Fuck, she hung up on me.

I needed to find out who was responsible for this shit.

I had to.

This was just a mess

I took my car keys and left.

I needed to go clear my mind. I had to.

I was just having my drive, deep in thought when a car came driving straight to me.

There were no cars in that road.

I tried dodging it but with no success.

I watched as it collided into mine and it was lights out for me.

.

DIANA

I woke up on the bed with Hugh hanging on to me for dear life.

I tried getting free from his grip but he wasn't barging.

Me: "Hugh"

Hugh: "Mm?"

He mumbled and I poked his eye. He opened it.

Hugh: "Let's sleep Diana "

Me: "Ha.a, I'm hungry"

Hugh: "Just two minutes "

Me: "No. I didn't tell you to go drinking yesterday "

He groaned and let go of me.

I went to brush my teeth first and washed my face then went to the kitchen to make food for us.

Lonwabo came in, rubbing her eyes.

Lonwabo: "Molo "

He said and got on a high chair.

Me: "Morning, are you good? "

He nodded.

Lonwabo: "But I'm hungry"

Me: "Cereal? "

He frowned and shook his head, which made me laugh.

I dished up for the both of us and we ate over comfortable silence.

He went to watch TV after while I washed the dishes.

When I was done, I went back to the bedroom so I can wake Hugh up.

To my surprise, he was up and on his phone.

Me: "It's like you knew I was coming to wake you up"

He laughed.

Hugh: "I suspected. Come give me a kiss "

I went over to him and we kissed.

He lifted my dress up while we were kissing and I broke it.

Me: "Lonwabo"

Hugh: "Hayi suka "

He kissed me yet again and I let him.

We ended up taking a shower together.

Hugh: "Are you going to that launch? "

I shook my head.

Me: "I wasn't invited "

I said, shrugging. I wasn't even interested in that.

Hugh: "You don't need an invite to go"

Me: "I'm not in the mood for it either way "

I wore black leggings with a pink hoodie.

Hugh: "Alright baby "

He took my hand and we went back to the lounge.

Lonwabo: "I miss gogo dad. "

Hugh: "I'll call her"

He shook his head.

Lonwabo: " I want her. Take me to her"

He demanded.

Hugh: "You telling me? "

Lonwabo: "Please"

He frowned. That was a cute face.

Me: "Say yes"

Hugh shot me a look and I laughed.

Hugh: "Fine. Let's go"

Lonwabo was clearly happy.

Me: "Enjoy"

Hugh: "You're coming with "

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "You cheered for this now stand the Fuck up and let's go"

I groaned and he laughed.

We all went to his car.

I should not have interfered shame.

14

APHIWE

I had taken a bath and decided to get dressed.

I was getting ready for the launch and feeling so proud of my best friend.

I knew this was going to be a success. Definitely.

Craig came in holding Summer.

Me: "She can walk"

He put her down. He looked rather down.

Me: "Are you OK? "

He shook his head.

Craig: "I won't be able to go with you to the launch"

I was disappointed. I couldn't even hide it.

Me: "Why? "

Craig: "Bandile. He's been involved in an accident. It's not looking good "

I gasped

Me: "What? "



Craig: "I have to be there for him. I don't know his current state but... I doubt it's good. He needs me"

I nodded and gave him a hug.

Me: "I'm sorry. It's fine baby, I understand "

Leonor was probably shattered where she was.

I could only imagine how she might be feeling.

I knew that she needed me.

I finished up and left with the kids.

I was trying to be strong but this was just sad.

I wondered if Diana knows about this. He is of course the father of her child.

Arriving at the store, it was packed with prestigious people.

I walked over to her while holding the kids with my hands each.

She was with her mother but released herself to give me a hug.

Me: "It looks good in here"

She smiled.

Leonor: "I know. I wasn't expecting such an attendance.

Where's Craig? "

From that question, I knew she wasn't aware of what's happening.

Me: "He had to rush off somewhere "

I didn't want to ruin her day so I figured it was better I tell her after the launch.

Everything went smoothly that almost every was bought from the launch.

We remained behind while her mom left with the kids. They were drowsy and I was going to pick them up from here.

Leonor: "I didn't think it was going to be this much of a success"

Me: "I knew it. I'm proud of you "

She sighed.

Leonor: "I wish... I wish Bandile was here but... Sometimes I wonder if we're even meant to be "

It was around 7/8 pm and we were having champagne to celebrate.

Me: "What do you mean? "

Leonor: "Every time I think we're finally going to be happy, something just pops up"

I then remembered the accident.

Me: "When last did you talk to him? "

Leonor: "Yesterday. I moved out"

Me: "He... He was involved in an accident last night "

She dropped her glass.

Leonor : "What? "

Me: "I'm sorry babe. That's why Craig couldn't come "

Leonor: "And you telling me this now? "

Her voice was broken. She just cried and I held her, with my own tears uniting at my chin.

She just wailed and my heart broke.

Me: "I'm really sorry"

I wished I could do something to erase her pain but I couldn't.

When she had calmed down a bit, I poured her water. She was even shaking.

Leonor: "Is he... Is he alive? "

I shrugged, wiping my tears.

Me: "Craig hasn't told me anything "

Then, she broke down again.

I felt so bad, like I was the cause of her pain. I couldn't even imagine what she was going through.

.

LEONOR

Me: "I have to... I have to see him"

I managed to say, trying not to cry.

Aphiwe nodded. I didn't care about my messed up makeup.

Getting out of my office, the cleaners had done a great job.

It was only us remaining. I was shaking while trying to lock the doors that she took the keys from me.

I knew I wasn't going to be able to drive.

We left in her car while she tried to contact Craig.

He told us where he was and we drove there.

His voice didn't give out much or maybe I wasn't really paying attention.

Arriving there, Craig met us halfway after we got inside.

We had a group hug. His face was blank.

Me: "Where is he? "

Craig: "I haven't seen him yet. I've been here forever but the doctor won't barge"

I left them there as I went to the nurse.

She looked at me.

Me: "My boyfriend Bandile, he's been admitted here"

Nurse: "I'll call the doctor. We've been looking for the spouse "

Me: "Is he... Is he OK? "

Nurse: "You'll ask the doctor"

I just cried as she walked away from me.

I felt Aphiwe's hands embracing me and she brushed my back as I just cried.

I was feeling so weak.

We went to sit down as we waited for the doctor.

About ten minutes later, he made his way to us.

Dr: "Where's the spouse? "

I stood up.

Me: "I'm his girlfriend "

Dr: "He's married, is he not? "

I swallowed the lump in my throat as I felt myself shaking.

Aphiwe: "We would know if he was"

Dr: "Ma'am, the information that we have tells us of a wife.  
We're talking about someone's life here

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I'm not playing "

She looked so confused.

Me: "So, we can't see him? "

Dr: "Only the wife and close family. Now, if you'll excuse me"

Craig: "I'm his family"

Dr: "We have a black man there, Bandile Dlamini so I highly  
doubt. Go home. "

He just left us there.

I sank down on the bench and cried.

Aphiwe: "How Is he married? I'm so confused. He could have at  
least told us about his condition, not leave us hanging like this"

Me: "He's married to your sister. I found out yesterday, which is  
why I moved out"

I was feeling numb. I couldn't even cry anymore.

Aphiwe: "Diana? No. That's... That's impossible. They can't be  
married. Craig? "

Me: "Let's just go"

Aphiwe: "She wouldn't "

Me: "She did. If it were up to me, she'd be the one laying in that bed"

I stormed out first.

Craig drove alone while I was with Aphiwe.

We were all going to my house so she can get the kids.

Craig was the first one to arrive. I couldn't even feel my own body.

I just wanted to snuggle in bed while wearing a hoodie intoxicated with his cologne.

Mom: "Baby? "

I just cried. She opened her arms for me and I cried in her embrace.

It hurt. It hurt so much.

It hurt more that they didn't even want us to see him.

I hated that and I hated Diana even more.. Not only had she broke me, she had killed me.

She was carrying his child and now, even married to him.

He was no longer mine alone.

.

DIANA

Waking up on Thursday, I was tired.

I had an exam preparation thingy and had slept late because of Hugh.

He forced me to go racing with him and we only came back in the early hours of the morning.

Anyway, I took a long warm shower. I needed to get rid of the tension and all tiredness.

I felt a little refreshed when I was done.

I wore black puma leggings with a big yellow T-shirt.

I basically survived on leggings nowadays.

I finished up with getting dressed and did my hair.

I wore a jacket on top because it's winter.

Anyway, I was tired. I couldn't wait to finish with exams and get to rest.

I found Gina making breakfast in the kitchen, whom I greeted.

Gina: "It's such a shame "

Me: "What? "



Gina: "Bandile. His girlfriend must be a wreck"

I was so confused.

Me: "What the hell are you on about? "

Gina: "You don't know? Aren't you in contact with Wandile? "

Me: "Not really. I'm always with Hugh or studying. I hardly get time to keep contact with exes"

Gina: "He was involved in an accident. It's all over social media now. His car is almost unrecognisable "

Me: "Are you serious? "

Gina: "I am. I wouldn't play with something like that "

As much as I wasn't a fan of Bandile, it didn't change the fact that he's my unborn baby's father.

This wasn't something that pleased me and although Leonor didn't deserve my sympathy, I felt for her.

Me: "I didn't know "

Gina: "You should really start being on social media. At least Twitter and instagram "

I laughed.

Me: "Nope. Aphiwe long got tired of convincing me. You won't "

I had just arrived in campus when I received a call from Craig.

Me: "Hi"

Craig: "Are you busy? "

Me: "Yeah. I'm meeting a group for exam prep"

He sighed.

Craig: "Look, we can't see Bandile until you have. Actually, you're the only one who can tell us of his condition "

Me: "Me? Why me? "

Craig: "You're his wife. The doctor won't barge "

Me: "That's like... It's a secret"

Craig: "Not according to the doctor. Leonor knows now and so does Aphiwe. I don't see it being a secret for too long "

Me: "Fuck. Is she mad? Aphiwe I mean "

Craig: "Yeah. She's mad at me for not telling her and well as for you... I think you know your sister pretty well"

Me: "I'll go see him after this. Send me the name of the hospital "

Craig: "Thank you so much. I will. Please tell me when you're going there so I can go. I really need to know how he's doing "

Me: "Will do"

It was official.

My life was ruined.

I had no choice but to come clean to Hugh.

It was better he hears from me than from someone else.

15

DIANA

It seemed that my life just kept getting more and more complicated.

None of this wouldn't have happened if I didn't end up in bed next to Bandile that day.

If I were to erase a day, it would be that one.

Now, it was too late for regrets and to think of what could have.

I firstly went to my flat after the briefing because I needed to sleep a little.

I was tired so I had to.

I woke up and took a shower. My phone had tons of missed calls from Craig but he just had to wait.

I wore a black cotton Maxi dress with black fluffy slippers boots and a denim jacket on top.

I combed my hair and held it in a bun.

I hadn't thought of what to do with it yet.

I took my phone and went downstairs.

I poured myself a glass of milk first then called a cab.

I was wondering how Aphiwe feels and if she hates me. I mean Leonor is her friend and this situation was obviously hurting her.

Anyway, my cab came and I left.

Craig: "Finally"

He said when I arrived.

Me: "Does his family know? They should be here"

Craig: "Uhm, they're here"

I hadn't paid much attention to the people he's with and the first person I noticed was Wandile.

"You. You're here? "

That was Leonor's voice behind me.

I didn't dare turn.

Leonor: "We had to wait here, for you as if you're the Majesty. Whatever muti you gave my boyfriend must be strong "

Craig: "This not the place Leonor"

She clicked her tongue and went to sit down.

I wanted to turn back and just leave.

Me: "I.. Uhm, why can't they see him? "

Good thing we were standing a little distance from them.

Craig: "They're waiting for the doctor. "

I nodded.

Me: "I should probably leave "

Craig: "No. He's here"

The man came.

I had never felt so bad in my life. Never.

I couldn't even face any of these people and that was unlike me.

My confidence had just decided to abandon me and my conscience was eating me up.

I blamed myself for all of this.

Dr: "We need the wife to sign these forms so we can operate on him. Of course she and the family will be allowed time to see him before we can proceed "

Wandile: "Wife? "

He looked at Leonor who looked at me.

I looked down.

He was with a man and woman whom I assumed were Bandile's parents.

"How is he? "

Said a soft voice entering. I could hear she had been crying.

The father stood up and hugged. She broke down.

The sight was just too sad for me. It was clear these people cared deeply for Bandile and I felt like I didn't belong.

Maybe it was because I didn't feel the same, which made me feel so bad.

Wandile: "Diana? "

Now suddenly, everyone was looking at me and I was surprised.

I had zoned out and had no idea what was going on.

Me: "Huh? "

Leonor: "Just sign the damn papers and get the hell out of here"

If this was a different situation, I would have slapped the disrespect out of her but unfortunately, it wasn't.

Father: "When did Bandile get married and how come we don't know anything about this? "

Dr: "You'll discuss that as a family. Now, Mrs Dlamini, will you sign please "

I nodded.

My hands were even shaking as I held those papers.

Dr: "Thank you. You can go see him"

I shook my head.

Me: "I'll be on my way "

Wandile: "Not so fast"

I hadn't even taken two steps.

Wandile: "You owe all of us answers "

Me: "I'm sorry. I'm really sorry but I'm leaving "

I left with him calling my name.

I just couldn't stay there a minute longer.

My heart had been beating out of my chest and I felt it was going to fall out.

Hugh: "Let's go for a ride"

He was leaning by his car which was parked just at the entrance of the hospital.

I swear at that point, I wanted the earth to just open and swallow me up.

He didn't wait for me to reply but just opened the door.



I got in and prayed in my heart that I don't meet my death.

The drive was silent and I didn't dare ask where he was taking me.

It wasn't fast either but it was long.

After about an hour

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we arrived at an abandoned building.

Now, I really thought I'm dying.

Hugh: "Get off"

I didn't even realise he had opened the door for me.

I got off and followed him inside.

It was dark and so silent inside.

Me: "Are you going to kill me? "

I had to ask.

He didn't answer.

We got in an elevator that took us to the last floor.

Tenth floor.

Hugh: "I wonder why I love you so much "

He said, immediately when we got in some office.

It was wide and had the view of the whole place, mostly trees and the road and some houses.

Hugh: "Married Diana? Fucken married?! "

His loud voice startled me. I wanted to be the one to tell him.

Hugh: "I can't... Fuck, I fucken can't believe this"

He threw some pictures at me and looking down at them, I swallowed.

Hugh: "Your love is going to be the end of me "

His voice was now filled with pain, replacing his previous rage.

Me: "I was planning to tell you today "

He laughed.

Hugh: "And you know who did this? "

I shook my head.

Hugh: "Your step father. He hand delivered this gift box to me. The man despises me and doesn't even hide it. I need to know why? "

Me: "My bursar. He didn't give me any other choice "

Hugh: "Oh Fuck that bullshit! "

He shouted and tears were on the verge of falling.

Me: "I'm sorry Hugh. I really am"

Hugh: "Adultery is one sin I didn't see myself committing "

I looked down.

I didn't like where this was going because I love him. Lord knows I do and him leaving me again would hurt.

Me: "Don't do this please "

I looked at him. He turned to look at me.

His eyes were red.

Hugh: "I feel like throwing you out the window because of this pain you making me feel"

I could see he meant it. I knew he was capable of doing it.

Hugh: "But I won't. If it was up to me, you would be a widow right now "

Me: "Hugh "

Hugh: "No Diana. No. Whoever caused this accident is an amateur. That bastard doesn't deserve to be alive. Let's go"

He took my hand and dragged me out.

The ride to my flat was silent with my heart beating very fast.

Hugh: "Goodbye Diana. I'm sorry we couldn't be"

My heart broke as I watched him leave.

I was once again heart broken and I had no one to blame but myself.

It was clear. Love wasn't meant for me and it was high time I accepted it.

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LEONOR

If it wasn't for Mr Dlamini, I wouldn't have seen Bandile.

It hurt so much seeing him laying in that bed with no life in him.

I couldn't help but cry. His hand was cold when I held it and that was heart breaking.

I was now at home, our home and having a glass of vodka.

Wine was just going to waste my time.

We still didn't know who caused the accident and why.

I just wanted to have my boyfriend back so we can talk about this and move on from it.

Maybe there was an explanation for it. I knew he loved me and he wouldn't do anything to hurt deliberately.

I just needed to know.

I couldn't imagine life without him and the thought of him dying was one that I didn't allow to linger in my mind for too long.

I had been receiving many messages of people wishing me well but that didn't help.

"I know how you feel"

The glass in my hand fell.

I was sure I had locked the door.

Me: "How did you get in here? "

Hugh: "It sucks, doesn't it? "

Me: "I'm calling the police "

He laughed.

Hugh: "So it was that hard for you to tame your boyfriend? He was so unsatisfied with you that he had to come after my heart? You're sitting here, drowning your sorrows in alcohol and crying for a married man"

He laughed.

Me: "Get out! "

He came closer to me.

I threw the bottle of vodka at him and he ducked.

Hugh: "I'm going to have my fun with you while he lays there fighting for his life "

I swear I became sober immediately.

Hugh: "See, I lost my love today because of him. Son of a bitch owns her according to home affairs "

Me: "Pl... Please don't hurt me"

I begged and he laughed.

Hugh: "You're already hurting. We are hurting because of that man "

Tears were just falling.

Me: "I'm sorry for what he did"

Hugh: "I don't want your sympathy "

Me: "Then what do you want? "

Hugh: "I want what's his. I want the love of his life. You love him just like I love Diana, don't you? "

I nodded.

Hugh: "I want you"

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LEONOR

My mind was racing.

I was thinking of what he might do to me and prayed that he doesn't force himself on me.

Is he really that kind of guy?

Me: "Please don't... Please don't hurt me"

He looked at me with his forehead furrowed.

Hugh: "Why would you think that of me? "

I kept quiet.

Hugh: "I'm not going to force myself on you Leonor. "

Me: "You're not? "

He chuckled.

Hugh: "No. You're going to give your body freely to me"

Me: "You sound so sure"

Hugh: "That's because I am"

He sat next to me.

Me: "You smell so nice "

His cologne was intoxicating. The scent alone revealed that it's expensive.

Hugh: "That's the first ever compliment from you "

I laughed.

Me: "You've also never complimented me. All you did was be rude "

Hugh: "Because you are. You're such a spoiled brat, it's annoying "

Me: "I'm not a spoilt brat. It's not my fault that my parents are rich"

Hugh: "Leonor, you're a spoiled brat. You want to be treated like an egg, showered with gifts and love. You'll never date a broke nigger. You have your stakes set up very high, it's even making me dizzy "

I laughed. It was because of that last sentence.

I felt bad for thinking he came here to hurt me.

Me: "That's true so you should know that you can't afford me"

Hugh: "And what makes you so sure? "

Me: "Firstly, we'll start with that car that you drive. It's a joke"

He laughed.



Hugh: "Who's rude now? "

Me: "But no. The car is depressing and the way you dress. You look like a hood gangster "

Hugh: "What do you know about hood princess? "

I giggled.

Me: "Nothing but... My point stands. I don't even want to imagine your house "

Hugh: "Levels NEH "

I nodded.

Me: "No hard feelings "

Hugh: "You're not exactly the type that would offend me"

Me: "Really? "

Hugh: "Yes"

He brushed my cheek.

Hugh: "I came here on official business "

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "Before that, I'm even forced to speak English as if you're white "

I laughed.

Me: "Ouch. FYI, I'm coloured "

Hugh: "You're mixed. Know your English "

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "Whatever Hugh "

Then, he kissed me.

I pushed him a bit.

Me: "What are you doing? "

Hugh: "How will you know if you don't let me? "

Me: "Hugh, we can't. Bandile doesn't deserve this"

Hugh: "He's married. You don't deserve that "

I bit my lip.

He leaned in to kiss me and this time, I let him.

I didn't think he'd be such a good kisser but he was.

I found myself wrapping my hands around his neck.

He stopped and looked at me.

Me: "Why did you stop? "

He smirked and stood up.

He held out his hand for me and I held it.

Hugh: "Let's make this a little decent. Lead the way "

I smiled at him.

.

DIANA

I had been sitting in the same position, looking at the bottle of wine and wondering why I can't just take it.

My tears had fell and dried.

It was clear that love wasn't meant for me and it was time I accepted it.

Cupid was my enemy right now because he was the reason I fell for the wrong ones.

Gosh, I talked like I've fell in love a million times.

Hugh was the realest love I ever had but just like that, it ended.

I blamed myself for having allowed him back into my life.

I should have went for someone who isn't as well connected.

I didn't even know what business Damon had, revealing my secret.

Somehow, I was also relieved. My conscience was clear now but how was I going to move on from this?

How was I going to love this baby in my stomach when I needed love myself?

My friends were happy while I was just miserable. It's like I was destined to be hurt.

I should have just been a hoe and never settled with anyone.

Remo was happily married and Lunga was following that road too.

I'd see their whatsapp statuses and smile yet I'd wish I had that happiness.

Suddenly

a light shown around the kitchen.

I had switched off the lights. I looked up and it was Josh.

Me: "Really? "

He was in all white and looked so pure.

Josh: "Look at you all miserable "

He sat In front of me so I was facing him.

Me: "I feel like death "

Josh: "Do you read the Bible Diana? "

Me: "I don't even have a bible. What do you want Joshua? And why are you glowing like this? Are you an angel? How the hell did you disappear out of nowhere?"

Josh: "Which question am I suppose to answer first? "

Me: "First one"

Josh: "Well, I wanted to tell you that you're stronger than this "

I laughed.

Me: "Yeah right. I'd believe that if I had never met Hugh but his love made me so weak. I've never cried for a man before but look at me now"

I wiped my now falling tears with my hand.

Me: "He's the only man I've ever cried for "

Josh: "But is he worth it? "

I shrugged.

Me: "Does it matter? I'm still crying anyway. I have no one by my side. Everyone hates me. My own sister probably wants nothing to do with me now "

Josh: "You still have that life inside of you. You're carrying love, a precious gift and that's remarkable. You're like a house built on a rock, though winds and storms come, you'll never fall"

Then he disappeared and those words lingered in my mind.

I stood up and decided to go sleep.

I was suddenly tired and it was late anyway.

I woke up in a much better mood but my heart was still heavy.

I took a hot shower then dressed in black adidas tracksuits with pink fluffy boots.

I combed my hair, took my phone and went out of my room.

I could hear voices as I went downstairs.

Gina: "Morning. You have guests "

She didn't even wait for me to reply but just left.

It was Wandile, his parents and the lady they were with the previous day.

Wandile: "You ran away yesterday but we're here. This is Khen, my sister and these are my parents "

I looked at this Khen.

This was definitely the one Aphiwe had told me about but now wasn't the time to shit on her.

Me: "I'm really... I'm exhausted "

Khen: "How is it possible that you're married to Bandile and how come we don't know? "

Mother: "And we thought Leonor is his girlfriend. We only know her. Who are you? "

Wandile: "She's my ex. Bandile is the one who broke us up so all of this doesn't make sense to me"

Me: "I signed a non-disclosure agreement so unfortunately, I can't tell you anything "

Wandile: "Oh, that's bull shit "

Father: "Mind your language. This is your brother's wife"

Me: "And I'm older than you. Respect your elders "

I was tired of him thinking he's entitled to anything that includes me.

