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Arranged Marriage: The beast Within by Portia Mx2

Description : Kea is an accounting student who has been living a nightmare for the past six years caused by her monster of a stepmother. One day in a hurry she passes through the mysterious only to regret her decision. Will her life change for the better or is it the beginning of her nightmare? Also what about that mysterious guy who came out of nowhere?

Prologue 1/2 Hi my name is Kearabetswe Primrose Mokoena and I'm 20 years old. I'm a 2nd year Accounting student. I live with my stepmother (Nthabiseng Mokoena 46) my stepsister (Palesa Violet Mokoena 24) she's actually my half sister but sometimes it doesn't feel like it; my niece Dintle 5 and nephew Tshepo8. My father Patrick Mokoena died six years ago. You're probably wondering where my mother is. Well I don't know if she's dead or alive. All I know is that she was this coloured woman who my father cheated with and left me after giving birth. You're probably wondering what I look like. Well since my mom was coloured that means I'm a yellow bone big brown eyes Sponsored big brown eyes average height small waist curvy medium boobs basically I'm an hourglass shape. I live at home because step-monster had a lot issues regarding other accommodation. Besides the University is not that far but I do take a taxi though. At least my bursary covers my taxi fares. But the taxi drops me far from home which brings me to now. I'm late because we were studying late and I lost track of time. Step-monster will flip when I get home. I do know a shortcut but it is scary because the so called shortcut was the woods. My house is right at the other side of the wood if I pass it I'll be there in no time but it is scary cauz I don't know what's out there. But going around it means travelling for about 10km (Maybe I'm exaggerating) and I can't afford to be later than I already am. I can do it... I'll just

have to run. I regretted my decision as soon as I was deep into the woods. I heard weird sounds that I've never heard before. Was it growling or howling. I hope it's not a wolf but we don't have those things in mzansi especially not in kasi but who knows right. I had two choices go back or continue. I can't go back cauz I was already far so I decided to continue but how I wish I hadn't... To be continued... Prologue 2/2 Right in front of me was a beast like creature. It looked like a wolf or a lion or was it a dog I don't know. All I know is that I've never such a creature in my life. It was busy mauling this poor guy. It was digging its claw in the guy's right arm ready to rip it apart. I think he was already unconscious because he wasn't screaming or moving. I wanted to run but it seems like I was frozen in one place. The creature noticed me and turned towards me. Adrenaline kicked in and I ran back but it was short-lived because Bang! Face first I fell. I don't know where the rock came from. "serif"; mso-bidi-font-family:"Times New Roman">I wanted to run but it seems like I was frozen in one place. The creature noticed me and turned towards me. Adrenaline kicked in and I ran back but it was short-lived because Bang! Face first I fell. I don't know where the rock came from. Suddenly every hair in my body started standing. And I could fell panting or breathing behind me. As I turned suddenly I was pinned down by the creature. I closed my eyes on instinct. I heard heaving breathing and panting next to my face. My pulse was raising and my heart was beating so fast I could almost hear it. I opened my eyes and came face to face with the creature. And OH MY GOD I THINK I'M GOING TO DIE!!!... 01 I have never ever seen such beautiful eyes in my life. Crimson red eyes staring right at me. There were piercing my soul searching it. My pulse was racing but I wasn't scared in fact I felt safe. I must be losing my mind. Here I am pinned down by a beast and I feel... safe? Finally it got off me and left leaving me frozen and mesmerized by it. I could've sworn I didn't want it to leave me. See! I told u I was losing my mind. I got out of my daze when I saw the man lying there unconscious. I ran away like my life depended on it. I rushed home when I got there my so called family were sitting in the living room but God knows I didn't have it in me to face them. I quickly went to my room. I lay in my bed curled up and silently crying my eyes out. Oh God what did I just witness? What about the guy... is he still alive or is he dead? How could I have just left him lying there all alone? What if he was still alive and I could've saved him? I have to go back. I wiped my tears and got off the bed ready to go back but I was stopped by a ringing in my left ear and a stinging in my left cheek. Smack! Again Sponsored ready to go back but I was stopped by a ringing in my left ear and a stinging in my left cheek. Smack! Again what is wrong with this woman SM (Stepmom): "The nerve you have! You come home late in my own house and go straight to bed. Who do you think you are?" She was seething veins popping out. Me: "I know I'm late but I have to go back." Smack! Seriously I don't have time for this. I have to save that man. SM: "So now you're the madam of this house who goes in and out whenever she wants huh? You didn't even cook. Who do you expect to cook when you don't?" Me: "You're darling daughter. She doesn't work nor does she attend school all she do..." Smack! I was interrupted by another slap. SM: "Listen you brat this is my house." Me: "It's my father's house no..." Smack! I swear if I had a penny every time she slaps me I would be a millionaire. SM: "You're nothing but a bastard. The daughter of a hoe who goes around sleeping with married men and leaves her bastard child behind. This is the thanks I get for taking you in? You ungrateful daughter of a hoe." Right now my cheeks are burning from all the slaps I received and my eyes were starting to sting from all the crying. I didn't say anything nor did I have a comeback from that. She took my silence as indication to continue "You're not going anywhere. You're going to go to the kitchen and prepare a

nice meal for the family as you owe us for taking you in even though your mother almost wrecked my marriage." She straightened herself and went out of the room. I wanted to fall on my knees and cry myself until the morning but I couldn't because even though she's cruel and a monster she was right I owe her. My mother almost wrecked her marriage and she did leave me alone. If Nthabiseng was any other woman she would've left me to fend for myself after my father died. I was fourteen at the time but she didn't throw me out and I should be grateful. I straightened myself wiped my tears and went to the kitchen. I decided to cook penne and tomato paste because it was already past supper time to cook something complicated. As I was busy making dinner my two favourite little angles came in. Tshepo: "What are you cooking aunty?" He was grinning like an idiot and I couldn't help myself but smile at his cuteness. Me: "Penne and Tomato paste." Dintle: "We can help aunty." Oh gosh their innocence always brightens my day. Me: "Okay sweet cheeks. Tshepo can you get the tomato puree for me please." As Tshepo was busy looking for the tomato puree Dintle was helping me wash the tomatoes. Tshepo: "I can't find it aunty." Me: "Just get the tomato sauce." Tshepo came with the tomato sauce and we started preparing dinner. I am grateful to have these two around because they are the only light in my gloomy life.

02 I wake up to my alarm at 4:00. I feel terrible and not to mention the stupid throbbing headache I was feeling. I always wake up around this time everyday because even though my classes starts at 10:50 I still have a lot to do like cleaning the house prepare a bath for step-monster bath the kids make breakfast clean the dishes bath and then take the kids to their bus stop while their mother is snoring away only then will I be heading to the University. Anyway it's not like I slept peacefully with the reoccurring nightmares I kept having of the event of last night in the woods. I would relive that moment over and over but this time I was the victim. I would jerk away every time but at least the kids didn't wake up. How I wish I could go back to being a kid. Worrying about nothing and being oblivious to everything. I forced myself off the bed and went to look at my reflection in the mirror because I know judging from the way I felt I didn't look any better. Holly crap I look awful. My eyes are swollen and puffy from the crying and I didn't exactly get to have my beauty sleep. I'm beginning to curse my complexion right now because I look like shit. Damn it! I don't even have the right make-up to hide this. I only have BB cream and lip gloss; I guess sunglasses Sponsored a beanie and shawl will suffice. I can't stand here any longer when I have so much to do. As I pass the woods on my way to University I see a lot of police cars and a few ambulances and it looks like the press is also present. Thank God it looks like someone found him. I hope he's still alive because I don't think I'll be able to live with myself if he isn't. I walk away quickly before hearing anything else. I don't want to be traumatised and struggle during my classes. I'll hear everything on the news later then I'll deal with my trauma. Does that make me selfish? Narrated At one of the mansions in Sandton the two brothers are in their father's study casually chatting and laughing. Their laughter was interrupted by their fuming father who just entered the study. Father: "I'm glad you're all happy and joyous. What is the meaning of this?" He hands them his tablet which has an article that's been trending since the early hours of today. The younger brother seems to recall what the article was about. "Judging from your horrid expression I don't have to guess which one of you was responsible for this." He said looking at the younger brother. Young Bro: "I can explain da..." he was interrupted by his father's slap. Father: "Explain what exactly? Since when do you run rampage on the streets and leave a victim alive at

that?" It was the older brother's time to be horrified. Old Bro: "He did what? Look bro you need to control your edges." Young Bro: "Look I'm not like you. You know I can't control myself in that state. I don't know what happened okay there was someone there and I don't know I just couldn't do anything I j..." he was shouting but stopped himself when realised what he said and the look on his brother and father told him he shouldn't have. Old Bro: "A witness bro?" Father: "A witness? How many times should I tell you to grow up? Stop acting on your emotions. I'm sick and tired of always cleaning up after your mess. You're such an irresponsible and incompetent fool." His father started punching him. He pushed his father seething with anger. Young Bro: "Don't talk like it is my fault when it's yours. If it wasn't for your lust for power none of this would've happened." He composes himself and it took everything in him to. "Relax taima I'm capable of cleaning my own mess. I will handle this on my own and in my own way." He then walks away leaving the two surprised.

03 I wish I could say my day so far has been great. I couldn't concentrate during my lessons and not to mention the stares I got from my over the top look. I'm not someone who has a complicated fashion sense but rather simple is my style and today it was a mess. It didn't help that I was jumpy; even a small movement startled me. "I didn't know one can get a hangover from studying." I jumped up from my seat in the cafeteria drawing everyone's attention. I turned to see my two best friends already taking their seat. Me: "You'll give me a heart attack. Why can't you be normal?" I said with my hand over my chest. "Seriously Rosy Kay is that how u great your bitches?" Ladies and these are my friends. Puleng Precious Pule aka Coloured Pea or Puli. She's the only one of us who's pure and not half or quarter anything. She's pure Sotho while I'm only half. Then we have our princess even her name says so; Zoe Nkosazana Dlamini aka Princess Zee. She's half Xhosa and the other is coloured. We've been friends since our first year. I met Zee during our orientation and we clicked right away. Then we met Puleng two weeks after the classes started. We're all doing the same degree. Unlike me Zee lives in her own penthouse that her parents bought for her. Her family is one of the richest in SA. They own a lot of accounting firms law firms trading companies all over Mzansi and they have shares almost everywhere. I mean the girl has her own Ferrari. However she's not a spoiled brat but rather humble. Then it's Puleng who lives in her own bachelor pad. Her family is well known in Bloemfontein because her father owns a trading company while her mother is a headmistress at one the schools there. She's a dynamite ready to detonate anytime you get on her bad side and she will show you fire hence the nickname. "serif"; mso-bidi-font-family:Helvetica">Yep my friends are rich but they don't make me feel out of place. Instead they're wonderful people whom I'm glad to have in my life. Puleng: "You need to chill bra. What actually happened to you? You look like crap. If I didn't know you I would have thought you got a hangover from partying on a Tuesday. " Zoe: "She's right you look awful." She said chuckling. Me: "Thanks girlfriend." I said sarcastically. Puleng: "She's just pulling your leg this one. But on a serious note. What's really going on? Trouble in paradise?" I sighed because I don't know how to tell them what really happened. Me: " I know... well stepmon happened." Stepmon is the name we gave my stepmother aka step-monster. Zoe: "When does she not happen? But you've never gotten this way." Eish I was busted there. I took off my 'disguise' Me: "Yeah she always slaps me but not this much I swear my cheeks are still burning. And besides she also reminded me how much I'm unwanted." Zoe: "Come on Rosy Kay we love you and want you. You know what scratch that we don't just want you but we need you." She said pulling me into a hug. Puleng: "She's right Kay you're our

friend and we love you. Besides you shouldn't let what that witch says to get to you. But now we should fix that mess you call a face." She says taking out her make-up kit which goes with her everywhere she goes like Zoe also does. They both started hiding the mess that was my face right now. I look at myself in the mirror once they're done and I have to say I look decent. But I'm still going to put my sunglasses on because my eyes only need Jesus right now.

04 Zoe: "Guys I have great news. My brother and his friends decided to have some shisanyama at my place. He had a fight with his girlfriend and now he's crashing at my place." She said as we were heading back to our classes. Me: "Good for you. Enjoy your shisanyama." Zoe: "You don't get it. I want you guys to have a sleepover at my place. See I have a crush on one of his friend and I think it's mutual but he won't act on it because of my brother. I want you Rosy Kay to keep my brother occupied." Puleng: "I can do it. Is he the young or the older one." Eish this one can't let a pant pass by without having a taste. Zoe: "The middle one but he has a girlfriend. Hence I didn't say you you can hook up with one of his friends." Puleng: "You can't blame me for trying besides we haven't met any of your brothers." She said pouting. This is one is drama shem... but she was right we haven't met any of Zoe's brothers. We only know that she has three of them. But still... Me: "I would love to but right now I'm not in the good books with stepmon. So I don't think I'll make it." Zoe: "You'll come up with some special credit story. Please I need you. I can't let this chance pass. Ok take this." She said taking out 6 R50 notes. "Buy something to butter her up. And don't refuse my money cauz I'm only doing this for a favour." Me: "Ok fine. I'll see what I can do. And besides I can use a weekend away." I said as we entered our class. I got off the taxi dreading going back home. Not because of stepmon but because it meant passing the woods. As I was approaching the woods I saw a beast. Not like yesterday Sponsored he was human. It was a tall well built guy and handsome was an understatement. Not to mention he smelled like money. Well I can't smell him cause he was still a little bit far but he was wearing a Gucci t-shirt a Gucci cap I think his sneakers are also Gucci but what gave way was his Lamborghini Urus (I saw one in one of the catalogues that's always laying around in Zoe's penthouse and I remember it because I always thought Lamborghinis are sports cars only) he was leaning against it. Him: "Hey beautiful stranger." He said as I was passing him. To say I was shocked was an understatement because boy was he handsome. He's someone who wouldn't take a second glance at me. No it's not me and my low self-esteem talking you would understand if you saw him. He even looks out of place standing there. Me: "Are you perhaps talking to me?"

05 I can't believe it. Did he just call me beautiful or perhaps I'm mistaken. Me: "Are you perhaps talking to me?" I asked stupefied dead on my tracks. Him: "Is there any other beautiful stranger standing in front of me." He smiled his toothy grin and boy did my heart stop at that moment. Me: "Okay hi!" My voice came out as a squeak. I awkwardly made my way passed him. He grabbed my arm and that sent chills running down my entire body. Him: "I was thinking of giving you a ride." He said with his hand still on my arm. Me: "And I'm stupid." I said sarcastically and the handsome idiot just chuckled. That sure did numbers on me. Him: "I didn't mean it like that. I meant an innocent ride to your house. Look I need someone to talk to." Me: "Why don't you talk to your friends or someone who cares. I'm not about jump into a stranger's car." I jerked out of his grip because I know if it lingered I might lose all my rational sense. Him: "My name is Daniel and my friends wouldn't

understand. My problem is woman related and I thought about to a woman and you happen to be the only one I see." I turn around and surely we were the only ones. I sighed. Me: "Fine. If you want to talk we can do it here." Him: "We could but I don't want to delay you getting home especially with that paper bag you're holding." He pointed to the KFC paper bag I was holding. Yeah I had decided to buy KFC Family Treat and two litre Coke and buns which were in my backpack. However he was right I couldn't afford to be late today. Me: "Fine but if you try anything I'll kill you. Actually let me take your picture and post it on Facebook that way people will know who the last person to see me was alive." I had him hold my KFC while I took out my phone and took a picture of him together with his car and another one which was a headshot. I didn't post them on Facebook because I was out of airtime but I'll act like I did. Daniel: "Okay let's go then. Tell me your name and I'll also take your picture and do the same." He took out his phone and started taking multiple pictures. Yoh this guy mara. this guy mara. We got into his car and boy did it smell great. Now that I think about it it smells just like him and his smell is intoxicating. We spent the whole ride talking. More like he was the one doing the talking because I wasn't really into it and he did say he needed an outlet. He told me about his "woman problem" and also about his headstrong father who always disapproves of his decisions. I told him to drop me four houses from home because I didn't want nosy neighbours to start unnecessary rumours about me and secondly because I couldn't afford any stepmon drama. Him: "Don't I get a goodbye kiss?" He was pouting when he said that. Eish this guy mara. I was really tempted though but he had a girlfriend and I know he was only joking. That's something I realised about him... he is really playful. Me: "In your dreamz buddy." Him: "Okay fine... but let's at least exchange numbers." And we did just that. I'm not really this forward around guys. If it were any other guy I would've left them in the dust ages ago. I got out of the car and wave before heading home (If I should call it that) I entered and stepmon was already inside. Guess she knocked off early. I greeted and went to the kitchen. I put the bag on the kitchen aisle then took out the Coke and the buns out of my bag. I put the Coke in the fridge. I went back in the lounge and it was time to put on an act. I need all the luck I get right now because everything rides on my success to put on a convincing act. 06 Me: "I'm so sorry MmaMokoena. I know that I was very disrespectful you and you didn't deserve it. You have been nothing but kind to me. I know if it were anyone else they would've thrown me out and I'm very sorry." She eyed me from head to toe probably looking for sincerity. I had the tear works going on and I did mean it. I'm thankful but not apologetic. It's true I owe her my life but she didn't have to act that way yesterday without asking for reasoning. I saw a smile creeping in and I knew she took the bait. Her: "Was that KFC that I saw." She finally said. I grinned knowing I got her. Me: "Yes MmaMokoena." Her: "Don't worry my child I forgave you long time ago. Now the kids are in their room. (Mind you the so called kid's room is actually mine but I don't mind cauz they're angels) I'll go put the KFC in the fridge." She said heading to the kitchen. Yeah I know she actually means taking a piece... so predictable. I went to my room or the kid's room as she so graciously put it. I found my little angels playing with their toys on the mat. When they saw me they rushed to me each hugging each leg. Me: "How was school my little angels and guess what I bought." We sat down on the mat. Dintle: "Sophia?" Oh this one and princesses. Me: "No sweetheart... but it has to do with food." Tshepo: "Is it sushi?" Okay that's a first. Me: "Since when are you into seafood?" They looked at me like I just grew another head. Dintle: "What is that aunty?" Me: "It's any food that comes from the sea." I tried the easiest explanation I could get. Well they still looked at me confused. "Ocean like

fish." Dintle: "Fish comes from the ocean?" Oh boy how do I handle this? Me: "Some are. Why did you want sushi Tshepo?" I quickly changed the topic cauz these two are inquisitive. Tshepo: "My friends were talking about it." Me: "Okay love. Well I bought KFC and maybe next time I might buy that sushi of yours." To say he was overjoyed would be an understatement. Dintle: "And Sophia?" she chirped in excitedly. Me: "And Sophia." I actually for their smiles. ~~~~~ It was around seven when we were busy having supper and everyone seemed happy. It's now or never. Me: "Um I have a field trip this weekend. It's for a special credit and I was wondering if I could go." I could see a gleam of anger and I knew I had to do something. "Don't worry I'll leave the house spotless and I'll even wash the laundry before I go. Our classes on Friday are cancelled and we only need to go later on for the field trip. I'll even buy takeouts so no need to worry." To say I was nervous iyoh! I was busy fiddling with my nails. The silence was deafening and to think I sacrificed my class. On Friday we only have one class with Mr Smith and he does not tolerate absentees. Stepmon: "If you say so it's fine." I did it Sponsored it's fine." I did it I actually did it. I have to tell the girls. Me: "Thank you ma." ~~~~~ After we were done I cleared the table. After I was done I went to my room to call the girls and I'll conference call them. Luckily I remembered to buy airtime. PHONE CONVO: Me: "Hello bitches guess what?" Puleng: "You finally got laid?" Oh this one mara. Me: "No. I just wanted to say that we're on this weekend." Zoe: "Ugh I also thought you finally know what a Dick is." Me: "You guys are crazy. Does anyone know where I could ship my friends?" We all laughed. Puleng: "Good one. But on a serious note... when are you getting laid? Shem you're missing out." Zoe: "Even I know it and trust me... it's so good." Me: "I thought you have a crush on one of your brother's friends?" Zoe: "Of cause I do but that doesn't mean I should starve." Me: "Okay that's it I'm done with this convo. I just wanted to let you know this weekend is a go and also I met this handsome guy. And before you say anything... he has a girlfriend and we're just friends. Puleng: "Yeah yeah and soon you'll be friends with benefits." They laughed like seriously these bitches just laughed. Me: "Bye idiots." I hung up. Wow I have the craziest friends. My phone rang and when I looked at it his picture just popped up in my screen. PHONE CONVO Me: "Hello!" Him: "Hi beautiful stranger!" 07 PHONE CONVO Me: "Hello!" Him: "Hi beautiful stranger!" Me: "Hi Dani." Daniel: "How's my beautiful stranger doing?" I chuckled. God this guy! Me: "I thought we're way passed that." Daniel: "You didn't give me your middle name." Me: "You also didn't me yours and besides I gave you my name. Or you can call me Kea a lot of people call me that." Him: "That's the thing I'm not a lot of people. I'm special and mine is Lwazi so you have to give me yours." Me: "Haibo who said you were special? Anyway it's Primrose." Him: "What a beautiful name... my Beautiful Prim." Me: "You could have called me Rose you know." Him: "Nah Prim is for me. Besides you call me Dani while everyone calls me Dan. Another thing is that I wanted to call you bae but I know you wouldn't like it." Me: "Are you always such a sweet talker?" Him: "Only to you BP only to you." Great now I'm BP anyone else might think it means blood pressure. But that didn't stop me from giggling. Me: "What about your girlfriend?" Him: "With her I just let my dick do the talking." I choked on my saliva or was it air. All I know is that I was choking. Him: "Are you okay Prim?" Can you believe he was laughing? I took a deep breath. Me: "Yeah I'm cool... just don't start painting the picture please." He chuckled like he wasn't laughing moments ago. Him: "Nah I don't kiss and tell." There was an awkward silence for a few seconds before he broke it. "Anyway I only called so that you can tell me who he is." Ok what's he on about. Me: "Who's who?" Him: "The guy who made you cry. Was the woods like your secret place? I saw how