Father: "Sit down "

I did. In a chair that I pulled from the kitchen.

Me: "Bandile and I had a few casual encounters. It was nothing but merely a fling that unfortunately ended in me falling pregnant with his child. We got married so that I won't have a child out of wedlock so as to secure my bursary and that's it. We agreed to keep it a secret and that we continue with our lives as if the marriage doesn't exist "

Wandile: "You're pregnant? "

I really wanted to roll my eyes.

Khen: "My brother really did us. He's not even here to answer for himself. We wouldn't even know anything if it wasn't because of his accident. We wouldn't even know that he's expecting a child "

Father: "I'm really disappointed in him. Poor Leonor, I can imagine how she feels "

Mother: "This is just too much to take in"

My stomach grumbled.

Me: "Uh, yeah. I think we're done here"

Khen: "You're so disrespectful "

Me: "Ausi, don't start with me please"

Mother: "Let's go. We're not wanted here"

Father: "You're a Dlamini now. You might not like it but you're part of us and are carrying our seed"

With that said, they left and I breathed out. So much drama.

APHIWE

Me: "I hate her so much right now. I mean, how could she? "

I was busy chopping veggies so I can make a salad.

Craig: "You might end up chopping your fingers "



Me: "Was it not enough that she's carrying his baby? They just had to get married. Poor Leonor "

I continued with the chopping..

Me: "And my own fiance kept this from me. Jehovah "

Craig: "It's still none of our business "

Me: "Leonor Is my best friend. She's hurting now. She loves Bandile but he's a fucken dog. She deserves better "

Craig: "Aphiwe. Stop "

Me: "Why did you keep this from me? "

I said, wiping my hands with a damp cloth.

Craig: "It's not any of our business. "

Me: "I'm your fiancee " Craig: "Let's not fight "

Me: "Mxm"

I went up the stairs so I can go check on the kids

I wondered about Leonor and how she might be feeling.

I was planning on visiting her later Today just to check how she's doing.

I really wished that Diana wasn't my sister.

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APHIWE

I drove to Leonor's place after dropping the kids at daycare.

I didn't want her to end up thinking I had abandoned her because I really felt for her.

There is nothing as painful as being in the receiving end of deception.

I parked my car behind a very familiar car.

This was confusing for me but I let it slide. I got off and went to ring the bell.

She opened with a towel covering her body.

Leonor: "Aphiwe, hi"

Me: "Uhm, hi. Are you good? "

She nodded.

Leonor: "This is, quite a surprise "

I looked at her confused.

Me: "I came to check up on you"

Leonor: "Uhm yeah, of course "

She was being weird and not only that, she still hadn't let me inside.

Me: "Can I come in? "

Leonor: "I am... uhm, quite busy. Look, I'll call you. Thank you for coming "

And just like that, I was dismissed.

I really felt like my efforts were wasted. I walked back to my car and drove in a cogitation moment.

Something just wasn't adding up and how she acted was something else.

This wasn't the Leonor who looked hurt in that hospital.

I guess maybe I was too quick to make a judgement.

However, we all deal with pain differently and maybe this was her way of dealing with her pain.

Craig: "You're back ?"

Me: "Talk about a waste of time"

Craig: "What happened? "

Me: "Well, she didn't even let me in. I guess I wasn't needed"

I said, shrugging.

Craig: "Sorry baby"

Me: "It's cool. She said she'll call me so I'll wait for that "

Craig: "And your sister? "

Me: "Craig, it's way too early for you to ruin my mood "

Craig: "She's still your sister. You can't just turn your back on her like that "

Me: "Oh, aren't you such a Diana fan"

I said, rolling my eyes.

Craig: "I don't know OK but I doubt she'd dismiss you like Leonor did. I don't understand why you're taking sides. This is none of our business "

Me: "So you condone what your friend did? "

Craig: "It wasn't by choice but you're too quick to judge. "

Then, he left me there.

I sighed.

Maybe it was time I put my focus elsewhere. Like on my coming wedding.

.

LEONOR

Me: "That was close "

I said to Hugh after closing the door and he laughed.

Hugh: "But that was also rude. You should have just let her in, it's not like I'm naked "

Me: "Are you crazy? Hell no. That was just going to get me in trouble "

Hugh: "You're sleeping with trouble "

Me: "You talk like this is going to continue "

Hugh: "Uh, yeah. Your boyfriend is in a coma anyway. You have to offload and that's where I come in"

Me: "You want me to just use you like that? "

Hugh: "It's a win-win situation. I mean I'm using you to heal while you using me to de-stress "

I laughed.

Me: "That doesn't sound right"

Hugh: "It's just sex, which you enjoyed "

Me: "Yeah. I didn't expect you to be so... IDK what "

Hugh: "I know my way in the sheets"

Me: "You definitely do"

He laughed.

Hugh: "Unlike you"

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "I'll need to teach you a few things "

Me: "What the hell? "

I felt so offended. He laughed. No one had ever complained about my sex so this was a first and hurtful.

Hugh: "Relax, I'm not saying you're bad"

Me: "You're not Calling me good either "

Hugh: "You're just a little inexperienced "

Me: "Hugh! "

I was so hurt and he just laughed.

Hugh: "One round before I leave? "

I clicked my tongue.

Me: "Get the Fuck out"

Hugh: "Next time we doing it in the main bedroom "

Me: "You think there will be a next time after your insults? Hell no"

He came to me and kissed me. I couldn't even push him because of his hold on me.

He whispered in my ear.

Hugh: "There will be lots of next times"

He spanked my butt as he left.

He's definitely mad if he thinks this is happening again after what he said.

How could he? It's this sex that made Bandile fall in love with me.

Surely he wouldn't have kept coming back if it was bad.

A month later and Bandile was still in a coma.

It was draining but I put my focus on working. It helped take my mind off things.

It was the beginning of August on a Monday and as usual, I woke up and took a bath.

I hadn't seen Hugh in a week and I wasn't complaining. I felt bad for doing this while my boyfriend is in a coma but I couldn't help it.

Yes

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even after I had sworn that I won't do anything with him, I did.

I decided to go visit Bandile before going to work.

I still had hope that he'll wake up. I knew he would.

Me: "Dr, how is he? "

I found him in his room.

Dr: "Good morning to you too"

I rolled my eyes. This guy has a nasty attitude.

Me: "Morning"

Dr: "There's been no change. I thought you visiting and his family would trigger his consciousness. Maybe it's time the wife came "

Me: "Clearly she doesn't care. If she did, she would have long come "

Dr: "Persuade her then. "

Me: "What? No. Bandile loves me. My voice should be the reason he wakes up"

Dr: "Then there's definitely something wrong with your voice "

With that said, he left.

I sighed. I wasn't going to allow him to ruin my day.

Me: "Baby, please wake up. I hate seeing you like this"

I took his hand into mine.



Me: "I know you can hear me. Please "

I sat there for a while until my phone rang and I had to leave.

It was someone from the store.

I just hoped that he does.

.

DIANA

I realised in the past month that I can't be happy if I can't generate my own happiness.

At first, it was hard waking up but I accepted what's happening in my life, owned up and chose happiness.

I had gotten closer to my unborn child. I had even bought one or two unisex outfits.

I was looking forward to his/her birth.

I knew that even if I feel alone, he's here and he's with me.

Aphiwe was mad at me and I honestly got tired of begging her.

I called a cab that drove me to Remo's house. She was due to give birth soon and I missed her.

Marcus was the one who opened up for me.

Marcus: "Don't you have class? "

Me: "Only later"

He made space for me to get in. She was sitting in the lounge.

Me: "Baby"

She smiled at me. I hugged Her while she was sitting then sat next to her.

Me: "I see Marcus is nursing you"

She laughed.

Remo: "I'm just happy you'll get here too then you won't be making jokes"

I laughed.

Me: "Oh come on"

Remo: "I'm counting days. I wanna see her here already "

Me: "Which is soon. I'm not even showing yet"

Remo: "You're actually glowing"

Me: "I'm happy, as weird as that may sound "

Remo: "How's everything now? With the Dlamini's? "

Me: "Well Khensani is still a bitch, Wandile is still sulking and well, his father does call every once in a while. I honestly don't want anything to do with them"

Remo: "Have you seen Bandile yet? "

I shook my head.

Me: "I don't see any reason to"

Remo: "He's your husband "

She said, rolling her eyes and I laughed.

Me: "Only on paper. I just don't want all that into my life "

Remo: "Then go vent"

I laughed.

Me: "That's actually an idea. I mean he's unconscious anyway "

Marcus offered to drive me to campus afterwards.

I was living a rather peaceful life. I just wanted to give birth, graduate and work for my baby.

I wanted to make something of myself and be independent, with no man by my side.

I took a taxi to the hospital after my classes.

I was only going there because of Remo. I honestly never saw the need to. I also realised it wasn't fair on our baby, seeing that he's the father.

I was shown his room.

I got in there and saw him just laying there.

I sighed and went to sit down next to him.

Me: "Fuck, I didn't think it's this bad "

I said to this corpse being kept alive by machines.

Me: "I am not about to raise this baby alone Bandile so your ass better snap out of this coma"

I took his cold soft hand into mine.

Me: "Husband "

I said sarcastically and chuckled.

Me: "They would have probably stolen this ring if you were in a public hospital. There's levels to this things I guess "

Somehow it felt crazy talking to someone who's so unresponsive.

Me: "You should come face the music. The family knows now. Your dad is the sweetest. As for your sister, she's such a bitch. You'd think she's not so old "

I laughed.

Me: "Well, a slight part of me maybe misses you. I think our pumpkin does. I'm actually enjoying having her in me. It's amazing. Maybe you'll experience the first kicks with me. Don't get any ideas, I'm doing it for the baby "

I sighed.

I stood up, bent a bit so I can put his hand on my stomach.

Me: "Wake up for her. Or him. "

I giggled.

I stood up and left.

I hit my forehead for not venting but Fuck it, I'll see him tomorrow.

18

LEONOR

I had been sitting in my office, dreading to go home because it sucked being without Bandile.

I was slowly losing hope of him waking up. It had been a long time and I missed him. I missed him so much.

Heck, I had even forgiven him and all was forgotten.

I just wanted him here.

"Shame"

I looked up and it was Hugh.

He was wearing all black. A pair of black skinny jeans, a black T-shirt and a leather jacket on top with black vans.

Me: "What do you want? "

Hugh: "I came to check up on you "

He closed the door and sat on the chair opposite me.

Me: "You disappeared for a week"

Hugh: "You kept count? "

Me: "I'm fine, as you can see"

Yes, I completely ignored what he said.

Hugh: "You miss the boyfriend? "

I nodded.

Me: "Too much. I don't even feel like going back to that empty house"

Hugh: "I don't mind being your entertainment for the night"

Me: "Uhm, no"

Hugh: "Come on. I booked a hotel suite for you"

I laughed.

Me: "Tell me you're kidding "

Hugh: "I mean it. Just come with me. We can get drunk, Fuck or do whatever you want "

Me: "But why go through all the trouble? "

He shrugged.

Hugh: "I want to cheer you up. Besides, it's my appreciation for helping me get through what I was going through "

I smiled.

Me: "We can drink but... No fucking"

He laughed.

Hugh: "OK "

He watched me as I took my bag and put the rest of my stuff in.

Me: "And it's risky for you to come here"

He laughed.

Hugh: "You definitely don't know me"

Me: "I'm talking about the media"

Hugh: "Eish, you're a celebrity NEH or what do they call you?  
Oh, a socialite"

I rolled my eyes and he laughed.

Hugh: "Follow me with you car"

He went as far as opening the door for me then went to his car.

I was agreeing to this because I was stressed and I needed the entertainment.

We were driving to a five star hotel. I was surprised.

I parked my car and went to him.

Me: "Are you sure we're at the right place? "

He just laughed, shaking his head.

He took my hand and we went inside. It was beautiful. I had never been here before.



We got into the elevator and as soon as it closed, he pinned me against the glass wall.

Me: "Hugh "

I gasped as he kissed my neck.

Hugh: "We having fun tonight "

He whispered in my ear.

Then he just let me go like he didn't just do that. My breathing was a bit too high.

He took me by the hand and we got out of the elevator.

He took out the access card and opened the door.

Hugh: "A drink? "

Me: "Why are you being so sweet? "

Hugh: "I'm far from being sweet. You should just enjoy this rare sight of me"

I laughed.

Me: "I'll definitely do but I like the other side "

Hugh: "Oh? "

I nodded, biting my lip.

Hugh: "Interesting. To think that there was a point where you hated me"

Me: "I never hated you"

Hugh: "You did. Don't deny it"

Me: "It's just... Argh, you won't understand "

He gave me a glass of champagne.

Me: "Thank you"

Hugh: "Take off your clothes "

I swear I choked on my drink.

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "Don't act like you didn't hear me"

I looked at him and swallowed whatever I was thinking of saying.

He looked.. Gosh, I just put my glass down and took off my clothes.

Hugh: "Wear your heels"

He took off his jacket and shirt and was only left with his pants.

There I was, having my glass of champagne while drooling over him.

He was having whisky while looking at me.

The sexual tension was too much.

Me: "So, are you really done with Diana? "

I had to break the silence.

Hugh: "I am. Unlike you, I'm a free agent"

Me: "Is that your way of making me feel guilty? "

Hugh: "You shouldn't. There are no feelings involved "

I finished my glass and swayed it in the air.

He came to refill it then stayed in the same position.

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "Finish up. I'm getting impatient "

Did I? No. I took my own sweet time.

Immediately when I took the last sip, I was lifted off my chair.

Hugh: "I'm going to Fuck you in the Jacuzzi "

It was in the balcony. This hotel is really something else. He put me in it and I watched him take off his shoes then his pants.

He got in and pulled me to sit on top of him.

Then, he kissed me. That kiss alone told me that it was about to go down.

.

GINA

Me: "Father, what are you doing here? "

My heart started racing.

I was in the kitchen, making Breakfast while thinking of Xolani who was taking a shower.

This was not how I wanted them to meet.

Dad: "You seem to forget I'm paying for this. Besides, I'm your fucken father"

I allowed him to get in and closed the door.

Dad: "Smells nice"

Diana came down with her bag pack and tapping on her phone.

Diana: "Morning "

She wasn't even looking up.

Dad: "Hello girl"

She looked up.

Dee: "Hi

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how are you? "

Dad: "I'm hungry, you? "

Dee: "Well, makes two of us. Nice of you to come check up on us"

Dad: "Well, my daughter hardly calls. "

Me: "I was talking to you last night and you never mentioned this"

Dad: "Well, I -"

"Baby, I hope you're done with the food"

He said, running down the stairs while topless.

Dad: "I hope he's referring to you"

He said, looking at Diana who laughed.

Dee: "Sorry to disappoint Mr Louw. He's dating your daughter "

She took an apple and left me with the heat.

I knew my father was angry. His breathing had changed.

I looked at him and he had a mean frown.

Dad: "What the hell is this Gina? "

Me: "It's... He's my boyfriend daddy"

Dad: "This monkey is your boyfriend? Are you crazy? "

Me: "His name is Solani "

I couldn't pronounce his name of course.

Xolani: "It's actually Xolani. Lovely meeting you Mr Louw"

Dad just looked at his extended hand then at me.

Dad: "I'm not about to have my daughter dating a black man. I understand that you're maybe lonely but you can't be this desperate. I'll hook you up with someone "

Me: "Dad-"

Dad: "No! You going to leave this creature if you know what's good for you"

He clicked his tongue then left, banging my door.

Me: "I'm sorry"

I said to Xolani who just hugged me.

Xolani: "I got you "

If only he knew the type of man my dad is.

This was going to be a difficult fight.

.

DIANA

I spent the whole week visiting Bandile and telling him whatever that came into my mind.

There was still no change.

Yesterday, I had even spent the whole day in his room begging him to wake up.

It was Saturday and I felt that enough was enough.

I found Gina looking miserable on the couch.

Me: "Morning "

I said to her and went to make myself cereal.

Me: "What's wrong? "

I asked as I sat next to her.

She sighed.

Gina: "My father is making my life a living hell"

Me: "Because of Tuesday? "

She nodded.

Gina: "I'm going on a blind date with whatever idiot I'm being set up with. I told Xolani and he feels I should stand up to my father. Diana, I'm scared of that man"

Me: "But X is right. You should consider standing up to him"

Gina: "He's going to disown me. What will become of me if that happens? "

Me: "He's your father. He loves you"

Gina: "This is messed up. My mom agrees with him. Basically, no one is willing to listen to me"

Me: "Do you love X? "

She nodded.

Me: "Then stand up by him no matter what. He loves you. You can't lose that because of your father. He's married to the love of his life "

Gina: "I need strength "

Me: "Go to church "

I went to rinse my bowl and left. I was going to the salon first to do my hair.

I went for something curly in copper blonde.

I paid and went to Wimpy for a milkshake, regardless of the weather.

After my milkshake, I took a taxi which dropped me at the hospital.

I found his mom in his room.

Me: "Uhm, morning "

She just looked at me, stood up and left.



Me: "Bye! "

I shouted and had her clicking her tongue, making me laugh.

I closed the door then went to sit down next to him.

Me: "Your mom is so dramatic "

Like I usually did, I held his hand.

Me: "Look, this is my last time coming here. I don't want to end up going crazy because of you. "

They had shaved his head and the hair had even grown back.

Me: "I'm glad they got rid of these dreadlocks. They made you look like a fuck boy"

I chuckled.

Me: "You know, my sister is mad at me because of you. Man, why the hell did we get married? This marriage cost me my love but I'm cool now. Look Bandile, just come back man"

I squeezed his hand.

Me: "Your ass has been laying there for too long now. Don't you get tired of being impotent? Come on "

I sighed.

Me: "Do it for Leonor. I know you love her and shame, Barbie loves you too. Do it for our child, I'm yet to find out the gender but Josh once hinted it's a girl. Do it for her"

I stood up.

Me: "And you're wasting money unnecessarily "

I looked at him once more and left.

I felt like spoiling myself a little so I went to the spa.

I needed it anyway. It had been one long week for me.

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LEONOR

Me: "I can't believe I've spent the whole week here"

It was Sunday and I had just taken a, shower.

Me: "What do you do for a living? How could you afford a hotel for the whole week? "

He laughed.

Hugh: "You talk too much. Come suck my dick"

Me: "Ha.a . We spent the whole week fucking, I need a break "

He would drop me off and pick me up from work.

He had taken me to my house on Tuesday where I fetched clothes for a week and came here.

I hadn't even seen Bandile since Monday.

I felt so bad.

I don't know why I allowed this to drag for so long.

Hugh: "The whole week was my goodbye to you"

Me: "Are you going somewhere? "

He nodded.

Hugh: "New York. I'm finalising this Hotel's deal. I had to come test its services first and oh, am I impressed"

I looked at him with my jaw dropped.

Hugh: "Close your mouth. "

Me: "You're serious? New York as in the United States? "

He rolled his eyes.

Hugh: "Yeah. It's a vacation for my son and I "

Me: "Fuck"

Hugh: "Have you even been out of the country? "

I slowly shook my head.

Hugh: "How sad. Wanna come with? "

Me: "Tempting but no. I have a boyfriend "

Hugh: "Your loss"

He said, shrugging.

We walked out with him holding my bags.

He kissed me once more then I got into my car.

I guess this was it.

I made my way to the hospital.

Thank God it was Sunday which meant no work for me.

.

## BANDILE

I never thought she meant the goodbye until I didn't hear her voice on this day.

I didn't know her, couldn't recognise her but she made me want to wake up.

Trust me, I had tried. She had been the most frequent and the first voice I had since the drowsiness fell off.

Unfortunately, my eyes were still too heavy for me.

I'd listen to her and just want to laugh.

I didn't even know her name but just that she's my wife.

I was even surprised that I'm married.

"Bandile"

That was a new voice and one I couldn't recognise. I knew that was my name because everyone who visited reminded me.

I remembered that of the woman who said she's my mother and how my 'wife' had called her dramatic.

I knew the voice of my sister who I just assumed is the one she called a bitch.

I also remember the man who said he's my father and that she had called him sweet.

My brother had also come whom she said was apparently mad at me. I didn't know how it was possible that I had married my brother's ex.

Heck, I couldn't remember my own life.

But I knew I had to fight. As this stranger held my hand, I tried my all to at least squeeze hers.

"Doctor, doctor he moved! "

She shouted. I guess my efforts paid off.

I had honestly died or whatever happened to me until I heard that voice that pulled me back to life.

I don't even know what happened before that or where I was.

I just remember hearing a voice that my spirit followed until it went back to my body.

From there, I heard this voice almost each day and tried to wake up.

"Probably a muscle reflex"

Said another voice.

I knew I had to open my eyes, which was a struggle.

"Oh Barbie, you're here"

My heart almost jumped with joy when I heard that voice.

It was 'my wife'

"What do you want Diana? "

Oh, so she's Diana and the other one is Barbie? At least I have names now.

"I'll leave you ladies to it"

I assumed that was the doctor and I heard his footsteps until they faded.

"I came to check on hubby"

The sarcasm was too loud.

I felt her touch my other hand.

I knew I had to wake up for her. She had spent maybe a week begging me to wake up.

It was hard but I finally managed to push my eyes and opened my eye lids.

The light was too bright.

Barbie: "He's awake! Bandile

baby"

Diana: "It was about damn time"

I blinked a few times to adjust my eyes to the light.

I just wanted to see these two women.

Barbie: "Doctor! "

I looked at her as she ran out to call the doctor.

Who was she and why was she here?

Dr: "Gosh, you can scream "

He said, getting in.

Dr: "Oh, you finally woke up"

He removed the oxygen mask and I could finally catch some air.

He came to me and shined some light on my eyes.

I coughed a bit. My throat was too dry and so were my lips.

He gave me water with a straw.

Me: "T.. Thanks"

My voice was too hoarse.

Dr: "Can you feel this? "

I looked at him. He was at my legs.

Me: "What? "



Barbie: "Doc, what's happening? "

Dr: "Are you sure you can't feel anything? "

I tried nodding but hurt my neck instead so I had to speak.

Me: "No"

Barbie: "That's... No! "

Diana: "You're making noise"

I turned to look at her and she faked a smile.

These two were different.

The other looked coloured while the wife was just a bit light skinned.

I wondered if she's black. She didn't look mixed anyway.

Diana: "Stop staring at me like that. "

Me: "Where do I live? "

I heard them both gasp

Dr: "Don't worry sisters, the amnesia is just temporary or at least I hope"

Me: "What happened to me? Why am I in so much pain? Why did you shave my head? "

Dr: "You were in an accident. I'm surprised you survived. You suffered severe head injuries and a few broken ribs. "

His pager ran.

Dr: "I have to go. You both have ten minutes before the nurse comes. He needs to rest "

He then left me with these two ladies.

Diana stood up.

Diana: "You're awake now. I'll come fetch you on Wednesday so we can go to the gynaecologist for my check up"

Then I watched her leave. She had a beautiful slim body that had flesh in all the right places. She wasn't a slender but wasn't thick either.

The other cleared her throat.

Barbie: "We live together. I've been waiting for you to wake up. I have forgiven you baby and I really want us to work on fixing our relationship "

Me: "What? "

Barbie: "I'm your girlfriend and you love me"

Me: "Oh"

I didn't feel anything for her and that was surprising.

She took out her phone and showed me pictures.

We looked happy together actually. There were even videos.

Me: "Where are my locks? "

She chuckled.

Barbie: "I'd be lying. You looked way too good with them. "

Me: "I see"

The nurse came and she had to leave.

Everything was just making me dizzy.

Good thing was that the pills made me drowsy. I dozed off immediately.

.

GINA

X: "You can sulk forever but I won't apologise. Eat"

I pushed the plate away and he clicked his tongue.

X: "Don't piss me off. I said eat! "

I took the plate again and started eating while crying.

My tears didn't do anything to him.

He gave me a glass of juice after eating.

Me: "I want to go back to my flat "

X: "That's not happening. You'll be staying here until you finally do what's right "

OK, so let me tell you guys how we got here.

Basically, he gatecrashed my date last night and beat up the guy.

I think he was drunk but him confirming that he won't apologise proves me wrong.

Anyway, he first put me over his shoulder then went to throw me in his car before coming back and Beating the poor guy up and leaving him like that, bleeding for dear life.

I had never seen him that agree.

When we got at his house, he didn't even open the door for me.

I had to sleep alone, in his bed after waiting for hours for him to come back.

I just found him when I woke up, in the kitchen and he didn't even entertain me.

I've been pissed since then.

Me: "You can't keep me here X"

X: "Oh, I will. Until you finally develop a backbone and put your racist father in his place "

Me: "You can't speak about him like that "

X: "Oh, Fuck him. Screw him man. I love you Gina, I fucken love you and I'm not about to lose you because of him"

Me: "You're not going to lose me"

X: "He doesn't want me. You can't allow your dad to control you forever. It needs to stop "

I kept quiet.

X: "I better find you here when I come back "

Me: "What's the point of me being here if you going to just leave me here alone? "

X: "I'm giving you time to think "

Me: "Can I at least have my phone back? "

X: "No. Not happening "

He kissed my cheek and left.

How the hell was I going to deal with this?

I knew my dad was mad at me and probably hated Xolani even more.

I didn't even want to think of what he'd do to me if he were to See Me.

I was dead. So dead.

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GINA

I spent the whole day alone and he came back later in the evening.

I was sitting in the lounge watching TV with a tub of ice-cream.

I didn't even pay attention to him. I was mad at him for leaving me all alone like this with no phone, nothing.

X: "Baby"

I ignored him and just focused on the TV.

He came, switched it off and sat on the coffee table facing me.

X: "I love you OK and I'm sorry but I can't lose you. Not over this"

I rolled my eyes and focused on the ice-cream.

He took the tub away from me.

Me: "What the hell? "

X: "Stop ignoring me"

Me: "Mxm"

He brought his lips closer to mine and kissed.

Yes, I was mad but the feel of his lips on mine was enough to relax me.

Then, he broke it.

X: "You can go back to your flat. It's fine. I can't force you to go against your father but he definitely won't be the reason I lose you "

Me: "You won't lose me"

X: "Can you promise that? "

I nodded.

X: "I want to hear you say it"

Me: "I promise you won't lose me"

He sat next to me and we hugged.

Me: "Back to our kiss"

He laughed and kissed me.

He broke it again.

Me: "What? "

X: "I was thinking that we go visit Travis for the weekend. I know you miss him"

I swear that put a grin immediately on my face.

Me: "Baby "

I just pulled him in for a hug. I actually got on top of him and just hugged the daylight out of him.

X: "Can I breathe now? "

I laughed and broke it.

Me: "Thank you "

I said, perking his lips.

X: "I know how you can thank me"

I giggled as he kissed my neck.

.

LEONOR

I was so happy that he woke up but my worry was him not feeling his legs.

The good thing was that he was no longer playing rugby so at least his career wasn't much affected.

I went back to his room on Tuesday so I can check up on him.

He was sitting up, with his mom holding his hand.

Me: "Morning "

His mom smiled at me.



Kitso: "Hey baby. I'll leave you guys to it"

She kissed his forehead then gave me a hug.

It was just around 11am.

Me: "How are you doing? "

He shrugged.

Bandi: "It sucks not remembering anything. How are you? "

Me: "I'm good, now that you've woken up"

Bandi: "I just want to get out of here"

Me: "The house is just not the same without you "

I don't know but it felt like his mind wasn't even here.

Me: "Bandile? "

He looked at me with those beautiful eyes.

Me: "Are you OK? "

Bandi: "I just... I don't understand how I can have a wife and live with you "

Fuck. This amnesia was really making things difficult for me.

Me: "You guys got married out of convenience. Diana is the one who knows the terms. I'm your girlfriend and we've been together for years "

Bandi: "So why am I not married to you? "

Me: "Because we had agreed to get married later on. "

He nodded.

The doctor came holding some papers.

Dr: "You just need to sign this then you're free to go. The nurse will come with your wheelchair "

Bandile took the papers and signed. He actually just wrote his name and the doctor left.

The nurse came with his wheelchair and helped him to it.

Bandi: "Diana... Where does she stay? "

I swear the devil was testing me now.

Me: "In a flat around town "

Bandi: "Can you take me to her? "

Me: "She said you guys have an appointment tomorrow. I don't have to"

I swear I was pissed and wondered if every conversation is going to be about her now.

My skinny self had to help him into the car and it wasn't easy.

I mean Bandile is well built so it was almost difficult. On top of that, he's injured.

We passed by the pharmacy first to buy his pills then I drove home.

I was playing music to avoid him saying anything.

My phone rang via Bluetooth and I just answered.

Me: "Hello? "

"Mixed berries unjani? "

That was Hugh. Fuck.

Me: "I... Uhm, I can't talk right now"

Hugh: "I heard the boyfriend woke up. Congrats. I'm sure you're happy "

Bandi: "Who's that? "

Bandile asked and, at this point, I was grateful for the amnesia.

Me: "Just a friend. Look

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Hugh -"

Hugh: "Bye"

He hung up and I sighed.

Bandi: "I'm just tired"

He said when we arrived home.

Thank God we have guestrooms down stairs.

Me: "Welcome home"

I wheeled him to the guestroom and helped him into the bed.

I really needed to hire someone soon cause this was so not on.

He slept immediately after getting on the bed.

I guess he was really tired.

There was no way I was going to take care of him so I went to our bedroom so I can get my laptop.

After getting it, I started with my search.

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DIANA

I had just gotten out of my class when I received a call from Marcus.

Me: "Hello? "

Marcus: "Where are you cause I'm freaking out now? "

Me: "Everything OK? "

Marcus: "It's Remo. Her water broke and now she's screaming her lungs out "

Me: "Call the ambulance "

Marcus: "I did but it's delaying. I'm with the boys "

Me: "Shit. I'm coming! "

I hung up and at this point, I wished I had a car.

When I arrived, the ambulance was already there.

Me: "Go with her. I'll look after the kids "

Remo: "Marcus! "

She didn't even acknowledge my presence.

Well, I hoped that I won't be like that when I'm giving birth.

Marcus came back late that the kids were even sleeping

I think it was around 10pm.

Me: "And? "

Marcus: "It's another boy. She's going to kill me "

I laughed.

Me: "I have to go. There's food in the pots if you're hungry. I cooked"

Marcus: "I can drive you to your flat "

I shook my head.

Me: "You look exhausted. Go rest. I'll go see her tomorrow "

Marcus: "Thank you again for this"

I nodded.

Me: "It's my pleasure "

It took about fifteen minutes for my cab to arrive and it dropped me off right at the gate.

I took a quick shower then slept.

I had a long day coming. I was going to check on Remo then go fetch Bandile.

I really wished I had a car but good thing he has it.

I woke up the following morning and took a shower.

I think it was around 8am and I wasn't even surprised.

I had come back late and very exhausted.

Anyway, I went to the kitchen and started with breakfast.

Gina came dragging her feet.

Me: "Wena, your dad has been coming here looking for you. That man is furious, he's probably going to kill you where he gets you "

Gina: "I know Dee but I can't run away from him forever which is why I'm here. I wanna face the music "

Me: "I'd borrow you my attitude if it's possible but"

I shrugged and she laughed.

Gina: "Thanks. I know I have to do this. I don't know how but I have to convince him to accept Xolani "

Me: "All the best babe "

We had breakfast together then I left.

I swear all my money was going to end on all these taxi trips.

Anyway, I was allowed to see Remo.

She was holding the baby, breastfeeding him.

Me: "Hey"

She looked up at me and smiled.

Remo: "Hi"

Me: "I heard its another boy"

She nodded.

Remo: "I'm taking a break from baby making now"

Me: "You better. He looks so handsome "

Remo: "He looks like a girl"

Me: "His mother is a girl so it's understandable "

She laughed.

I stayed with her for about two hours and even video called LUNGA who was so excited.

He told us he'll come see us soon.

Anyway, I had to leave since I didn't want to miss my appointment.

Leonor was the one who opened the door for me.

Leonor: "Finally you're here"

Me: "Uh, hi"

Leonor: "Maybe you should be the one taking care of him since you're the wife. I honestly can't do this"

Me: "Hire someone "

Leonor: "I'm planning on doing that "

She looked frustrated.

Leonor: "I'm going to work"

She shouted then left.

Me: "Hi"

He nodded.

Me: "You don't look fine"

Bandi: "I don't think I'm happy to be awake now. I can't do anything for myself and I have to drink pills to suppress the pain. It sucks"



Me: "Shame. Maybe this will humble you "

He didn't say anything.

Me: "I think you can afford those automatic wheelchairs. This is not on"

Bandi: "You must hate me"

Me: "You have no idea. "

I went to look for his car keys then wheeled us to the garage.

I helped him inside the car the drove out.

Josh was expecting as usual.

Josh: "He finally came back to the land of the living "

Bandi: "I wish I hadn't "

Josh: "Too late. You're here now. Don't worry, this is only for a month and you'll be back on your feet"

Me: "Can we get to the business of the day?"

Josh: "Of course Mrs Dlamini "

I rolled my eyes.

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BANDILE

I never imagined myself being crippled and having to depend on people.

Not only that, I also didn't remember much of my life.

Diana was talking but my mind wasn't there.

I wondered why I even had to survive that accident if I'm going to be such a burden.

Diana: "Feeling sorry for yourself is just a waste of time"

Me: "Diana, please"

Diana: "We've arrived. I realise you haven't been paying any attention to me, not that I'm surprised "

Me: "I have a lot on my mind and you don't like me, it shouldn't matter "

Diana: "Of course just like I don't have to help you out of this car "

Me: "Barbie will"

She laughed.

Diana: "Good luck with that "

Just like that, she got out and left me in the car.

I took out my phone and called Barbie.

Barbie: "Hi? "

Me: "Are you home? "

Barbie: "No, I'm at work. What's up? "

Me: "I need you to help me with something "

Barbie: "What Bandile? "

Me: "Diana left me in the car OK and I can't get out"

Barbie: "I'm coming "

Then she hung up on me.

I just sighed.

I really had no idea how I was going to survive this.

"Bandile? "

I lifted my head up.

It was a guy I didn't know but the voice was familiar.

I think he had also visited me.

Him: "Why are you sleeping there? "

Me: "How am I suppose to get out? I can't walk"

I was so irritated. I thought Barbie will be here by now.

This guy helped me out into my wheelchair and wheeled me inside.

She came about five minutes after we got inside the house.

Barbie: "I'm sorry, traffic . Hi Craig"

Me: "Are you sure we're in love? "

Barbie: "What? "

She looked hurt.

Me: "You're suppose to be here with me yet you leave to work. Am I a burden to you? "

Craig: "Calm down man"

Me: "No. She's my woman and she's suppose to take care of me, unless I'm missing something "

Barbie: "I'm sorry baby. It's just that the store is still new and I want to be hands on"

Me: "I just don't get you Barbie. I don't get my life. I have a wife who hates me and a girlfriend who's fed up with me. Who will you be? "

I said, looking at this Craig guy.

Barbie: "Baby, I'm really sorry. I -"

Me: "Shut up! "

I didn't even feel moved by her crocodile tears.

Craig: "Man, I know this is frustrating and-"

Me: "You don't know anything. Nothing! Just leave me the Fuck alone! "

I wheeled myself to the guestroom and locked the door.

It was a struggle but I managed to help myself onto the bed.

After that, I sat just staring at the ceiling.

.

LEONOR

Me: "That bitch must have said something to him"

Craig: "The guy lost his memory and is in a wheelchair, it's stressing. "

I sighed.

Me: "I shouldn't have left him. I should have come home earlier "

Craig: "He's going through a rough time. We have to be patient with him"

He gave me a hug then left.

I sighed, sitting on the couch.

I went to knock on his door after an hour to no response.

I decided to just go take a shower.

Aphiwe visited later during the day just as the chef had finished preparing dinner.

She gave me a warm hug before coming in.

Aphiwe: "I hope I'm not disturbing "

Me: "No, of course not. We're about to have dinner, you joining us? "

She smiled.

Aphiwe: "I would love to plus I missed you"

Me: "I missed you too. How's the wedding Coming up? "

Aphiwe: "Good but I need your help in choosing a dress"

Me: "Of course. I'd love to help with anything "

She nodded.

Aphiwe: "Where's Bandile? "

Me: "He's -"

Bandi: "Right here"

He said, coming to where we are.

Aphiwe: "Uh

Advertisement

hi"

He looked at me.

Me: "She's Craig's fiancée and Diana's sister, Aphiwe "

Aphiwe: "Craig told me about the amnesia "

Bandi: "I bet he did. I'm hungry"

He said, looking at me.

Me: "Yeah, the food is ready "

Bandi: "Who cooked? "

Me: "We have a chef"

Bandi: "I want food prepared by you, not some chef"

Me: "You've never had a problem with this arrangement before "

Bandi: "I can't remember now, can I? "

This was definitely going to be harder than I thought.

Aphiwe: "Maybe I should go"

I looked at her.

Me: "I'm really sorry about this"

She smiled.

Aphiwe: "It's OK "

I walked her out. We hugged one more time then I came back.

Me: "Can we eat please? "

He shook his head.

Bandi: "What's the point of us living together if you're not going to do anything? "

Me: "Bandile"

Bandi: "You don't have to remind me of my name, I know it now"

Me: "Baby, let's not fight please "

I said, holding his hands.

Bandi: "Dish up for me then or am I suppose to serve myself? "

Me: "Uhm, no. I'll dish up for you"

I was really hoping that things change.

I knew this wasn't easy for him but he had never been this rude to me.

I actually wondered how long this would go on.

.

GINA



It was on Friday when I was coming back from class that I found my dad in my flat.

I swear my heartbeat went to a thousand.

I was even shaking.

He stood up and gave me a slap that sent me flying (not literally)

The tears just fell.

Dad: "Why do you disobey me like this? "

Me: "I'm sorry father"

Dad: "Did I not tell you to break up with that boy? "

Me: "You did"

I was still in the same position, holding my cheek while crying silently.

Dad: "Then why haven't you "

Me: "I love him"

He took off his belt.

Dad: "What did you say?"

I kept quiet.

He came towards me with the belt.

I was still down on my butt and didn't move. I couldn't.

Dad: "You love him? "

I kept quiet.

Dad: "What do you know about love? "

He started hitting me with the belt.

I cried until my tears ran out and my voice couldn't take out a sound.

Dad: "You're going to leave him and I'm telling you this for the last time. If you don't then consider yourself dead to me! "

He clicked his tongue and walked out.

I just cried.

Dee: "I'm so sorry "

She said, immediately when she got in.

I was still in the same position, listening to the pain from every part that was hit.

She took me into her arms and I cried all over again.

Dee: "Should I call X? "

I shook my head.

I Finally gathered the strength to stand up and she helped me to my room.

When I got there, I drank headache tablets and slept.

I was woken up by someone brushing my hair.

I knew who that was.

I slowly opened my eyes. They were heavy and swollen.

X: "You've been avoiding me"

I sat on my butt. I had to pretend like I was in no pain.

X: "What happened to you? "

Me: "Nothing "

Likely, he didn't touch my face.

My voice was hoarse from the crying.

X: "Gina, I asked you a question "

Me: "What do you want? "

He looked at me then my clothes.

X: "Take them off"

Me: "No"

I said with tears filling my eyes.

X: "I wasn't asking you Gina"

I shook my head.

He came to me and tried taking off my top which was clinging to my skin.

I had been hiding it by the blanket.

X: "I hope it's not your crazy father"

I looked away.

Me: "Please leave "

X: "Gina, no"

Me: "Leave Solani. Just go "

I said, almost in a whisper.

X: "I'm not going to listen to you. Let's go shower so I can take care of your wounds and you'll tell me why I shouldn't do anything to him because of this"

Me: "No"

He picked me up and walked us to the bathroom.

I was crying silently.

I never thought things will get this far.

22

I was woken up by light shining through my window. I didn't know who opened the curtain but I knew if that wasn't the case, I would not have waken up.

Events of the previous day came rushing into my mind and I simultaneously felt the pain from my wounds.

I would be lying if I said I remembered when last I got my father that mad.

I didn't even know why I blamed myself for what he did. I just fell in love, surely that wasn't a sin.

X: "I made breakfast "

He said, coming in and I smiled, wiping my fresh tears.

Thinking about it just tore my heart into pieces.

Me: "Thanks"

I sat up. The aroma of the food filled my nostrils.

X: "Go brush your teeth baby"

Me: "Do I really have to? "

He laughed.

X: "Yes. Your breath stinks"

I clicked my tongue and he laughed.

I went to brush my teeth and washed my face.

Coming back, we ate silently.

Me: "Thanks for this"

I said and he kissed my cheek.

He took the plate and left with it.

My phone rang and it was my mother. I sighed and answered.

Me: "Hello? "

Mom: "What did you do to my husband? "

I swear at that point, I wanted to swear at my mother.

Me: "You mean what he did to me? "

Mom: "You know about his blood pressure "

Me: "I have marks all over my body. He hit me like a little kid "

Mom: "Why won't you leave that boy? What's so special about him? "

Me: "He's captured my heart mom. I can't live without my heart"

Mom: "It's just the honeymoon phase, it'll pass"

Me: "I didn't think you'd take sides"

I said with tears filling my eyes.

Me: "I thought you cared about me. About my well-being "

Mom: "Of course I do. How can you even question that? "

Me: "At least act like it"

Mom: "You seem to have forgotten who you're talking to"

I sighed.

Me: "I have to go"

Mom: "Gina, I'm still talking "

Me: "Bye"

I hung up and sighed.

X: "Everything OK? "

Me: "My mom is siding with my father. Now she's blaming me for his blood pressure "

He gave me a tight squeeze.

X: "It'll be OK baby. I got you"

The truth was, I couldn't wait for that moment.

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DIANA

It was now the second week since Bandile got out of the coma and went home that I decided to go check up on him.

I honestly thought that he needed to be humbled.

On the other hand, what I had done to him the previous week was sort of heartless but he deserved it.

A person in his state should at least be nice.

Anyway, I was with a physiotherapist that Josh had recommended.

The poor guy probably felt useless in that wheelchair.

As usual, Leonor was the one who opened.

Leonor: "What do you want? "

Me: "Oh, Good morning "

It was a chilled Saturday morning.

She rolled her eyes at me.

Leonor: "Bandile doesn't want to see you"

Me: "Well

I want to see him"

I pushed her aside and got in with Rosie.

He was having breakfast in the dining hall.



Me: "Morning husband "

Bandi: "Diana"

Me: "Such a foul mood on a such a good day? You should smile more. It gets rid of the wrinkles "

Bandi: "What do you want? "

Me: "Rosie, this is Bandile. "

Rosie: "Hi dear"

Bandile: "What's going on? "

Me: "She's going to help you get back on your feet. That chair has made you very grumpy "

Leonor: "We don't need your help"

Me: "You should learn to speak when you're spoken to. I'm having a conversation with my husband so please "

She clicked her tongue and I so wanted to laugh.

Leonor: "I'll be in the lounge "

She kissed him on the lips then left.

That didn't move me or bother me in anyway but I don't think she knew that.

Rosie: "I'm a physiotherapist and have been in the field for more than ten years "

Me: "Josh recommended her so I know she's capable "

Bandi: "Who's paying for this? "

Me: "She'll give you her bank details. Don't be stingy, this is for your own benefit "

Bandi: "I do want to see myself on my feet and out of this chair"

Me: "Good. I'll leave you guys to it"

Bandi: "And you should wear appropriately. You're pregnant "

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "I'm trying to get laid. Leave me the hell alone "

I was wearing a loose fitting short floral jumpsuit with thigh high boots since it was still a bit cold.

He clicked his tongue and I just laughed as I left.

At least I was doing something for his good.

I went back to my flat so I can laze around.

Not Having a boyfriend sucked because I had too much time on my hands.

However, I was happy because I wasn't stressing about nobody's son.

I missed Lonwabo but I had to forget about it and accept that his father and I are no more.

I was cool with it though but I'd be lying if I said I didn't miss Hugh.

.

LEONOR

I spent the past week at home and trying not piss off Bandile.

He had become a nightmare to deal with and it was so hard for me to get used to this side of him.

He could now do some things on his own but I was more worried about his memory and whether he'd regain it.

He had never showed me any signs that it was back and I had to deal with being called Barbie

Honestly, that made me feel so fake.

I missed working and as much as I hate to admit it, I hoped that the physio works.

I was low-key mad at myself for not having thought of it and Diana being the one who did was a bitter pill to swallow.

Me: "How about you finally see my store? Plus I have to sign on some orders"

I took a bath and everything while he was busy with the physio and I hoped that he agrees.

Bandi: "If that's what you want "

Me: "It would make me so happy "

I said, giving him a perk.

Bandi: "You know just because I'm in a wheelchair, it doesn't mean my dick can't stand "

I laughed.

Me: "It was just a perk"

Bandi: "I was just getting it out there "

Me: "Noted. Can we go? "

Bandi: "Uh, yeah "

I took my bag and wheeled him to the garage.

I unlocked the car and helped him get inside.

It wasn't much work this time since he was doing most of the work.

I went to my side and drove out.

Bandi: "This is so pink and girly"

I laughed.

Me: "It's a beauty shop"

Bandi: "Yeah yeah Barbie "

Me: "My name is Leonor"

He looked at me.

Bandi: "Really? "

I nodded, biting my lip.

He shrugged.

Bandi: "Sorry"

Me: "It's cool"

We went to my office where I signed on the orders and did whatever else I had to.

"I miss the warmth of your pussy "

That was the text that appeared on my screen and I knew who that was.

Bandi: "And that? "

I looked at him.

Me: "What? "

Bandi: "You're blushing "

Fuck, I didn't expect being caught like that and I knew I had to think of some lie.

Me: "It's just... I'm thinking of the good old times"

Bandi: "Really? "

Me: "Yeah and how this all started"

Bandi: "When are we leaving? "

Me: "We just got here"

Another message came through.

"I'm coming back next week and I want to see you "

Bandi: "Bar... I mean, Leonor? "

Me: "Hug? "

Bandi: "You really aren't paying attention to me, are you? "

Me: "What were you saying? "

Bandi: "Never mind "

My phone then started ringing and I thanked God it was on silent.

I had to put it away because it was going to give me up.

Anyway, we left around 4pm and the ride home was awkward.

I felt like he knew what I was hiding but I trusted Hugh to hide it.

I don't know why though.