uncomfortable you were when we passed it. Don't worry I'll even break his jaws for you." Oh no! What do I say now? Me: "It's nothing... there's no guy." Him: "But---" I interrupted him. Me: "It's nothing Dani we'll talk another time." I fake yawned. "I'm sleepy bye." I hung up without giving him the chance to say anything else. How did he see through me? I thought I was hiding my discomfort very well. This thing will be the death of me. ~~~~~ The rest of the week went by very smoothly. Well who am I kidding? There will definitely be a few bumps because it is my life after all. The stepmon has been in a good mood and I've done everything in my power to keep it that way. Daniel has been super great in fact too great. He also found out what happened in the woods... well half of it anyway. So you can imagine my surprise when seeing his car on my way to taking the kids to their bus stop. FLASHBACK... FLASHBACK... It was Thursday morning and I was taking the kids to their bus stop while also taking off for the University. Is that Daniel's Lamborghini? No it can't be. When I got out of the gate I saw what looked like his car on the spot I had told him to drop me off yesterday. But it can't be him cuz it'll totally be bonkers. I shook my head and walk passed it with my angels on each of my hand. The window on the passenger side rolled down and sure enough it was the idiot grinning. Him: "I'm here to take my beautiful Prim to her classes." He said getting out his grin still plastered on his face. How I wish I could wipe that off. Me: "What?" Dintle: "Aunty who is this?" She said tugging my t-shirt. Me: "Just a friend sweetheart." I said as I sent a glare to Daniel. Him: "Hop in and I'll also take the kids to school." He opened the door of passenger and backseat. Tshepo: "Uncle have you ever had sushi?" Uncle? These kids are too forward. Can you believe they were already getting in the backseat. Daniel: "Yes my boy and if you like I can buy the best seafood for you." Oh that smug look as he was putting their seatbelts on was priceless. Dintle: "Like fish?" Daniel: "Yes princess. Why don't you all tell your aunt to hop on so that you won't be late for school." His focus was back to me. Dintle/Tshepo: "Pleeeeeease Aunty!" Oh God these kids mara. I knew what his plan was and he was succeeding. Me: "Fiiiiine!" I was also whining like them. I got in the car and he went over to his side to also get in. He then drove the kids to their bus stop. Of cause he wanted to drop them at school but I didn't stepmon to know the kids didn't take their bus to school. I also had to bribe them not talk at least not before this weekend because they are kids and no matter how much you bribe them they're still going to talk. We left but I made sure they got into their bus first. Now it was just the two of us. Me: "Well do you mind telling me why y---" I was stopped by his bone crushing hug. I was surprised to say the least. My heart was racing out of control and his smell was intoxicating all my senses. I couldn't return his embrace or push him away as my body went numb. Him: "I know what happened in the woods." I think my heart just stopped for a second and this time it wasn't because he was holding me close. Me: "Y-you d-do?" I was stammering and boy was my body shaking. I finally got the strength to pull away. Him: "Yeah I saw it on the news." His expression was unreadable for s second before being replaced by one of concern. "It was horrible no wonder you were so traumatised." To be honest I was relieved for a while I actually thought he knew the real truth. I finally released a breath I didn't realise I was holding. Me: "Yeah." I saw a flicker of mischief or was it excitement I couldn't exactly pinpoint it. Him: "I've decided to be your chauffeur to and from school and basically anywhere." He was back to grinning like an idiot. Me: "What?! Have you lost your mind?" Him: "No it's called being concerned and it'll only be until they caught that animal. Look I don't want anything happening to my BP cuz I don't think I can handle it." I couldn't help but blush and I know it shows; another reason why I wish I had a darker complexion. I swear this guy will

definitely be the death of me. END OF FLASHBACK... Yep that's definitely how he was pretty much my chauffeur; driving me literally everywhere and that didn't help my heart at all. I don't know why being near him affected me the way it does. I wonder when he got the time to work. 08 Beep beep beep! That was my phone pulling me out of my trance. I shook my head and take my overnight bag towards the car and of cause I also had my backpack with me after all this is a "School field trip". I open the door and got in the passenger seat and throw my bags in the backseat and I definitely put on my seatbelt. You would if you saw her driving. Me: "How's my Coloured Pea?" Her: "Since when did I become yours?" My eyes widened when I realised what I had said. Me: "Bad habit." Her: "You mean handsome hunk habit." I rolled my eyes and she chuckled at that before driving off. We arrived at Zoe's apartment building. The whole ride I was clutching on my seatbelt for dear life my bitch is a terrible driver. She was driving like we were on a racing track. She let Zoe know we were outside and in turn she said she'll be right down. Puleng: "Okay what's up? You miss a dick that much?" She said wiggling her eyebrows. I rolled my eyes before answering her. Me: "It's just that stepmon has been acting weird since this morning. She's being too nice for comfort." I sighed remembering this morning. Her: "Isn't that what we wanted... so that she can let you come here?" Me: "Nah I know her something's up. Oh and I'm leaving tomorrow night. Apparently I have to go back before Sunday." I sighed again because my peace is going to be short lived. Her: "You're right something's up. I think she needs a dick." I choked on my saliva and she started laughing before she turned serious again. "Anyway is that the only reason you seem off?" I sighed. Wow what is it with me and sighing today? Me: "I think I'm starting to like my friend... in a way I shouldn't like a friend." Her eyes popped out. Her: "Are you a lesbian? Don't tell me it's me cauz I'm sorry but I love a dick too much!" Talk about being dramatic; she was even covering her body. I couldn't help but chuckle at my crazy friend. Me: "Not you guys my other friend. He's the reason why I asked for a ride." Her: "Yeah I did find it weird because you never do. Did he ask to take you?" Me: "Yeah he pretty much wants to drive me everywhere but I don't think I can handle it. I know I can pretend like I'm okay but it's really taxing my heart." Her: "That's heavy. Why don't you hook up and get it over with." That was more of a statement than a question. Me: "No he has a girlfriend. Weren't you listening? This whole ordeal is taxing my heart. I'll just distance myself for a while until I get over this phase." I said the last part in conviction more to myself than her. Her: "This "Stupid phase" as you so graciously put it will never pass until you confront it." Me: "Okay who are you and what have you done to my friend? Anyway please don't tell Princess Zee about this." Her: "And why not?" Me: "I don't want her to worry. I'll tell her on Sunday. I'll keep myself occupied with her brother so that she can focus on her crush" She pulled me into a hug. Her: "You're the best bud ever!" She exclaimed still embracing me." Knock knock! We pulled apart only to see Zee grinning at us and somehow that reminded me of Daniel. Puleng rolled down the window. Her: "What do you want?" Zoe: "Let me in idiot." She rolled her eyes. Puleng unlocked the door and Zoe got in the bag and moved my bags aside. Puleng: "Why didn't you just open for us?" Zoe: "Because I have important info I need to relay. The guy I'm crushing on is named Njabulo." She squealed when she said his name. Me: "Why only his name... what about the others?" Her: "You'll know the others when I introduce them. I just wanted you to know his name so that you don't hook up with him accidentally." She said the last part looking at Puleng. Puleng: "Why are you looking at me? I'm not gonna make a move on any guy you have a crush on because you bitch don't know how to pick'em." I chuckled because in a way she was right. For someone who's as

beautiful as Zoe she hooked up with not so good looking guys nor did she go for decent ones. We reached the building's underground garage. I saw a Lamborghini Urus among the other cars that were in there. What has this guy done to me? Now everything resembles him. Zoe: "Friend are you okay? You seem a bit preoccupied." Puleng and I exchange looks before looking at her. Me: "It's nothing just my stepmon who's acting weird that's all. I feel like she is cooking up something and knowing her it's nothing good." Her: "Maybe we should just cancel and have girls' weekend away." I shook my head. Me: "No don't worry about me I'll deal with her later. Besides I need the distraction." I tried reassuring her. The last thing I wanted was for her to worry especially since she was so excited. Her: "If you say so but don't hesitate to tell me when you're not into it." Me: "Ncooh! You guys are awesome." I hugged her and also pulled Puleng along. These bitches are my world. After the hug I took my bags in the backseat while Puleng takes out hers in the boot. I got out with Zoe following suit. Of course since Puleng lives in her own apartment she didn't have to bring schoolbag with. We followed Zoe inside. We reached the elevator to her floor which was the whole of fourth floor. Inside the elevator Zoe and I were nervous wreck while Puleng was excited. I understand their state but I couldn't understand my nerves. I swear sometimes it feels like my body has a mind of its own. The elevator finally stopped at our destination and we got out. Zoe crossed her fingers before opening her door. Soon as the door opened I caught a whiff of an all too familiar scent. I guess someone is using the same perfume as him but no one was on sight. Zoe: "They're probably still in the lounge." We followed her into the lounge area where four guys were laughing and talking like rowdy teenage boys. I frowned when I caught the scent once again. "Okay guys that's enough... time to meet my bitches." Everyone turned their attention to us except for the guy in the black cap who was facing away from us. Him: "Zana how many times did I tell you mind y..." He turned with a scowl on his face which quickly faded into a surprise when his eyes landed on me. Well I'll be damned! Me/Him: "Dani?/ BP?" We both said shocked while everyone looked at us in confusion. 09 This is the most awkward if not the worst moment in my life. Here I was trying to avoid him but ended coming to him. Well I guess like everything in my life this also doesn't go my way. Even though we were shocked but that didn't top the confusion on everyone's faces. Zoe: "Wait you guys kn... Oh hell no! Don't tell me this is the playful handsome idiot." She said breaking the silence that was in the room. Puleng: "Holy fuck we're doomed!" Daniel: "Handsome idiot? Did you j... beautiful Pr... Ok hang on a minute. You're my sister's friend? So when you told me you already had plans you me... well I'll be damned!" He was rambling more to himself than anyone. Then out of nowhere he started chuckling which turned into laughter soon everyone started following... but some were probably laughing because he was. ??: "Ok I think I'm lost. What's going on here?" One of the guys stopped laughing and had a serious look. I think it was because he wasn't much of a looker but I'm probably the last person to judge. Zoe: "Njabulo these are my friends Colo... I mean Puleng and Ro... I mean Kearabetswe or Kea who happen to have met my brother a couple of days ago." Zoe was quick to explain everything. Njabulo: "So this is the girl that's been keeping you up on your toes these days?" The so called Njabu... wait that's Zee's crush well that explains everything. Out of the guys if we were to rank them he would definitely rank last and even that would still be ranked higher but at least he seems decent. Of course Daniel would be first... shit what am I saying? Daniel: "Shut up man before I rearrange your face which would be an upgrade by the way." He was scowling at his friend which made everyone laugh including the said person. Everyone except for Zee and me because I was still mortified to be in the same room as

Daniel. Njabulo: "Mxm it's not my fault taima was an ugly guy. Eish I wish I took after O'lady because she's one beautiful lady." Daniel: "But not as beautiful as my Beautiful Prim." He said walking over to me and pulling me to him which made me instantly freeze. Zoe came to my rescue and pulled me away. Her: "Come on bro you have your own girlfriend. Leave my friend alone." Daniel was about to protest but suddenly one of the guys started laughing. He was white and would rank number two. Ok what's up with me and ranking? Daniel: "Ok what could be so funny Johnny?" Johnny: "Ha ha ha... BP... now I... I get it... I thought... you were... talking about your... blood pressure." He was laughing throughout his speech. Daniel: "You're so stupid man." Johnny: "You're the stupid one. BP... seriously?" He retorted back and soon the others started talking as well. Zoe hooks mine and Puleng's hands. Zoe: "Let's go the rowdiness is starting again." She takes us to her bedroom. I've been in her bedroom before and it's very impressive actually the whole apartment is impressive. Zoe opens the door and we enter. It is a very spacious with modern decor. The bed is a platform queen sized bed with a built-in headrest and night stands. At the edge of the bed is a large ottoman. There's also an en-suite bathroom and a walk in closet on one side. There's also a large mirrored dresser on the other side. She also has a large flat screen TV facing the bed and a futon which has throw pillows. In short the room is impressive as is the rest of the house. This is the type of apartment only working people can get but even then they have to have a very high paying job certainly not the kind of apartment owned by a student. Zoe: "This is where we'll sleep. My brother and his friends will use the other rooms." She has two more rooms besides this one they're also spacious but not as this one. Speaking of her brother I can't believe Daniel is the famous Dlamini brothers that I've heard from my best friend. I throw my bags on the floor and collapse on the soft mattress. I face the ceiling another impressive feature. another impressive feature. The famous Dlamini brothers; each successful in their own way... wow. I was very stupid; Zee used to say brother Lwazi brother Lwazi. Why couldn't I put two and two together? But then again who would've thought. To think I was trying to avoid him. I sighed again closing my eyes I felt the both side of the bed dip and I knew it was my bitches. I opened my eyes chuckling a little which could've sounded better. Zoe: "Seriously what's up Kay? And don't say it's your stepmon." I sighed cause now that Daniel was here I can't keep it from her anymore. Puleng: "She has a crush on your brother." She said bluntly beating me to the punch but I quickly added. Me: "I don't have a crush on him. I just... don't know how to feel around him." I stated which made them giggle. Zoe: "Basically you have a crush on him." I rolled my eyes not finding it amusing. Me: "No I don't and he has a girlfriend." Zoe: "Oh friend how I wish I could help. Maybe we should ditch the guys and crash at Puleng's." They were both nodding. Me: "No I can do this! I can definitely do it. Let's get back to the others." They both eyed me then each other before saying okay. I can do this right? What could go wrong? Yeah when I said I can do this I didn't plan on drowning myself in booze. Then again I didn't think I would be seating next to him. They had decided to have an indoor fake campfire which consists of an A2 printed picture of a real campfire in the middle of the lounge area. They had moved the furniture aside and placed the pillows surrounding the "Campfire" and they also had a bucket full of ice and alcohol but they also bought cold drinks for us but I had skipped on then. I needed a distraction and drinking was it. I'm not much of a drinker but right now I couldn't care less. NARRATED Zoe and Puleng were closely watching their friend who was downing liquor like water. What worried them more was the fact that she wasn't much of a drinker. The guys however were watching in amusement as their friend had a concerned look on his face watching his other

friend down one glass after the other of alcohol. Zoe had long forgotten her crush who was seated next to her and Puleng who was seating in between the two hot guys wasn't even paying attention. On a normal day she would've been hooking with one or both but she was too worried to even think about that. Daniel: "Are you okay BP?" The other guys were howling in laughter and he would've made a comeback but he was too worried. Kea: "Super is my name... or is it the other way around... or is the middle?" She was counting her fingers busy chuckling. She turned to Daniel "Your lips... (hick) they look (hick) very kissable (hick) shall I?" She leaned her head towards Daniel but Zoe who was closest to her pulled her back. Zoe: "I think that's enough." Kea: "No no no! (Hick) me want a di..." Zoe covered her mouth before she could finish. Zoe: "Maybe I should take her to my room." Her brother shakes his head before pulling Kea to him. Kea: "You have a nice smell (hick) but it's very in... (hick) intoxicating." She was busy sniffing his shirt. Daniel: "I'll take her to my room. She is my responsibility after all." He said before scooping her bridal style. Zoe: "First of all it's my room and secondly she's my friend which makes her my responsibility." She stood up as well trying to take her friend away from his brother. Daniel: "Zana I'm not about to engage in a childish squabble with you. I'm taking care of her and that's final." He said leaving the lounge to "his room". Whenever he's around or sleeping over he always uses that room. Zoe was left frozen because one thing she knows is to never talk back to his brother when he says it's final. He's never been physical with her but his punishment was much more worse. The others were surprised to see his possessiveness which he hardly shows not even towards his girlfriend.

10 Kearabetswe The next day I wake up to a banging head. I try opening my eyes but the light was stinging or I think it was. After what felt like forever my eyes opened and were readjusting to the light. What shocked me was the brown eyes staring right back at me and those lips wow I co... holy fuck what's he doing here? Now that I look around this isn't my room nor is it Zoe's bedroom. I jerk up and away from Daniel but I end up falling on the floor. Ouch now my bums are also hurting. Daniel chuckles before reaching for a glass of water. Daniel: "Here's a painkiller for your hangover." He hands me the painkiller with the glass of water which I gulp down. He was snickering stifling a laugh. "You sure do know how to amaze a guy huh?" Mxm I wonder what could be so amusing... wait a minute I was drunk last night. A look of horror overtook my features as my mind start imagining what could have possibly took place last night. Me: "Holy fuck... what have I done?" Daniel: "Don't worry nothing bad happened last night. Let's go down for breakfast the others are probably waiting." He said reaching for my hand. How I wish he wouldn't because now my headache is the thing of the past as my heart is beating out of control. I was scared why I wasn't in the room with the others or how I was now changed into my night attire which is a short-sleeved pyjama set. It was September so it was hot. We reach the dining area where the others were. Njabulo and Skhumbuzo who's Daniel's other friend were already digging in. The girls of cause were not eating and also surprisingly Johnny was not eating as well. The trio looked worried my girls I get but Johnny I don't. They turned once they realised we came in. They gave us confused looks except for Puleng who looked amused for some reason. I was confused as well but Zoe signalled to my hand with her eyes. I look down to see our hands still intertwined. I pulled away quickly and took a seat. "serif";mso-bidi-font-family: Helvetica">We ate over light conversation but I was really embarrassed about last especially not knowing what happened. What if I embarrassed myself or worse? After breakfast the guys insisted on washing the dishes while we shower. We went upstairs to Zoe's bedroom. We took a shower together because we were really missing each other because last night we didn't really hangout. After we

finished we re-entered the bedroom. Puleng and I were busy lotioning when Zoe threw a plastic bag at me. Me: "And then now Princess?" I took the content out only to find a beige two piece vintage pin up bathing suit. I frown once looking at it and also the size. Her: "It was going to be your birthday present but deemed it inappropriate for a birthday present so I bought you another gift. I've been meaning to give it to but I haven't found the perfect opportunity. I know you probably didn't bring any swimsuit making it the perfect time to give it to you." She was rambling but I know the truth because we saw this bathing suit about three weeks ago and my birthday was four months ago. I decided to just go along with the lie because she was excited and I didn't want to disappoint her. At the end we were in the Jacuzzi. I was in my new bathing suit with Zoe in her floral high neck geometric backless one piece halter swimsuit and Puleng in her blue deep plunge halter monokini swimsuit. Zoe was right I didn't bring any of my swimsuits because I forget she has an indoor Jacuzzi. I took my phone and ordered pizza for home. After I was done I went back in the Jacuzzi. We were having our girl talk when Daniel came in his swimming shorts saying the others are going to buy the meat for our braai. God he was shirtless exposing his toned torso. How can someone be this perfect? His body was like it was sculptured by the Gods. Wasn't it enough that his face was already perfect but now... no man I think he was made just to torture me. I really can't stand the heat. I got out of the Jacuzzi and excused myself. This was the beginning of me avoiding him... I was now four houses away from my house inside Daniel's Lamborghini. The girls had tried to give me a ride but he refused profusely to my dismay. The ride here was awkwardly silent and even now it was still awkward. Him: "Ok BP what have I done?" He was the first one to break the silent. Me: "What?!" I screamed to my surprise. I quickly covered my mouth with both my hands. He chuckled to my surprise. Him: "Well you've been ignoring ever since yesterday. So much so that you even got yourself drunk." Me: "I wasn't okay. I just have a lot on my mind." Him: "Like how you want my dick?" I choked on my saliva. I was coughing so hard with him laughing. If I wasn't so embarrassed I would have thought his laugh was beautiful if I can say that. My cheeks were heating up I know I probably was red as tomato. Me: "Ok I'm leaving. Have a nice night cauz I'm out." I got out of the car not wanting to embarrass myself more. I reach my house and opened the door only to get the surprise of my life. The house was sparkly clean but that wasn't it. What was the true surprise was seeing my aunts and uncles who only show up at funerals. I go over to greet them Me: "Aunt Tshidi what are you guys doing here did someone die?" I ask after greeting them. Aunt Tshidi: "We're here for mahadi proceedings." She states like it was obvious. Me: "Who's getting married is it Palesa?" This is really unexpected she really found someone who wants to marry her. My thoughts were corrected by my stepmon. Stepmon: "It's you who's getting married." She said with a smile on her face and I could clearly tell it was forced... wait what? I'm getting married? Reality starts to sink in and I realise that I'm doomed. I can feel my consciences slipping away from me and it was lights out for me... 11 Everything is hazy and I can't seem to grasp what happened. I try opening my eyes but they feel heavy. I can feel my sheets underneath my body. So that means I must have dozed and I have to say I had the weirdest dream or more like a nightmare but it felt so real. Finally my eyes fluttered open. Weird what's aunt Tshidi and aunt Dima doing here? Oh no! That was not a nightmare but rather a hellish reality. Aunt Dima: "Oh you're awake my darling. You really scared us." Aunt Tshidi: "It's true Rose don't scare us like that." Wow these aunts of mine they never visit and yet they act like they care. We only meet each other during funerals. I have no idea what to say to them so I just shut my mouth and heavily sigh. Now here comes the devil's

advocate. I can't believe she wants to get me married. I so wish I was Cinderella because her stepmother didn't want her to get married while mine here is getting me married. SM: "Aunts can you please give me a moment with my daughter." She said fake smile on point. She even called me her daughter wow she can be a snake when she wants ready to attack when you least expect it. My aunts fell for it as they exit my room but then again who wouldn't because this women can act shame. She can even win an Oscar with that performance. Soon as the door closed she asked me to get up and get closer. I did as told because in the back of my mind I was curious and you know the saying that curiosity killed a cat. Well it sure killed me because I was caught by a hot slap. I even let a tear drop. SM: "How can you embarrass me like that you ungrateful brat and in front of those aunts of yours." She was seething and she grabbed my arm. "You are going to get married whether you like it or not. You're so ungrateful your future in-laws are so loaded and you want to act like a brat as always." Her grip tightened and it was starting to hurt. Me: "But I don't want to get married to someone I don't even know." Tears were falling down involuntary. SM: "Shut up or do you want a repeat of six years I go?" My eyes popped out of my socket. I can never go back to that day. The day that killed my spunk and made me into this deflated version. I used to be a spitfire knew what I wanted and how to I want it. But six years ago I lost it. I don't ever want to go back there again. Me: "I'll do it." I gave up like I always do. Maybe this will be a blessing in disguise but what if it's worse. SM: "That's my girl. You can rest your lazy ass." She went out leaving my broken self behind. Run run running endless running is all I seem to be doing. I'm deep in the woods but the exit seemed to get further the more I run forward. Run and running running from something I can't see and don't even know. Suddenly a log appears in front of me and I fall but I don't fall on the ground but now I'm falling from a tall skyscraper which seems to be endless. Falling and falling then suddenly I'm met by crimson red eyes "You'll never get away from me" the voice said over and over. "Ahhhhh!!!" I scream like I've never screamed before. "Aunty aunty wake up" I could hear the voice call on to me but it seems far. It began again but now it felt closer. I jerk awake to find Tshepo shaking and telling me to wake up. Me: "Did I wake you my little angel? Did I wake Dintle as well?" I ask hugging him closer to me. Him: "No she's still sleeping. I only woke up because you kicked me and I fell." Me: "I'm so sorry my angel aunty will not be kicking you again." I squeezed him tighter. Him: "You're squeezing me aunty." Me: "I love you so much. Let's go back to sleep." I smile and go in the cover again. I kissed both my kids and drifted off to lala land and hopefully no more nightmares. I wake up at five. Actually I woke up at 4:15 but it was too early. I tried sleeping again but I couldn't find sleep again. At five I decided to get up and make breakfast. I got out of the covers but I was very careful not to wake my two angels. I take my gown that was hanging on the door hanger. I wrap it around and go straight to the bathroom. "serif"; mso-bidi-font-family:Helvetica">I brush my teeth and also wash my face. It wasn't that bad. I finish and go to the kitchen. No one was around; I guess they are still sleeping. First thing is first which is making tea for everyone. I boil the water and take out everything I'll be needing. After I've done taking out everything I went to give it to them. Afterwards I started on the breakfast. I made an English breakfast. Which are bacon eggs toast sausages and juice. As I was finishing up aunt Dima came in with her cup. Her: "My child you should be sleeping. Today is your mahadi negotiations." Me: "Don't worry Aunty I was already awake anyway." I interjected Her: "I'll finish up just get ready." She said already pushing me out. Yoh my aunt mara. I got into my room. And my angels are still sleeping and I don't want to wake them. I go into my wardrobe and pull out my baby blue off shoulder summer

dress which went below my knees and a head wrap because I know I might need it. I also take a beige cardigan and black sandals. I place them on the ottoman in my room and go into the bathroom to take a bath. I do my hygiene process and went back in my and got dressed. I wake the kids so that they can have breakfast. I first take them to wash their teeth. While they're having their breakfast I make the bed. They is a knock on the door. I got open only to be faced with my stepmon holding a plastic bag in her hands. I give her a confused look but she pushes me aside and gets in. This woman I wonder what she wants now. She opens the bag and inside is a dress Seshweshwe to be precise. SM: "This will be your dress you can get rid of whatever you're wearing." She said nonchalantly looking bored. She then went out leaving me standing there cursing my stars. I sighed and took my dress. I get out of the clothes that I was wearing and put on my traditional dress. Well it was pretty but it was very loose. It was like it belonged to one of my aunt and they decided to give it to me. It also had a head wrap so I also put it on. I don't know how to style it so I just wrapped around my head. Well I look like an aunty. I go into the dining room to have my breakfast. Most of the people where already done. Aunt Dima was still around and she volunteered to bathe the kids while I eat. Of cause I didn't object at least for once some of the workload is taken off my shoulder. I ate then went to the kitchen and washed the dishes. NARRATED In one of the huge mansions in Sandton a father and his two sons are in his study having a heated conversation. The father and the younger brother were having a disagreement with the older one trying to mediate them. Younger son: "I can't believe you dad! I told you I'll handle it my own way and what did you do? You blew up the whole thing and I hate you!" He was seething with anger. In his mind he couldn't understand why his father was always making his life difficult. All he had to do was give him a chance and watch his plan unfold but no he had to interfere. Older son: "Listen bro I know you're angry but come on be reasonable this is for the best." He said getting in between his brother and father. To be honest he was getting tired of their squabbles. They are always fighting without hearing each other's side. They are both stubborn as mules and none is willing to back down. He knew their fighting will continue till the next day but they didn't have the time. "Father I think we should go now is not the time to have a discussion." And indeed his father left. Kearabetswe Everything was done my uncles were already here and now we were waiting for the "groom's" family to arrive. Right now the time is 9:45 and apparently in the letter they said they'll arrive at ten for the negotiations. We were waiting and I have to say I was starting to feel nervous. My stepmon and stepsister were on fire with their Seshweshwe dresses. It looked like they were about to walk the runway. I found out the dress was Aunt Tshidi's dress which she hasn't worn and apparently stepmom and stepsister had the dress months ago because they had thought since she was the elder sister she would marry first. Uncle Thabiso: "We have to milk them after all our child is still intact and she is doing her studies." He was sipping his whisky. "We are milking them. What if their son is one ugly guy or what if he's old with Osama Bin Laden beard. No no no they have to pay. Plus they're rich." What he said really got me nervous. What if he really was ugly but it's not like I'm that pretty but what if he's old or maybe abusive. No no no! I can't do this. These people are really selling me. Uncle Steve: "They're here they're here!" He was shouting. They kicked me and stepsister out into my room. I guess this is it my life is over... 12 6 YEARS AGO... It was three months after the death of Patrick Mokoena. His 14 year old daughter Kearabetswe was busy doing the house chores. His death came suddenly and she wasn't able to cope with it. She had buried herself in work from schoolwork to household chores. She was a mess and that was the only way she was able to continue without

breaking apart. Her stepmother and sister had been grieving their own way. Her stepmother was handling the family business while her sister decided to go around partying and of course she wasn't careful as always hence she was already expecting her second child at only 18. Kea was starting to get fed up of their negligence towards the house. Of course she was doing the chores for about three months now as a grievance but she no longer felt numb and it wasn't her job. So she decided that this afternoon she would confront her stepmother about this. They had a helper MaGloria who was hired to help around the house and she had thought that she was given a month off to let the family grieve but she didn't show up the next month and then the following which is now. She finished with the chores and went to fetch her two year old nephew from day care. Her father was very disappointed when he had learned that Palesa was pregnant but nonetheless he forgave her and when he was a year and a half he took him to a day care as the mother had to go to school. Kea can only imagine how disappointed he would have been to learn that she was pregnant again. The family was in the living room watching their favourite soapie when Kea decided it was time to voice out her complaints. Her: "MmaNthabi I think you should bring MaGloria back to do the household chores cause I'm done grieving." She said as a matter of fact as she had already convinced herself this was the way to go. However her stepmother and her sister merely laughed looking at each other only to break into laughter again. MmaNthabi: "Serious? But I thought that was your job." She rolled her eyes before focusing back on the TV. Kea stood up in disbelief and her hands fell into her hips in defiance. Kea: "That's not my job I'm nobody's maid. If we're talking about jobs shouldn't that fall into Palesa's hands seeing as she is the oldest and it's not like she's going to school." That earned her a hot slap on the face as her stepmother due to anger had also risen up. Kea brushed her cheek because this was the first time she received one from her stepmother. MmaNthabi: "How dare you! What do you think ha? You can just wake up go to school eat and then sleep? Not in my house missy you will earn everything." She was seething as she emphasised every word she said which left Kea puzzled. Kea: "What do you mean earn? This is not your house but my fathers. He may have died but it still is and everything here is also his." She fought back because she was a rebel in nature even though her father was a sweetheart with a soft heart she knew that sometimes people prey on that and it can easily turn into a weakness but she wasn't like that and she refused to let anyone dim her light. Her stepmother clapped her hands before grabbing her wrist. MmaNthabi: "Don't patronize me you fool. You see everything here now belongs to me my daughter and my grandchildren. You are nothing but a bastard. A daughter of a hoe Sponsored my daughter and my grandchildren. You are nothing but a bastard. A daughter of a hoe a home wrecker. I only tolerated you because I felt sorry for you. I mean not only was your mother a home wrecker but she was also a child abandoner. Now you have nowhere to go no family. Even your so called aunts and uncles abandoned you the minute they realised their brother only left them with peanuts." She had a grin on her face as she spoke but her grip tightened with each word she spat. Kea tried to struggle out but she seemed powerless against her senior she was only fourteen after all. Kea however refused to give in just yet. Kea: "You're so evil and ugly. Your soul is ugly and I wonder what daddy saw in you or how he even stood the sight of you. You may think you're high and mighty but you're nothing but a bitter old lady. And don't make me laugh you only tolerated me because of daddy not cause you felt sorry for me." She spat out ready to at least receive a slap but she was surprised to feel the grip that was for sure leaving a bruise loosen and disappear. She watched in disbelief as her stepmother retreated to her room. Was she finally

giving in? She wondered. However that seemed unlikely seeing the grin that was plastered on her sister's face. She sat back on the sofa not knowing what else to think. After what felt like an eternity her stepmother came back but she was holding a sjambok and a baseball bat that her father bought for her nephew on his one year birthday. She passed the bat to Palesa who grinned even more. Kea could see that this wasn't gonna end well. She stood up trying to show them she wasn't afraid nor would she give in but that all disappeared as her body started shaking and her knees felt weak but she stood her ground. She felt an imaginable pain on her back even though she was a rebel her father spoiled her and wouldn't let anyone lay even a finger on her so this was the worst pain she ever experienced. She turned to see the cause only to see her sister grinning with the bat held against her shoulder. She couldn't even fathom how her sister could even harbour any resentment against her. Yes they had different mothers but they are still sisters. What confused her even more was how someone who was pregnant managed to deliver such a blow. She felt another sharp pain on her legs. Which turned into multiple pains and her knees gave in. She wanted to scream as tears fell on her face but for some reason her voice seemed to be adamant on not coming out. Her stepmother and sister then took that as their cue to commence their beating. Blow by blow she squirmed and tried to hide her face but that seemed futile as that only gave them the idea to move into her face. They didn't seem to get tired as the assault continued. The bat even broke on her but that didn't deflect the beating because that meant that they move on to the next object which was the frying pan. Kea felt weak and she could feel blood tickling from all over her body even her face. The iron taste in her mouth didn't go unnoticed and she could also feel her consciousness slowly fading and her eyes getting heavier and foggy. She wanted to scream but she could only scream in her head. Screaming for her life which suddenly took a turn for the worse screaming for her father who decided to leave her with these vultures and screaming for her mother who didn't love her enough to take her with to wherever she went. She was begging for God to let her die to relieve her of her pain and suffering. Slowly she drifted off to oblivion. 13 Kea could feel herself coming back. She tried to flutter her eyes open but she was struggling to and that's when she felt a sharp pain shooting throughout her whole body. Her throat also felt parched and very dry like it hasn't felt a single drop of moisture for days. Her senses started to come one by one. She heard beeping sounds that felt to be closest to her then there was that unmistakable scent of antiseptics. A scent which she only smelled when she visited the hospital when her father and sister were admitted but of course on different occasions. Then like a storm the events that led to her unconsciousness came back. She forced her eyes open which she regretted immediately as she felt a rush of pain. Her eyes adjusted to the harsh light and she saw a woman who looks to be on her thirties staring at her with a look that can only be described as disbelief. Her: "You're awake?! I have to let the doctor know." Then she rushed out of the room. Minutes later a man in his fifties which she assumed was the doctor came in and seem to check on her. Then once he was done and the nurse had helped her drink water the room was filled with two policemen Sponsored the room was filled with two policemen her stepmother her aunts and uncles. One of the policemen who had identified himself as Inspector Mazibuko finally spoke as he took out what seems like his notebook and pen. Him: "Can you tell us what happened to you. We heard from your mother that you were attacked in the woods by some guys. Can you identify them?" Kea briefly looked into her stepmother who gave her a death glare before looking back at the inspector. Kea: "Yeah that's what happened but I can't identify them because they were wearing balaclava on their

faces." Her voice was cracking and came out breathy because of her scratchy throat. Her body was trembling and she knew why. Never in her did she think she would be afraid of anyone who's not a clown but then again she has never seen someone as menacing as her stepmother and sister. Speaking of her sister she can't seem to see her anywhere. Kea: "Where's Palesa." She hadn't meant for it to come as she was only just wondering in her head. MmaNthabi: "Oh she's at home. You see she gave birth to a healthy little girl. You've been here for five months so she gave birth without you I know how thrilled you would've been to be there for her." Her fake smile could've won an award. Inspector Mazibuko sighed. Him: "I'm afraid if you can't identify them then we have no case since there were also no witnesses. Are you sure you can't identify them?" When Kea nodded him and his colleague left. After everyone had left Kea was left with her evil stepmother who refused to leave saying she wanted to "spend time with my daughter". Her: "My dear you've done well by not telling anyone and you'll continue to do so or you know what will happen to you. And next time I'll make sure I leave you in a wheelchair. Since I was so generous that I covered your hospital bills which were quite expensive might I add. That my dear means you owe me and not to mention I won't be kicking you out to the streets. Who knows what kind of dangers lurks out there. I think you know how to pay me back seeing as you don't work and all. Ooh I almost forgot I talked to your teachers and they were more than willing to let you commence with your studies which of cause I played the bigger part in convincing them." With that said she left. That was the start of how Kea lost her fire and spunk to her stepmother who's nothing short of a monster... 14 Right now here I am in my room with my stepsister waiting to be called. My aunts were in the kitchen preparing something for the guests if I can even call them that while my nosy step monster decided to join the men in the negotiations. She was adamant on also being part and her excuse was that she didn't want uncle Thabiso to spoil the negotiations since he loved his whisky. However I know that was not the reason besides are women even allowed to be present during the negotiations? But whatever I don't even care. I was fidgeting with my dress while stepsister was busy checking her make-up you'd think these were her negotiations. As we were still waiting my phone suddenly rings. I check the caller ID but it was from a private number. I was hesitant to answer but maybe it might be important so I answered. Me: "Hello!" But nothing. I repeated but still nothing. All I can hear is someone breathing on the other side. "Ok I'm not gonna entertain this." I hung up because honestly my nerves are starting to get to me. I can't comprehend that my so called family is selling me out. It's days like this that I wish that my mother didn't hate me and had actually left with me. Maybe my life would have been better. I would have known the most important love of all which is a mother's love. Aunt Dima who is my father's younger sister enters and informs us that we are called in the living room. We stand to leave but before we could she tells us that we should bow our heads and when we get there we should sit on the mat that they had laid especially for us. Stepsister fixes her head wrap then we go. We enter the living room and we sit on a traditional thatched mat with our heads bowing down. Of cause I'm curious to see who came but I bite down my bottom lip to suppress the urge to look up. I hear uncle Thabiso laughing and I know it's him because his laugh is very distinctive especially when he had downed some whisky. Malome Thabiso: "Ah ha! These are our flowers. Mokoena's flowers. As you can see they are very beautiful real flowers. In fact even their names are flowers; Rose and Violet." Even though I couldn't see him I knew he was grinning like being named after flowers was some kind of an achievement. Malome Steve: "Now can you all tell us which of these beautiful flowers in Mokoena's garden caught your

son's eye?" Uncle Steve was actually more level headed than the rest of my uncle and aunts. In fact he was the one to volunteer to take me on after the death of my father and I would have agreed but his wife is another story. That woman is a headache and no one in my family can tolerate her. Unlike stepmonster she didn't hide her true colours or putting on any performances. She was how she was. "serif"; mso-bidi-font-family:Helvetica">In fact he was the one to volunteer to take me on after the death of my father and I would have agreed but his wife is another story. That woman is a headache and no one in my family can tolerate her. Unlike stepmonster she didn't hide her true colours or putting on any performances. She was how she was. I heard some murmuring which I couldn't quiet put together because it was low and also they spoke in Xhosa that much I can tell. I feel Palesa next to me again fixing herself. I know she was hoping that they could pick her and to be honest I was also hoping for the same. After some time one of them spoke. Him: "The flower that caught our son's eye is not just any flower but a Primrose." I think my heart stopped for a second when he said my name and it wasn't because of his deep husky voice or his proper English accent which indicated that he was educated. No that was none of those reasons but rather because he said my name in full; I know for sure that my uncles call me Rose in fact my whole family call me Rose and not Primrose. My father told me that I was named after my mother's favourite flower and that the rest of the family didn't understand the name nor did they know the flower. This can only mean that they really came for me. I am officially doomed. I hear my uncles laughing clearly jovial but I wasn't. They must have paid a lot. Malome Thabiso: "Ah ha! You've chosen well." he was still laughing. Malome Steve: "My brother is right because this one is still as pure as the day she was born and not only that she is also in the process of finishing her degree. She's very educated; our pride and joy." I heard another one of them spoke. Him: "You can raise your head my child." His voice was deep and sexy. Oh my Lord! I really should stop analysing their voices and calling them sexy. They are in my dad's age for God's sake! I raise my head and in front of stood three handsome men in my dad's age well probably. They are clearly old but don't look it and in fact I could call them sexy. They look handsome in their suits and sharp nose shoes. They really smell like money no wonder my family have been all jovial. I just hope their "son" is just as handsome as his "dads". I see them smiling and eyeing each other with what seems like a satisfied look. One in the middle: "Don't worry my child we won't ask you to drop your studies in fact we will also cover for them. Anyway which degree are you doing?" I clear my throat first because these men can be scary. They exude power; even their voices are deep and demanding. Me: "Bachelor's in accounting." To say I was nervous Yoh! One on the left: "That's perfect. We own a few accounting firms and once you finish your studies we will give you one to run." I blinked once twice and thrice not really believing my ears. Everyone was just as surprised judging from their bulging eyes. I can see stepmonster glaring at me. Soon we were asked to exit the room. Woah I can't believe it they really think paying for my studies and giving me a firm will erase the fact that I was forced to marry their son whom I don't even know. 15 The negotiations were done and that meant that traditionally I was a married woman. Apparently my dowry was R750 000 and R500 000 of it was transferred into my bank account while the rest was given to my family. Yoh I almost fainted when I got the notification. I thought perhaps it was some sort of a scam but aunt Dima came in my room to tell me that my "in-laws" did the transfer. I also peeked outside the window well actually it wasn't me but rather Palesa who when she heard about the transfer and was curious about the kind of cars they drove. Outside was three Range Rover SUV's which looked expensive. Now I was even more scared

because I kept asking myself what if my so called husband to be was a sugar daddy. I mean why were they so generous with the dowry my studies and the firm? Yeah I know being a virgin technically qualifies you for a higher dowry but R750 000 was a lot especially since they said they'll also pay for the wedding themselves. "serif"; mso-bidi-font-family:Helvetica">What if that was a cover and perhaps they were consoling me with that money? I don't think I can take it. They didn't take me with them because apparently I have to be properly introduced to their ancestors in a form of a ritual which will be held next week. Meaning I only have a week of freedom before my hell begins. It was our lunch and the girls and I were seated in the school cafeteria. They were busy mocking me about our chillas which turned into mission of avoiding Daniel. I haven't told them about my marriage and I'm not sure if I will. Well not at least at the moment. Puleng: "But seriously Kay what were you thinking? You know you don't drink and don't think I didn't notice your attempt to avoid Zee's brother." She was laughing which I rolled my eyes. I knew they will stretch this. Me: "Whatever. Tell me Zee how's you and Njabulo." I said changing the topic and hoping they'll at least indulge me. Zoe: "I know what you're doing and it won't work because of you I didn't even get a chance to be close to him." She was pouting which made her look so cute. I have to say I have the best looking friends. Puleng: "Don't even mention that. I literally had two hot guys I could hook up with but no I couldn't because I was busy watching your ass." She said pouting too. Yoh what's up with these two and pouting today? However they did have a reason to pout about. I do admit I was acting childish running away from my crush yes I finally admitted it. Me: "Sorry guys I didn't mean to get in the way and to think the whole reason was so that you can get some." Puleng: "Yeah that was twisted but no to me the highlight was when Zee's brother wouldn't let anyone touch you. I mean he wouldn't even let his sister touch you. He was like that's final and Zee went silent and looked she was about to shit herself." She said already getting into a fit of laughter. I was shocked because I couldn't even remember a thing. Zoe: "Well you don't know my brother he may be playful and fun but when he says that's final. Well bitch better get that it's final cause his punishments are the worst." She had a look of horror when she said that which made me finally join Puleng in laughter. Puleng: "What does... he do? Spa... spank... you? Ha ha ha." She's said in between her laughs. Zoe: "I wish... that's ten times better. There was a time when I was only five and he literally beheaded my favourite doll in front of me and fed it to the dog because I refused to let him watch his favourite TV show. And that was the least horrifying punishment I got from him. I mean even all my brothers don't even say anything after he puts his foot down." She was shuddering when she recalled the memory. Me: "That can't be it. I doubt he'd do such a thing besides you're the princess of the family." I don't know if it's because of my crush but I couldn't believe it plus her brothers adore him. Zoe: "I may be but when it comes to punish they dish it hard. The way they spoil me do you think I would've been this humble and not a brat? That's because they can dish out a punishment. Him and my father are the same in fact all of my family are. They can kill somebody who dare hurt me but they won't hesitate to punish me when I do wrong. They're not physical with me but Yoh their punishment is hard but bhutilwazi is the worst." She said and that kind of make me wish I had older brothers who would take care of me like her. But yeah she was right that punishment was the worst. That could emotionally scar anyone especially since she was so young. Being with my bitches made me forget for a while that my life was doomed. 16 This week has been very eventful not. Anyway I still haven't told my friends about my "marriage" but I think I'm going to because I can't take it anymore. I also saw on the news that the animal that