Bandi: "I want to lie next to you"

Me: "You do? "

Bandi: "Yes"

I wheeled him to the bedroom and I took off my shoes when we got there.

Bandi: "Take off your clothes. I want to feel your skin"

He was sitting and just looking at me

I took off my clothes.

Bandi: "Beautiful body you have there "

I smiled.

Me: "Thank you "

I helped him into the bed though I didn't have to

Bandi: "Undress me please "

I did and left him in his boxers.

After that, we cuddled and eventually fell asleep.

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## BANDILE

The road to recovery is definitely not an easy one.

It's frustrating and at times, I didn't even feel like waking up.

In those days, I'd think of my unborn child and take that as the motivation.

I still remember how Diana would beg me to wake up for our child and somehow, that was still the reason I woke up

I didn't feel the love at home to be honest.

When I saw this woman who I love and who apparently loves me back blushing because of a text, I just knew I was screwed.

I wondered if it was because I'm in a wheelchair or as a result of me having been in a coma for that long.

The physiotherapist was being a great help two that I even started having feeling in my legs.

I didn't say that to anyone, just like I didn't say anything about my memory which was slowly coming back to me.

Me: "You can go to work today "

I said to Leonor who was laying next to me on her phone. It felt weird not calling her Barbie because I had gotten used to it.



It was a Wednesday and I needed to have her away from me.

Leonor: "Are you sure? "

Me: "Yes"

Leonor: "I'll come back early "

She said, kissing my cheek.

Me: "No. Not so fast"

She was just about to get off the bed.

Leonor: "Uhm, OK "

Me: "When are we making love? "

Leonor: "You want us to? "

Me: "Don't you? I mean, I spent more than a month in a coma. I can imagine the frustration "

She faked a smile.

Leonor: "Yes, but how are we going to do it? "

Me: "You'll do all the work. I think that's easy"

Leonor: "Are you sure? "

Me: "Yes. Did you not say that our relationship started as just sex? "

She giggled a bit and nodded.

Me: "Then come"

She got on top of me then bent down to kiss me.

I watched her leave after she had kissed me goodbye.

I wondered if she still loved me because what we had wasn't making love, it was just sex.

The intimacy just wasn't there and it seemed as though she was in a world of her own.

Now it was clear that being in this chair was a curse and I had to work hard to get out of it.

I went to take a bath. It wasn't easy But I had gotten used to putting myself in the bath and having to struggle to get myself out.

Rosie was in the lounge when I came out.

We had our progressive session.

Rosie: "I think by next week you'll start using crutches "

Me: "Are you sure? "

She nodded with a smile. I was so happy.

I called a cab after she left so it can drive me to Diana's place.

Craig was the one who sent me the address.

Diana: "Bandile? "

She said after opening and let me in.

Me: "Are you cooking? "

Diana: "Uh yeah. I'm always hungry nowadays "

Me: "You're eating for two after all"

She chuckled.

Diana: "Yeah. What do you want? "

Me: "I came to check on the mother of my kid"

She rolled her eyes.

Diana: "We're not friends Bandile. You don't have to check on me"

Me: "You are carrying my child regardless. I also need some answers "

Diana: "Let me quickly dish up then we'll talk "

She dished up for the both of us then sat on the couch.

I also helped myself to the couch.

Diana: "So? "

Her food smelled so good though.

I took a bite.

Me: "This tastes so good"

Diana: "Surely you didn't come here for that. I know I'm a good cook"

Me: "How did... How did we make that baby? "

Diana: "We didn't make the baby. You're the one who didn't tell me that the condom broke. I think you did this on purpose "

I chuckled.

Me: "Why the hell would I do that? I have a, girlfriend "

She shrugged.

Diana: "One can never know what goes into that mind of yours"

Me: "Were we sober? "

Diana: "I don't Fuck drunk"

Man, that's admirable.

Me: "I need you to remind me"

I said, looking her straight in the eyes.

.

DIANA

I waited for him to say he's joking but he didn't.

He was definitely going crazy now.

Me: "What do you mean? "

Bandi: "Nothing extreme. Just a kiss"

I didn't say anything but just took our plates and went to the kitchen.

He followed me. I don't even know how he got back on his chair that quickly

Bandi: "We're married so you won't be committing a sin. I just want a kiss, that's all"

Me: "I'm not going to kiss you "

Bandi: "Why not? "

Me: "Why should I? "

Bandi: "Because you're my wife "

I laughed.

Me: "Don't let that get to your head. I'm just your wife on paper. That's why I'm wearing the ring on a wrong hand"

I said, swaying my right hand in his face.

Bandi: "I need this to help trigger my memory"

Me: "You're not going to stop, are you? "

He shook his head

Bandi: "Nop"

Me: "Fine. Just a kiss and you better keep your hands away from my ass"

Bandi: "It's not that thick, relax"

Me: "But it's better than that Barbie doll's plank. At least I have something to hold"

He laughed.

I sat on top of him and kissed him

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holding his hands to make sure he doesn't do anything.

He made it last longer than I intended but I broke it.

Me: "Happy now? "

"My, my, my. "

I laughed.

It was Lunga so I got off Bandile and ran to him.

He caught me into his arms and spun me around.

He put me down and kissed my cheek.

Lunga: "And then? "

Me: "It's not what you think "

I said, pulling his hand inside.

Me: "Bandile, this is Lunga. He's my boyfriend "

Bandi: "Hi and bye"

Me: "How are you leaving? "

Bandi: "The driver is still outside. This is me, wasting money"

I chuckled.

Me: "OK, bye"

Bandi: "Goodbye. Nice meeting you man. You better treat my wife right"

Lunga: "Oh, I do"

I closed the door after he got out.

Lunga: "What happened to him? "

Me: "He lost his memory"

Lunga: "Shame and the kiss? "

Me: "He asked for it and I have a heart you know "

He laughed.

I poured myself juice and got beer for him.

Lunga: "I went to see Remo. This marriage thing is treating her good"

Me: "Indeed. I'm happy for her. She has a beautiful family "

Lunga: "You'll be happy too you know "

Me: "I am. My baby makes me happy "

He chuckled.

Lunga: "Your baby won't make you come sweetie "

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "Mxm"

Lunga: "Let's go out. I don't want to be stuck in here"

Me: "Where's Luke? "

Lunga: "I came alone. It's strictly business. "

Me: "Yet you want to go out "

I said, eyeing him.

Lunga: "Tomorrow yes for now, we're going clubbing "

Me: "I'm pregnant "

Lunga: "I don't care "

He forced me to take another shower and even chose an outfit for me.

I did my makeup, wore the dress and took pictures which I put on my whatsapp status.



Lunga: "Damn, I wish I was straight "

I laughed.

Me: "I like Luke"

He rolled his eyes.

We went to the mall first.

It was just around five.

I wanted some sweets.

"Diana"

I heard a familiar little voice say behind me and I turned.

He smiled at me.

Lonwabo: "Molo "

I picked him up, kissed his, face and put him down.

Lonwabo: "Haii "

He said, wiping his face with his hands and I laughed.

Me: "Are you good? "

He nodded.

Lonwabo: "When are you visiting? "

"Lonwabo, let's go"

That was his father. He frowned.

Lonwabo: "But I... Fine"

Hugh: "Hi"

I just gave him a half smile and nodded.

He took his, son and I watched them leave.

Lunga: "You still love him"

Me: "It is what it is"

We went to pay for my sweets and left.

My phone vibrated. It was a text.

"You look good"

I just looked at it and smiled.

Me: "Which club? "

Lunga looked at me with a Corny smile.

Damn, how I wished I could drink.

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HUGH

This love shit is fucken complicated.

"What else does a person have to do to get over the one they love? "

I was so fucken frustrated. The last time I saw her was when I broke up with her but my heart just skipped a beat when I saw her.

Yes, I might have pretended to be just cool but Fuck, it was Diana.

I'm talking about a fierce and fearless woman who had showed me her strength that made me love her in the first place.

When I robbed that club and she was that brave to answer back at me, I knew I had to have her by my side.

Now in my pursuit to protect her, I lost her.

I should not have left. I should have stayed and fought for us but now, not only did he make her pregnant, he married her.

My love for her is everlasting but I had to let her go.

In all my life, I had never slept with a married woman and no matter the circumstances, I was not going to continue.

It was clear for me that we were just not meant to be.

If we were, she would be carrying my child and I would have been the one who gave her my surname.

Lonwabo: "UDiana. She's beautiful tata"

Me: "Yeah, she is"

And she was all he spoke of until we got home.

My mom was there so I dropped him off then drove to Sandton.

I was going to see Leonor.

I honestly just wanted to get in her head.

Call me cruel or what but it's all me avenging myself. I'm not a good guy and I'll never be.

This is the same bitch who always looked down on Diana and I and now I have her breathing under me.

It was too easy. I knew she would not be able to resist me.

I pushed the right buttons and she was putty in my hands.

Me: "Look at you all working hard"

I said, leaning by her office door.

She looked up at me and blushed.

Leonor: "Hi"

Me: "It's late, shouldn't you be home? "

Leonor: "It's a nightmare and besides, I'm behind on my work "

Me: "I heard your boyfriend is crippled, shouldn't you be taking care of him? "

So much for saying she loved this guy.

She needs someone who's going to tame her cause she's too much of a spoilt brat. Unfortunately, that's not me.

She sighed.

Leonor: "I have OK and he's the one who told me to come"

I locked the door.

Me: "I can't imagine you taking care of anyone though. You're too much of a princess. It's like as long as you look good, then it's settled. No one else matters "

Leonor: "Did you come all the way here to insult me? "

Me: "It's the truth and you know it. "

She rolled her eyes.

Me: "Oh come on berries, are you mad? "

She giggled.

This one was really going to fall for me.

I went over to her and made her stand while I sat on the table.

Me: "Didn't you miss me? "

She shook her head, blushing.

Me: "Oh come on"

Leonor: "Maybe a little bit"

Me: "Why don't you show me? "

She looked at me. I bit my lip and stared back.

She couldn't maintain it. Not even for a minute.

Shame.

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LEONOR

I really don't know what was happening with me.

Just seeing him had made me a little nervous and now when he looked at me, I couldn't even stare back.

He made me feel some type of way and I think that I even forgot that I have to go home.

Bandile was probably worried where he was, if he was even home.

What am I saying, of course he was home.

I felt his wet kisses on my neck and just moaned, gosh.

His hands went to my butt as he continued kissing and biting on my neck.

I closed my eyes and just dwelt in the pleasure.

He slowly took off my top, his eyes on mine.

Hugh: "You smell good"

He said and went back to kissing my parts

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this time moving to my chest and boob's.

Hugh: "You had sex with him, didn't you?"

He asked while I was catching my breath after a mind blowing session.

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "I'm not a fool Leonor. I know someone fucked you"

Me: "I... Uhm.. "

Hugh: "You're unbelievable. You Fuck him then Fuck me on the same day. It's just... Crazy"

He said, putting his clothes on.

Me: "Hugh. Don't... Please don't leave "

He looked at me.

Hugh: "Why not? I'm not your boyfriend "

He opened the door and I watched him leave.

"Hi.. I"

Her jaw dropped when she saw that I was naked.

I couldn't even open my mouth to say anything.

I was still hurt from what Hugh did . He had never just left like that.

I wouldn't have slept with Bandile if I knew he was back.

Fuck, I'm being crazy.

Aphiwe: "You and Hugh..? "

Me: "It's not what you think "

She clapped her hands once.

Aphiwe: "Here I was being mad at my sister for marrying Bandile kante le wena you're busy screwing her ex. This is just fucked up"

The tears just fell.

Me: "Please don't... Please don't tell Bandile"

She laughed.



Aphiwe: "That's all you care about? How fucked up can a person be? Bandile is in a wheelchair. He's lost his memory and wena you're busy fucking around. You disgust me! "

She spit on the floor and left.

I just cried. My life was officially ruined.

After I was done with my sobbing, I dressed, took my things and just left.

A part of me wanted to maybe go to a club and get drunk but I went home instead.

I was going to get drunk there instead.

Getting home, I just dragged my body inside.

This day was definitely not mine judging by the way it had turned out.

"Where are you coming from? "

Gosh, I turned and there he was, waiting for me.

He looked at his wristwatch.

Bandi: "It's 8pm"

Me: "I'm not in the mood Bandile"

Bandi: "What? Uyafeba manje? "

Me: "What? "

Bandi: "You know what Barbie? It's fine. Angithi you're not in the mood? Then I won't bother you "

He wheeled himself to his room downstairs and I sighed.

God, why did my life have to get complicated in such a short period of time?

I tried calling Aphiwe and her phone took me straight to voicemail.

I put my bag down, took off my shoes and walked to the wine cellar and took a bottle.

At least it was going to help drown my sorrows.

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BANDILE

Me: "She had love bites all over her neck. I saw them man"

It was the following morning after Leonor's stunt and I was on the phone with Craig.

It was clear now that she was cheating on me and the thought of her doing it the same day we did it just made me so angry

Craig: "Uhm, Aphiwe just confirmed it now. She walked in on her all naked"

Me: "I really need to get out of this chair man. I have to"

Craig: "It's not your fault man"

Me: "It is. Maybe she's tired of having to take care of my grown ass"

Craig: "That's no excuse dog. I can't believe she'd do you like that"

Me: "Look man, we'll talk "

Craig: "Don't you want to know with who? "

Me: "You know? "

Craig: "Hugh, he's Diana's ex"

I just hung up and ran my hand through my hair. The little that I had.

I was hungry so I went out and found her playing with her food.

Me: "Morning "

She looked like a mess with eye bags and messy hair.

She just nodded.

Me: "Please dish up for me"

She stood up, dished up for me and gave me my plate.

Me: "Wanna talk about it? "

She shook her head. I just nodded and ate my food silently.

I didn't do anything after all. I had a cheating girlfriend and a wife with a boyfriend, amazing.

Note the sarcasm.

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DIANA

Me: "Haii wake up man Lunga"

I had just taken a shower and he was still snoring.

Lunga: "Party pooper"

He said and sat up.

Lunga: "What time is it? "

Me: "It's 8am. I don't want to be late for my class "

Lunga: "Fuck, my head hurts "

Me: "Happens when you go hard on the booze now go shower, you stink "

Lunga: "Make breakfast in the meantime "

Me: "I'm not your wife "

Lunga: "Just go"

I laughed and went out.

Gina was downstairs with bags

Me: "And then? "

Gina: "I'm moving in with X"

Me: "You're serious? "

She nodded.

Gina: "I know my father is going to cut me off. I might as well prepare for it"

Me: "So, you choose love? "

She nodded with a smile and we hugged.

Me: "I'm proud of you babe and I wish you all the best"

Gina: "Thank you "

Xolani knocked once and let himself in.

He greeted and helped her with the bags.

I was happy for her shame

Anyway, I made breakfast for me and this fool.

There was yet another knock on the door and I went to open.

I was surprised to see Aphiwe.

Aphiwe: "Can I come in? "

Me: "Sure "

Lunga came down the stairs all fresh.

He was wearing yesterday's clothes.

Lunga: "Morning "

They hugged.

Aphiwe: "I... Uhm.. (clears throat). I owe you an apology "

I was shocked.

Me: "Uhm... Are you sure? "

She nodded.

Aphiwe: "I'm sorry Dee. I shouldn't have taken sides. What I saw yesterday proved to me that I was too quick to judge "

Me: "It's OK. I'm over that now"

Aphiwe: "A hug? "

She opened her arms.

Me: "Sure"

We hugged tightly.

Lunga: "Sweet"

Aphiwe: "Can you imagine that Hugh is busy with Leonor? "

We were now all sitting by the kitchen and having breakfast.

Lunga: "What? "

Me: "Are you sure? I mean Leonor would never cheat on Bandile"

Aphiwe: "I am. I bumped into him at her store then found her naked in her office. Come to think of it, I once saw his car in her yard "

Me: "That's... I mean Hugh with Leonor? It's an unlikely combination. She's not his type "

Aphiwe: "Well, I'm so mad. This probably started when Bandile was in a coma. It was that time after I found out about your marriage "

Me: "Yoh. So he left me and went to Fuck her? Interesting "

Lunga: "I knew she wasn't all perfect. Look at her Having your leftovers "

I laughed.

Me: "Man, I'm so done with him. As for Barbie, how's that for calling me a, hoe? "

Lunga: "No one is perfect "

Aphiwe: "I totally agree. "

I was really shocked.

I never saw this coming.

I guess this was Hugh's way of avenging himself.

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ONE MONTH LATER

DIANA

I must admit that this pregnancy had been so good on me. I was due to give birth in December.

I was more in love with my gem and I loved feeling her pretty kicks.

I was glowing, I had gained weight and most importantly, I was happy.

I had friends who loved me from the moon and back and things were all good between my sister and I.

I honestly had no complaints whatsoever but I hated living alone.

Gina had really moved in with Xolani and I think her father gave up on her.

Aphiwe also had her fairytale wedding and it had been one of the best ever.

It was the first week of October and during recess.

I honestly needed the break and also felt that the heat was too much.



I was sitting on my couch just after 12pm and stuffing my face as usual when someone knocked on the door.

I immediately rolled my eyes when I saw who it was.

Bandi: "Hello Diana"

Me: "Mm"

He laughed.

Bandi: "It's amazing how annoyed you are of me now that I'm back on my feet "

Me: "Bandile, you're not that important. "

He sat down and put my feet on his lap.

He started massaging them like he knew it's exactly what I needed.

Bandi: "How are you? "

Me: "I'm fine. Why are you here? "

Bandi: "I came to fetch you. I want you to see something "

Me: "What? Couldn't you have taken a picture? "

Bandi: "Uh, I didn't. Hence I'm here"

Me: "I'm tired"

Bandi: "Happens when you sit around and stuff your face instead of exercising"

Me: "I do go for pregnancy yoga if you didn't know "

Bandi: "Why did you date my brother though? He's still not talking to me"

Me: "My mistake was Letting you tap my ass"

he chuckled.

Bandi: "Well, I don't care what you think but my princess is not a mistake "

Me: "The father is though. I hope she doesn't come looking like you"

Bandi: "But I thought you liked me without the dreadlocks "

Me: "I like how you look, not you. There's a difference "

I said, rolling my eyes.

Bandi: "Go get dressed so we can go"

Me: "Do I really have to go? "

Bandi: "Yeah"

Me: "I'll go put on my shoes"

Bandi: "You're naked. You can't be having your belly all out like that. You're making my baby cold"

Me: "Bandile, what makes you think that you can tell me what to wear? "

Bandi: "The fact that you carrying my baby, now get your fat ass up "

I clicked my tongue and got up

I went to my room where I wore sandals and a T-shirt since I had been wearing just my leggings and a sport bra.

I took my phone then went back to him.

I locked the flat and we left.

Me: "What happened to being afraid of the press? "

Bandi: "You don't have to worry about that. No one knows you"

OK, I definitely wasn't expecting that so I kept quiet for the rest of the ride.

I even fell asleep and was woken up by him.

Bandi: "Come"

He had opened the door for me so I got out and stretched.

Me: "Where are we? "

Bandi: "Your house"

I really thought he was joking but he looked damn serious.

Me: "What? "

Bandi: "Come MaDlamini"

it looked like a house on top billing from the outside and way too big.

It was a mansion, a double Storey and I seriously couldn't believe it.

Getting inside, the theme is, rather earthy. Blue, green with brown and the stairs made of wood.

Me: "This is crazy "

Bandi: "Let's go check our princess's room"

He forced me to take his hand and we went up the stairs.

The nursery was in baby pink, purple and white.

Me: "It's beautiful "

I admitted and he just gave me a smile.

Everything was making me a bit dizzy.

Me: "Why would you buy me a house? "

I asked as we were now sitting in the lounge.

Bandi: "You're my wife. I have to take care of you"

Me: "How can you even afford this? "

Bandi: "I'm still paying for it Diana"

Me: "I just... It's too much "

Bandi: "You're the mother of my first child. It can never be"

I didn't say anything.

This was too overwhelming for me.

.

LEONOR

I never really I'd see myself breakdown like this.

I must admit that my confidence has taken a knock and I hid behind the makeup, glasses and baggy clothes.

The past month had been the toughest. I felt so alone and unwanted.

Yes

Advertisement

Bandile tried being there for me but my own sins were feeding at my soul.

I had buried myself in my work.

It was my only escape from reality.

There was a knock on my door and I wiped my tears.

I didn't imagine whatever I had with Hugh ending like that and I would never forget the look he gave me.

It was the same look I had gotten from Aphiwe.

Now a month later and the scars were still there.

Me: "Come in"

It was Aphiwe with a bunch of flowers.

Aphiwe: "I got your favourite "

I was shocked. I mean, we had really drifted apart.

I didn't even have the guts to go to her wedding.

Me: "Why... Why are you here? "

Aphiwe: "You're still my friend Leo. As much as I'd love to hate you right now, I don't "

I stood up and we hugged.

Me: "I'm sorry for not coming to your wedding "

Aphiwe: "It's OK. I was still pretty much mad then but I realise that no one is perfect. We all do fucked up things some time"

Me: "I messed up by own life. Now, I'm just a misery "

Aphiwe: "You should try getting over it"

Me: "I want to. I really do but it's hard"

Aphiwe: "You should be happy that Bandile is still by your side even now"

I faked a smile.

Me: "I guess "

The honest truth was, him and I had really drifted apart.

It felt like we were just forcing things but the thought of being alone scared me.

Aphiwe: "Let's go grab a snack. You can't stay locked in here forever "

Me: "I'm OK. I'm not in the mood for people "

Aphiwe: "Leonor, you're slowly sinking into depression "

Me: "Aphiwe, not everyone has a perfect life. Now please leave, I'd like to focus on my work now"

Aphiwe: "Leonor "

Me: "Please "

She sighed, stood up and left.

I immediately went back to working.. The way I was so thin, yet it didn't bother me.

I hardly had an appetite. I had one meal everyday, which was breakfast and that was it.

I took my bags around 6pm and left.

I found Bandile having dinner.

I was feeling dizzy, really dizzy. It was probably because of my not eating but I always slept it off.

Bandi: "Hey"

Me: "Hi"

Bandi: "Can we talk? "

I walked to him.

Bandi: "You don't look fine"

I leaned by the table.

The dizziness was just too much

Bandi: "Leonor? "

The room just started spinning.

Me: "I... "

And just like that, I fainted.

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GINA

Me: "I'm not changing my mind mom"

Xolani was giving me a massage after dinner.



I had been avoiding my moms call until it got to him and he forced me to answer.

My life had been peaceful.

As expected, my father did cut me off and I was basically surviving on X, who didn't mind taking care of me.

Mom: "So you'd rather choose that man over your own family? Me? "

Me: "Goodbye ".

I hung up and sighed.

Me: "Travis is coming tomorrow. Luke is bringing him"

X: "OK. Baby, don't you think you should try and reach common ground with your family? "

Me: "My dad is stubborn. He's not Someone you can negotiate with. I just want to enjoy this peace "

X: "OK but I'll remind you in the future "

I chuckled.

Me: "I know you will "

He kissed my neck.

X: "We'll leave on Thursday "

I sighed.

Me: "Your father Hates me"

We were going to spend the weekend with his family.

I had only met them that one time and was hoping that things go different this time.

X: "But he's far better than yours. My father has never insulted you" Me: "True"

I honestly didn't mind going through any challenge as long as he's by my side. X: "Babe, I have to rush somewhere "

He had just gotten a text on his phone.

Me: "Where? It's late "

X: "This is important baby. You know I wouldn't just leave you like this" Me: "When are you gonna come back? "

X: "I don't know but don't wait up "

He kissed my cheek. I pulled him in for a deep kiss.

X: "Damn" He said after I broke it and I laughed.

Me: "You'll find me naked on our bed"

X: "Gina " Me: "I love you"

I perked his lips and watched him leave.

## BANDILE

My greatest achievement the past month would be finally standing on my feet. It had been so frustrating for me being on that chair but it taught me that a little patience goes a, long way.

Now, I was back on my feet and had my memory back

The doctor did say that it was only temporary.

There I was, holding her hand while my mind was deep in thought.

Leonor had become a different person.

I couldn't quite understand if it was because of my situation, her infidelity or both.

She didn't talk much and spent most of the time buried in her work.

The doctor came in. Well, I took her to Josh cause he was the first person that came into my mind after she fainted.

Josh: "She's been starving herself "

Me: "Uh, morning "

Josh: "Thought you wanted to cut right to the chase"

Me: "You thought wrong "

Josh: "Good morning Bandile, how are you? "

Me: "I'm OK but I'll be much better if I know what's wrong with my girlfriend "

He chuckled.

Josh: "She's actually fine. She's just been starving herself which explains why she collapsed. We'll keep feeding her through the IV but after that, you'll need to force her to eat. You are the man of the house after all"

Me: "That's it? "

Josh: "That's all I can tell you know. Let her rest, she needs it"

He walked out after saying that.

I sighed. I didn't want us to end up spending so much time in this place.

Me: "Baby, I know we've both fucked up each other but I know we can get through it. I just want you out of here so we can fix us"

I kissed her forehead.

I believed that our relationship was worth it.

It had to.

On the other hand, I had Diana who had lied to me about her best friend being her boyfriend.

I didn't want to think much about her because of fear.

I feared feeling more than I should for her.

She's unpredictable and one can never know what goes in that mind of hers.

I kissed her lips then left.

I was meeting up with Craig in his club.

He was in his office while typing something on his laptop.

Me: "This used to be the shit "

He chuckled and stood up as we did our handshake.

Craig: "I know. This is where you first saw your wife and fell in love with her "

I chuckled.

Me: "Oh please. I just wanted to Fuck her"

He laughed.

Craig: "Keep deceiving yourself man. Your mind might believe it but your heart will never lie"

Me: "Don't ruin my mood man. Leonor is in hospital "

Craig: "Is she OK? "

I nodded.

Me: "She's just been starving herself. It's nothing much"

Craig: "Mm, maybe she's pregnant "

I laughed.

Me: "I highly doubt. We only had sex once since I woke up from the dead"

Craig: "And you didn't use protection, right? Heck, you came inside her I know "

Me: "If she is, then it's not a bad thing "

Craig: "And with Hugh? Was she safe? "

I shrugged.

Me: "We've never talked about it. I'd be lying "

Craig: "Why are you still together though? I mean, she cheated "

Me: "And so did I, yet she forgave me"

Craig: "But there's still Diana"

Me: "If you love her so much, why not date her? You guys have history "

He laughed.

Craig: "Don't take me back there man. That chick almost got me in trouble "

Me: "How did it start though? How did you meet? "

Craig: "I'm married man

Advertisement

I can't be reminiscing on all that. It's in my past and I'm over it"

Me: "Really? "

He nodded.

I let it go.

.

DIANA

Me: "I can't believe him. I just can't "

Remo: "I don't get what's the big deal. You have a house which I can't wait to see, you should be happy "

Me: "Why the hell would he do that? I'm not homeless! "

Remo: "Careful, I'm trying to put him to sleep "

Me: "You're my best friend. You're suppose to be on my side"

Remo: "I love you babe but I get where he's coming from. He's looking out for you and the kid. Come on"

Me: "I don't want him to. Yes, he can support his kid but he must leave me out of it"

She laughed as she went to put the baby down.

Remo: "You're crazy you know "

She said when she came back.

I folded my arms and pouted.

Me: "It's too much"

Remo: "You're married. It's actually his duty to provide for you. The man is your husband, let him do his duty"

Me: "Only on paper. Husband only on paper"

Remo: "Oksalayo"

We both laughed.

This was just pointless.

I knew that even Lunga was going to respond the same way.

Me: "You have beautiful kids "

She smiled.

Remo: "I know. They're just the best but I need my girl"



Me: "Not now please "

She laughed.

Remo: "Definitely. Maybe in about three or four years. I'm thinking of going to explore the corporate world "

Me: "Will Marcus allow that? "

Remo: "It's not up to him"

Me: "I'd love to see you making something of yourself "

Remo: "Yeah. I'm just 22 anyway "

Me: "I can't believe you've only slept with one man. You should explore "

"Don't you dare corrupt my wife"

I laughed.

It was Marcus coming in and he went to kiss her cheek.

Me: "I was just saying "

Marcus: "Not everyone is a hoe "

Me: "Don't act all innocent here Marcus. You know you did worse at 22"

We all just laughed

I was so tired when I got back in my flat, which wasn't a surprise because of my long day.

I needed a glass of wine to unwind but of course I had to think of the baby.

I went to pour myself a glass of juice instead and sat on the couch, just relaxing.

I had told Lunga the previous day about the house and all he spoke of was a party.

No one saw where I was coming from with this.

He came again.

Me: "This is not your house "

He switched on the lights. It wasn't even that dark, probably around five.

Bandi: "I don't think you should be alone like this. What if something happens? "

Me: "Then move in"

I said, rolling my eyes.

He sat next to me and again, took my feet and started massaging them.

Bandi: "Unfortunately, I have a girlfriend "

Me: "Then let me be"

Bandi: "I haven't forgotten that you lied to me about Lunga "

Me: "Why should it matter? "

Bandi: "It was unnecessary. Considering I had amnesia "

I chuckled.

Me: "Sorry"

Bandi: "I'll only accept it if you kiss me"

Me: "What happened to having a girlfriend? "

Bandi: "You're my wife "

Me: "Just admit that I'm a good kisser"

I said, biting my lip.

He chuckled.

Bandi: "Remind me. I've forgotten how you taste "

Me: "Hai Bandile, where's your Barbie doll? "

Bandi: "Stop calling her that "

Me: "Sorry"

I said, shrugging.

Bandi: "But really, I'm not comfortable with you being alone "

Me: "So what do you suggest? "

I was getting annoyed now.

Bandi: "That you move in with my sister. "

I laughed.

Me: "I'd rather die"

Bandi: "She actually doesn't mind. Just until you give birth "

Me: "No"

Bandi: "This is about my baby, not you. Think about it"

He put my feet down then stood up.

Me: "No"

He kissed my cheek.

Bandi: "Please"

Then, I watched him leave.

He just had to add to that on top of my sexual frustration.

Now really, where's Hugh when I need him?

It was so frustrating.

.

LEONOR

I opened my heavy eyes and wasn't even surprised that I was laying in hospital.

I did remember feeling dizzy and having the room spin.

It was late. I saw by the clock on the wall.

It was around 9am.

I heard Bandile and what he said.

I thought that he didn't love me and was maybe falling for Diana but I was wrong.

His speech made me determined to get my act together

"You looked so peaceful when you were sleeping, I almost thought of making it permanent "

Now that was one person I wasn't expecting.

I swallowed hard. Those words could have made anyone shake.

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LEONOR

Me: "H... How did you get here? It's late "

My voice was a little hoarse, probably from all the sleeping.

Hugh: "Why are you here? "

Me: "I should be asking you that "

Hugh: "Don't get cheeky with me. I can still terminate your existence "

Me: "I'm sorry"

I whispered in my pursuit to save my own life.

I could hear in his voice that he was resolute and I couldn't imagine myself being dead.

I was still young, just 21 and needed to live.

Hugh: "You Still haven't told me why you're here. You look OK "

Me: "I fainted. The doctor hasn't really told me anything else "

Hugh: "You do look like death though. You should learn to own up to your decisions and stop beating yourself up about it. "

Me: "Trust me, I will. I want to work on my relationship now and fix it"

Hugh: "Good. I'll see you around then. Who knows, we might have a quickie "

He kissed my forehead then left.

I sighed. The feel of his lips on my skin was something else.

It was on a Friday when Bandile came to fetch me.

I was so happy to leave because I was so tired of that place.

He came and kissed me on the lips.

I was blushing after that, which made him laugh.

Bandi: "How are you baby? "

Me: "I'm good now that you here. I just want to go home "

Bandi: "I told the chef to prepare something. I don't want you fainting on me again "

Me: "That's never going to happen. Worry not "

Bandi: "Good"

The doctor came in.

Dr: "Well, it was nice having you here. Until we meet again "

Bandi: "Josh, that's crazy "

I wasn't expecting him to say that though.

It was like he was sure we were going to meet again.

Anyway, I went to change then we left.

The house was filled with the aroma of the food.

For the first time in a while, I ate and even finished my plate.

Bandile was just smiling at me.

Bandi: "I like when you're back to being yourself "

I smiled.

Me: "Me too"

He held my hand on top of the table.

Bandi: "I want to fix things and make us work "

Me: "I do too"

Bandi: "It can only happen if you're transparent with me"

Me: "Transparent? "

He nodded.

Bandi: "You and Hugh. Did you at least use protection? "

Me: " You think I'm sick? "

Bandi: "I'm just asking "

Me: "I... Uhm, we... We never did. Bandile, I'm sorry for doing that to you. I really am but I'm not sick"

He nodded.



Bandi: " You've never missed your shot? "

Me: "I don't think I have "

He nodded again.

Bandi: "Good"

.

DIANA

I had just took a long shower and was dressed in a baby pink short dress.

I did my makeup, just simple and tied my weave messily.

I wore my black platform heels, put on earrings and sprayed some perfume.

I took some pictures because I looked good then took a deep breath in.

I then sat on the bed and called him, with hopes that he will pick up.

Surprisingly, it didn't even ring for long.

Bandi: "Yeah? "

Me: "Come to my flat. Now"

I hung up and wished I could drink some wine because damn, that was brave.

I looked at myself one more time on the mirror then went to the lounge and waited.

He came within half an hour.

It was around 8pm.

Bandi: "What's up? "

I stood up and acted like I'm fixing my dress.

I think I looked cute with my bump.

Me: "I need you to take me to my house. I don't trust uber"

Bandi: "Dressed like that? "

He said that, scanning me up and down.

Me: "Like what? "

I asked but I knew exactly what he meant.

He came closer to me

his cologne just filled my nostrils.

He sniffed on my neck, sending exciting shivers down my spine.

Bandi: "You're naked"

He whispered in my ear.

I had to keep my cool.

Me: "I'm just going to my house "

I tried to make my voice sound as Normal as possible.

He was standing so close to me. He looked into my eyes.

Bandi: "Well, let's go. And breathe "

He chuckled as he moved away from me and I breathed out.  
Why would he do that to me?

Me: "Mxm"

He laughed even more loudly.

He opened the door for me when we got to his car then went to his side.

Bandi: "I was just about to sleep "

Me: "It's not 9pm yet. Relax"

Bandi: "I thought something was wrong with the baby"

Me: "I'm taking good care of her. You don't have to worry "

Arriving at the house, I needed water and that was the only thing in the refrigerator.

When I turned, I met up with his chest.

Me: "You're too close "

I said, not even turning up to look at him.

Bandi: "Why are we here? "

Fuck, I thought this was my chance.

I took a sip of the water then dropped the bottle.

I then put my arms over his neck. His eyes were blazing.

I kissed him and not even two seconds into the kiss, he had picked me up like I wasn't pregnant.

Me: "It worked"

I said, while sitting on the lounge and having breakfast alone.

Bandile had left me a note which said something about rushing home.

I didn't care. I had gotten what I wanted the previous night until it felt like I was about to pop.

Lunga screamed on the other side and I laughed.

Me: "You're becoming more feminine. I salute Luke's dick"

Lunga: "Mxm, tsek. How was it? I'm sure you were a virgin then"

I chuckled.

Me: "It was good. I didn't know my waist could still move. Kana it had been a while since I rode dick "

Lunga: "You had your first sex as husband and wife, yeiy! "

I chuckled.

Me: "I didn't even have to seduce him. The minute I kissed him, he took over like he had been waiting for that moment "

Lunga: "That man is in love with you Dee. You just too blind to see it "

Me: "I don't care. I need his dick at the moment until I give birth "

He laughed.

Lunga: "You'll still be riding at 39 weeks? "

Me: "I'll cross that bridge when I get there "

Well, we continued talking about whatever topic.

I was happy that I had finally fed my craving.

.

BANDILE

Diana. One helluva woman.

I somehow couldn't stop thinking about her and what transpired the previous night.

I knew she wanted this the moment she called me. It was late in the evening. Well 8pm is still late which meant I was her booty call.

I didn't care because I had the best sex ever.

It was amazing, so good that the mere thought of it made me hard.

I had lied to Leonor about going to the club. Something she wasn't looking forward to, which was a bonus to me.

Now there I was, fantasising about my wife while my girlfriend was talking to me.

Leonor: "Babe? "

Me: "Huh? "

I looked at her and found her frowning.

Leonor: "You're not listening "

Me: "I'm sorry baby, you were saying? "

Leonor: "Let's go shopping. I want to buy some things "

Me: "Now? "

She nodded.

Thank God I had gotten enough sleep.

It was just after 12pm.

Me: "Let's go baby"

She smiled.

Why wasn't I feeling guilty?

I mean, I had cheated. Or did I? Diana is my wife so that wasn't wrong.

Besides, I don't think I'd want her to sleep with someone else while carrying my child.

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DIANA

I looked at her sucking hard on my nipple.

A year ago, I would have never imagined myself as a mother but here I was.

She was just a week old and I was so in love with her. She had bushy eyebrows, pinkish lips and yellow hair.

Yes, my baby was an albino but I didn't care about that. She was perfect in my arms. She had come before my due date but was healthy.

I remember when I gave birth the previous week and Bandile almost fainted.

He was busy screaming, asking why she's so pink.

I almost struck him but really, it was a, dumb question.

I go so bored and told his ass that she an albino.

That was dumb coming from someone who's twenty eight.

It was now in the third week of December.

I was still staying with his sister. Well, I eventually agreed to this just so I can take her off her high horse.



She'd complain to Bandile but he knew there was nothing he could tell me anyway.

It was a Saturday and I heard that his cousin was coming.

I didn't care much either way.

I put Amora in her cot.

Bandile had named her Khanya and I called her Amora, which means love in Spanish.

She was just her father's light and her mother's love.

Bandi: "Is she sleeping? "

Me: "Learn to knock"

I said, rolling my eyes.

Bandi: "Diana, it's too early for the attitude "

Me: "Don't annoy me wena. It's too early for your shit"

Bandi: "Don't sweat in my baby's presence "

Me: "You're not the one who spent 10 hours in labour so shut up"

Bandi: "Let's go get breakfast. You're probably hungry, hence the attitude ".

I just clicked my tongue. I kissed her cheek then left with her annoying father.

Bandi: " I hope your ass stays this fat"

I chuckled. In my mind, I had turned and slapped him.

Khen: "How's my niece? "

Me: "Fine"

Bandile looked at me and I shrugged. What was he expecting anyway?

Remo came to visit me later on. I wasn't allowed to leave the house yet.

She, Lunga and Aphiwe had thrown me a big baby shower at the beginning of the month and invited a few people.

It was so amazing and there were so many gifts, mostly from Bandile and Craig.

I also had a gift from Hugh, which was a beautiful car seat.

Relax, we hadn't gotten back together but we did talk every once in a while.

I was glad that he kept me in Lonwabo's life, who was more like a young version of his father.

Remo: "She's so beautiful "

I smiled.

Me: "I know. She's amazing "

She was holding Amor who was still sleeping.

Remo: "How does Leonor feel about Bandile spending so much time with you? "

I shrugged.

Me: "I'd be lying. I don't think I care about their drama. My baby needs my full attention "

Remo: "Look at you being a mother"

I laughed.

Me: "I'm still a year older than you. Show me some respect woman "

She chuckled.

Remo: "Plans for next year? "

Me: "Well, I'm going to start working with Josh right after graduation. Hopefully, I won't end up crazy "

Remo: "You mean more crazy? Cause vele wa tsenwa"

I laughed.

Me: "Oh come on "

It was great having her around. I loved this peaceful life.

It was amazing.

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LEONOR

I lifted my top up and sighed.

I was a bit nervous because I knew I won't be able to hide it anymore.

I had found out I'm pregnant two weeks back and cracked my mind trying to find out who might be the father.

I never used protection with Hugh and Bandile and I also had stopped using it a year back.

Things were going so well between us that I prayed this baby is his.

I knew It could have happened the day I slept with both of them the same day since I was three months pregnant.

He came in and hugged me from behind.

I was still standing in the mirror.

He kissed my neck a couple of times.

Bandi: "Are you OK baby? "

I nodded and turned so that I'm facing him.

I perked his lips.

Me: "I missed you yesterday "

He had left in the evening and only came back now which was around 2pm.

Bandi: "I am sorry baby but I'm all yours now"

Me: "How's Amora? "

I asked as we walked down the stairs, holding hands.

Bandi: "She's good. When are you going to meet her? "

I shrugged.

Me: "You know how Diana is"

Bandi: "I'm pretty sure she wouldn't mind plus she's my daughter too"

Me: "I'm just not ready yet"

He nodded.

Bandi: "I understand baby "

I smiled.

Me: "Thank you "

The past few weeks had been good for us because Hugh had disappeared.

I didn't really care because my focus was on Bandile.

I just didn't know how I was going to tell him I'm pregnant while he just had a baby

What if he thinks that I'm trying to compete with Diana?

Now that was my biggest fear. I feared him thinking that this was some sort of competition, as if I had planned this.

Bandi: "OK, what's going on? "

Me: "What? "

Bandi: "You've been stirring that cup for too long now and you seemed like someone who had zoned out"

Me: "I have? "

I honestly hadn't realised.

I was having rooibos tea.

Bandi: "Uh, yeah. What's going on? "

Me: "It's nothing, I'm just thinking of work "

Bandi: "You're lying "

Me: "Bandile please "

Bandi: "I'll let it go but oksalayo"

I laughed.

Me: "Mxm"

.

GINA

I put on my lipstick and some perfume.

My mother had invited me to dinner and I was coming with X.

Living with him has been amazing, though he'd go out some nights and I'd, wake up with him in bed with me.

I never asked but it was sneaky.

Travis was with us. My boy was grown.

He had gotten used to X and they loved each other. I was glad they were getting along.

My baby had three fathers now, which was crazy but he loved it.

He came in and kissed my cheek.

X: "Are you ready? "

I sighed.

Me: "I still say we go out instead "

X: "Baby, I want you to fix things with her and just hear her out"

Me: "My father is going to be there. "

X: "They are your family and you're their baby girl. Just do it"

Me: "I wonder if they know what this baby girl does in the shit"

He chuckled and spanked me.

X: "Don't you start cause we might never leave "

Travis: "Mommy! "

He shouted, coming into our room.

I picked him up.

Me: "Ready for grandma? "

He nodded.

Travis: "Let's go"

X: "Well, you heard the man"

He took him from me and I took my bag and his, just in case he needs something.

My mom had only started contacting me last month, talking of how much she misses me.

I only agreed to dinner when she called with dad who sort of begged me to come.

I wasn't buying it though cause I knew that my dad never changes his mind.

When it's made up, it's just made up and that's it.



We got into X's car.

I love his Range Rover because of the space and would constantly borrow it from him

I didn't have a car because of my dad. He took everything he had bought me and even Cut my allowance. I think if he could, he would have even taken my clothes.

X: "I can't believe I've never been here"

Me: "There's a first time for everything "

I said with a grin and he laughed.

X: "I love you baby, OK "

Me: "I love you too"

I got out as he helped Travis out of the car.

I sighed as we were standing at the door and knocked.

If this was any other day, I wouldn't have bothered but it no longer felt like home.

My mother was the one who opened.

She immediately pulled me in for a hug then kissed my cheek.

Mom: "I'm happy you came "

Me: "Mm"

I just wasn't buying all this act.

She shook X's hand then kissed Travis before we were allowed in.

"Lil sis"

That was my brother Henry who came to me and scooped me up.

I just giggled. I was happy to see him.

Me: "When did you get here? "

Henry: "Last night. Hey man "

He gave X a shoulder hug.

This was probably the reason for this dinner.

Because my brother is here and had always been the one to stand up to my father.

We went to sit by the dinner table after mom set the table.

Henry was holding Travis.

Immediately when Dad came, everyone just kept quiet until mom broke the ice.

Mom: "Uhm, we can dish up"

Dad: "Gina"

I nodded.

I was a bit nervous but I wasn't going to let him see that.

I dished up for X first then for myself. My brother dished up for him and Travis then mom for her and dad.

It was awkward but I hoped that it doesn't go bad.

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GINA

The dinner was awkward, too awkward but I wasn't surprised.

This probably happened because my brother is here. They were probably trying to put on this show for him.

Henry cleared his throat.

Henry: "I have an announcement to make "

My brother was 30.

We all looked at him.

Henry: "Lesego and I are getting married "

He was also dating a black girl but she was lighter, unlike my boyfriend.

Dad: "Did I hear you correct? "

Henry: "We have a son. This was bound to happen "

Their son was 4.

Mom: "I thought you broke up with her"

Henry: "It didn't work out with Lee so we got back together. I'm just Letting y'all know "

He said, shrugging.

Dad: "It's bad enough that I have to breathe the same air with this monkey and now, my son is marrying one"

He stood up then looked at my mom.

Dad: "Get this shit you call kids out of my house before I kill them! "

He then went out, banging the door.

I sighed.

I knew it was all an act.

Henry: "This is why I never come home. Mom, good luck living your life without a son. I'm done. "

He also stood up and walked out.

X squeezed my thigh.

I hated that my son had to experience all of that.

Mom was just crying silently. It hurt that my dad didn't even try to pretend.

The ride home was silent. I was just lost in thought.

I was brought back to reality by X tapping my thigh.

I looked at him.

X: "It's gonna be OK baby, don't worry "

I nodded.

I got off the car. He was holding Travis who had fallen asleep.

X: "I know what came make you feel better"

He was taking off his clothes while I was looking at him.

Me: "You're hardly home during weekends"

X: "Baby, please "

I sighed

Me: "I'm not complaining "

He smiled. He got on the bed in just his boylegs.

X: "Now, where were we? "

I kissed him.

As the kiss proceeded, all my worries faded.

.

**BANDILE**

She was sleeping while snoring softly. I was tempted to take a recording because she always fought with me when I told her she snores.

I had got here to pick Jabu and Remo because we were going clubbing.

Jabu had just arrived so this was our way of welcoming him.

I kissed her lips and she woke up, biting my lip.

I had forgotten that she's such a light sleeper.

Diana: "What do you want here? "

She looked annoyed.

Me: "I came to check on my girls"

Khanya was sleeping but I knew she was going to wake up in the early mornings.

She rolled her eyes.

Me: "And why are you sleeping naked? "

Diana: "It's hot and you shouldn't be here. It's invasion of privacy "

I laughed.