had attacked someone in the woods had been caught and killed. Apparently it was a lion that broke out of the Zoo but I know whatever that was in the woods was no lion. So I was far from being relieved but at least the guy that got attacked was alive but in ICU. Apparently he lost an arm but he was still alive which is good right? Now it is Wednesday afternoon and I'm four houses away from the house in a car with Daniel. I can see that he wants to say something but yet again he has been acting quite weird since Monday. Well not weird as such but he has been awfully quiet and not his usual playful self. He was busy tapping his fingers on the steering wheel absent-minded. Me: "If you have something to say just say it." I said finally getting tired of the dead silence. Daniel seemed to snap out of whatever trance he was in. He was avoiding my gaze while rubbing his chin. Him: "Umh I... (Sigh) I won't be able to be your chauffeur for now." I felt a pang in my heart but I knew this was to happen sooner or later but that didn't stop it from hurting. Me: "Oh yeah. I heard that the animal was caught so I understand." I said nodding but he shook his head. Him: "No no no don't get it twisted. I'm still going to be your chauffeur regardless of whether the thing is caught or not. I just have some things that's stressing me and I don't know how to go about solving them." I was relieved to be honest; I guess I have gotten used to him driving me around. Me: "If you want to talk about it I'm all ears." Him: "My dad is being difficult as always. I don't get why he doesn't get that I love Olivia and will always be forever." His jaw was clenched and he was staring at nothing or so I think. "serif"; mso-bidi-font-family:Helvetica">I felt a pang once again. It hurt to hear him say the L-word especially after I have come to term with my feelings. Me: "I say if you really love her then you must fight for her. Fight for her and I'm sure once your father sees how serious you are about her he will definitely approve. I know he'll be proud to see you fighting for what you love even if he doesn't like her. He will eventually see what you see." I was playing with my sleeve looking at my hands in work because I couldn't face him as I know hurt was probably written on my face. I looked up once I was done but what I didn't expect was a pair of soft lips on mine. I was frozen for a few seconds but I felt my body becoming weak and my mind all foggy. I closed my eyes and soon I melted on the kiss. It was so intoxicating that my rational senses were soon thrown out the window. I have felt this way or been kissed like. I have been kissed before but this was something else. Butterfly erupted in my stomach I could feel the electricity running through my veins and I could swear fireworks were going off in my head. When I felt his tongue trying to gain I snapped out whatever trance his kiss has put me into. I pushed him off me and anger had engulfed me just as quick. Me: "What the hell Daniel? What the fuck you think you're doing here? You have a girlfriend for fuck's sake." I slapped him out of anger and I regretted it soon as I had done so. I didn't want him to punish like he did to Zee but he didn't seem like he was offended. Him: "I was just checking something." He said smirking and that just pissed me off and once again I snapped. Me: "Fuck you okay! I'm not some stupid idiot who you can use whenever you want. I won't let you use me for whatever sick game you're trying to play here." I grabbed my backpack and tried to open the door which he locked on purpose. "Open the fucking door Daniel!" I hissed and he finally opened the door. I got out and banged the door pissed as hell. I didn't care if I broke the window or not. I just continue walking boiling with rage. Palesa was outside the gate and it seems like she was just coming in from somewhere. I don't how long she was there and quite frankly I didn't care. Her: "You sly bitch. All this time you've been pretending like you didn't know about the marriage while you're busy running around with sugar daddies. To think they all thought you're still a virgin and what was that over there? Trouble in paradise. Wow you really are

your mother's daughter." She was saying with a smirk on her and I wanted to punch that fake make-up off her. Me: "Go fuck yourself." I pushed her and walked passed her. At that moment I didn't care that it would result in obvious beating. 17 The next day I'm in a cafe working on my project. I know we were just given it today but I wanted to get a head start because knowing my life anything can happen and totally throw me off course. I had borrowed the books I needed at the University library. I was wearing my sunglasses but it wasn't because I got the beating; no stepmon didn't lay a hand on me because my "in-laws" are coming this weekend to get me and of cause she didn't want to look bad. In fact she has been awfully nice but that could be because of my rich "in-laws". No the reason I'm forced to wear sunglasses indoors is because after a while my anger dissipated and sadness took over. Of cause being the cry baby I was I cried myself to sleep and soon regretted it this morning when I woke up to red puffy eyes. Daniel did call and texted a lot but I ignored all of them. I didn't have the energy to deal with him or really hear him out. My little angels of cause asked about his whereabouts and I told them that he was busy. I had ordered coffee because I'm gonna need it. I hear the chair next to me screeching which indicated that someone was taking a seat next to me. I raised my head to see one of Daniel's friends that I had met over the weekend at Zee's. I think they called him Johnny or something and he was watching me intensely and grinning as well. Him: "Hello beautiful stranger or should I say BP?" He said which made me cringe. Me: "Oh please don't... I've had enough of that..." I mumbled the last part to myself. Him: "Good cause that is weird. So Kea what's with sunglasses indoors?" He said chuckling and I have to say it sounded a bit sexy not to mention the way he said my name. Wow I really am a lost course. Me: "You don't even wanna know." Thank God I was hidden under the sunglasses or I might have avoided his eyes. He had these intense oceanic blue eyes which seemed to make me feel weak somehow. Him: "I think I do but I won't probe. I actually am glad to see you; I really wanted to talk to you." Curiosity got the best of me because I found myself leaning in towards him. Me: "Really?" He chuckled once again before continuing. Him: "Yep. Let me formally introduce myself Jonathan Stevens at your service." He popped the "p". He extended his hand for a handshake which I clearly took. We had to pull away quickly because sparks literally flied. It was that feeling where you incidentally touch someone with fewer ions in the body and get shocked. Me: "I think one of us have to check their iron." I said rubbing my hand. Him: "Or it was just chemistry. Anyway I wanted to warn you against Daniel. He is a great guy and when he cares for someone he really cares for them. However he has a girlfriend and a lot of people can confuse his care with love he really cares for them. However he has a girlfriend and a lot of people can confuse his care with love only to get hurt in the end. You see he loves his girlfriend a lot even despite his family's disapproval." I blinked a couple of times again thank you sunglasses. Me: "Why are you telling me this?" I asked feigning innocence hoping he wasn't on to my feelings. Him: "I know you have a crush on him. I don't blame you but however for someone who has been his friend since high school I know him. He loves my cousin so much that it's scary sometimes. They fight and get back together every time. They have this intense love and everyone who gets in between always get burned. You see I'm the one who introduced the two so I've around throughout their entire relationship." He said as a matter of factly and it was no use denying. Me: "Is that why you're warning me because she's your cousin? For your information I'm already married well traditionally anyway." I felt weird throwing my marriage like that. Geez I wasn't even used to it myself but I felt like I had to say something. Him: "That's not why... wait did you say you're married? So I was late after all. (Sigh) On the upside at least I won't feel like a

dick for saying this. Daniel is going to propose to Olivia and I have to say it was selfish of me." My breath hitched when he said "propose". I felt like I was stabbed in the chest a hundred times over. "But it doesn't matter now since you're already married. (Sigh) I really thought I was the one to soothe your heart. You see Kea I really liked you from the first time I saw you. I guess now I'm already late or perhaps I'm not but who knows right. Well I leave you to your work." He got up and was heading out. Me: "Wait what do you mean?" He didn't stop but just waved back and said "See you later BP!" Just like that he was gone. What did he mean and why does everyone have to be so damn mysterious? I sighed before going back to my books but to hell with that cause now I couldn't concentrate anymore. The suspense is killing me. So much for my head start. 18 I was kneeling in front of my father's grave. I haven't been here in a while but I thought since today may be my last day of freedom I might as well come and visit him. Who knows if I'll ever be able to get a chance to visit again. The tears that were streaming down my face were starting to sting a little bit. Me: "Ah dear daddy... (Sniffing) tomorrow I'll be leaving perhaps for good. (Sniffing) I don't know if it's a good thing since I'll be away fro... (Sniffing) from stepmonster but what if... (Sniffing) what if my husband turns out worse." I started chuckling laughing at my own fate. How could one have such a fate? My phone started ringing and because of my glossy eyes I couldn't see who the caller was. I answered the call Me: "Hello!" I was still sniffing ??: "...." but nothing came. I could hear someone breathing on the other. Me: "Okay this is getting ridiculous. Stop calling if you're not gonna say anything." I hung up and clicked my tongue because I was getting tired of these cryptic calls. I was hanging out with my two favourite bitches in the whole world. We were inside Zoe's Jacuzzi. We were laughing and having our wine well they were. I was having JC le Roux non-alcoholic champagne. Yeah well I didn't want any repeat of last time I drank. Since it's my last day before heading off to my in-laws the girls decided that we'll spend some quality time together. Sort of like my bachelorette party except it was only us and there was no party. I was still distraught about Daniel's kiss and what Johnny said but I decided today was not the time to worry about all of that Puleng: "I can't believe that you're actually getting married. I mean don't get me wrong but you bitch have nil experience when it comes to men. Your stepmon really outdone herself." She took a sip of her wine before releasing a humourless chuckle. Me: "Yeah I knew she was up to no good but I never imagined this." I release a deep sigh. "What's wrong with you Zee you seem miles away?" I had noticed that Zee was deep in thought and not really paying attention. She finally snaps out off her daze and try to make her way out but we stop her. Puleng: "And then Sponsored where do you think you're going?" Zoe: "I need to talk to my brother." She said and tries to get up again but I grab her hand and pull her down back in the water. Me: "No no you'll talk to him later. Right now it's my time. I don't know if I'll ever get a chance to be with you guys. What if..." I stop talking when my tears are starting to well up again. I can be a cry baby sometimes. Zoe: "Let's all run away together. Far far away where no one will find us." She said startling us. I take her wine away. Me: "Okay I think you've had enough to drink. I can't exactly run away and you guys don't have to worry about me. I'll toughen it out but if he happens to be some old and scruffy guy. Then I'm definitely taking that offer. So tell me how are things between you and bhutiNjabulo?" I quickly change the subject because I don't want us to be sad about all that's happening. She instantly blushes at the mention of Njabulo and I know she still has a crush on him. The guy is not quite the looker but the hearts wants what it wants. I really have to commend Zee because she has never been bothered about somebody's outward appearance something we should

all strive for. Yeah her past relationships didn't end well because the guys were not so decent but Njabulo seems to be a good guy. We ended up chatting and I have to say it was fun and for a moment I forgot everything. It was after dinner and I was in my room my two little angels. It was a bittersweet moment because I enjoy being with them and I know I'm going to miss them. Dintle: "Are you really going to leave Aunty?" she was sniffing trying to be strong and I kissed both of their cheeks. We were sitting on the bed with them on each of my sides. I actually like being in the middle. Me: "No my sweet angels. I'm never leaving you. I'm just going to be away for a while but I'll keep checking up on you guys." I kiss them again as I can feel my own tears threatening to fall any moment. Knock knock! There was a knock on the door and Tshepo was quick to answer. 19 The person opened the door and I was surprised to see stepmonster because she never knocks. She had a box in her hand and she stepped inside the room with her oh so famous fake smile. If I didn't know her or know the extent of her cruelty I probably would have fell for it. Her: "Your in-laws have bought a gift for you. Take a look." She gave me the box and left without saying anymore. I opened the box and inside was a very beautiful traditional shweshwe dress and by the looks of it it was just my size. Tshepo: "Wow Aunty it's beautiful. I know you'll look even more beautiful in it." He said hugging me in his tiny embrace and Dintle also followed mimicking his action. Oh they're so cute. Ring ring! Suddenly my phone rings. I swear if it's another one of those cryptic calls I'm changing my number. It was inside the left pocket of my jeans I took it out and luckily it was from BabMandla. He is one of the guys who came for my lobola. PHONE CONVO... Me: "Hello!" Him: "Hello Kea my child. How are you?" even through the phone his voice is still commanding and if he wasn't in my father's age Sponsored "serif";mso-bidi-font-family: "Times New Roman">Me: "Hello!" Him: "Hello Kea my child. How are you?" even through the phone his voice is still commanding and if he wasn't in my father's age I probably would have thought it was sexy. Me: "I'm doing fine BabMandla and you?" I had to clear my throat because I was a little scared. He chuckles and oh wow that was sexy for someone old. Him: "I'm doing great. I just wanted to inform you that you need to get ready because we have sent someone to fetch you. He might arrive after nine." Me: "Wha... what do you mean?" I was startled and a little confused. Him: "We did tell you that we had to perform a ceremony to introduce you as the daughter-in-law of our family to the elders right?" I nodded like he could see me. But he continued nonetheless. It looks like his question was rhetorical. "So we have to go now to be able to make it in the morning. I'm guessing you received our gift and we would really appreciate it if you could grace us with wearing it. Bye!" and just like that he hung up. I think he is one of those strict parents. Make one wrong move and you're definitely grounded for life. I was outside hugging my two angels who were holding on to me for dear life while sobbing. I was trying to hold back my tears which was very difficult because my throat was definitely parched. I didn't want to cry in front of them because I know that I have to be strong for them. The driver or maybe the chauffeur already had taken my bags and put them in the trunk of the Range Rover. He seemed like he was in hurry though. I gave my angels a little squeeze for the last before asking their mother to take them. Stepmonster decided to come over and hug me while she just wanted to whisper to me. Her: "Don't you ever try to embarrass me in your in-laws. If you ever come back know that I'll make your life a living hell." She hissed and let go sporting her famous fake smile. Talk about being two-faced. I said my final goodbyes which were mostly to my nieces. I can see Palesa's scowl unlike her mother she wasn't as good at hiding her venom. I got inside the car and wow it smelled good at it was very comfortable. I release a deep sigh because I know from now on my life

will never be the same again. 20 I suddenly feel being shaken and there is a faint voice that I can't make out. "Ma'am ma'am wake up!" at first I was confused but my consciousness begin to slip back and I jerk awake. I wake up to see the driver or was it the chauffeur again? He was staring right at me with his big dark orbs that seem to be hiding so many secrets. Wow is everyone in this family good-looking? Him: "Ma'am we're here." I get off my daze and look outside. Well it was already sunrise I guess I must have dosed off while he was driving. He holds my hand and help me out. I had to squint my eyes as I slowly adjust to the light. After a few seconds of adjusting I finally take in my surrounding. I do a double take and my body suddenly felt numb and I almost fainted but the driver was quick to catch me. It looked like we were in some village even though it felt like some private property. I can see a couple of big rondaval houses in front of me on the left there is a very huge vegetable garden which looks like it was more like a farm. Then on my right it is a kraal with cattle and other livestock. I was not expecting any of this. These people looked like they lived in a mansion somewhere and now this. Oh my God what if this is where I'll be living for the rest of my life? I know I live in Soweto but I am not a village type of girl. Oh no! They'll be asking me asking me to collect firewood in the mountains or maybe fetch water from the river what about cooking outside? No I can't do this. Probably sensing my predicament the driver lets go of me and take me to one of the houses. It wasn't the biggest but still too big for a traditional rondaval house. We enter inside and I can see the three gentlemen who had brought the lobola already but this time they were wearing xhosa tradition attires next to them were two other gentlemen but they looked much younger and in fact one of them seems to be around my age. On the other side was a lady who looked to be in her seventies but still looked fresh and you can tell during her prime she was probably very beautiful. She looked like royalty; actually everyone here looked like royalty. Next to her were three mature ladies who were probably my mother's age or a bit older and they all looked beautiful with their smiles which didn't look forced then sitting on the mat next to them was one lady who looks to be slightly older than me. Like I said before everyone in this family looks to be good looking because I couldn't spot anyone who wasn't. They were all in their xhosa attires and I felt a little out of place in sotho attire. Don't get me wrong the dress is beautiful including its head wrap and I know I'm beautiful in it but it's just overwhelming to be surrounded by everyone in xhosa attire. The oldest lady: "Welcome my dear child." She said showing me to a mat that was in the middle I hadn't realised that the driver was no longer beside me. I went and sat on the mat with my head bowed down because I was a little nervous since I felt their entire gaze on me. I hadn't realised that the driver was no longer beside me. I went and sat on the mat with my head bowed down because I was a little nervous since I felt their entire gaze on me. I hear footsteps coming towards me and I followed my first instinct which was to raise my head. I was met with a guy who looked slightly older than BabMandla and his siblings; he was in a different attire than the rest of them. He had a lot of beads around his head hands and feet. I started shaking suddenly nervous. Him: "Don't be afraid my girl. My name is BabDaluxolo shall we begin?" I started nodding my head even though I'm not sure what he said. You see I'm not really good at Xhosa. I was lead outside with him chanting some words which I couldn't fathom. The rest was following with the women ululating and the men chanting what might be their clan praise because I think heard it during my negotiation. They lead me to the river and I was asked to immerse myself in it. I was afraid and hesitant to go but BabDaluxolo smeared something on my forehead and that was lights out for me. By the time I woke up dusk had already settled and I was already in a new change of

clothes which were Xhosa traditional attire. Of course at first I was freaking out because I didn't know who changed my clothes but Amahle who was the young lady told me she was the one who did it. She also told me not to fear anything as she also went through it as the daughter-in-law of the family. I guess after the little talk we had I felt a lot better but it didn't mean I wasn't still a little afraid. I was led into another rondaval which seemed like the smallest one compared to the others. It was a little scary because it was filled with what looked like bones animal skins and other questionable plants. I know they are probably what traditional healers use but it was still scary nonetheless. There was an empty chair which looked like it was some type of a throne. Next to it was a mat which I was told to occupy. BabDaluxolo was holding a blindfold and told me that no matter what I hear or feel I shouldn't take off the blindfold. That really scared the living daylights out of me. My heart was beating at an abnormal pace but I remembered Amahle's words and I calmed down a bit just a bit. He blindfolded me and after a while I felt another person's presence and my heart once again was beating out of control. I felt the person's presence next to me I guess he sat at the throne. BabDaluxolo started chanting once again and my body shivered when I felt something being smeared on my back my arms my legs and my forehead. I don't know what stuff they used but I suddenly felt strange. Even though it was smeared outside I can feel my insides reacting to it. I was burning from the inside and my bones felt weird like there was something crawling inside it. I began screaming because I couldn't take it it was excruciating like my insides were trying to crawl out. I felt something on my lips and I heard BabDaluxolo telling me to drink. I drank because I thought it was water but boy was I wrong. The liquid was thick and it tasted weird almost like an animal blood. Holy shit! Don't tell me I'm about to be sacrificed. I could also smell some weird odour like they were burning some type of incense. Then I heard a howling of some type of animal yet it sounded much closer too close. For the second time that day it was lights out for me.

21 After the crazy day yesterday I woke up the next day yet in another different traditional Xhosa attire. I didn't ask what happened because I don't even want to know I'm just glad that I was alive. I thought I was some sort of a virgin sacrifice and that's why they were so generous with my dowry. I was taken to the rondaval which was the largest and inside was pretty decent. Even though it was a rondaval house inside it looked like a normal classic house. The interior design of course had more of a traditional feel but it was more modern traditional designs. We had breakfast which I had a very big serving because I didn't eat the whole day yesterday so yes I was hungry. Afterwards we drove back and this time the destination wasn't as foreign. We arrived at a beautiful two storey house that had a very huge garden and I could tell that it probably had a swimming pool. I was handed the key to the house and asked to open the house myself. I was accompanied by BabMandla and MamJessica who was one of the ladies back at wherever we were before. She is coloured and looks very classy and beautiful. Apparently she was BabMandla's wife and they were the parents of my husband. Now they had changed into formal wear. BabMandla was wearing a navy blue two piece suit white shirt navy blue tie and black shoes. MamJessica was wearing a navy blue off the shoulder bodycon dress with red stiletto. For someone who is old she had a banging body. I unlocked the door and entered the house and it was breathtaking. The interior was modern and classy but also very warm. They lead me upstairs to a room I'm assuming it is the master bedroom. It was big for starters the biggest bedroom I've ever been in. It had a king sized bed Sponsored the biggest bedroom I've ever been in. It had a

king sized bed matching headrest and night stand a walk-in his and hers closet large dresser an ensuite an ottoman at the edge of the bed a flat-screen TV and large sliding door which led to the balcony. The balcony had a thatched table and two matching thatched armchairs and a flower pot at the corner containing evening primrose. I chuckled at that and went back inside. The colour scheme of the room was beige white and different shades of brown with a touch of green and grey there and there. My in-laws left after letting me know that this is my house and that my husband was away but will arrive soon. After seeing them off I went back in my room and throw myself on the bed. I don't even know if we are back in Johannesburg or if we are in another city because I slept the whole ride here. I slowly drifted back to sleep seemingly tired even though all I did was pass out and sleep for questionable hours. I wasn't hungry because they had bought food on the way and that was the only time I was awake during the drive but I went back to sleep after I ate. My in-laws might have thought I was shameless but I couldn't care less. I was woken up by someone shaking me. I'm guessing my husband was home. I opened my eyes only to be shocked. I think I'm officially fucking screwed!...