Me: "Just kiss me so I can leave "

She did, surprisingly that I even got a hard on.

Me: "Damn"

I said, after she broke it while biting my lip.

Diana: "Just leave. I want to sleep. You know how your daughter is"

I chuckled.

Me: "Yeah"

I kissed her cheek.

Me: "Sleep tight wifey"

She clicked her tongue and I laughed

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going out of her room.

Jabu: "That smile "

He said, shaking his head. I had just got in the kitchen.

they were having beer.

Me: "Let's go"

Jabu: "When are you fixing things with your brother? "

Me: "Man, he's stubborn. I'm done apologising "

Jabu: "Your wife must have something "

I chuckled.

Me: "Maybe "

I was really over it. I mean I wasn't going to beg him to forgive me even though Diana was his ex.



I understood how it looked like, considering I was the one who made them break up but it happened a year's back and he had to move on.

We met Craig at the club.

Me: "So the wife let you leave? "

He chuckled.

Craig: "I left her sleeping "

Remo: "I don't see myself getting married if y'all are like this"

I laughed.

Leonor didn't have a problem with me leaving.

She was probably going through her own things.

She never really talked to me but I had a feeling she was hiding something from me.

It was nice though being out and just drinking.

.

DIANA

I woke up like I hardly slept. As usual, Amora woke up at 3am and kept me up until 5.

I went to take a bath then got dressed in a floral short dress with flops.

She was still sleeping and I was hungry.

I could hear people talking as I went down the stairs.

It was Khen with Kaden, Jabu's wife.

Me: "Morning "

I greeted and they replied.

Me: "What's for breakfast sister? "

She clicked her tongue. I just laughed and poured myself some tea.

Me: "It's too early for you to be bitter you know. You already have too many wrinkles "

"Leave my wife alone Diana"

I chuckled. He was coming into the kitchen. I just walked out and went to the lounge.

My phone rang. It was my mother.

Me: "Mother"

Mom: "Diana, come get me"

Me: "Uh, what? Where? "

Mom: "Obviously at the taxi rank. It's time I met my granddaughter "

Me: "Don't you have a car? Where's Damon? "

Mom: "Stop asking a question and just get your ass here"

I sighed.

Me: "I'm coming "

I went back to the kitchen.

Me: "My mom wants me to go fetch her, can I borrow the car?  
"

Lu: "I will. You're not allowed to leave the house"

I groaned.

He kissed his wife then left. He didn't even wait for me to tell him where she was.

Anyway, I took my breakfast to my room and spent most of my time there, waiting for my mother's arrival.

"Diana! "

I went to open. She came and gave me a hug.

Mom: "Where is she? "

Me: "Well, hello mother "

She rolled her eyes.

Mom: "I can't believe you have a child. Who would have thought "

I laughed.

Me: "I know. Don't wake her"

She went over to her for.

Mom: "She's pretty but I'm not surprised, I have good genes"

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "Really? "

Mom: "You can go look in the mirror if you don't believe me"

Me: "Where's Damon? "

Mom: "Out of the country. I'm staying for the rest of December "

Me: "Here? "

Mom: "What do you think? "

Me: "Mom, this is not my house"

Mom: "They don't mind. This house is too big anyway "

I sighed.

I knew there was nothing I could do or say to change her mind.

My mom was just stubborn as hell.

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DIANA

Me: "Ma, look after Amora while I pack my stuff"

Mom: "And why are you packing? "

Me: "Because we're leaving "

I said, rolling my eyes.

Mom: "I just got here yesterday "

Me: "Yes and already you're taking charge like this is your house. Ma, Bandile will come fetch us soon so please "

She rolled her eyes taking Amora and I packed all our stuff.

My mom was such headache but I loved her regardless. Dad used to say we're just the same but I highly disagree.

I finished with the packing just as Bandile came.

It was Sunday in the afternoon, around 3pm.

Bandi: "Hi Ma "

Mom: "Hey son, how are you? "

Bandi: "I'm good Ma. Are you ready? "

He asked, looking at me and I nodded.

Me: "You can take those bags to the car "

Good thing my baby shower gifts were all in my house.

I followed with Amora's bag and my phone and went to bid everyone farewell then to his car.

Mom: "Is your flat safe for a child? "

My stuff was already moved to the new house when I went to live with Khen.

Me: "Mom, relax"

She rolled her eyes again and I laughed.

Mom: "Who's house is this? "

She asked, immediately after I opened the door.

Me: "Mine"

I said simply and shrugged.

Mom: "You're just as sneaky as my husband "

I didn't reply to that.

I went to put Amora in her crib and took the monitor.

Mom was channel hopping.

Me: "I'll walk Bandile out"

Mom: "Mm"

She gave me a look which made me just roll my eyes.

Bandi: "Your mom is something else "

Me: "More like a headache but I love her"

Bandi: "And me? "

Me: "What about you? "

Bandi: "Do you love me? "

Me: "Maybe "

I said shrugging.

Bandi: "But I love you "

Me: "I know and that's nice"

We were now standing by his car.

Bandi: "Bye then"

He gave me a side hug and left.

OK, that was a bit awkward.

My mom spent the whole December with me like she had said and I loved it.

She did everything for me. She did the grocery, cooked and cleaned.

It was great having her here. On The thirty first, we had a little braai with Aphiwe, Remo and the kids.

It was amazing. I only saw Lunga on the first and he spent the whole weekend with me.

Now, it was just Amora and I on the second week of January.

My baby was getting big with each day.

I loved it. The door bell rang and I rolled my eyes immediately after opening and he laughed.

Josh: "Really? "

Me: "I'm surprised you didn't appear out of nowhere. I guess the New Year brought you some manners"

Josh: "And I'm surprised you still lack them. How are you Mrs Dlamini? "

He asked, getting in.

Me: "I'm good and you? "

He took Amora.

Josh: "I'm blessed. Where's the husband? "

Me: "I'd be lying. "

Josh: "Don't you get bored of being alone? "

Me: "I have my daughter "

Josh: "I don't mean in that sense"



Me: "Hai, it's too early for me to be horny "

He laughed.

Josh: "You're something else "

My daughter was just staring at him and smiling.

Josh: "Well

you can never run away from your destiny Diana"

He gave Amora to me.

Josh: "Enjoy your day "

Then he left.

OK, that was weird.

.

LEONOR

He came into my office with his eyes breathing fire.

I swallowed hard. I might have went the wrong way with telling him but I couldn't avoid it anymore.

I had left him the scan from my previous appointment.

Bandi: "Explain "

He said, throwing the picture on my desk.

I was at work.

Me: "I... I'm sorry"

Bandi: "How far? "

Me: "This is my fourth month "

Bandi: "I thought you were on contraceptives"

I looked at him.

There wasn't even an inch of excitement or maybe I was imagining things.

Maybe he was shocked but why would he be if we had been together for years and had been hitting it raw?

Me: "You don't want my baby? "

Bandi: "It's mine? "

That hurt but I knew where it was coming from.

I didn't know but I just couldn't lose him.

Me: "Yes"

I said and his face softened.

Bandi: "You should have told me baby"

Me: "I was scared "

He came to me and made me stand then hugged me.

I breathed out from relief.

I just hoped that it doesn't come back to bite me.

I was praying that Bandile is the father and it was good that Hugh had disappeared.

Bandi: "I got you"

Me: "I just... I didn't want you to think I did it on purpose because of Diana"

Bandi: "I know you're not like that "

I smiled. He kissed my lips.

Bandi: "Go lock the door"

I giggled as he spanked my butt.

I locked the door and coming back, he lifted me up and put me on the desk.

Bandi: "Hey mama"

I blushed.

He kissed me.

Gosh, I had fallen in love with him all over again.

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**BANDILE**

Leonor: "I don't think I want to go"

She whined and I shook my head.

Me: "We can't keep mom waiting any longer "

We were having lunch with Mom.

It was just in the beginning of March now and she was showing.  
She was on her sixth month.

I was waiting for her to get dressed.

Leonor: "Nothing fits "

Me: "Baby, we bought clothes last week. Come on"

She smiled.

Leonor: "I forgot. Thank you"

she got dressed in a red dress with her heels.

Me: "Don't those things hurt your feet? "

She shook her head.

Leonor: "Nope"

Finally, we left.

we met my mom at Wimpy and she stood up when she saw us.

She hugged us and we sat down.

Mom: "You look beautiful Leo. Pregnancy suits you"

Leonor: "Thanks mom. "

We ordered and they brought our drinks.

Mom: "When are marrying her Bandile? "

I swear I almost choked on my drink.

Me: "Do you want to get married baby? "

She looked at me, bit her lip and nodded.

Me: "Want me to buy you a ring? "

Mom: "Hai, that's not how you propose "

Me: "I've never proposed before mom. I wouldn't know "

Mom: "Haibo"

We laughed.

Leonor: "What about Diana? "

Me: "I didn't propose. You know what happened "

Leonor: "I mean, how will we get married if you guys are married? "

Me: "It's possible, don't worry "

She nodded and smiled.

Leonor: "I'm actually excited "

Was I? Maybe not yet.

Our lunch was spent with Leonor and mom talking about the wedding as if I had proposed already.

She even went home with my mom while I drove to go see my other family.

It was Saturday so I knew that they were home.

Me: "Diana?! "

I shouted after getting in.

She came shortly, fixing her weave.

Me: "Where are you going? "

She looked up at me. She was dressed in a peach romper.

Diana: "I have date"

Gosh, I was looking at her beautiful legs, her curves and boob's.

Me: "Dressed like that? "

Diana: "Yep"

We had hired a nanny for Amora who started when Dee started working.

Me: "Are you crazy? Go change. "

She laughed, coming towards me.

Diana: "Hey daddy "

She kissed my cheek.

What the hell was she playing at?

I followed her to the kitchen where she took out water from the fridge.

She looked so sexy.

Even the way she was drinking that water while looking at me.

I cleared my throat.

Me: "I... I'm getting married "

Diana: "Congratulations "

Me: "Just like that? "

Diana: "What were you expecting? "

I huffed.

Me: "Nothing "

A car hooted outside.

Diana: "That's me"

She came to stand in front of me. I swallowed. She was looking up at me. Even in her heels, I was taller.. The temptation was too strong.

Diana: "We should make love the night before your wedding "

She laughed and walked away.

Me: "Fuck"

I said, fixing my pants.

I had an erection.



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BANDILE

I heard laughs as I was in the lounge, while busy tapping my foot down.

I looked at my wrist watch and got more pissed.

She came in with a wide smile on her face but frowned when she saw me.

Diana: "You're still here? "

I gave her the 'really' look because she could see that.

Diana: "This is crazy Bandile"

I thought she'd be drunk but she wasn't. She looked very sober to me and just like how she left.

Me: "Where were you and why are you coming back this late? "

She chuckled.

Diana: "You're not my mother"

Me: "I'm your fucken husband! "

I snapped and she looked at me with a raised eyebrow.

Diana: "Now you're being crazy. shouldn't you be with your pregnant fiancée? "

I sighed.

She was frustrating me.

Me: "Diana, I... I love you "

She looked at me, shocked.

Diana: "What? "

I breathed out.

Me: "I do, OK. And I'm just tired of pretending like I don't. I loved you the first time I saw you in Craig's club looking pretty in that uniform. Three years later, my heart still beats for you. "

I didn't believe I had said that but I knew I had to, sooner or later.

Diana: "This is just... Overwhelming "

I sighed and went closer to her. She kept moving back, which made me laugh.

Me: "You have no where to go now"

I said with a smirk. Her back was against the fridge now.

She looked up at me, batting her eyelashes.

Me: "Dammit! "

She giggled softly.

Me: "You left me with a boner "

She bit her lip.

Me: "Stop doing that man"

Diana: "What? "

Me: "Stop turning me on"

She chuckled.

Diana: "Sorry "

Me: "What do you say about my confession? "

Diana: "Bandile"

Me: "No, you don't have to say something yet. I'll give you some time to think about it"

Diana: "Thank you "

I licked at my lips looking at her.

I wanted to have her right there and then.

She kissed me and because it's what I wanted and more, I kissed her back and even picked her up.

I put her on the kitchen counter as we continued kissing, passionately yet hastily.

I unzipped her romper which had been sticking to her like a second skin.

Diana: "Bedroom please"

She said when she was now all naked.

Me: "Fuck that"

Diana: "I cook here"

Me: "Fuck you then"

I kissed her again, shutting her up.

There she was, snoring again. She was sleeping peacefully with her lips slightly parted and her eyes which one would think were swollen.

The previous night had been hectic love making but we finished up on the bed.

We were both pretty much naked.

I moved until I was at her shaved nuna. She was still sleeping and I figured it was the only way to wake her up.

When I went back to her face after her orgasm, she gave me a shy smile.

Me: "Really now? "

I said, with a raised eyebrow and she giggled.

Diana: "Mxm"

I kissed her until she moaned then broke it.

Me: "Morning MaDlamini"

Diana: "Morning, did you check on Amora? "

Me: "Nop but I will. Let's go shower first then you can make us breakfast "

Diana: "OK "

I thought she was going to throw me out but she didn't.

I knew she had no regrets regarding what happened and I loved that.

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LEONOR

I was woken up the urge to pee. I immediately frowned when I realised he still wasn't back.

Bandile just left, saying he has to go somewhere and he never came back.

I sighed as I washed my hands. I had seen how uncomfortable he was during the marriage talk and it seemed to me that it wasn't something he had been planning.

Honestly

I had to marry him to secure my place in his life. I needed that and also for the baby to be his because I'd die if she wasn't.

I ended up brushing my teeth then taking a shower.. I was also hungry and had waken up rather late because I slept late.

I took my phone and as I went down the stairs, he arrived.

It was around 11am.

Me: "Hey"

Bandi: "Hi, how are you? "

Me: "I'm good. Is everything OK now? "

Bandi: "What? "

Me: "Well yesterday you just said you had to go somewhere, thought you went to sort out something "

Bandi: "Everything is fine. How are you? "

Me: "I'm good, though I can't wait to give birth "

He chuckled.

Bandi: "Soon. Just a few months left"

Me: "Thank God. I love having her inside me but she has to come out now"

Bandi: "I want a boy "

Me: "It's a girl Bandile, I can feel it"

He laughed.

Bandi: "Oh yeah? "

Me: "Yes"

My stomach grumbled.

Bandi: "Go feed that prince so we can go shopping. You've been complaining about not having enough clothes "

Me: "You make me sound so bad"

Bandi: "Because you are"

He said, rolling his eyes.

Me: "So gay"

Bandi: "Oh let me. I'll go change babe"

He kissed my cheek and left.

Who am I kidding? Her scent was all over him and I saw the bites in his neck.

I knew who it was but stupid me never wanted to acknowledge it.

The sad thing was, there was nothing I could do about it.

Bandile was in love with Diana and I couldn't even say he was

cheating because they were married. I knew he'd confirm it if I were to ask and I feared how that would hurt me.

I ate then after he came and we left.

We even went to a baby store where I bought a beautiful white onesie.

I was so obsessed with it.

From there we bought more clothes for me and he even bought something's for Amora.

He loved her so much and with how he was being, I knew it was time I met her.

.

DIANA

Me: "I don't even want to think about it babe. I can still feel his dick inside of me"

He laughed.

Lunga: "He must be really good "

Me: "Yeah and yesterday was different. He made love to my body and soul. He confessed his feelings for me and his actions confirmed them"

Then he screamed.



I was sitting on the couch, having ice cream with Amora watching TV since I wasn't watching it.

She was on the floor.

Lunga: "I should organise a real wedding for you two "

I laughed.

Me: "Nah, he's marrying Barbie"

Lunga: "And you're going to let him? "

Me: "Honestly, I'm just going to. He didn't seem enthusiastic about it but it's his choice "

Lunga: "No Diana. You can't allow that "

Me: "We'll just see if it's even going to happen. Wena when are you getting married? "

Lunga: "Luke and I are still enjoying ourselves. We're not In any hurry boo"

Me: "Are you sure?"

Lunga: "Yeah but we'll get there, don't worry "

I chuckled.

Me: "I can't wait to be the maid of honour "

Lunga: "Obvious. In fact, you and Remo are both going to be my maid of honours"

Me: "Yeiy! "

Lunga: "Mm, I can just imagine the amount of booze we going to drink. You better not be pregnant then"

I laughed.

Me: "I'll make sure I'm not"

Lunga: "Mm good because I want us to get wasted"

Me: "Yeiy plus I miss it man. I miss you "

Lunga: "I know sweetie. You should visit us during recess "

Me: "I sure will. My baby needs a trip plus it'll allow me to think"

Lunga: "I look forward to seeing you here. Bye boo"

Me: "Bye baby "

We hung up. I found Amora looking at me.

I picked her up.

Me: "My love "

She smiled.

It was on Tuesday when I had a visit from Leonor.

I was busy making dinner and was surprised to have her knocking on my door.

Pregnancy looked good on her.

Me: "You look good"

I wasn't about to hold in the compliment.

She smiled.

Leonor: "Thanks "

Me: "Anything to drink? "

Leonor: "Cranberry juice if you have "

I poured for her. She looked around.

Leonor: "You have a beautiful house "

Me: "Thanks"

Leonor: "I came to officially meet my fiance's daughter "

I chuckled.

Me: "Mm OK. Can you watch the pots while I go take her? "

Leonor: "As long as I don't have to do anything else "

Me: "OK, relax"

I went to get Amora who had been playing with her nanny.

Me: "Want to hold her? "

She nodded.

I gave the baby to her.

Leonor: "She's beautiful. Looks like you and Bandi "

Me: "Thanks"

She didn't stay for long and Amora didn't want to stay with her nanny so I finished up with her close to me.

Thank God she wasn't used to being held.

After dinner, I went to put her down then just watched TV until I fell sleepy.

The nanny woke me up the following day. I was even late for work.

Me: "What's up? "

Her: "There's a delivery guy waiting for you"

Me: "So early? "

She shrugged. I wore my sleepers then went down with her.

Guy: "Mrs Dlamini, please sign here"

I did. After that, he gave me car keys.

Me: "What? " Guy: "Courtesy of Mr Dlamini "

Lord take me now.

32

DIANA

It had been two days since I had the car. It was a fortuner, white with black leather seats.

I only drove it to work.

It was Saturday now and I had called Bandile over.

I wanted us to talk about why the hell he'd buy me a car.

It was just after lunch when he came.

I was in the lounge. Amora was sleeping.

He kissed my cheek then sat next to me.

Bandi: "How are you? "

Me: "I'm OK, you? "

Bandi: "Good, now that I am looking at my beautiful wife"

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "So a car"

Bandi: "You need it baby"

I groaned.

Me: "Don't call me that"

Bandi: "Sorry Wifey "

Me: "Bandile, what are you playing at? "

I asked looking at him with my eyes squinted.

Bandi: "You know, I wish I stayed here with you. Maybe I should spend the weekend, what do you think? I can imagine all we can get to"

I laughed.

Me: "You're really delusional. Did you smoke drugs maybe? Weed? "

He laughed.

Bandi: "I only smoke cigarettes and I've never been high on nicotine. I love you OK and I love being with you"

Me: "Mm. How's the wedding preparations going? "

He shrugged.

Bandi: "Truth is, I haven't proposed. My mom was the one who came up with the topic and Leonor said she wants to get married so I'll give her what she wants "

Me: "You don't sound like someone who wants to get married "

Bandi: "I'm married moss"

I rolled my eyes.

I got on top of him.

Me: "How about I show you what you've be missing out on? "

Bandi: "I'm abstaining "

I laughed, like really laughed then got off him.

Me: "Your loss"

Bandi: "I'm kidding Diana "

I walked away from him and up the stairs. He followed me.

I ended up running then closed the door on him when I got to the room.

Bandi: "Diana! "

I was so happy when I finally got a break.

It was the second week April and I was going home for the Easter weekend.

I missed my mom and I missed Lunga.

I really couldn't wait to see them. Bandile was to take Amora because he suddenly changed his mind about me leaving with her.

I didn't want that but I had to compromise since she lived with me and I spent more time with her.

Anyway, I was waiting for him to come fetch her while having some appletiser.

The door bell rang, which was surprising because he never knocked.

It was Wandile.

Me: "Uhm, hi"

Wandile: "Hi. Can I come in? "

I made space for him.

Me: "Of course. I was expecting your brother"

Wandile: "He had to sort something out at work. Where is she? "

Me: "I.. I'll go fetch her"

Wandile: "Nah, just tell me where"

Me: "OK "

I did. He came back with her after a while.

Wandile: "She's beautiful "

Me: "You always say that "

He'd reply like that whenever I posted her in my whatsapp statuses.

Wandile: "But I do hate that you're married to my brother and he loves you. "



Me: "It wasn't by choice "

Wandile: "Fact remains. I don't even know why he's still with Leonor. I know his heart is with you and maybe this happened for a reason. Enjoy your long weekend "

I kissed my baby one last time then watched them leave.

From there, I took my bag then went to put everything in my car.

Bandile was right though

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I needed it.

The drive was long and tiring but I finally arrived.

I didn't go home. I went to Lunga's place.

It was Thursday.

Lunga: "Finally! "

He said, giving me a squeeze. He then kissed my cheek.

Me: "I'm tired babe"

Lunga: "Of course. Let me show you the guestroom. I'm so glad you're here. I missed you! "

Me: "I missed you too "

I really did and I knew I was going to have a lit weekend.

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BANDILE

I was in my office, waiting for Wandile to come with my daughter.

I seriously couldn't get enough of her and I was so happy that her mom allowed me to have her for the long weekend.

It took a lot of convincing but she Finally agreed.

Diana. One woman I didn't want to think much about but couldn't stop my mind

It was driving me crazy a little. I never thought there'd be a day when I'd be so glad that this marriage happened.

Yes, I knew of the contract but Fuck that I wasn't going to leave her.

Our relationship was a little complicated but I was just happy that we had one.

I also had to think of my pregnant girlfriend and how it was going to work.

It was frustrating because I love them both and I didn't want to think much about it.

He came in just as I was about to knock off, after I waited for hours and he didn't have Khanya.

Me: "Where is she? "

Wandile: "With dad. You know how he can't get enough of her"

Me: "You were suppose to come right here after fetching her"

Wandile: "I know but I also wanted to spend some time with her. She's my niece. Come on"

I breathed out.

Me: "It's fine"

Wandile: "So, how's it going to work? "

Me: "What? "

Wandiile: "You're getting married. Does it mean you going to have two wives now? "

Me: "I... I guess "

I said, shrugging.

Me: "I haven't really thought it that far. The wedding is in August so there's no rush"

Leonor had set the date. She wanted it to happen after she gave birth.

Wandile: "Do you even want that? "

Me: "I want Leonor to be happy and this would make her happy. Look man, I have to go"

Wandile: "We're leaving together nje"

Me: "Uh.. Yeah"

I was actually trying to avoid the topic.

I found dad watching TV with Khanya in his arms.

I greeted then sat down

Dad: "I wish I could still have children. I miss this"

Me: "Hai, give me my daughter "

He laughed and gave Khanya to me.

Dad: "I can tell she's going to be as feisty as her mother"

I chuckled.

Me: "Diana Is something else "

Mom came.

Mom: "Oh, you're here"

Me: "I'm actually on my way out. Just came to fetch her"

Mom: "Leonor is fine with that? "

Me: "She's my daughter "

Mom: "She's your fiancée, who happens to be pregnant with your child "

Me: "Exactly my point. "

I got up.