22 I sat up staring at the idiot who somehow had an unreadable expression. Me: "What the hell Daniel? What the hell are you doing here?" I hissed begging and hoping it isn't what I'm thinking it is. Him: "I'm no longer Dani now? Anyway I should ask you the same thing seeing as this is my room and al... shit wait! Are you the girl they arranged for me to marry?" Realisation hit him and his face went from amused to total shock... wait he is my husband. Fuck I'm royally screwed. Not it was my turn to be shocked. Me: "Sooo that means you're my husband?" I finally said diverting my gaze towards the balcony. I heard him release a long sigh next to me. Him: "Listen BP I---" he was interrupted by someone clearing their throat. I jerked my head toward where the feminine sound originated. I saw a blonde lady leaning against the door with her hands crossed on her chest and even though it looked like she tried to hide it but I could notice the scowl that settled on her face. I was so engrossed in Daniel that I hadn't noticed that she was also present. Daniel cleared his throat seeming to catch on the lady's intention. Him: "Uhm BP---" I interrupt him before he can finish. Me: "I don't think BP would be appropriate assuming that the lady standing by the door is Olivia your girlfriend... oh wait I meant to say your fiancée." I don't know what got into me but I was glaring fiercely at him. He looks taken aback by my sudden retort. Him: "So you know?" he asked and I simply nodded stealing a glance at Olivia whose scowl seemingly deepened. She cleared her throat once more giving pointed looks at Daniel who seemed to get a little uncomfortable. Ok now I was getting nervous. Wondering what they had planned. He sighed once again and shifted himself back to me holding my gaze. Wow how was he able to do that? Shift from wavering eyes to resolute one in a matter of a second. As disturbing as that was I found myself being mesmerised nonetheless. Him: "Since you already know that we're engaged. Would you be so kind as to leave this room and move into the guestroom." That was no request but a statement. I was taken aback because that was not the sweet kind and playful Dani that I knew. I felt a pain wrench straight in my heart and something foreign stirred up in me. Me: "I won't do it. You and your "Fiancée" can move into the guestroom." I glared fiercely at him crossing my hands which he returned the glare just as equally fiercely. Him: "In case you haven't figured it out this is my house and this is my room. I will decide who is worthy enough to lay in my bed." I can hear Olivia chuckling clearly enjoying this which only fuelled me even more. Me: "Well I'm your wife bitch and this bed is rightfully mine. You're the one who brought some skimpy assed bitch into OUR house

so you move out." I think that stirred the anger in him because before I knew it he had tightly held my jaw in his large hand. Him: "Don't fucking patronise me Prim! We both know this was arranged. I love Olivia and not you. This is my house and not yours. I proposed to her because it doesn't matter what my father thinks but I will never recognise you as my wife nor will I ever love you. So save us both the trouble and just leave already because I refuse to leave my room. You're the unwanted guest here and not me and certainly not Olivia." His jaw was tightly clenched and his grip against mine only seemed to get tighter with each word. Tears fell on my face but my resolve was still not shaken. Me: "Don't think for a second that I don't know that. Because regardless of what you may think the only way I could ever get married to you was being forced into it. I still won't leave my room so you and your sweetheart better move out. Unless you want me to make a call to your father and let him know of our little situation. I'm sure he won't be as accommodating as me." At the mention of his father his grip loosened and eventually broke. His anger seems to only escalate and he got off the bed and left the room without a word or taking his fiancée with. She walked over to her Louis Vuitton travel bags before wheeling them out. When she reached the door she stopped and glare back at me. Her: "This isn't over." Then she was out. I got off the bed and ran to the door and locked it. After that all the resolve that I seemed to have possessed seemed to dissipate as my knees gave out and I fell to my knees letting out silent sobs. I always knew that luck was something that seemed to be out of my reach but I didn't expect it to be so shitty. I thought the worst was being sold to some scruffy old man or perhaps some ugly guy whose parents thought he wouldn't find someone to marry on his own but this is way worse. Not only did I know he has a girlfriend but he's engaged and seem to only care about her. What scares me the most is that look he had. It was like he could kill me any minute. I wish I hadn't signed that marriage certificate. Yes the marriage certificate. While we were having breakfast in that village I still don't know BabMandla brought a marriage certificate to sign and apparently my "husband" had already signed. Since I was still fatigued I didn't care to look at the names so I just signed. I wish I hadn't signed because then I would have taken Zee's proposal to run away... wait a second she knew. She knew about it and she still didn't bother to tell me. Some friend she is. It was Monday and I had classes but just my luck I didn't know where I was and I was not about to ask Daniel or Olivia. I was outside the gate not knowing what to do. I couldn't catch a taxi because this is some fancy suburb and I don't think anyone in this neighbourhood would even consider it. I also couldn't exactly call an Uber seeing as I didn't know my location. All I know was that this was house number 95. What to do what to do? The gate opened revealing Daniel's Lamborghini he stopped next to me and rolled down the window. Him: "Hop in I'll take you to school." Seriously is this guy bipolar or what? Not long ago he was angry and tightly gripping my jaws like he was about to kill me and now he wants to give me a ride. Me: "I'm not some schoolkid who needs to be taken to school it's called a University idiot. I think I'll pass." I stared back at my phone looking at the time. Him: "Don't be so stubborn and get in." He looked exasperated but I couldn't get why. Olivia who was in the passenger seat seemed ticked off for some reason. Her: "She doesn't want to get in so just leave her be." Well for once I agree with her. I am not about to be in the same car as them no way. Daniel took out his phone and did something on it. Of course I was curious but I tried not to show it. Him: "Done! Suit yourself. I requested an Uber for you so stay put." He said then ignited the engine and then drove off leaving me startled. I had figured that he hated me and probably my guts but why was he showing concern. Fucken idiot! As he said the Uber did arrive and I was thankful seeing as I got to the Uni on

time. As usual Zoe and Puleng were waiting on me in the door of our Faculty holding an extra coffee for me but unlike any other day I was pissed at someone I'm not sure I could keep call a friend.

Puleng: "Morning married bitch! Is your husband hot or should we start packing?" she was wearing her signature smirk. I went over to hug her before taking my coffee from her and leaving without saying a word or greeting Zoe. They followed after me Puleng being the first to grab my wrist to stop me. She was confused while Zoe was facing down. "Wait up bitch what's up with you? Is he that bad?" Zoe finally looked up. Zoe: "Look Ro---" I raised my hand to stop her. Me: "Rosey Kay is reserved for my friends only and you are not one." They were both shocked by my sudden outburst. Zoe: "I am your frien---" Me: "Some friend you are. You knew yet you didn't think to tell me." Her: "I can expla---" Me: "Explain what exactly? I thought you were my friend. You could've told me before I went ahead and signed the damned marriage certificate. Hell I don't even know how your father will officiate it seeing as there were no officials present. Don't even get me started on the things they did to me." Tears were falling on my tears involuntarily and I was chuckling. Puleng was looking at us confused. Puleng: "OK hold on bitches! What the fuck is actually going on here?!" I crossed my hands raising my eyebrow and focussing my gaze at Zoe Me: "Tell her what's going on." She looked at me with tears also on her tears before facing Puleng. Her: "BhutLwazi is her husband." Her gaze fell on the floor once again. Puleng: "What the actual fuck?!" she was beyond shocked with her eyes popping and mouth agape. I left them and went inside the class and sat on my usual chair. Puleng came to me desk wanting to say anything but I was quick to beat her to it. Me: "I'm not in the mood Coloured Pea." I wiped my tears before taking my books out of my backpack. After a while seeing as I was not budging she sighed and went to her chair. The whole day I had spent avoiding them. I felt bad seeing Zoe so sad but I felt betrayed and hurt even more than I had led on. I walked out of the gate and there he was leaning against his car. I hate to admit it but he looked dashing in those glasses and that smug look he was wearing infuriated me. Him: "I have been waiting for you took you long enough." He walked towards me his hands in his pockets. Me: "It's official I have the shittiest luck in the whole world." He stopped dead on his tracks and his smirk disappeared immediately... 23 We were standing face to face his initial shock gone. Him: "Is that how we greet each other now." He had the nerve to pout doesn't he know how adorable it made him look. Her: "What the hell are you doing here Jonathan?" I placed my left on my left hip raising my eyebrow at him. Him: "Are you mad at me? Or is it Dan you're pissed at?" he mimicked my action. Again still adorable. Me: "You haven't answered me Jo. What the hell are you doing here?" I tried not to smile because I was still mad even though he was so adorable. Him: "Jo I like that very much. That does put a lot of pressure on me. I have to think of a special name for you. I can't exactly call you Kea if you're calling me so lovely." He had both his hands on his cheeks pouting. He had no idea how beautiful my name sounds rolling off his tongue. About eighty perfect of the people I know call me Kea but coming from him sounds so sensual so foreign. Wow I'm internally drooling. "Anyway I came to check on you." Me: "So you also knew yet didn't think to let me know. And what did you mean when you said you might not be too late?" I saw all the adorableness disappear and was replaced by the seriously hot self. Him: "Trust me I didn't know but I kind of had the feeling that you were the girl his father was so hell bent on marrying to him. I knew if you were to be married to Dan that meant that I might have my chance with you cause I know that Dan loves my cousin too much." At the mention of his name my face hardened. Me: "I'm guessing your friend confirmed your suspicions and that's why you're here." He chuckled resuming his pose of

his hands on his pockets. Him: "Not it was my cousin calling me to ask about some B-what what. That was funny she was fuming. Something about the master bedroom or something... Anyway I didn't come here for anyone. I simply came here to ask you to have coffee with me but I didn't know I'll be waiting outside for so long." Me: "I know I don't like the guy but if I'm going to divorce him it'll be because he loves Olivia so much so that he can't fathom being without her and not because I'm having an affair with you." Him: "I know trust me. I don't want to have an affair with you either Dan is my homie. I just want us to get to know each other better and when you guys divorce you'll have me and we won't exactly have to start from the beginning." He smiled revealing his dimples and those white teeth that could easily be made into a toothpaste ad. God he is so handsome. Me: "OK it's a deal." I said smiling back his smile was so contagious. He pulled me to him and his shoulder was resting on my shoulders as we made our way into his BMW i8 Roadster (Yeah I know I've been into these cars lately). Him: "Oh a word of advice don't let my cousin get to you and definitely don't let her see that she's getting to you. You see she grew up with a silver spoon in her mouth. Yeah she worked hard to actually be where she is but that was also pretty much handed to her." I chuckled. Me: "Good I thought you were about to tell me how much of a kind person she was but don't worry about me cause I recently found out I can pretty much handle everything she could possibly throw at me." He laughed so hard his free hand on his abdomen. Him: "Oh I bet you can Miss "I'm your wife bitch and this bed is rightfully mine" you really made my day." I playfully smacked his hand that was on his abdomen laughing as well. I'm sure by now I was red with embarrassment. I opened the door to my house. Wow I can never get out over how beautiful this house is. I entered the living room and the scene in front really disgusted me. Daniel and Olivia were busy making out on the couch. I cleared my throat and did they stop? No they just looked at me through the corner of their eyes and continued munching on each other. Me: "You two need to get a room." Well that caught their attention. They turned to me both having smug look on their faces. Daniel: "Technically we're in a room or you could give us back our master bedroom and we might take our little session upstairs." He was rubbing her thighs which for some reason infuriated me. Me: "Not gonna happen dude. But your "little session" you need to take it upstairs. Just imagine if your father were to get in and witness this." The smug look they were sporting like some couple goals were replaced by total irritation. Daniel: "Whatever you spoilt the mood. Anyway where were you? I know for a fact that your classes didn't go until the evening." His hand left Olivia's thigh to join the other on his chest. Me: "Not that it's any of your business but I was out with my new bestie Jo." I blushed as the event of this afternoon and evening popped in my brain. You see we did go to the cafe and had our coffee but we enjoyed each others' company so much we decided to have dinner as well seeing as it was already late when we left the cafe. Daniel: "Who's Jo?" he had a scowl on his face. Me: "Jonathan obviously but you know him as Johnny." His scowl deepened and the same was seen on the fiancée. Told yah couple goals. Note the sarcasm. Daniel: "Bloody hell that idiot will know me well. And you shouldn't a married woman be at home and not chasing after some idiot?" Wow this guy is really testing my patience. Olivia: "And if you don't cook as the wife what do you expect your husband to eat." Father God please descend from heaven to this earth and stop me before I do something stupid. Me: "That's your fiancé you figure it out." I say to the bitch before turning my attention to the idiot I now call my husband "You're the idiot Daniel. And don't patronise me. Why should I act like a wife to someone who has brought their fiancée to what should be our home. You can continue your little session Sponsored I couldn't care

less if you get caught or not." With that I left and ran to my room. Once again I lock the door and drop on my knees realising a sob. After an eternity of sobbing I finally got off the floor and went to take a shower. The en-suit is very beautiful with marble wall and floor tiles a glass shower door a large bathtub a twin basin a toilet a towel rag a laundry basket and an ottoman on the corner. I took a long warm relaxing shower; after I was done I dried my body using the towel and wrapped the smaller one on my head. I lotioned myself then put on the oversized t-shirt that I came with. I realised that I left my undergarments in the room well that wasn't a problem since I didn't share my room and the door was locked. I got in the room only to drop everything that I was holding on the floor out of shock. Why? Well because in front of me was a wet Daniel in nothing but a towel only covering his lower part. I knew he was well-built but I didn't know he was so ripped. The muscles on his abs were so well-defined that I can number each one of his eight-pack. Let me not mention his chest and his wet hair that fell on his hair. Wow paradise on earth. Too bad he is nothing but an arrogant jerkass. Me: "What the hell Daniel? What are you doing in my room?" he just smirked raising his eyebrows knowingly. Him: "Don't act like you weren't drooling over me just now. Too bad you can't have me. Anyway you seem to forget that this is my room and this is my room. Let's not mention the clothes that are in that closet that for some my mother to turn it into his and hers kinda thing also belong to me." Me: "But this morni---" I was interrupted by him. Him: "This morning you were already outside when I came in and yesterday well I didn't want to even see your face. You see I despi---" he was interrupted by my phone that was on top of the bed. I silently thanked however was on the other side because I couldn't stand watching Daniel in his wet glory. Ok that was weird. I quickly took my phone and went outside in the balcony. I looked at the caller ID and it was his father and I wonder what he wants but I answered nonetheless. PHONE CONVO... Me: "Hello BabMandla!" he chuckled on the other side. Him: "Hello my dear. You know you can stop calling me BabMandla now I'm your father. The marriage certificate is now officiated. You can call me dad like your husband does and not baba cause only my wife calls me that." My mouth went agape. Seriously who are these people and how did he officiate it and so fast. Mind you I signed on Sunday and today is Monday. Me: "OK dad." Well that sounded weird coming from my mouth. Him: "Don't worry if it sounds awkward you'll soon get used to it." I guess he must have felt my discomfort. I yelped when I felt someone breath on my neck and my phone was taken off my ears and loudspeaker was turned on. "I'm guessing you already met your husband am I right?" Me: "Yes." My voice came as a whisper because Daniel was nibbling on my right ear. BabMandla: "Are you okay my dear? Anyway where's your husband?" my breathing was becoming ragged. Daniel: "I'm here dad. What did you wanna talk about?" he spoke while kissing and nibbling on my neck and ear. BabMandla: "Did I call at a bad time?" he was sounding uncomfortable but who wouldn't with my panting and Daniel's groaning. Daniel: "Pretty much dad." He continued his assault on me like he wasn't on speaker with his father on the other side of the phone. His father must think that I'm shameless. I tried to escape but how could I when his hold was so strong. BabMandla: "Well I wanted to inform you that Tomorrow evening your mother planned a family dinner to introduce your wife to the whole family. Let me leave you to it then I'll let you know the details later. Don't do what I wouldn't son." With that he hung up. Daniel took the phone and put it on the table soon as his father hung up. He turned me around and put his hand on my waist pulling me to him. He lips met mine in a hot passionate kiss. I could feel my knees getting weak. He grip on my waist tightened and he pulled me even closer. I yelped when his hand fell on my butt mind you I

had nothing underneath that shirt. He took advantage of that and slammed his tongue on my mouth. He found mine ready and they danced together fighting for dominance. I yelped when I felt something poking my midsection. That was enough to pull me out of my daze Daniel's kisses seemed to trap me in. I pushed him away and he smirked again before walking slowly to me. His face was inches away from mine as he leaned in even closer instead of kissing me again he whispered to me not breaking eye contact. Him: "You can keep dreaming I will never want you. All this time I was kissing you I was thinking of my sexy fiancée who's waiting in my room naked and ready for me." I frown at his words but I was never going to back down. Me: "And I was thinking of Jo and he seems to be a much better kisser than you." His grip was on my jaws once again his own clenched. I raised my hand and stated running my fingers on his chest sensually and it was my turn to whisper "Careful dear Dani one might think you're jealous." His loosened and I took that as my queue to leave. I took my phone and rushed to the en-suit. I wanted to cry but I looked at myself on the mirror and kept saying "Don't cry no more crying. You're stronger than this. No more crying you're done with crying." I kept reciting it until I felt that they are no longer trying to leak out.

24 I am in the Uni's cafeteria sitting on the table at the corner. I am having my lunch while reading and yes I am on my own. Once again Daniel called an Uber for me and I am still mad at him. I have not spoken to Zoe and even though I miss her and love I am still hurt by her. ???: "Seriously Kea is this how things are now?" That was Puleng who decided to take a seat without even asking. I am not mad at her or anything I just to be alone because being around her also means being around Zoe. I am not selfish enough to ask her to choose between us because that is just cruel. Me: "I don't know what you are talking about Coloured Pea but if you are talking about Zoe's situation then yes." I put my book on the table and look at her. She ran her hand on weave out of frustration. Her: "Bitch try'na test me." She huffed and ran her hand once again on her weave. She glared at me for a second before releasing her sigh "Listen Kea I know Zee was wrong about not telling you that you're marrying her brother but I believe she must have a good reason for not telling you. I'm not condoning what she did but at least let her explain. She hasn't told me her reasons nor do I want to ask cause this is between you two. So you two please sort your issues out cause I really miss my bitches and this is just messed up." She released another deep sigh "I won't tell you to forgive her or anything. I just want you to give her a chance to explain her reasons and you can take it from there. That's all I wanted to say. Oh and Kay don't punish everyone for this cause some of us really didn't know." With that she left. I released a breath that I didn't know I had held. Maybe she was right but I just want to be mad for a little while. I am allowed aren't I? She had an opportunity to tell me but she didn't. I mean she also didn't tell me that Daniel was engaged to Olivia or that he was planning to. ***** I was outside Maria Mary Boutique waiting for Amahle. I got a call from my mother-in-law who told me to go to the boutique where I will meet Amahle and shop for a dress for today's dinner. I stood there waiting and waiting. After about half an hour I decided to get inside because I probably looked like a weirdo. Amahle will just find me inside. I got in and the place is amazing. Rows and rows of elegant dresses classic suits gorgeous handbags and not to mention the shoes wow. This place looks just wow I bet everything is expensive here. I was about to make a u-turn when I heard my voice. Amahle: "Prim where do you think you are going. And what took you so long?" I turn to see Amahle already making her way to me. She squeezed me into a hug. She was smiling and boy did she look gorgeous. She had this inner glow

about her and her smile is so kind not forced at all. "I asked you why you were late. I have been waiting for you." She was pouting and she looked even more gorgeous. Me: "I have been waiting outside for over half an hour. I thought you were no longer coming." I was confused but she just laughed. Her laugh was very sophisticated. Her: "Oh my dear Prim you could have just came in. You see this is my store and I have been waiting for you inside. What a misunderstanding huh?" she smiled again which automatically made me smile. Enamoured Me: "So you're the owner wow. This place is amazing." I said looking around in awe once again. Her: "Thank you dear. Let's go this way." She led me to one of the row where there was a bunch of beautiful evening dresses. One of the assistants came and gave us two ottomans. We sat down. "You can choose whichever dress you like. You can pick multiple ones then you'll try them all and we'll which one you like most." She said smiling kindly. She just I should pick whatever... wow. Me: "You mean I can pick any dress." I asked still not believing and she just nodded. Her: "You're even welcome to take more if you like." I cannot believe my ears right now but I simply cannot take more than one. However I will not tell her that because I am pretty she will insist. I mouthed thanks then I got up and started looking through the dresses. I was in awe and confused as fuck. All these dresses look amazing and I have never owned anything remotely as beautiful as them. The only dresses I owned are summer dresses. Perhaps sensing my predicament she stood up as well and took over. At the end she picked about fifteen dresses and no matter how much I tried to object she was not budging. Her assistants put all the dresses on a rag and they wheeled towards the dressing room at the back. It was her private dressing room and she decided to take me there as she did not want us to be disturbed. The room was more of a working station with a lot fabric on the shelves Sponsored mannequins with what looks like a sample or something. The assistants left five minutes later they came with a tray of champagne and glasses. After they left Amahle poured us the wine. She handed one to me and I thanked her and took a sip. A sip is all I'll have because I do not wish to seem ungrateful. I took one of the dresses. It was a red v-neck bodycon dress. I got inside the dressing room and put it on. After I was done I looked in the mirror before stepping out. Me: "What do you think?" I did a mini pose for her which she just laughed at my antics. Her: "You look amazing but you don't seem happy." She said sipping her champagne. Me: "The dress is beautiful but---" she interrupted me. Her: "It's not you." She finished my sentence and I nodded before going back to the dressing room. Thirteen more dresses to go yippie! Note the sarcasm. I just hope I can find the one I liked before having to try them all. I am sorry but I find shopping very stressful. That is probably why I have simple style. Lucky for me I found my dress by the time I got to dress number seven. It was a beautiful blush pink dress. The top was an A-line sleeveless embroidery lace and the bottom was high-waist tiered tiling chiffon that was above the knee on the front and below on the back. I loved how simple and elegant it was (To me it was). Definitely the only elegant outfit that I have ever owned. I got out of the dressing room and the look on Amahle's face was confirmation that this was my dress. Her: That is definitely your dress. Is that all you'll be taking? We still have eight more dresses to try." I shook my head because there was no way that I'll be trying any more dresses. She simply smiled and patted the chair next to hers. "Come have a seat. I know this is not my place or anything and I had promised not to say anything but... Zana had no idea that you were the one getting married to Lwazi." She stated which made my heart skip a beat. If Zoe was not aware then that means that I was mad at her for nothing. Now I was really hating myself for overacting. Me: "Now I feel like shit--- sorry I mean I feel bad." She smiled once again and waved her

hands off. Her: "You don't need to all formal with me but yeah you have to watch yourself in front of dad." I was confused. Did she mean her father or ---? Perhaps sensing my confusion she smiled before continuing "I meant BhabMandla. I can't exactly call him baba or tata cauz apparently only mama is allowed to call him that. By mama I mean MamJessica. I am actually an orphan. I'm only left with my sister but the Dlamini's are my family. They came in my life at a time when I felt it was the end and that it was no use moving on." I blinked twice three times because I never imagined but what made me look at her in awe is that her smile did not falter not even once when she said that. Me: "You must really love them huh?" I wanted to ask her story but I was not sure if she felt comfortable talking about it so I opt for that question. There was a glimmer of adoration when she looked at me. It is clear that she really does. Her: "I love them. They have love for each other and treat everyone they call family like they are the only people that matters in their eyes. You see when they consider you family they will give anything and everything to you just to make you happy. I know you're probably going through a lot but trust me they will protect you with their life. That's just what it means to be a Dlamini." I was taken aback by what she said. Yes it seems like my in-laws really care for me but their son--- I don't want to say. Me: "Even with whatever they were doing to me?" I said teasingly which she laughed at that. Her laugh was so melodic and angelic which made me admire her more. Even when she was laughed she still looked very elegant. Her: "Don't forget that I also went through the same ritual but you were too fragile. I mean you fainted during each ritual but maybe it's because you weren't aware what kind of ritual it was." Me: "What kind of ritual was it?" my eyes literally popped out of my eye socket... well not literally. Her: "It's just a small ritual to introduce you to the ancestors and also for them to protect you. Don't worry it's nothing shady. I also went through it and here I am still standing." Me: "To be honest when they started doing whatever they were doing to me I could've sworn they were doing some sort of "Virgin Sacrifice". I was freaking out that's probably why I kept fainting." I said laughing when I reminisce on my first encounter with the whole family. She was laughing also and I have to say that I was enjoying her company. Maybe this family is not so bad.

***** The time on the clock was 19:17 and I had just finished getting ready. Amahle hooked me up with her makeup artist and hair stylists who just left twenty minutes ago. Of cause I needed help with my hair but I honestly don't like applying too much makeup so you can just imagine the kind of fight I had to put out for them to finally give into my minimal makeup. By minimal I mean no foundation or any concealors and also no heavy eye makeup or smokey eyes. Yeah I know what ya'll thinking but I do not... I repeat... I do not like caking my face. So you will have to forgive me but at least in the end they finally gave into my request and I have to say they did a really good job. I looked very beautiful (If I should say so) in light pink eye makeup and nude lipstick not to mention the hairdo which was my hair gathered into a curly half ponytail. They curled my hair then took the top half of my and put into a ponytail. I do have natural curls but I straighten them every day. I have paired my outfit with beige pumps (Heels) and matching clutch with some rhinestone detailing all thanks to Amahle's generosity. I finally went downstairs to join Daniel. Olivia was out something about a special event at work. I descended down the stairs with my heels clicking against the floor. Daniel was already down and he was facing the other way and he turned when he heard me coming down. Time seemed to stop at that time and I was frozen in my spot. My heart was beating out of control and I caught a whiff of his intoxicating scent and I could feel my heart doing somersaults. He was wearing a three piece custom made stripped navy blue suit with a blush pink shirt and beige tie (Coincidence or..). He does clean

very well... Who am I kidding? He is always looking handsome and well put together even in just a t-shirt but I have to admit he looked dashing in his suit. Perhaps it was because it was the first time that I am seeing him in a suit. He also seems to be taken aback by my look perhaps? I don't know maybe it is just wishful thinking. He cleared his throat which brought me back to reality. Him: "Let's go." He said finally leading the way to the garage. I rolled my eyes because he could have just said "You look ok or something" but no he was being himself about it. However what ticks me off is the fact that I wanted him to compliment me. Stupid stupid self! Thank you so much for betraying me! I was busy reprimanding myself that I didn't even realise that we were in the garage already. Weirdly enough this is the first time being in here. It's not like I had a car so that makes sense right? The garage was very large with a couple of cars ranging from sports cars to coupes. Daniel walked over to the silver Audi RS3 sportback and I was in awe because it was breathtakingly beautiful (Are we even allowed to say a car is beautiful?). He got in without saying another word leaving me gawking at his car. I snapped out of it and also got in. I had to open my own door can you believe that? He was not being a gentleman at all. He spoke the moment I shut the door. Him: "Do you have the address of where we're going. Dad told me that he gave it to you." He was already on his GPS. I didn't even get a chance to admire the insides. The seat is so comfy and that damned smell of his was already filling the car. Damn him! Me: "Uhm n-no! H-he only sent t-the coordinates." I was stammering and for what? Curse that damn scent. I shook my head before opening my phone and going over the message again. I handed him my phone. He looked at the message and something flickered in his eyes that I couldn't quite pinpoint. He hissed before typing the coordinates on the GPS. He shook his head before igniting the engine and taking off. We were on our way to this mysterious location and the further he drove the more he hissed and shaking his head like he was not believing wherever it was we were headed to. We finally arrived to this grand restaurant and I was in awe but Daniel's mood only seemed to get even fouler. Him: "Curse the old man! He has really done it this time. He said more to himself than anyone else. He got out without waiting for me or even locking. He left the key in the ignition. I guess he expected me to lock the car. At least in his foul state he was smart enough to think that or whatever. I took the key out got out and locked the car. Mxm how inconsiderate of him! What if I couldn't lock it? I walked inside the place and I have to say it was even more amazing on the inside with white and gold decor. It had crystal chandeliers marble tiles and some beautiful antiques. Breathtaking was an understatement. The place only had my family (I should get used to that) around because they probably booked the whole place. In the middle of the room was a large rectangle table and there was a smaller oval table where the six kids who were ranging from four to fourteen years (I think) next to it. Everyone was already out of their seats probably upon Daniel's arrival but I didn't have time to ponder about his mood because I have only one thing in mind. I walked over to my Princess and pulled her to a bone crushing embrace. Me: "I'm sorry Zee! I should have let you explain. I'm sorry for being a bad friend. I now know you had no idea that I was getting married to your brother." She was startled at first but soon she returned the embrace. I have to say I had really missed my bitch and more especially with everything going on. I had missed having someone to talk to and just unburden all my worries. 25 I was so happy at this moment that I even forgot about my "Husband" who seems to be in a world of his own. The dude even refused to acknowledge my presence but perhaps that was for the best. Me: "I'm so sorry Zee." I said over and over to her. Her: "I'm sorry too that I didn't realise sooner. It's just that I was suspicious and still did nothing to confirm

if it was true or not. So please forgive me Rosy Kay.” She said pulling back and locking gazes as if to convince herself that this was really happening. Me: “No don’t sweat it. By the way I was gonna forgive you even if you were aware I just wanted to make you sweat a little.” I said mischievously and she playful hit my arm. I pretended like I was hurt by rubbing my shoulder before we both burst into laughter. We were interrupted by my mother-in-law who walked over to us. Her: “Okay ladies I think that’s enough of girl bonding you’ll do that when you’re alone. Primrose let me introduce you to the rest of the family.” She walked over to the table where everyone was gathering. She introduced me to gogoThandiwe who was the mother of BabMandla and his brothers. She was in a blue maxi dress which had sequin trim cape. For a gogo she sure was elegant. Then she introduced me to Uncle Fezile and his wife he was wearing a custom made navy blue three piece suit and beige shirt which matched with the dress of his wife which was a high-end Navy blue and beige Embroidery cocktail dress. Then I was introduced to Uncle Langa and his wife; he was wearing a custom-made black two piece shirt and pink shirt which also matched well with his wife pink lace Embroidery cocktail dress. Okay this family is very large; they had about twenty people present including me and to mention the six kids so I’m not really going to tell each person present. I was feeling woozy by just being introduced to them. I’ll just introduce them like this: Firstly uncle Langa and his wife his three children who are two sons (the eldest and youngest) and a daughter. The eldest son had twins (Boy and girl) and the daughter had a son (The youngest of the children). The eldest son was also married so the wife was also present. Secondly it’s Uncle Fezile and his wife his two children who are a son and a daughter. The daughter is the eldest who is married to a white man and they have a daughter and she is also currently pregnant. Thirdly it is my father-in-law and mother in-law their four children which you all probably know; the eldest son Themba and his wife Amahle with their two children who are a son (The eldest of the children) and the little princess. Then we have my “husband” Daniel the youngest son Kwezi (Who’s currently not around) and lastly is the princess Zoe who is also the youngest of the cousins. Phew that was excruciating! Just imagine going around being introduced to everyone. We were finally done with the introductions and took our seats. I was seated between Zoe and Daniel who still refused to acknowledge my presence. I was facing MamJessica and on her left was her husband and on her left was an empty chair which was probably reserved for Kwezi. Amahle was seated next to Zoe and right now I so wish that I was in between them. Next to Daniel was gogoThandiwe who was seated at the edge. Honestly the table is so large so I won’t be going into details on who is seated where. I nudged Zoe and whispered to her. Me: “What’s up with your brother and his foul mood?” Her: “Well act---” she was interrupted by the sound of a tray falling. I raised my head to where it originated only to see Olivia with her hands over her mouth. She was wearing a chef coat or whatever it was. Now I was confused. Once again I nudged Zoe and this time I didn’t have to ask her anything. “This is Olivia’s restaurant and dad made a reservation probably to show her the real daughter-in-law of this family.” She was whispering. That explain Daniel’s sullen mood. Olivia rushed out looking red. NARRATED Olivia rushed into her office shutting the door behind. She was seething with anger at her staff’s incompetence and the old man’s indifference. She cannot even fathom how the old man can possible chose that little bitch over her. She comes from a very good family while that bitch doesn’t even have parents. There was a slight knock on the door. She walked over to open the door hoping that it was Daniel who perhaps felt terrible for his father’s actions. Olivia: “Dan---” she was disappointment when instead of finding Daniel on the other side of door she found Sam her assistance. Her face instantly

grew hard and the scowl didn't go unnoticed. "You idiot! How can you make reservations for Daniel's family and not tell me? You're such an incompetent idiot. Now I probably looked like an idiot in front of his family and that floozy." She hissed and Sam flinched at her tone but it wasn't like it was the first time. Being both the manager and assistant to Olivia she was no stranger to her tantrums more especially when she couldn't get her way. Sam: "I'm sorry ma'am the girls who made the reservation didn't know his family. It is my fault for not investigating further so I apologise. Don't worry I'll handle everything you won't even need to come out of the office." She was facing down when she was talking and when she lifted her head and she almost flinched at Olivia's expression. She can just imagine what kind of scheme was brewing in there. Olivia: "No I'll do it. If he thinks I'll just coil in my office like a scared little bird then he's got another thing coming... besides I have a little ace up my sleeve. I can't wait to see his face." Sam cannot do anything but shake her head knowing whatever her boss was planning was nothing good. Kearabetswe We were seated down when Kwezi decided to pitch in. Him: "Good evening family. I'm sure everyone was missing me already." He walked to where gogo was and hugged her. Even though he was late she seemed not to mind but rather looked overjoyed. However the same cannot be said about his mother who had a very deep scowl on her face. MamJ: "I purposefully told everyone that dinner was half an hour early so that everyone made in time before the quest of honours arrived but for some reason you are late regardless of that." Kwezi went over to her once and hugged her. Him: "Come on ma! You can't possibly be mad at this bundle of joy. I was stuck in traffic." He said sheepishly and his mother smiled either way. Her: "You're crazy everyone here knows there was no traffic. Take a seat before I castrate you." She pretended to be angry but everyone can see that she was far from it. He mumbled something against his breath and the glare from his mother shut him up. Everyone laughed including myself even Mr. Grumpy beside me was chuckling. That was all it took for the dynamic around the table to be lively. Olivia and her staff were attending to us much to everyone's surprise. Mr. Grumpy went back to being stiff the moment Olivia walked in. I was uncomfortable at first but seeing as she did not mind I also let loose. Everyone also looked to have the reaction as me... well except "you know who". Surprisingly the food was very delicious; I guess that's what Jonathan meant back then. We were passed our desserts and by the looks of it it looked very appetising. I see my father-in-law nudging Gogo and she instantly took out two small velvet boxes out of her purse. She took her glass and tapped it lightly with a fork to catch everyone's attention. Which she did as the table became silent with their gazes to her Sponsored it looked very appetising. I see my father-in-law nudging Gogo and she instantly took out two small velvet boxes out of her purse. She took her glass and tapped it lightly with a fork to catch everyone's attention. Which she did as the table became silent with their gazes to her even Olivia and her staff turned their attention to her. Gogo: "Thank you my dear children. I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my dear daughter for organising this dinner." She started and everyone turned their gaze on my mother-in-law in appreciation and she blushed in response. Father-in-law took the chance to put his hands on her shoulder and they shared a brief kiss... wow that was romantic. We turned our attention to Gogo who continued "I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new member of this family my dear granddaughter-in-law Primrose." Everyone started ululating and cheering. I stole a glance at Olivia and if looks could I would be dead by now shredded into pieces. "And I do feel a little bad that we didn't hold a proper wedding celebration but my daughters and I we're already fixing that." She said. A wedding celebration? I found myself

coughing choking on air and then I also heard coughing next to me. I guess Daniel was also choking. Zoe was rubbing my back while Olivia was rubbing Daniel's back much to everyone's annoyance. I finally caught my breath and I was handed a glass of water. There was a deafening silence which was broke by Gogo's laughter and soon everyone followed. After the little session of laughter silence once again found its way into the table. Once she noted our attention was back to her she handed the velvet boxes to Daniel and told him to hand me the black one while he keeps the red one. We opened it and I gasped when I saw what was inside. It was a beautiful male custom-made ring and when I eyed Daniel I saw a female custom-made ring and they seem to match. The one I had in my hand was a solid stainless steel wedding band with rose gold plating with diamond cz stones. The one he had was two-piece diamond cz halo wedding set with a beautiful pear shaped diamond cz centre stone and the halo setting were clear diamond cz stones. I gasped once when I realised what it all meant. I looked over to Daniel and he had an expressionless face. Gogo spoke once again "I'm so excited to finally give this to my grandson and granddaughter. This used to be mine and my husband's wedding rings and now I'm so excited to finally pass it on." My eyes bulged out as I could not believe it. Me: "Gogo I can't accept this. You should have given it to the other daughter in laws." I said already trying to give it away because I honestly felt like I didn't deserve it. Amahle was such a beautiful soul and I think she deserved it even more. Her: "Don't be ridiculous. You see these rings weren't always this beautiful they used to be simple. At the time of the other's wedding I wasn't aware that you can get it remade and also put diamond in. I have always wanted to hand it to any of my daughter but now I'm so excited to finally do it. Everyone here understands and also agree with me so you don't have to feel like you're stepping on anybody's toes. Remember you are one of us now." She said and everyone was nodding but that still doesn't ease my guilt. After all it's not like Daniel and I love each other. She continued "So now Lwazi do the honours of putting the ring on your new wife or is it Primrose who should start?" she looked over to her son who told her I should start. To be honest I was a little taken back and slightly frightened. I was also unsure since Daniel has refused to acknowledge my presence throughout the night. I looked over to him and he just extended his left hand to me without saying a word or even looking at me. I try putting it on but it was a little difficult as my hands were shaking for some reason. As I was struggling I felt Daniel's other hands on top of my hands steadying them. I slid it on finally and his family once again ululated and cheered. I was a little red with embarrassment. I can't believe I was shaking. What the hell is wrong with me? Now it was Daniel's turn and I gave him my left hand. He was about to slid the ring on my ring finger but a hand stopped him. We both raised our hands to find Olivia who was grinning but her gaze was not on us but rather on BabMandla. Okay that is weird! Her: "I don't think she's the one who deserves to wear Grandma's ring after all she's not the true daughter-in-law of this family." She began proudly. Some stared at her in confusion while other watched in disgust. My gaze fell on her hand that was clasped on Daniel's and the shimmering of the ring was unmistakable. I felt a pang on my heart and I understood what she meant. I was not the true daughter-in-law seeing as I was unloved by my husband. BabMandla: "What is the meaning of this? How dare you disrespect this family!" he hissed standing up. His wife also stood to put a hand on his shoulder and I could see the tension disappear the moment her hand landed on his shoulder. Olivia: "Well it seems like my fiancé didn't inform you of the good news. You see we're engaged and I think I deserve to have grandma's ring since him and I love each other so much." She lifted her hand showing the glistening diamond ring to everyone. Daniel seemed frozen while everyone's anger

escalated. BabMandla: "What is the meaning of this son?" he said to his son who seemed to be in a world of his own. Perhaps sensing that he won't get any answer from him he looked over to Olivia "You will never be the daughter-in-law of this family. That ring on your finger is all you'll ever get. My family and I will never accept you as the daug---" He didn't get to finish his sentence as our table flew across and crashed with a loud bang on the wall. The children started crying and I lifted my eyes to see a seething Daniel. I couldn't see his eyes or his face due to the height distance. I couldn't only see the clenched jaw and the raised tension on his shoulders to tell he was angry. He walked out without saying anything and I don't know what happened but I got off my seat and ran after him. I found him bending over his car. Fist on the car and his breathing was abnormal. It feels like someone who had major anger issues. I think something possessed me because I found myself wrapping my around his waist and hugging him from behind. He tensed at first but I felt his shoulder easing and slowly his ragged breathing became even. After what felt like forever he turned around and I was about to release my embrace but he held me tighter and buried his face on my shoulders. It was my time to be taken aback but again something in me just let it be. Him: "I told her to wait. Why wouldn't she listen? I told her to wait." He kept mumbling and I probably wouldn't have heard it if I wasn't this close to him. It took me a while to finally register what he meant. I honestly thought he was angry at his father but I guess I was wrong. I was rubbing his back trying to soothe him but I felt helpless. I have never seen him like this. He looked angry yet he was also so vulnerable. There was a huge part of that wanted to ease his pain and make him feel better; a huge part that seemed to take over my body and rational sense. I don't how long we stood like that. He was the one to finally pull away and he stared at me. I have to say his gaze was overwhelming me and averted my gaze not knowing what to do. Me: "Should we go back in or should we head home?" it felt odd saying home or even asking him that question. My gaze was anywhere but his face. I felt his hand on mine and I looked down to see him slipping the ring on my ring finger. I lifted my gaze to his face and it was like he was back to being the old Daniel with his signature smirk plastered on his features. Him: "No I think we should just head inside. I'm sure that I scared my nieces and nephews." He said which made me remember something. Me: "I think you should lay off the gym for a while." The folds on his forehead appeared from confusion I smiled before continuing "I meant the way you lifted that huge table. You should really lay off the gym or you'll be so strong that you can even lift this car." He chuckled. Him: "Who says I can't now?" now it was my time to get confused. He just shrugged before intertwining our fingers and leading me inside. Surprisingly when we went inside we found the table already replaced and the staff was busy cleaning the remnants. Everyone turned to us and once again I turned red when I realised their gaze was on our intertwined hands. I tried to pull away but he only tightened the grasp. He ignored me and my flustered state and led us to our seats. Everyone was watching us in amusement which only made flush even more. Everything was back to normal as the family was conversing like nothing happened and the kids were in their tables playing. Olivia also came to serve us and Daniel seemed to be ignoring her presence now. The table was lively I guess. BabMandla: "Ma has already told you that they're already planning your wedding celebration. So I have decided that it will take place a Saturday after the classes ends for the September holiday. Then on Sunday you'll head to Durban for your honeymoon." He said. At that time I was having a sip of my juice and it spilled all over as I chocked once again. Once again Daniel was also choking. I was rubbing his back and he was rubbing mine. After we found our breath everyone laughed well except for Olivia and her staff

members. MamJ: "Ncooh isn't that cute! They even react the same way." She was swooning and her husband had a very satisfied smirk on his face watching her. You could see the love on his face. I want that kind of love but that opportunity was taken away when I was forced to marry Daniel.