Me: "Good night fam"

Leonor was in the kitchen stuffing her face when I arrived.

She looked at me and smiled.

Leonor: "Hey baby"

Me: "Hi, how are you two? "

Leonor: "We're good. Is she sleeping? "

Me: "Yeah. Probably because of the ride. I'll go put her down"

She nodded.

I went to put her down.

Me: "So, how's the wedding preparations coming up? "

Leonor: "Good. I have an interview coming up with a magazine. They want to exclusively feature our wedding "

Me: "What? "

Leonor: "People love us together babe "

Me: "Yes but is that necessary? "

Leonor: "It's good for our image. I've been getting offers but it's still too early. When are you buying me a ring? "

Shucks. I forgot.

Me: "I will baby. Actually, we should go ring shopping tomorrow "

She squealed.

Leonor: "Yes, price doesn't matter right? "

Me: "You forget that I still have to pay for your wedding "

Leonor: "Come on Bandi "

Me: "We'll see tomorrow "

Leonor: "I can't wait "

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LEONOR

My was really where I wanted it to be.

I was having a baby girl, whom I couldn't wait to hold and getting married to the man I love.

Yes, things had not been easy and there had been a point where I wanted to just let go but I was glad I held on.

I woke up on Friday and he wasn't next to me.

He had brought his, daughter over so I figured he was with her.

Anyway, I went to take a shower.

I got dressed in a white Maxi dress with white sneakers.

I brushed my weave, put on some makeup then took my bag and phone and went downstairs.

I hoped that he was ready because I knew stores close early since it was a holiday.

They were in the kitchen.

Me: "Good morning "

Bandi: "Hi baby"

Me: "I hope you didn't forget"

I said, filling a plate with breakfast.

Bandi: "Uh, what? "

Me: "Ring shopping? "

Bandi: "Oh, I didn't. You can see we're ready"

Me: "Good but you know leaving with Amora will raise questions, right? "

Bandi: "She's my daughter. I don't care "

Me: "Of course but I was just saying "

Bandi: "Mm"

We left after breakfast.

The ride to the mall was very silent, except for Amora making baby sounds.

We arrived and as expected, Bandi with Amora did get the heads turning.

He didn't seem to mind though, which showed me that he, really didn't care.

I stopped worrying and focused on finding a ring.

I found one, it was a beautiful diamond ring with a blue rock. I swear I fell in love with it the moment I laid my eyes on it.

Me: "This one baby"



Bandi: "You love it? "

I nodded with a goofy smile.

Bandi: "Alright then"

I was more happy that it actually fitted like it was designed for my finger.

Me: "And it's only a 100k. Not that expensive "

Bandi: "You must be crazy. That's a lot of money "

I laughed.

Me: "Oh come on Bandile. You're worth more than that "

Bandile: "Mm

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keep saying that. We'll end up getting married in court "

Me: "Not when I have rich parents. Never"

Bandile: "Lucky you"

OK, he was totally being sarcastic.

I decided not to let him ruin my mood and instead, concentrate on the beauty in my index finger.

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DIANA

Being home was amazing on me.

The previous night, Lunga and I, with his boyfriend went out and it was amazing.

I was woken up by a banging headache. I can't remember the last time I drank like that. I blame Lunga though. We've always influenced each other badly.

My phone just had to ring. I only answered to shut it.

Me: "What? "

Bandi: "Bad bad mother. It's 12pm and you still hadn't called to check on your daughter "

Me: "I just woke up"

Bandi: "You went drinking? I hope you don't expect my baby to suck on that"

Me: "It's only for you daddy. How's she? "

Bandi: "She's OK. She hasn't given me any problems. I miss you"

Me: "I'm glad she's behaving "

Bandi: "You're really going to ignore what I said? "

Me: "Why should I entertain it? "

Bandi: "You're hurting me now"

Me: "Ha.a Bandile. We'll talk later. I wanna shower then go have breakfast "

Bandi: "Diana please "

Me: "No"

I didn't wait for him to reply but just hung up on him.

I went to take a shower.

I got dressed in a black dungaree dress with just a sports bra and flops.

Lunga looked fresh.

Me: "Bitch! "

He laughed.

Lunga: "Finally you're up"

Me: "How dare you look like you didn't just go out like yesterday? "

Lunga: "Trust me, I feel worse than I look. That's why I'm having this"

I took the cup from him.

He was drinking Hennessy.

I took a sip

Me: "Where's your man? "

Lunga: "Work. He's such a workaholic "

Me: "But it's a holiday moss"

Lunga: "Definitely not to him"

I went through the pots and dished up eggs and sausages for myself.

Lunga: "How's the husband? "

Me: "Clingy. He misses me already "

Lunga: "You're really going to let him get married? "

Me: "Not that again "

Lunga: "I'm just asking "

Me: "It's his choice. "

Lunga: "I hate to admit it but you guys look so fucken good together "

I laughed.

Me: "Whatever"

The rest of the weekend was spent with me visiting my mom during the day and drinking with Lunga during the night.

I was happy that I got to spend time with the people closest to my heart.

Anyway, I had to leave which was a sad moment for me but I missed my daughter.

I didn't even drive to my house.

I drove to Bandile's house so I can pick my baby girl up.

I didn't even care that it was late.

.

BANDILE

Me: "Babe, please get the door"

Leonor: "I'm tired "

Me: "Stop being lazy. What kind of wife are you going to be? "

Leonor: "Mxm"

She stood up while I silently laughed.

It was just before 9pm so I wondered who could be knocking that late.

Khanya was sleeping already while Leonor and I were sitting on the couch and watching a movie.

Leonor: "It's Diana"

Diana: "I just came to fetch my daughter. I missed her"

Me: "Well, hello"

Diana: "Hi"

Me: "You could have come tomorrow. It's late"

Diana: "I have work tomorrow "

It was Monday.

Me: "I'll go fetch her"

She sat down while I went to fetch Khanya who was sleeping peacefully.

She took her.

Me: "I'll walk her out"

Leonor: "OK "

I hadn't expected her to agree that easily but I was glad she didn't make it a hassle for me.

I followed Diana with Khanya's bag.

I watched her put her in her car seat then she took her bag from me.

Me: "I missed you"

I said, pulling her towards me with my hands on her waist.

Diana: "You did, didn't you? "

I nodded, biting my lip while looking at her.

It was dark outside.

Diana: "How much? "

She whispered and I knew exactly what she was asking.

I pulled her towards me and we kissed.

Me: "Fuck "

I said after breaking the kiss.

Diana: "I'm tired "

I perked her lips.

Me: "Good night. I love you"

Diana: " I know "

I chuckled.

I spanked her butt just as she was about to walk away.

Diana: "Perv "

She said and I just laughed.

Fuck, I really love her.

Weeks went by and it was soon the beginning of May which meant winter was slowly approaching.

I felt Leonor busy tossing and turning at night.

It was a Wednesday and we were sleeping.

At first, I ignored it but I just couldn't. I could hear her wincing in pain.

I went to switch on the lights.

Me: "Baby"

She was even crying.

Me: "Are you OK? "

I was really worried.

Leonor: "I'm in pain "

I took off the blanket.

Me: "Shit! "

I said, looking at the sheets.

Leonor: " I think my water just broke"

Me: "What? "

Leonor: "Bandile! "

Me: "Fuck baby! "

I quickly picked her up bridal style.

I literally ran down those stairs.



It's only because of, God that I didn't trip or fall.

I put her in the back seat then went to the front.

She was screaming in pain.

I had no choice but to drive her to Josh's surgery.

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LEONOR

In my heart and mind was the fact that it was too early.

That was the reason why when I first felt the pain, I didn't believe it.

It was the following day, a Thursday and I was awake and just staring into space.

Bandile came in with the baby. The birth had went smoothly and yes, it was a girl.

Bandi: "Morning mom"

Me: "Morning, that's her? "

I was surprised because I thought she'd be in an incubator or something.

Bandi: "Yep. Here"

He gave her to me. She was still sleeping. My baby had long lashes and curly black hair. I couldn't wait for her to just open her eyes.

She was very light skinned, which was understandable because she was mixed.

Me: "We need to name her"

Bandi: "Any ideas? "

I shook my head.

Me: "There's no rush. I mean, she came unexpectedly "

Bandi: "Yes but how are you? "

Me: "I'm OK, in a little pain but I'll be fine"

Josh came in.

He looked at Bandile then at me.

Josh: "Family"

Me: "Josh"

Josh: "I'd like to talk to your fiancée privately please"

Me: "We don't hide things from each other "

Josh: "I never asked"

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "Mxm"

Bandile chuckled as he stood up.

Bandi: "I'll go buy us food "

He kissed my forehead and that of our baby then left, closing the door on his way out.

Josh: "How are you feeling? "

Me: "I'm OK. Uhm, doc, can I ask something? "

Josh: "Of course "

Me: "How come she looks so healthy? I mean, she came way before my due date. I was suppose to give birth next month. It's just the beginning of May"

Josh: "Oh, she's perfectly fine. She came at 40 weeks"

Me: "What? No, that's impossible "

Josh: "Are you the doctor now? "

I thought about it. This meant there was no way Bandile could be the father.

I swear I felt my head spinning.

Josh: "Your life as you know it, is practically over"

Me: "Uh, yes"

Josh: "I don't think you understand what I mean "

I looked at him.

Me: "What do you mean? "

He sat down next to me.

Josh: "You've had it easy all your life

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and had everything to your reach. You never struggled, never had to fight. You only snapped your finger and got all that you want "

Me: "Surely that's not a sin"

Josh: "No but you're going to start living. How's the wedding coming along? "

Me: "You're not invited "

He laughed.

Josh: "I don't need an invite to be there"

I rolled my eyes.

Me: "I need to rest "

Josh: "You have to eat first. I'll tell the nurse to bring you some pills. Your fiance is here "

He came in just after he said that.

I gave the baby to Bandile and he put her on her cot, which was in my room.

Bandi: "Sit up baby so we can eat "

He helped fix my pillows and I had my back against them.

The nurse came with my pills as we were eating.

Soon after, Aphiwe and Craig followed.

Aphiwe: "She couldn't even wait for a baby shower "

I laughed.

Me: "She was tired of being cooped up inside of me"

She gave me a hug.

Aphiwe: "So, where is our little pumpkin? "

Me: "The nurse went to bath her "

They had gifts.

It was overwhelming and helped me get my mind off things.

Knowing its Hugh's baby made my stomach turn.

I had managed to be rid of him and definitely wasn't ready to have him back in my life and annoying me.

I just hope he never finds out about it.

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DIANA

I got home very tired.

I blamed Amora. She had been restless last night and I ended up sleeping at 3am.

I did try to call Bandile then but his phone took me straight to voicemail.

I took off my shoes and threw my ass on the couch, closing my eyes.

"Still look as beautiful as ever "

I swear I almost had a heart attack from being startled.

He laughed.

Me: "Voetsek man Hugh "

He continued laughing

I slapped him.

Hugh: "Ouch"

Me: "I see you still don't have manners"

Hugh: "The nanny let me in"

Me: "Oh. Where have you been hiding man? Where's my son? "

Hugh: "I've been around. He's with his crazy mother"

Me: "You guys working things out? "

Hugh: "Even if she was the last woman on earth, I wouldn't get back to that "

Me: "Haibo"

Hugh: "Hai no. I only went there because of the booty. I have a thing for women with a butt to hold"

He was looking at me while licking his lips.

Me: "Sies "

He chuckled.

Hugh: "Lonwabo wants you at his party again "

Me: "Do you do that every year? "

Hugh: "He's turning 6. I have to. He'll be going to big school next year"

Me: "Can't wait for Amora to get there "

Hugh: "Oh she will. Don't worry"

Me: "Listen to you talking like father of the year"

He chuckled.

Hugh: "I'm the best father to my son OK "

Me: "Hopefully, he won't turn out like you "

He laughed.

My phone rang and taking it out of my bag, it was Bandile.

Me: "Mxm"

I rejected it but he called again.

I just answered

Me: "Ke eng? "



Bandi: "Baby "

Me: "Don't baby me. Why was your phone off? "

Bandi: "Leonor gave birth "

Me: "Oh but wasn't it a bit early for that? "

Bandi: "It was but thank God she's healthy. I'm sorry my phone was off"

Me: "It's OK. Congratulations on your baby girl "

Bandi: "Thanks. I'll come see you tomorrow "

Me: "OK "

I just hung up.

Hugh: "Finally decided to become a family? "

Me: "Hardly. He's just had another daughter "

Hugh: "Do you want to know why I left you after I found out you're married? "

I nodded.

Yes, we were cool now and obviously just friends but I needed to know.

Hugh: "I knew it was going to get to this so it was better to walk away than watch you fall for your husband "

Me: "I am not falling for him"

Hugh: "You love him Diana and I believe you guys can make your marriage work. You deserve to be happy and I think he can give you that. "

Me: "He's getting married "

Hugh: "You're already his wife. Plus, I don't think the wedding is gonna go on"

Me: "Why? "

Hugh: "I just have that feeling "

I laughed.

Me: "You're a sangoma now? "

Hugh: "I'm never wrong Diana. You'll see. We can bet"

Me: "Uh, no"

The nanny brought Amora who was crying like someone died.

She kept quiet immediately when I held her.

Hugh: "This one is going to be my daughter-in-law"

Me: "Hai, your son is too old "

He chuckled.

Hugh: "Age is nothing but a number "

Me: "You're not that older than me"

He chuckled and took Amora from me.

Hugh: "Go shower. You look tired "

Me: "Oh, I am. She kept me up all night"

Hugh: "I can see she's a loud mouth like someone I know "

Me: "Hai suka "

He just laughed as I walked away.

After I had showered and went back to them, he was busy setting the table with Amora on his back.

Me: "Ao daddy cool"

The doorbell rang then someone just let themselves in.

Bandi: "What does he want here? "

Me: "Well, hello"

He went in further into the house.

Bandi: "Give me my daughter "

Hugh just took her off his back and gave him to her.

Bandi: "I'm going to bath her"

I just laughed silently as he walked up the stairs.

Hugh: "Let me leave. "

He kissed my cheek and left.

I sat down and ate.

I was hungry anyway.

Bandile came back when I was washing my plate.

Bandi: "Are you cheating on me? "

Me: "Relax. Hugh and I are just friends "

Bandi: "Why should I believe you? "

Me: "Because I'm explaining myself to you even though I shouldn't. He just came here to invite me to his son's birthday party. "

Bandi: "I don't like your friendship "

Me: "You have nothing to worry about " Bandi: "Good "

He put his hands on my waist.

Me: "I thought you were coming tomorrow "

Bandi: "I just wanted to see you. Leonor is coming home tomorrow. Can I sleep here? " Me: "Bandile"

Bandi: "Please" I sighed.

Me: "Fine" I don't even know why I agreed.

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DIANA

I was woken up by his kisses on my neck. I had even forgotten that he had slept here.

I opened my eyes.

Me: "Morning "

He looked at me.

Bandi: "Hi"

Me: "I should get ready for work "

Bandi: "No morning glory? "

Me: "Nop"

Bandi: "But you love your sex in the morning "

Me: "Bandile, I'm tired so please "

I got up and made my way to the bathroom.

He followed me.

Bandi: "What's wrong baby? "

Me: "This whole arrangement is wrong! "

Bandi: "Woah, are you OK? "

Me: "Do I look OK? "

Bandi: "Did you have a bad dream maybe? Did I do something?"

Me: "Kante what do you want from me? Are you just here to mess up my feelings then go back to your precious fiancée and daughter?"

Bandi: "What?"

Me: "I'm tired Bandile. I'm tired of this going back and forth. I'm tired of you coming here and me pretending like your relationship with Leonor doesn't bother me. I can't live like this anymore"

Bandi: "You just woke up. We were fine moss when we went to sleep"

Me: "Bandile, I'm done"

Bandi: "What do you mean?"

Me: "I mean whatever we've had going on here is over. From now on, we'll just carry on like before. You'll only come here to see your daughter"

Bandi: "Diana"

Me: "No, please excuse me. I don't want to be late for work"

Bandi: "You're actually serious?"

Me: "Like a heart attack. I'm just tired. I can't be loyal to you while you're busy playing happy families with your doll. I'm not even a fan of polygamy so we'll stick to the initial agreement "

Bandi: "This early Mara Diana? "

Me: "Yes. Just get out please "

Bandi: "Wow"

With that said, he left and I breathed out loudly.

After my bath, I got dressed, fixed myself then went to check on my daughter.

She wasn't there so I assumed she was with Bandile.

I found them in the kitchen.

I took Amora from him.

Me: "How's my baby girl doing? "

Of course she didn't reply but just looked at me.

Her eyes were greyish. They made her more beautiful.

Bandi: "Can we talk? "

Me: "I'm done talking with you Bandile, unless it has to do with our daughter "

He sighed.

Bandi: "I love you"

Me: "You don't know what you want "

Bandi: "Look, I understand that -"

I gave him the hand.

I made myself some cereal then gave Amora to him when I was done.

I kissed my baby, took my bag and left.

Surely I wasn't being unfair on him. I believe there's nothing wrong with being a little selfish.

Work was a drag, maybe because I was looking forward to the weekend and finally getting a break.

I had lunch with Sisanda, my colleague whom I called Sisa.

Sisa: "Gosh, I'm so tired"

I laughed.

Me: "You got here at 10, it's 12, the hell? "

Sisa: "I had a rough night "

She winked.

I laughed.

Me: "Say no more"



We talked until our lunch was over, with her telling me of her night

I had nothing to say though but I had no doubt that I made the right choice.

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BANDILE

I went to fetch Leonor but my mind wasn't there.

It really felt like Diana was breaking up with me and I couldn't imagine my life without her.

I mean, I really thought we were making progress but now

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she just broke things off out of the blue.

Was it because of Hugh? I mean, it all happened after he came over.

It was frustrating because she didn't give me any answers. I didn't know what I did wrong.

Me: "Josh, is she ready? "

Josh: "Greetings Mr Dlamini"

Me: "I'm not in the mood"

He laughed.

Josh: "It's not my fault you didn't get some in the morning "

Me: "You should stop being creepy"

Josh: "Just sign here then you can get them"

I signed then went to Leonor's room.

She was all ready, holding the baby.

Me: "She still doesn't have a name? "

Leonor: "This one is Autumn since Aphiwe has Summer "

I wanted to laugh.

Me: "Weird friendship you have there"

Leonor: "I love Autumn "

Me: "Mm. Let's go"

I took Autumn while she had her bag and we left.

Me: "We'll have to buy baby things"

Leonor: "I've spoken to my mother. She said they'll be delivered today "

Me: "That's good. Do you need anything? "

Leonor: "No. I just want to go home"

Me: "OK "

Days turned into weeks then months.

Diana was resolute about her decision. She didn't even melt under my touch. There was nothing that I hadn't tried to change my mind.

On the other hand, Leonor was basically obsessing over the wedding while I just wasn't there.

My mom had temporarily moved in to help with Autumn.

it was the second week of July, which meant that the wedding was less than a month away.

Autumn was two months old now and such a chubby baby. She had deep dimples and beautiful eyes.

She just didn't look at me so the doubt of her being mine was there.

I wasn't connecting with her like how I was with Amora but I was trying.

It was Friday and Craig and I were going out for drinks.

I found my mom in the lounge, while holding Autumn.

Mom: "O ya kae? "(where are you going)

Me: "Out"

Mom: "You're always out "

Me: "Mom, please. I'm too old for this "

Mom: "Just don't forget that you're about to be someone's husband "

Me: "I'm already married, in case you forgot "

Mom: "We both know that marriage isn't real"

Me: "Bye"

I didn't even wait for her to reply.

I don't know what she had against Diana.

Craig: "At least you showed up "

We did our handshake.

Me: "Yeah, I need a drink"

I got myself some whisky. We were at a club, in the VIP section.

Craig: "You and Diana still not talking? "

Me: "Bro, she's really done"

Craig: "You're still married so y'all still have a chance"

I shrugged.

Me: "I guess. I'm just a little scared. What if she finds someone?  
"

Craig: "I wish I could answer that. She's not the Diana that I met years back. She's grown now so I don't want to lie"

I sighed.

Me: "Let's drink man. This topic is depressing me"

He laughed.

Craig: "Cheers to that "

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LEONOR

"FORMER RUGBY PLAYER APPARENTLY MARRIED WITH A DAUGHTER"

I went over to read the article which had a picture of Bandile with Amora.

I had warned him about this but he never listened.

Diana was referred to as a mysterious woman while Bandile was painted as a polygamist.

The article was online.. I went to my social media to find myself tagged in many posts.

It was even making me dizzy.

My phone rang. It was my mother.

Me: "Mother "

Mom: "Is it true? Is he married? "

Me: "Well, morning Mom"

Dad: "Answer the question Leonor! "

Shit. I knew I was in shit when dad raised his voice.

It was a video call.

Me: "Yes. It's true"

Dad: "And you never told us?! How could you still be with him while he's married? He has a daughter with this woman and you're still there, being loyal?! "

Me: "Daddy, I love him"

I was crying now.

Mom: "That's not how we raised you baby. You should know your worth and that's not it"

Me: "He made a mistake. He's just married on paper "

Dad: "I'm coming to get you and Autumn and that's not up for debate "

Me: "Daddy"

Dad: "No. I'll see you tomorrow. I love you "

Me: "I love you too"

He hung up.

I just cried.

Bandi: "What's going on? "

I turned to look at him.

Me: "You finally remembered where you live? "

It was Sunday, he had left on Friday

Bandi: "Sorry baby "

Me: "Well, you're trending "

I threw my phone at him and wiped my tears.

Bandi: "Who leaked this? "

Me: "You think they'd reveal their source? "

Bandi: "I guess it wasn't bound to happen, sooner or later "

Me: "You don't even sound bothered "

Bandi: "It'll blow over soon"

Me: "Wow"

I really wasn't expecting him to react like that.

Me: "Dad is coming to fetch me tomorrow "

Bandi: "Why? "

Me: "Because of this. That's why"

Bandi: "Aren't you a bit old for that? "

Me: "Maybe I do need the break"

Bandi: "The wedding is just around the corner "

Me: "I know. I'll talk to him "

Bandi: "You better not leave with my daughter "

Me: "I'm leaving with her"

Bandi: "I wasn't asking you Leonor. Don't try and piss me off"

Me: "I'm not leaving my daughter behind. We wouldn't be in this situation if you hadn't cheated! "

Bandi: "You cheated on me while I was in a coma, fighting for my life. I don't even think Autumn is my daughter! "

Me: "What? "

Bandi: "Is she? "

I looked at him.

He was actually serious.



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LEONOR

Me: "I can't believe you now"

Bandi: "Just answer the question. Is Autumn mine? "

Me: "You know what Bandile, fine. She's not yours. You wanted to know, right? There it is. Now, if you'll excuse me. I have to pack things for my daughter and I "

I went to start packing, tears falling down my eyes.

I didn't know whether he believed me or not and I couldn't even bring myself to think about it.

I just wanted daddy here so he can take us home where I'll be able to cry myself peacefully to sleep.

Bandi: "She's not mine? "

I had even forgotten about him.

I didn't say anything to him but just walked out with my car keys in my hand.

I needed an escape.

I needed to breathe.