BabMandla: "Ha ha ha... I hope you guys will enjoy your week at our holiday house over there and consummate your marriage. I hope you guys were just making out last night and didn't consummate your marriage. If it is so I have to say I am disappointed in you son for not waiting till your honeymoon." He was smiling when he said that. I was red with embarrassment while Olivia was red in anger. I hid my face not wanting to see everyone's reaction. This is probably the worst moment in my life. How can Daniel do this to me and how could his father say that in front of everyone? I was beyond embarrassed at that time. MamJ: "What are you talking about tata?" I could hear her asking her husband and right at that moment I wanted the ground to open and swallow me whole.

BabMandla: "Oh yeah I forgot to tell you. I was on the phone with Molokazana there when Lwazi decided to interrupt us by making out with his wife and the little rascal had the nerve to put the phone on speaker. You can just imagine ... ha ha ha... how uncomfortable I was." Everyone was in a fit of laughter not easing my embarrassment at all. Daniel: "That's enough everyone. Can't you see that you're making my wife uncomfortable? Whether we sleep together or not I believe that is very private." Daniel said and he put his comforting hand on my shoulders. I can't believe he just said wife like it was something natural to him. Even though I felt less embarrassed I was still reluctant to lift my face. Daniel lifted my face for me and turned it to gaze into his deep brown eyes and I have to say I was lost in them. "Are you Okay wifey? You know you shouldn't be embarrassed after all we're husband and wife." He had a playful smirk on his face and I couldn't tell if he was keeping face in front of his family or not. Kwezi: "Okay that's enough you too... too much PDA. You seem to forget that some of us are single and don't have wives to keep us company. We have enough of that with mom and dad. Jeez even brother Themba and Amahle are not a fan of public display of affection." He said playful and I pulled away from Daniel because I knew this was probably his ploy to divert his family's attention from his engagement. Zee: "Oh shut bro! You're just jealous." She said laughing and the whole table was jovial and I decided like Daniel I will too pretend like to be a happy daughter-in-law. 26 It was around seven in the evening and I was outside Jonathan's apartment. It was already Friday and right now I have no idea what I was doing here. I knocked and it took him a minute to finally open. He looked at me in both confusion and amusement. Him: "I certainly did not expect you here and at this time. What are you doing here Evie... and what's with the dark make-up? I don't mean to sound weird but this is the first time seeing you in a makeup. Don't tell me something bad happened." He said and face contorted to a worried expression. Evie is his special name for me. He said that because there are Evening Primrose flowers then he'll call me Evie for short. What he means by dark makeup is that currently I had smokey eyes and black lipstick on. I was also wearing a navy blue crop top and black mini skirt. Me: "Aren't you going to invite me in?" I said smirking but to be honest on the inside I was shaking. He moved aside letting me in before closing the door and leading me to his lounge area. He sat down in his chaise and I sat next to him and he looked to be taken aback. He was in a white t-shirt and blue jeans which looked great on him. His hair was a little messy and unkempt contrary to what he used to look but that only made him even more hotter. He sighed before finally keeping his gaze on me. Him: "Seriously Evie what's u---" he didn't finish because I attacked my lips to his. He was taken aback at first but soon enough he responded. The kiss was gentle and that made my

knees become weak. I moaned into the kiss and that was enough for him to get over the trace he seemed to be in. He pushed away and scooted away from me. "Evie I asked what is seriously wrong with you. I know there might be something developing between us but I thought we agreed that we will wait." He said and I instantly frowned. Me: "Why should I wait huh? Why should I be the devoted wife when he's sleeping in the same room with another woman and who knows what they're doing in there." I said and I didn't realise I was crying until I felt his thumb wiping my tears. I pulled him into my arms and embraced him. He didn't think twice in comforting me and I finally let go. I have been trying to keep it together that it felt good just breaking and letting it go. I don't know why but I felt comfortable enough to be vulnerable in front of him. Him: "What really happened Evie?" he asked still stroking my back in a surprisingly soothing way. After a while I pulled away. Me: "It's your stupid friend and his stupid moods. One moment he's like the old Daniel playful and nice to hang around... the next minute he's this grumpy guy who won't even acknowledge my presence or he's this flirtatious guy who can't seem to keep his hands to himself... then the next he's this arrogant jerk ass who has some serious jealousy issues. Seriously is he bipolar or does he have some sort of multiple personality disorder?" I scoffed and Jonathan just chuckled. Him: "You're so cute Evie even in that weird makeup. You should know that even though I like you I won't betray my friend like that. Also I don't appreciate being used cuz it's clear that you still have that crush on him and you're try'na make him jealous by using me." He said but he didn't look angry instead he was smiling. Me: "I swear that I'm not using you. In fact I would rather do this with you and no one else. Also I'm not trying to make him jealous I'm just angry that he gets to do what he likes while I pretend like the happy wife." I said truthfully. He was about to say something but he was interrupted by a knock on the door. The person knocked again but Jonathan didn't seem to want to move and I eyed him suspiciously but he only chuckled. Him: "Don't worry he'll just let himself in and find us." He said causing me to be more confused. Me: "How do you know it's a he?" I gasped when something hit me "Don't tell that you're gay. Well I have to say I have the shittiest luck in the world." He broke into a fit of laughter and I didn't know if I should laugh with him or just hit him. However he was right because whoever was knocking let themselves and I turned to their footsteps. Him: "Johnny do you have any idea where my w... oh." Instead of his lover it was actually Daniel wearing a scowl and it only deepened when he saw me "Well isn't this interesting? My wife and my friend together and by the looks of it making out. Prim what the hell are you doing here? Why didn't you come home after your classes and what's with that ridiculous outfit? You looked like a cheap slut." He hissed and that angered me. Me: "Fuck you Daniel. Don't call me a cheap slut you arrogant piece of shit." I found myself yelling. How dare he call me that? Him: "Don't fucking swear Prim you know I hate that." He raised his voice also. Me: "Just fuck me then I don't give a shit." I retorted Him: "Is that an invitation?" he retorted back with a smug look. Me: "Go fuck yourself Daniel. I may be your wife but that sure as hell doesn't mean you own me. What the hell do you care if I make out with Jo or not? After all you do have your "Sexy fiancée" to make out with." The smug look on his face instantly vanished and was replaced by his anger. Him: "I came to get you you'll tell me all your nonsense in the car. And you "Jo" I don't ever wanna see you around my wife." He said pulling me off the chaise and dragging me outside. I tried to struggle out of his grasp but that was useless after all he was very strong. I decided to stop struggling because that will only hurt myself. We arrived to his gold Mercedes GLS 450 4MATIC SUV and he went over to the driver's seat while I get in the passenger seat. He took his time before finally starting the ignition. We

were on the road and when we stopped on the red light he took the chance to finally say something "I'm sorry Prim. I hope I haven't hurt you." I was taken aback but I finally regained myself and nodded before shaking my head. I was going to give him an answer in case he misunderstood me but my phone rang. I took it out to see who called and it was my little angels' principal. I instantly felt guilty because I was so occupied with my problems that I haven't checked if they are Okay. I answered PHONE CONVO... Me: "Hello principal Smith!" I said and I could almost hear a relieved sigh or I think. Her: "Oh thank goodness I found you. I have been calling for a while. Anyway I wanted to find out what is the problem with Tshepo and Dintle. Are they sick or something?" she said and I was confused but worried at the same time. Me: "I am afraid I don't quite follow." Her: "Well the kids haven't been to school the whole week and I was worried that something happened?" my heart was raising now. Me: "I don't understand and I have no idea what's going on. I just recently gotten married so I moved in with my husband and I haven't had the time check on them." I eyed Daniel who seemed to be interested to know what's up but pretended not to. "I'll check on them then I'll let you know." Her: "Please do and oh I guess I should congratulate you on your marriage. Congratulations and I wish you a blissful marriage. Don't let me keep you... I'm sure your husband is probably wondering who you're talking to so late. And you don't have to let me know today you know. I'll gladly hear the report tomorrow." She said before hanging up. If only she knew the kind of marriage I was in. I dialled Palesa's phone number because now I was really worried and I couldn't wait to find out tomorrow. It rang and led me to voicemail. I sigh because I was really not looking forward to doing this. I dialled my stepmom and she picked the phone after the fifth ring. PHONE CONVO... Her: "Ha don't tell me you've already ruined your chances at your in-laws. Don't expect me to take you back because I don't want to be the laughing stock of the whole township." I sighed once again but I knew I had to endure if I want to find out how the kids are doing. Me: "Hello Mme! I just called to ask how Dintle and Tshepo are doing." Her: "The kids are fine. What's it to you?" Me: "Their principal called and told me that they haven't been to school so I was worried." Her: "Keep your worries to yourself" serif";mso-bidi-font-family: "Times New Roman"">Her: "Ha don't tell me you've already ruined your chances at your in-laws. Don't expect me to take you back because I don't want to be the laughing stock of the whole township." I sighed once again but I knew I had to endure if I want to find out how the kids are doing. Me: "Hello Mme! I just called to ask how Dintle and Tshepo are doing." Her: "The kids are fine. What's it to you?" Me: "Their principal called and told me that they haven't been to school so I was worried." Her: "Keep your worries to yourself my grandchildren are fine." With that she hung up. I screamed at the phone and it took all of me not to throw it against the windscreen. She is so frustrating. I didn't realise we were already at the house. I saw Daniel looking at me with a what... a worried expression? Why does he care? Him: "Is everything okay Prim?" I raised my eyebrow but I remembered that I still need to find out what is happening with the kids. Me: "Umh do you think you can drive me to my house tomorrow?" I said playing with my nails because I was slightly anxious. Him: "But this is your house." He said pointing to "our" house. Me: "If you don't want I'll ask Jo?" he scoffed Him: "Arg don't mention his name. I was just playing of cause I'll take you. Besides I think it's time I officially meet my in-laws." He ran his hand on his hair and I couldn't tell if it was out of frustration or not. Me: "Those are not your in-laws. The only in-law you have is my father and he's dead." I said before getting out of the car and going inside the house. I don't know why I said that or why I even walked away. I guess I felt that those people never considered me family so why should I introduce my

husband to them as his in-laws. ***** It was Saturday morning and we were already on the road to Soweto. I was anxious while Daniel looked to be in a good mood. Olivia as you can imagine was against the idea. She was like "Why don't you call a cab or an Uber. And please don't say you don't know our location because you can just turn on your location on your phone. For someone who's doing their second year in accounting you sure are stupid." To be honest at that time I felt stupid because I hadn't thought of that before but lucky for me Daniel interjected and here we are. Me: "You sure are in a good mood." I said finally breaking the silence. Him: "Of course I am because this is the first time I'll be going inside your house. No more parking four houses from it. Oh and my mother asked me to hand them their invitation for our wedding celebration" He said tapping his fingers on the steering wheel like what he just was nothing major. Me: "She did what? Where are the invitations? How can she already have the invitations?" I bombarded him with questions because I couldn't comprehend how all this was possible. It was only Tuesday night when they were just thinking it and now they already have invitations. I guess I shouldn't be surprised at anything when it comes to this family after all I did get married to their son in less than a week. Him: "You really shouldn't be surprised when it comes to my mother and events. She does have her own event company after all." He just shrugged. He was taking this a lot better than I had expected. He was just driving his car like nothing was happening. We were in his Lamborghini I guess it's his favourite amongst his cars. "Do you have a license?" he said after a while causing me to frown. Me: "No why do you ask?" I said to which he just shrugged his shoulders. Him: "Just asking. I can teach you if you want or perhaps you would prefer to be taken to a driving school. I don't mind. I guess I feel like it'll be easy if you can drive you know... so that you won't always have to ask for a ride every time you wanna go somewhere." My eyes popped out of my socket. Was he saying that he would let me drive his cars? He chuckled when he saw my reaction. "Don't forget that you're my wife. We may not be in love but you still deserve to be treated like my wife." He said smiling like literally smiling. Is this guy bipolar or something? I wanted to retort back but we had arrived and I couldn't wait to get inside. I tried to open the door but he quickly closed it. Me: "What the hell Daniel?" I shot back at him and the idiot just smiled. Does he not get how important this is to me? Him: "You need to calm down. I want you to take a deep breath and relax so that we can get in together. Don't forget you're not just going to check on your niece and nephew but you'll also be introducing your husband to your family." Seriously what is wrong with this guy today? Me: "Look they're not my family the only family I have is those kids that I have no idea what's happening to them." Him: "I know and I'm worried about them too. Believe it or not but I have grown quite fond of those two but if we have any chance of finding out how they are we have to be very calm." He said and I don't know but I felt like he was right so I nodded before taking a deep breath. We got out together and headed to the door. I don't understand why but I suddenly became very nervous. My hands were shaking and Daniel probably realised that because he placed his reassuring hand on mine. He knocked on the door with his other one. We waited for about a minute or two before someone came to the door. I was surprised when I found out that it was Tshepo who opened for us. I instantly hugged him. I have missed them so much and I feel so guilty for not being with them or at least calling for them. We broke apart and when he saw Daniel he screamed and hugged him too. Daniel lifted him and carried him as we went inside. It looked like the adults were not home or probably still sleeping. I went to the lounge area with Daniel following suit. Me: "My sweet angel how have you been and where's your sister?" I said taking him away from

Daniel. Well I wasn't exactly taking him away I just have missed him. Him: "She's still sleeping. And we really miss you. I'll go and wake her up. She'll be as happy as me." He said already getting off and heading to their room. I was left with Daniel and we sat next to each other. Then we heard noises probably coming from stepmon and stepsister. We turned around to see them still in their night attires and yawning. Stepmon: "Well what do we have here? Marriage life treating you badly already... and who's this? Already cheating I see. The apple really doesn't fall from the tree." She said as they were making their way towards us. They sat on the sofa opposites us. Palesa was wearing a smirk and stepmon had a disgusted look on. I rolled my eyes because for some reason I no longer cared what they thought of me. Daniel next to me tensed and I can notice the scowl on his face. Him: "Actually my name is Lwazi... Lwazi Dlamini." He said not even extending his hand and his tone was so different. It was scary even. The smirk on Palesa's face disappeared and was replaced horror while stepmon looked somewhat anxious and disappointed. Palesa: "Dlamini as in...?" she said Daniel: "The husband yes." Both their faces was priceless and I wanted to laugh so bad but held it in. "We only came here to check on the kids and find out why they haven't been to school. Also we came to give you invitations to our wedding celebration. You we already signed and all that's left is a little celebration before we head for our honeymoon. Right my beautiful wife." The looks on their faces where like they wanted to run away from here and never look back. Daniel was so good that I found myself smiling back at him. Me: "Right honey." The next thing I know he captured my lips into his and the kiss was sweet but filled with passion. There is something about his kisses that makes me loose all my senses and right now I didn't want it to end but we had to pull away to catch our breaths. He smiled before taking his attention back to them and his smile was gone and replaced with a scowl. Him: "I believe I asked you a question." The authority he held was totally foreign to me. Stepmon: "I-I... we umh... the kids have been late so they couldn't get to school." She was stammering and this was the first time I have ever seen her scared. She is always so vicious or putting on a Grammy worthy performance so this was new. Him: "By late you mean you were irresponsible enough not to take them to school on time. Do I have t---" he was interrupted by the kids running to us and screaming. Dintle: "Aunty and uncle Dani. I miss you." She said throwing herself on top of Daniel and hugging us both with her tiny hands. Daniel: "We missed you too." Her: "Are you living with her? Does that mean you came to get us?" she said with her innocence but what she said actually made sense. Palesa: "Don't be crazy of cause not. You guys are going nowhere." She hurried to interject. Me: "I think that's a great idea seeing as both your mother and grandmother are so busy that they can't get you to school on time. I won't mind taking care of you and you guys can visit them during the weekends or holidays. How does that sound?" I said to my two angels and the joy on their face was priceless. I was happy that at least now I can be sure that they are taken care of. Stepmon: "Don't be ridiculous Kearabetswe. You are now someone's wife and you can't expect your husband to agree to live with other woman's children." The devil decided to speak and to be honest she sounded to be deflated a bit. Daniel: "Nonsense I would love to have them around. My wife and I will take good care of them and make sure they arrive to school on time and never miss school unless they're not feeling well." He said not giving them a look as he was playing with the kids. He may be a lot of things but he was very good with the kids. "If I were you I would start packing their clothes cauz they're coming with us whether you like it or not." He said again to them but his tone was much softer. He probably didn't want to scare the kids. 27 I am so excited that I'll be living with my two angels. I just love them and

even though my life has been a rollercoaster these couple of days but I have really missed them. They have always seemed to know how to brighten my gloomy life so I was very jovial to have them around once again. As for the living arrangement I am definitely going to be sleeping on the same bed with them. It is not like this will be the first time and besides I want to keep them closer to me so that I can keep them away from Olivia. I am not sure what it is about her but something about her irks me in the wrong way and I am not willing to put them though any of that. Tshepo: "Wow uncle your house is so big!" that was Tshepo as he admired the house. He and Dintle were in awe as we drove into the driveway. Daniel: "Then you'll absolutely love the inside. It even has a game room. I bet we'll have a lot of fun in there." He said and their excitement only grew. "So Prim... we haven't exactly fixed their bedroom now did we? I think I have a perfect room for them and perhaps tomorrow we could buy supplies to renovate their room and make it look and feel like theirs." He said as he got out of the car and opening the back to take the kids out. I was surprised by his attentiveness to the children. He really is good with kids. I bet he will be just as good to his one day and that thought brought a smile to my face. I also got out to help him with the kids. Me: "I don't think that's necessary because I'll be sharing my room with them." I said and I could not read his expression. Sometimes he can be an enigma to me. One moment I think I know what he thinks or feels and then the next I am as clueless as newborn baby. Daniel: "Why? The house has enough rooms for them and besides the one I had in mind was next to yours." He still had his expressionless face. I had to clear my throat because it was something that makes me feel a little disconcerted. Me: "I just miss them that's all." I shrugged my shoulder and decided to go with that. Of course I missed them but that was not the main reason. He chuckled and his features became soft. Daniel: "I understand your worries but I'll still remodel the room until you are comfortable enough to leave them on their own. Olivia is not a monster you know." He said and that freaked me out a little. Did I say that aloud or was he some kind of a mind reader? He laughed this time and the kids were as confused as I am. "Don't worry I'm no mind reader but your face tells me all that I need to know." He wrapped his hand on my shoulder and dragged me to the house while his free was carrying the bags with the kids following next to us. Tshepo was walking next to Daniel while Dintle was by my side with her tiny hands in mine. I glanced over at Daniel who had a smile plastered on his face and then my eyes automatically went to the hand that was carrying two large travel bags and I could not help but wonder just how heavy they must feel. Me: "I can help carry one bag." My conscious was eating me. After all they were my niece and nephew. Daniel: "No need to worry I can handle them and besides I'm not about to allow my wife carry such heavy suitcases. They may not weigh that much to me but it doesn't mean the same will apply to you." He shrugged his shoulder not giving much room to protest. Seriously just how strong is this guy? ***** "What is the meaning of this? Are we perhaps running a day care now?" well that didn't last now did it? If you still have not guessed who was that I will tell you. It is Olivia throwing a fit and it is a good thing that she at least waited for the kids to go upstairs before starting her rant. To be honest I was not in the mood to entertain her whims and besides I am just happy that I'll be living with my two angels. Daniel also looks annoyed. Daniel: "Prim you can go ahead and make sure the kids settle in well and besides it's probably near their nap time. Oh and also don't worry I'll order for a driver who would take them to school from Monday." He ignored her and instead paid his attention to me. You are probably wondering how it is near their nap if we left early at my former home. Well you see Daniel decided to take the kids to the zoo and just hang around Johannesburg and