I had left my phone behind because I didn't want him calling me.

At this point I missed Hugh because he'd make me forget about all of this.

It would be even worse if he were to find out that the baby is his.

I had never imagined my life being this complicated at 22.

I went to Hugh's club. Good thing I wasn't breastfeeding.

The first thing I asked for was shooters. I needed them to take off the edge.

I didn't even feel the bitterness.

From there, I asked for vodka. I was just watching people have their fun while thinking about my rather unfavourable life.

I guess they were people like me, who were drinking early on Sunday.

"That's enough "

His voice said behind me.

I was sitting by the bar and the barman was just about to pour me another glass of vodka.

Me: "Really? "

I turned to look at him and he didn't look pleased.

The alcohol made me brave.

Hugh: "Your daughter is just two months, what the hell are you doing? "

Me: "You mean our daughter? You do know you didn't use protection moss"

I giggled after saying that. I guess I was more drunk than I thought.

I couldn't imagine trying to stand up.

His face was expressionless.

Hugh: "Did you come with your car? "

I nodded with a grin like a little kid.

Hugh: "Let's go"

Me: "I can't walk "

I said and laughed.

He just took me and put me over his shoulder.

I felt all kinds of shit.

I threw up immediately when he put me back on my feet outside.

I couldn't even maintain my posture.

I had never drunk like that before. My head was even spinning and it didn't help that it was sunny.

I woke up in a foreign place with a funny taste in my mouth.

I had a major headache that had me feeling like I had been hit by a train.

I only remembered throwing up after drinking like a fish and almost fainting.

I remembered Hugh and that's when it clicked that I might be in his place.

I got up from the bed. I went to find the bathroom then washed my face.

The house wasn't that big but it looked stylish.

I found him in the lounge and he looked up at me.

He was watching TV, topless.

Hugh: "Go pour yourself water from the fridge then come back so we can talk "

That surely sounded like an order.

I went to do as I was told then went back to him with the glass of water.

I needed to shower and brush my teeth but unfortunately, I wasn't home.

Hugh: "You said she's mine? "

Oh God, I really shouldn't have drank like that.

Regret just filled me up at that moment.

He looked very scary and intimidating.

I just nodded slowly.

Hugh: "And you never thought of telling me? "

Me: "I... Uhm... I'm sorry"

He nodded but did the unthinkable, he slapped me.

I held my chin as the tears fell. It hurt so much that I even felt dizzy.

Hugh: "Two months! Two fucken months of you keeping my daughter away from me. How dare you! "

Me: "I'm sorry "

I sobbed loudly.

Hugh: "I could kill you right now and raise my baby "

I could see and feel that he meant every word.

The thought of losing my child scared me more than that of dying.

Me: "Please don't! "

I begged. He stood up, running his hand through his short hair.

Hugh: "Go and get her! "

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "Don't make me fucken repeat that"

Me: "I can't "

I whispered. I was thinking not only of Bandile but his mom.

How was I going to explain myself when I get there?

Hugh: "Just get out. Leave! "

I stood up. He threw my car keys at me and luckily, I caught them.

I walked out with a tail between my legs.

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DIANA

Bandi: "She lied to me OK. "

Me: "Bandile, please "

Bandi: "I didn't think it would hurt. I mean I blamed myself. I felt bad that I couldn't connect with Autumn, that she didn't make me feel how Khanya made me feel. How could she? I was honest with her. About you, about the baby. She should have told me"

Me: "I'm sorry"

I said

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engulfing him in a hug while brushing his face.

He looked up at me. His head was on my lap now.

Bandi: "Kiss me please "

Me: "Bandile, I can't "

He sat up.

We were on the couch. He found me having wine while watching a movie.

Of course I let him in.

He looked distressed.

Bandi: "I need you Diana. Please "

I shook my head.

For the first time ever, it felt hard saying no to him.

Bandi: "You just going to let me suffer? I love you so much Diana. Don't you love me? "

Me: "I do"

It was too late for me to even take it back.

Of course I did. The past few months had been hell without him.

Sure, he'd come see Amora but it was hard not doing anything with him.

I was proud of myself though.

I had done good in resisting temptation.

I brushed his hair with my hand until he fell asleep.

He had gone back to my lap.

I put his head down on the couch gently then went to take a blanket for him.

After that, I went to sleep.

I didn't feel like going to work on Monday so I called in sick.

I knew Josh was going to be on my neck about it but he will just have to wait.

I found him up and staring into space.

Me: "Morning "

I said, coming down with Amora.

Bandi: "Morning. Shouldn't you be going to work? "

I shook my head.



Me: "I called in sick"

Bandi: "Why? "

Me: "Because you're not OK "

He looked at me and smile.

Bandi: "Thank you "

I nodded.

Me: "Take her so I can make breakfast"

He took Amora. She was seven months now and crawling.

She just grew more and more beautiful with each day.

I made breakfast for us and we ate over comfortable silence.

Me: "So, what does this mean? "

I asked after breakfast.

Bandi: "I'm still trying to process it. "

I nodded.

Me: "I hope you become OK. "

Bandi: "I will. "

Yes, I had a little hope That he'll get over it.

I never really thought that it was Hugh's child.

He probably didn't know too because he would have long mentioned it.

Of course it was obvious that it's his child since it wasn't Bandile's.

Leonor might be anything but she wasn't loose.

Bandi: "How about we go out? "

Me: "Is it safe? "

Aphiwe had sent me the article about Bandile and everything.

Good thing I wasn't on any social media other than whatsapp because I would have been trending too.

Bandi: "Where we're going, yes "

Me: "Do I need to pack? "

Bandi: "For Amora, yes"

Me: "OK "

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**BANDILE**

Will it be wrong for me to think of this as a blessing in disguise?

I spent the whole day with my wife and child and I enjoyed it.

It helped take my mind off things.

Unfortunately, I had to go home.

I dropped them off in the evening. It was around 10pm and Khanya had long fallen asleep.

I kissed their foreheads, made sure their tucked in then left.

I knew that Leonor was gone since her father was fetching her.

In the morning, a Tuesday, I was going to work.

I found mom in the kitchen, making breakfast.

Me: "Morning "

Mom: "So you let them leave? "

Me: "Mom, please "

Mom: "You both need serious prayers. What did you guys fight about that had Leonor coming home at night on Sunday and you sleeping out yesterday? "

Me: "I think it's time you went home"

Mom: "You're chasing me out? "

Me: "Autumn is not my child OK. You didn't accept Amora like this yet you treated Autumn like your own"

Mom: "What do you mean she's not your child? "

Me: "Leonor cheated on me when I was in a coma. "

Mom: "What? "

Me: "I'll have breakfast on the way "

Mom: "Bandile"

I just walked away.

Mom loved Leonor too much and didn't even try to accept Diana.

She had to know that she's not a saint.

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My eyes are killing me guys, yoh.

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LEONOR

I arrived home feeling like a piece of shit.

Dad had probably been calling. I had spent the night at the hotel.

I was welcomed by cries all over the house. I can't believe I even forgot I have a daughter.

Somehow I knew I no longer had a place in that house and was partially glad that dad was coming to fetch me.

It was Tuesday so I knew he was still around because he couldn't find me. He'd never leave without me.

I knew I'll have to come clean about everything sooner or later but for now, I just couldn't.

Kitso: "You finally decided to come face your demons? "

Me: "Morning "

Kitso: "I'm really disappointed in you Leonor"

I sighed.

Me: "He told you? "

Kitso: "You hurt him. You hurt my son"

Me: "Bandile also hurt me Ma. I did what I did because I was hurt. He's worse because it wasn't just a baby, he married her and I know he's been sleeping with her even now"

Kitso: "You guys can fix this. I know you can "

Me: "Did my father come here? "

I wasn't in the mood to talk about that issue because it was seriously weighing down on me.

Kitso: "He said you should call him. I was just waiting for one of you. I'm leaving "

I nodded and went to check up on my wailing daughter.

To think Kitso didn't even bother checking up on her.

I guess it was because she knew she's not her granddaughter.

I did call upon my father who was just at a nearby hotel and he told me that he's on his way.

I had bathed Autumn and dressed her up.

I really didn't know how I was going to manage looking after her.

Good thing I had hired a manager for the store. How I wished I could hire one for my own life.

Our things were packed too.

Dad came into the bedroom.

Dad: "Morning baby"

We shared a hug that almost made me cry. I broke it before it got there.

Dad: "Are you ready? "

I nodded. I took Autumn while he took my luggage. It was one suitcase and one big bag.

We went down the stairs. Kitso was still here and just looking at us.

Dad: "I bought her a car chair "

Me: "Thank you daddy, even though she has it"

Dad: "It's for my car "

I rolled my eyes laughing.

This was really happening.

I looked outside the window as we drove out.

I never thought I'd go back home like this. I never imagined it.

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DIANA

Josh: "It's good to see you've recovered "

Me: "Don't act like you don't know why I wasn't here"

Josh: "I don't. I only know of you being sick unless I'm missing something "

Me: "Play it like that, it's fine"

He laughed.

Josh: "Wow, you're something else. I wonder why I wasn't the one who got you "

Me: "Are you flirting with me? "

Josh: "Hey, I'm just thinking out loud "

He said, shrugging. I chuckled.

Me: "Yeah right"

Josh: "But really, we'd be a good match"

Me: "True but I don't want mixed babies"

I said, then did a tongue out.

Josh: "You're racist"

Me: "Sore loser"

He just laughed, walking out.

I went back to my work.

I had a lot of clients which I needed to attend to.



I received a call from Lunga during my lunch break.

He cried immediately when I picked up.

Me: "Baby! "

Lunga: "It hurts so much Dee"

Me: "What's going on? "

Lunga: "He left me. Luke left me"

Me: "What? "

I was beyond shocked. I never saw that one coming.

He just sobbed more.

Me: "What happened? "

He was breaking my heart. His cry was piercing through my heart.

He even had hiccups and believe me, Lunga has never cried for a man before.

He loved Luke, too much in my own opinion so I knew how much this was breaking him.

Lunga: "I wish you were here "

Me: "What did you do? "

I knew it was something he did from how he diverted from my question.

Lunga: "I didn't do anything "

Me: "You seem to forget that I know you. You're my best friend "

He sighed.

Lunga: "It's just... He found me in a compromising position with an ex of mine"

Me: "Which one? "

Lunga: "Louis "

Me: "Lunga! "

Louis was an ex of his who he was in an on and off relationship with over the years.

He was his first love and all that bullshit.

Lunga: "He thinks I'm still in love with him. That's why he left"

Me: "Well

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are you? "

He sniffed.

Lunga: "I'm confused "

Me: "Fix it"

Lunga: "I will. Of course I will but how when he's not here? "

Me: "Did he Leave with Travis? "

Lunga: "No"

Me: "Then you have a chance. Stay away from Louis. That son of a bitch broke your heart and turned you into a hoe"

He laughed.

Lunga: "Yes mom"

Me: "You've come so far with Luke and he loves you. Vele, what were you doing with Louis? "

Lunga: "We had been talking then he came to my office and... Yeah"

Me: "You're hiding something but it's OK. Wait for Luke to calm down then talk to him"

Lunga: "Thank you babe. I feel so much better "

Me: "You're welcome. I love you "

Lunga: "I love you too"

"So you love him? "

That was Luke's voice there so I hung up and just laughed after.

Yeah NEH

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LEONOR

It was now Friday and I had blended in well back at home.

I missed Bandile so much but I had switched off my phone.

I didn't want to have to deal with anything.

The media or my "demons" as Kitso called them.

I took a bath. It was still in the morning and I had just woken up.

After bathing, I wore leggings with a hoodie and uggs. I tied my hair into a bun then went to the kitchen for breakfast.

I was hungry.

Me: "What's for.. "

I immediately stopped on my tracks.

The maid was laughing at whatever he had said. My heart started beating very fast.

He noticed me then stared at me.

Me: "Wh... What do you want? "

He looked at the maid who excused herself.

Hugh: "I'm here for my daughter "

Me: "What? "

Hugh: "You heard me. Go get me my daughter! "

Me: "No, you're not taking her away from me"

I was scared but I had to stand my ground.

He just pushed me and went up the stairs. I was crying on the floor when he came with her.

Hugh: "Nxa, and you called her by a season. Sies! "

I watched him leave with my daughter and felt like my heart was taken away too.

My mom was the first to come, finding me in the same position.

My tears had even dried.

Mom: "Baby"

Me: "He took her. He took my baby "

Mom: "What? Who? Bandile? "

I shook my head as I cried. Dad followed shortly after.

Dad: "What's going on? "

Mom: "She says someone took Autumn"

Dad: "Who? "

Me: "It's uhm... Her father"

They just hugged me.

Dad: "We'll get her back baby. We will"

I just sobbed.

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BANDILE

I was in my office, about to pack up when two cops barged in.

Me: "And nou? "

It was on Monday and I had been working late because I dreaded going to my house.

It was just empty and Diana on the other hand didn't want me sleeping over.

Leonor's father also came.

Him: "We want Autumn"

I laughed. They must be crazy.

Me: "Do You See her here? "

Him: "You're the one who invaded our home on Friday and took him"

Me: "She's not my daughter, why would I do that? "

Him: "What? "

Me: "Actually, that sounds like something Hugh would do. "

Him: "Hugh? "

Me: "That's Autumn's father. Now, if you would excuse me"

I walked out, leaving them in my office with their mouths hanging. I just laughed.

I had just taken a shower after dinner when I received a text on my phone. It was Leonor.

"The wedding is off. Someone will come tomorrow to fetch the rest of my stuff. For what it's worth, I'm sorry "

I tried calling her but it took me straight to voicemail.

I guess she was never coming back.

I could imagine how she was feeling, being without her daughter. I knew I'd die if I were to lose Khanya.

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One more insert left then we're done??

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A YEAR LATER

LEONOR

A lot had happened during the previous year.

Things between my parents and I just weren't the same after Hugh came into the picture.

They thought of him as a mere thug and were very disappointed that I'd get involved with someone like him.

I was just glad that they didn't make me feel bad for cheating on Bandile but they scolded me for it.

It was even harder when it came to Autumn. They loved her yes, but she was living with Hugh now which meant they were forced to communicate with him whenever they wanted to do something for her.

I had to spend two months without seeing my daughter after Hugh took her and I knew he was punishing me for the two months he had missed.

He wanted to make it more because I didn't tell him about the pregnancy but because I also didn't know that he was the father, he became lenient.



I was a mess in those two months that I hardly ate and cried myself to sleep.

Anyway, I learned my lesson and I was grateful to be part of my daughter's life again.

That's all I ever wanted and he gave me that.

I also had to adapt to a life without Bandile, which wasn't easy.

He didn't beg me after I called off the wedding or even call to find out why I did it. He just let me be and I swear that hurt.

On the other hand, Hugh wasn't even entertaining me.

I had went back to Sandton because of my store and my parents had allowed it after I spent the year at home.

I had found an apartment and was moving now.

Mom came after I had showered. My things had already left to my apartment. It was just me.

Mom: "Are you sure you're ready to go back? "

I nodded.

Me: "I'm getting my life back Ma "

She smiled at me and gave me a tight hug.

Mom: "I wish you all the best. Maybe now you can finally get back to dating"

I laughed. I hadn't been interested in that.

I mean, after all I had been through, I had to figure myself out. I needed to.

Me: "I just know I'll be more choosy now"

She laughed.

Mom: "As long as he's not a thug. You never know who's really meant for you"

Me: "Well, I'm not in any rush"

Landing at the airport, I knew this was it.

I was happy because I'd be closer to my daughter now. She was a year old now and learning to walk.

Hugh: "Welcome back "

I groaned. He couldn't even fake a smile.

I was surprised when he took my luggage bag.

It wasn't that big. I just followed him to his car.

Me: "Where's Autumn? "

He clenched his jaw. He hated that name.

Hugh: "Esihle is with my mother "

I kept quiet. That woman was just something else. She would always talk Xhosa in my presence, making me feel so left out because I couldn't hear anything.

I wasn't even surprised when he drove to where my apartment was

That's Hugh for you.

Hugh: "Don't you think we should go test the bed? "

It was my first time being here. I had made the purchase online.

It was spacious and also fit for a toddler. I was content.

Me: "I wouldn't dare make that mistake. Thanks for picking me up"

Hugh: "You always say that but do the opposite. It's a pleasure "

Me: "Yeah right "

Hugh: "Remember Esihle's first birthday party? "

I groaned, remembering that day. He chuckled.

Hugh: "Anyway, I'll see you baby mama "

That was something I hoped my parents never find out about.

Life is just one unpredictable mother fucker.

I didn't know what life held for me as an independent single mother but I was willing to explore it.

I had learned from my past mistakes and looking forward to whatever the future had in store for me.

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BANDILE

Me: "Let the kids be "

She shook her head and spanked their hands. They both came running to me, with tears falling down their eyes.

They'd fall but get right up. I picked them up and tried wiping their tears.

Me: "Sorry boys. Mom is just going through a phase"

Romeo: "Stop insulting my wife "

I laughed as he roughed up the boys' hair.

Romeo: "How's everything going? "

Me: "I honestly don't think it's necessary but Diana is fucken stubborn "

He laughed.

Romeo: "She's really something else "

Me: "But I love her. Sometimes I think she does it because she knows I can't say no to her "

Romeo: "You're fucken whipped"

Wandile: "I agree"

He said, coming from the house.

It was Khanya's second birthday party which I didn't think was necessary but Diana wasn't having any of it.

Wandile: "I think you should go check up on her"

Me: "Eish before she comes here and makes me feel bad for just talking to y'all "

They laughed as I went into the house.

Me: "Diana?! "

I went up the stairs and found her in her bedroom.

Diana: "Good, you're here"

Me: "What's up? "

Diana: "I need you to go pick up my mom from the taxi rank. I can't do it obviously because I'm waiting for the cake"

Me: "Don't you get tired of ordering me around? "

Diana: "She's your daughter too, in case you forgot "

Me: "I wouldn't dare. How's our son? "

Diana: "You're still here? "

I laughed and kissed her cheek then her stomach.

He kicked furiously and I heard her groan.

Me: "I love you"

Diana: "Just go before I start hating you"

I walked away with a grin.

She made me feel like it was my first time being in love.

Was it even possible?

God knows how much I had to sweat before she finally gave me a chance. After Leonor called off the wedding, I knew it was a sign for me to get what's back what's meant for me.

Of course she kept chasing me out but I never gave up.

She eventually got tired and things went back to our casual encounters until she fell pregnant and I think that's what made her decide to take me seriously.

Her mother had a lot of luggage as always.

I put everything in my trunk then we left.

She was being her bubbly self, busy talking about her husband who was only Coming tomorrow.

Her: "I wonder if he knows that I have men approaching me. I don't have to deal with his shit"

I laughed. She just sounded like Diana.

She was probably driving the husband crazy.

Her: "And how's my daughter? When are you giving her a proper wedding? "

Me: "Soon but it's a surprise "

Her: "Good because you can't keep making her pregnant "

I laughed.

Me: "But we're married "

Her: "You only paid lobola three months back. Relax "

Such a drama queen.

We had our traditional wedding then with the lobola.

Of course she was going to get her fairytale wedding.

She deserved it. She had been patient with me

Advertisement

kept herself even when she didn't and remained loyal to me even when I was forcing things with Leonor.

I don't know why I never truly acknowledged my love for her  
the first time I feel for her.

She wouldn't have been with my brother or that douche Hugh  
but I guess everything happened as it should.

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GINA

Me: "I can't believe we're doing this again "

I said, fixing his tie.

He chuckled and perked my lips.

X: "Let's hope this time, our fathers will get along "

I laughed.

Me: "But they're entertaining. The death stares they always  
give each other"

X: "Don't be heartless baby "

We both laughed.

He cupped my face and kissed me.

X: "I love you and I thank you for fighting for our love "

I smiled.

Me: "I'd do it over and over again "



X: "Mm, I'm blessed. My parents should have called me Sbusiso"

I laughed.

Me: "Let's go baby"

Travis: "Finally! "

He said, stumping his little foot.

My baby boy had always been impatient. It was worse now that he was growing.

Surprisingly, the dinner went well.

My father had finally accepted Xolani and his father had warmed up to me.

The two men just didn't get along because of whatever history they had.

X's father hated my father and didn't hide it. Unfortunately, the feeling was mutual.

X: "It was amazing, right? "

I nodded.

Me: "Diana must be so mad at me for missing the party"

He laughed.

X: "I'm sure she'll understand "

Me: "It was a big deal to her. I hope she understands "

He kissed my forehead.

X: "Stop worrying. Hugh told me it went well and she received our gift "

Me: "Don't you think this is worth a celebration? "

X: "I love how you think "

I giggled.

I looked at him and saw how blessed I was. This man made me brave. He made me stand up for myself and for what I believed in.

There was no doubt that he was my future and I was happy.

We stuck together through thick and thin and I didn't regret it.

Did I think I'd find love like this? No and even now, I still can't believe it.

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DIANA

Me: "I wish I was as sloshed as you "

He laughed and kissed my cheek.

Lunga: "You decided to get pregnant "

I frowned.

Me: "So much for being my best friend "

Remo: "At least I'm also not drinking "

She said, lifting her glass of juice.

Me: "Wena you're too submissive, that's why"

Lunga: "And wena you've made yourself a bull"

I chuckled.

Me: "Argh, let me be. My husband loves me just like this"

Lunga: "Your husband. Yes girl "

We all laughed.

It was after the party and we were chilling and having some drinks.

I was due to give birth in March. I was just six months pregnant with a boy.

Me: "Nare why are you and Luke delaying? "

Lunga: "We're not. He feels I'm not ready"

I laughed.

Me: "You sound like a virgin "

Remo: "No guys, please "

Lunga and I laughed. The way she didn't like talking about sex.

Lunga: "I thought marriage will tame you. Phela your man is a beast "

Marcus had left immediately after the party with the kids.

Aphiwe also had to leave and Hugh.

I was just grateful for the support. Of course my mother was still here. Probably sleeping.

Bandile had went out with Craig and the other guys.

Remo: "I'm still me"

She said, shrugging.

Me: "So, has he ever tied you up? Handcuffed you or burned you with candle wax? How about whipping your bare ass? "

Lunga: "Mm, I miss my man "

Remo: "Guys! "

We laughed.

To think we were still friends even now. I swear I'd die if I were to lose any of these two.

I almost cried when they had to leave.

I hugged them and waved as they got into Lunga's car.

Getting back into the house, I switched off all the lights then went to my bedroom. "Baby"

Me: "Mm? "

I still had my eyes closed.

He shook me and I slowly opened my eyes.

Bandi: "Let's go" Me: "Where? "

Bandi: "Our honeymoon "

Me: "You woke me up for jokes? "

He literally picked me up bridal style and went down the stairs with me.

Some guy opened the door of the Limo and he put me in.

I was too sleepy to say anything.

Oh Bandile and his unnecessary spending. I didn't see the need for it but he played deaf to my scoldings.

Me: "Where? " Bandi: "Let's just say, we having a white Christmas " Me: "For real? "

He nodded with a grin. I smiled.

Me: "I'm impressed "

He chuckled and kissed my lips.

Bandi: "So, are we getting married for real after you give birth?"

Me: "Yeah, top billing and shit"

He laughed. Bandi: "I love you"

I yawned. Me: "I love you too"

.....**THE END**.....

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