we also had something to eat at Steers. I nodded because like I said I definitely had no time for this. I climbed the stairs leaving the couple to sort out whatever this is. I walked inside my room finding the kids jumping on the bed. I walked to them and kiss both their cheeks before going through their suitcases looking for their pyjamas. I was tired to unpack so I just took out only their pyjamas their underwear and their toiletries to bathe them before taking them to bed. NARRATED After Kea left the room Olivia stared at Daniel in disbelief. Her: "Daniel what the hell is going on and how could you let her bring some kids to our house? What has really gotten into you these days?" she shouted pointing an accusing finger at him. "I thought this was OUR house and that you'll get rid of her in a week? A week has passed Daniel and she is still here and what's worse is that she is also bringing her bastards kids. Seriously how can you allow yourself to live with another man's children? I am sure the poor kids have different father." She snickered at the end now her voice no longer loud but rather low with venom she seemed to spit with each word. "So this is the girl that your father decided is better than me? What a joke! He had to run and pick a whor---" she didn't get to finish as she was suddenly pushed towards the wall. Her smirk was replaced with fear and shock as her neck fell trap in Daniel's hand. She could see that he was beyond angry his eyes red. Daniel: "Just shut up! For once just shut up!" his voice was low and dangerous. Her body trembled under his intense and powerful force. He was not tightly gripping her neck but she was afraid that if she moved even a little he would surely strangle her. A tear fell from her eye and she was hoping it would be enough for his anger to subside but that was not the case at all. To her relieve at least he let go of her neck and left to somewhere she did not know and God knows she did not even want to know. She knew and was no stranger to his anger tendencies but this was the first time he even dared to lay a finger on her and she was for the first time scared of Daniel. Daniel stumbled to his indoor gym and he could feel himself slowly succumbing to the anger and he knew he couldn't afford to lose it. He was beyond angry and it was all Olivia's fault. She seems very gifted in making him lose his cool. How can she be so heartless as to say the things she said? He was slowly seeping into the darkness and he threw the weights that were next to him across the room. He had to calm down or he would totally lose it and he won't be able to control whatever may come next. His eyes started turning hazy and he knew he had to do something and quick but luckily he knew just what to do. With shaky hands he reached into his pocket and took out his phone. He tried to unlock it but he crushed it with his hands as his grip was too strong. He cursed under his breath as the broken pieces fell to the floor but luckily there was a landline in the room. With shaky legs he walked to the landline dropping everything in his way. He finally reached it and he was gentle as he dialled the number he had for some reason memorised without even realising. He listened in as it dials and he was praying that the person on the other hand doesn't hang up on him or that they had gone to sleep because they were his last hope to bring his sanity back. To his relief the person answered but he did not say anything and only his heavy breathing and panting could be heard by the person. With shaky legs he walked to the landline dropping everything in his way. He finally reached it and he was gentle as he dialled the number he had for some reason memorised without even realising. He listened in as it dials and he was praying that the person on the other hand doesn't hang up on him or that they had gone to sleep because they were his last hope to bring his sanity back. To his relief the person answered but he did not say anything and only his heavy breathing and panting could be heard by the person. "Honestly this is getting ridiculous. If you're not gonna say anything the---" the person said exasperated and Daniel interrupted her before she could

go further or even hang up on him. Him: "Please don't hang up. It's me Daniel." He interjected quickly and the reason he did not say anything was because he did not want his voice to scare her. Her: "Why did you call Daniel and what's with your voice? It sounds strange but whatever that's not important. Why would you call with a landline and not to mention the fact that we're in the same roof so why call?" she said and he could almost see her rolling her big eyes and shaking her head. He chuckled to himself and he could feel himself slowly coming back and the anger subsiding. Him: "My phone broke just now as I was trying to make a call. I called because I wanted to hear your voice before heading to sleep and to also tell you that the kids are very welcome here. Don't worry about Olivia I'll handle her or should I say I already handled her." He was relieved to feel his ragged breathing has stabilised. Her: "You're weird you know that? Anyway since you already heard my voice I think it i---" he was quick to interpolate. Him: "No no no please don't! If you want to go to sleep it's fine but please don't hang up." He was hoping that she would not interject. He heard her try to say something but was interrupted by a small voice and he smiled to himself. "Is that uncle Dani?" the little angel said and he could almost see his face bright with excitement. Kea: "It is sweetheart and he says sweet dreams." He heard her say to the little angel and soon he heard his voice. Tshepo: "Good night uncle and Dintle is already sleeping. I am happy that we are living together now." He said in his innocent voice and Daniel could not help but wish that he was little again. Free from all the worries of the world. Him: "Sleep tight my boy and give your aunt and sister a kiss for me." He smiled once again when he remembered the kiss he had stolen from her. He could almost feel her soft lips against his and how perfect they felt. ***** It was Thursday already and my bitches and I were hanging in a cafe not far from the Uni. Daniel kept his word by hiring a driver for the kids and I also drove with them to school but after my classes ends I usually catch a ride with Jonathan. Of cause Daniel was not happy about it but he can't exactly prevent me from doing anything. He also renovated their room and if you ask me that was a little too much. If you could see the room it was extreme; too many stuffed animals way too many toys a game console (Seriously? The house has a game room) and a large flat screen TV. Of cause the kids were elated but I think it is a waste of money. Anyway as I had said before we're just chilling in the cafe like old times and I'm very glad that things are back to normal. Puleng: "I'm so glad that things are back to where they should be. Anyway BP you seem very happy these days." She said playfully and I just rolled my eyes at her silliness. Me: "Please don't call me that." She and Zee laughed. Her: "What... ha ha... is it... ha ha ha... only reserved for your... ha ha... dear husband?" she said through her laughter and I just rolled my eyes before shaking my head. Sometimes they could be very childish. Zee: "Anyway... ha ha...you seem... ha ha ha... very happy." That was Zee trying to hold her laughter but failing miserably. Me: "Whatever. I'm just glad that I am now living with my two babies and besides your brother have been acting nice these days." I said the last part blushing. I don't even know why I was doing it. I drank my cappuccino trying to hide the blush and hoping that it at least goes unnoticed. Puleng: "Look at you blushing. Things seem to be going very great I see. I knew the dude had the hots for you since that kiss and at that time he wasn't even your husband." The smile on Zee's face vanished and turned into confusion. Her: "What kiss are you talking about?" she said to Puleng but looking at me. Me: "Oh yeah I forgot to tell you. It's just that at that time I felt weird talking to you about how your brother kissed me and I liked it. And beside at that time I didn't know he was my husband and after finding out a lot of shit happened." I honestly forgot about the kiss... not the kiss but not telling Zee about it. Puleng: "Not to forget at that time you called to vent on

me and you were calling him names.” She added and I nodded. At that time I was so mad at Daniel that I needed to vent and because Zee is his sister I didn’t think it was a right call to make at that time. Zee: “It’s Okay and I’m just glad that you and my brother are finally together.” She shrugged her shoulder. Me: “Woah hold it there Princess. Your brother and I are not together we’re just amicable. Don’t forget he has a fiancée that’s living with us.” I interjected to stop her train of thought from heading in the wrong direction. “Oh now I see how the slut managed to convince my future father-in-law that she was the better candidate to be with my future husband.” I heard behind me and my face instantly fell. Can’t I have peace for once? Olivia and her two friends walked over to our table. Her: “How does it feel to be married to a man who belongs to another woman? Tsk tsk tsk! I feel sorry for you. To think you had to befriend Zoe just to get to her brother but you lucked out cauz he loves me and he won’t be leaving me for you. Dear Zoe you need to open your eyes and see that she’s just a social climber. She comes from nothing and she was just using you to get married to your brother. Did you know she has two bratty bastards and within a week she decided t---” she was interrupted by a hot slap. She touched her cheek in horror. Her friends who were laughing now had a look of horror on their faces. Puleng: “Bitch don’t test me. How dare you talk about my friend like that? I’ll show you who’s th---” I decided to come in between. Cauz I know she was about to go Coloured on her white ass. I stood up as well and put a reassuring hand on her shoulder. Me: “No need to go Coloured on her white ass I’ll handle this.” She looked at me sceptically before sitting back down. I turned my attention to Olivia who was still shell-shocked. I had my hands on my hips and raised my eyebrow. “Olivia Olivia if you’re so confident that Dani loves you and won’t leave you then why are you losing your cool? One would think you’re actually a little scared of me. You’re afraid that your dear future husband will fall in love with me. Am I right?” I was wearing a smirk watching her face change to anger. She tried to slap me but I grabbed her hand before it could reach my cheek. I tightened my grip keeping my gaze on her oceanic blue eyes “Be careful dear FUTURE SISTER WIFE you should start being nice to me. Quite frankly your “future in-laws” don’t like you and if you ever have any hopes of becoming Mrs Dlamini then you’ll need my approval as the first wife. If I decide to stand in the middle that ring on your finger will be as far as you can get to being Dani’s wife.” I released her hand waiting for her move. All throughout my talk her friends stood frozen and didn’t move a muscle. Olivia looked at me in shock before leaving the cafe and her friend followed suit. I sat down slightly embarrassed of the commotion we just caused. Zee: “Kea my friend I didn’t know you had in you.” She chuckled in shock. Puleng was also staring at me in disbelief. Me: “I am half coloured after all.” I said and we burst into laughter. I feel like these days I have a new found confidence and I’m glad that I’m no longer that weak little who let people walk all over her. 28 I can’t believe this is actually happening. Here I am in my wedding dress getting ready to marry Daniel. Even though technically we are already married dear father in law decided that we will not only have the wedding reception but also the wedding ceremony as well. The church the priest the works. They took our rings so that we will officially do it during the ceremony. My makeup and hair were on point (Yeah I still don’t like too much makeup but it’s my wedding so whatever) and the wedding was on. I was looking at myself in the mirror and God knows I wanted to cry. I was okay with only the reception because then I wouldn’t have to think about how my father would have been the one to walk me down the aisle if he was alive. Uncle Steve is the one to do the honours and I also have my dad’s handkerchief wrapped around my bouquet. Apparently it means that his spirit will be present when I am walking down the aisle (MamJessica’s

idea). I was just glad that at least he will be present even though it is through his spirit. Zee: "You look beautiful... so stop looking at the mirror being all emotional cauz you'll make us all cry." She said walking over to me and putting her hands on my shoulder looking at us through the mirror. She is my maid of honour but to be honest they are all my maids of honour. He Puleng and Amahle. Amahle and I have gotten quite close these past few weeks. I also learned a lot about her. Even though she is always smiling but she went through so much that I feel like my problems are nothing compared to what she went through. Even though she looks gorgeous and one might think she looks like someone who was fed with a silver spoon but I had realised how strong she really is. They had organised my bachelorette party and it was the best one ever. I had so much fun bonding with them. Amahle: "Are you ready Kay?" she asked smiling at me. Puleng was sipping on her champagne looking at us. I also wanted to have a sip in order to ease my nerves but I did not want to embarrass myself on my wedding.

NARRATED Inside the church. The orchestra started playing as the bride walks in. She was accompanied by her uncle (Her father's younger brother). She had a veil on as a sign that she was still sealed and pure. She watched the décor of the whole church hall in awe. She had to give it to her mother in law because it was beautiful and breathtaking. She was holding onto her uncle's arm and the grip tightened as her gaze fell on her would be husband who is also already her husband on paper. Her heart thumped out of control and her breath hitched. She was aware that they were already married but she had an overwhelming feeling when she gazed at him. Uncle Steve: "Relax my child. All is well." He said reassuringly as he sensed her nervousness. She stopped shaking and smiled. The bride was not the only one who was affected because the groom also had that feeling when he saw her walking down the aisle. He wasn't exactly paying but when the orchestra started playing he lifted his head and his started hammering as his gaze fell on her. He felt butterflies erupting in his stomach and his cheeks burning. He felt like he was watching an angel disguised as his wife. Johnny: "Are you blushing dude? Ha ha... never thought I'd see the day." He whispered while nudging the others trying not to laugh out loud. He was the best man with Njabulo and Skhumbuzo as the groomsmen. Daniel: "Shut up man! You're lucky we're in church!" He whisper yelled. ***** As the ceremony commenced among the guests was a mother and her two children. She was crying and the son smiled. The son: "Don't cry mother cauz this is a happy day." He wiped her falling tears with his thumb. The mother: "I'm just glad I could make it." She said but the scowl on her son's face did not go unnoticed as he knows the reason she almost did not make it. "Let's just be happy that we're here." He rolled his eyes before keeping his attention on the priest and the couple getting married. He wondered to himself if they were really as happy as they looked at the moment. The reception The Dlamini had booked one of the prestigious wedding venue in the city. The place looked grand more especially with MamJessica's expertise in décor. The crowd erupted in cheers as the bride and groom entered the venue. Kearabetswe had changed her dress into a more comfortable one. Everyone was cheerful except for Olivia who had also attended the wedding. Sam was also present but she could not understand why her boss attended but she was too afraid to ask seeing her foul mood. "serif">The crowd erupted in cheers as the bride and groom entered the venue. Kearabetswe had changed her dress into a more comfortable one. Everyone was cheerful except for Olivia who had also attended the wedding. Sam was also present but she could not understand why her boss attended but she was too afraid to ask seeing her foul mood. The dancing was done and apparently the groom had a surprise for the bride. She was stunned when she saw that the surprise was none other a collage of

her photos. Pictures from her younger years to the ones she wasn't aware he took like the one where she was sleeping or in the car to those he took when they were having a chillas at Zoe's penthouse. The elders delivered their speeches about how to treat your husband and your wife the works. Uncle Thabiso's speech was so embarrassing that his wife had to take the microphone away from him. Zoe: "As the maid of honour even though there's three of us I have to make a speech. I really don't know how to begin because I didn't see this coming. Kea is my best friend and was the moment we stood next to each other during our Orientation. Starting University is a very frightening experience especially for someone like me who struggles to make friends. I was a loner and when I first met her I knew then she will be my bestie." Her tears fell as she reminisces. "From the moment onwards she has made me feel loved and appreciated. Mushy stuff aside. I remember when she told us about this playful handsome stranger and not once did I think she was talking about my brother. Cauz geez my brother and playful together don't even make sense. So you can imagine my surprise when I realised the playful handsome stranger and my brother are the same person. I guess he showed that side only to her but even then I didn't think will be here tonight. Anyway I wish you guys a very blissful marriage and bhuti hurt her and I'll forget that we're family. That one you have there is my sworn sister. Cheers!" She raised her glass and everyone raised theirs. Even though Kearabetswe knows that there was no love between her and her husband but Zoe's speech was in a way true and she was glad that at least there was something between them which drove away the awkwardness of an arranged marriage. Johnny: "Speeches and I are not best friends but Dan is so whatever." The crowd erupted in laughter "Dan is one of the most reliable pals but he's also terrible at showing his emotions so you have to be patient with him. Dan it is now your duty to take care of your wife no matter what. She's great so of you don't treat her right someone will." He said the last part glancing intensely at Daniel. "Like I said I'm terrible at this so raise your glasses and toast to the couple." Everyone raised their glasses and cheered. As the celebration commenced the mother and children watched the couple. She noticed that the couple looked to be enamoured with each other so she was relieved. MamJessica: "Laila you came? I didn't think Nick would let you come." She said as soon as she saw her. She knows her dear friend has a controlling husband and she has tried so many times to convince her friend to leave her husband but who can really come between couple right. Laila: "I had to. I couldn't miss my favourite godson getting married." She smiled and reassured her friend. ***** It was time to catch the bouquet and all the bachelorette gathered in one place. Puleng was hesitant to go because according to her she will stay unmarried forever but Zoe dragged her along. Kearabetswe threw the bouquet and everyone gasped as it fell on Puleng's hands who wasn't even raising her hands. Puleng: "Bloody hell?!" Kearabetswe and Zoe were the first to laugh and everyone followed. ***** Kearabetswe: "Dude what's up with you? Why can't you keep your hands to yourself?" She spoke as Daniel kissed her for the millionth time today. He has been too clingy today. Even though today is their wedding but she knew what their relationship is. Daniel: "Why would I keep them to myself when I have such a gorgeous wife." He said as a matter of fact causing his wife to blush. "Have you seen my little brother?" He asked scanning the room but can't seem to spot him. Kea: "No but from the past few week I've realised him and Puleng same Whatsapp group." They laughed but were interrupted by the best man. Johnny: "Can I steal your wife for a moment?" Daniel: "Why would I allow that?" He puts a protective hand over his wife's shoulder. Johnny: "Come on bro you'll have her for an entire week." He said nonchalantly. Kea: "I'll come back." She pulled out of his

embrace and walked with Johnny to another table. "So what's up?" She said soon as they sat down. Johnny: "I miss you." He said causing her to blush. "How has Dan been behaving?" Kea: "He's been behaving good actually. No longer that unbearable jerk." She smiled when she spoke. Johnny: "I actually wanted to warn you. As much as he is all in now he'll change again." She frowned in confusion. "Whenever he fights with my cousin he always run to somebody to distract him in fact that day he met you he also had a fallout with her the night before." Kearabetswe couldn't believe her ears. Kea: "So how many girls had he distracted himself with?" She asked with a bit of anger building inside. Johnny: "No don't get it twisted. You're actually the first girl he ever ran to he just uses us. Plan bro trips coming to our offices unannounced and stuff. But you're definitely the first girl which may be the reason why his wanted to marry you two as soon as possible.' Kea: "I don't know what to say." She felt defeated. She didn't know if she should be relieved that she was the first girl he ever distracted himself or feel disappointed because it means every time he was good to her was because he wanted to distract himself from his true love. Johnny: "Don't feel bad. I only wanted to warn you so that you don't get too invested cauz once things are great between them then he'll forget about you in no time." He caressed her cheek and she found herself melting. "Don't worry if he hurts you I'll Rambo on him... no scratch that. I'll go Bruce Lee on him cauz that boy is huge." Kearabetswe couldn't help but laugh and Johnny was happy to see her beautiful smile once again. "I think that's enough now!" That was Daniel gritting his teeth. Johnny raised his hands in surrender. Daniel grabbed Kea walking to their table. She is his wife and he sure as hell wouldn't let Johnny's antics to ruin his day. Kea: "Relax dude. We were just talking as friends." She didn't know why she felt like she needed to explain herself after all they weren't doing anything wrong. Daniel: "You're mine! My wife mine!" He exclaimed but she rolled her eyes and shook her head since he was being ridiculous again. 29 Kearabetswe "I wish you a very blissful marriage and do enjoy your honeymoon." "Congratulations and you guys make the perfect couple." It's some of the things I heard from people as we are heading out for our honeymoon. The festivities are still going on and the hall is still very lively but we have a flight to catch so everyone is saying their goodbyes to us. They are hugging and wishing us well. It was a fleeting moment but it felt like an eternity. One of the huggers felt so warm so inviting and for that brief moment I felt safe. It was a woman but I didn't see her as she was wearing sunglasses and as I had said the moment was brief and rather unexpected. I turned around but she was nowhere to be found. Maybe I had imagined it. BabMandla: "I'm so proud of you son. I hope you guys enjoy your honeymoon and yes now you can take it further than mere making out. I will be waiting to hear the good news." That was my father-in-law causing me to flush out of embarrassment. This is actually the second time he embarrassed me like this. MamJessica: "Tata don't embarrass the kids now." She said pulling his husband away giving other people their chance. ***** Wow! That's all I can say. The family holiday house is so beautiful. My mouth was agape admiring the house. It was a two storey beach house with the perfect view of the sea. Daniel leads me to the main bedroom. There is a king sized bed that is has rose petals all over even on the carpet. The room is dim with the candles illuminating acting as the only source of light the music in the background playing sensual tunes. Whoever was responsible for this has only one thing in mind the one thing I'm dreading. Him: "There we go! Gosh I'm tired." He says after putting our bags down and literally threw himself on the bed. Me: "No no no! You need to go and lie on your bed in your bedroom." I say trying to get him off the bed but who was I kidding. This guy is so heavy and so strong. I am literally throwing all my strength

but he is not even moving a muscle. Him: "Well honey this is our room. We're going to share like the people on their honeymoon. Do you honestly believe that my parents will not have a contingency plan?" I frowned in confusion because honestly I have no what he means. He continued "They made sure that all the other bedrooms are unavailable and only this one is. I'm not about to sleep on the floor so you'll have to live with it and besides the bed is huge for the two of us so we'll be fine. Besides it's not like this will be the first time that we're sleeping on the same bed but then again you were too drunk back then." He said nonchalantly. It was late and I was too tired so I really had no energy to object. I went over to my bags and took out my pyjamas before heading to the en-suite. "They made sure that all the other bedrooms are unavailable and only this one is. I'm not about to sleep on the floor so you'll have to live with it and besides the bed is huge for the two of us so we'll be fine. Besides it's not like this will be the first time that we're sleeping on the same bed but then again you were too drunk back then." He said nonchalantly. It was late and I was too tired so I really had no energy to object. I went over to my bags and took out my pyjamas before heading to the en-suite. I was too tired to even take a shower so I just brushed my teeth and washed my face. I entered the bedroom to find Daniel already inside the covers. I guess we're both tired. I just got inside and turned my back on him making sure that I am far away from him. He was right the bed is spacious so this can actually work. ***** Slowly I open my eyes but I am met with the most handsome face I've ever seen... wait a minute. Why is his face so close to me? I try to move away but I am trapped in between his arms. I then realise that we were spooning. Now my cheeks are heating up. How long were we in this position? The mere thought of sleeping in this position for an entire night has me flustered. I give up struggling because the mister here doesn't seem to want to let go of me. I decide to study his face. His features are so soft when he is sleeping almost like he was younger. He looks so peaceful and those lips looks so inviting I could just... woah I better stop looking at them but he is so handsome. I am married to the most handsome guy in the world but he is probably bipolar an--- "Morning beautiful." That hoarse morning voice has them butterflies erupting in my stomach. His eyes are still closed but the signature smirk on his face doesn't go unseen. "I know I'm handsome but staring is considered rude. Maybe you could take a picture cause that will last longer." He is handsome and he knows it. Mxm proud much? Me: "You have a very inflated ego. You know you're not supposed to be tuning your own horn." I roll my eyes shaking my head. "I need to use the bathroom so do you mind letting go." I stated and he finally opens his eyes. Wow talk about sexy groggy eyes. His smile only grew when he perhaps notice that I'm practically drooling over him. Him: "I know I can be very mesmerising but you don't have to drool over me. I'm your husband after all so I'm all yours." Jesus how big is this guy's ego? He chuckled at my reaction "You love rolling your eyes don't you? Anyway you're right you need to brush your teeth cauz your morning breath stinks." I cover my mouth but he just laugh at me. I try pinching him but her just giggles. Who giggles when they're being pinched? "You're tickling me stop it! I was just joking." He pulls me even closer. Me: "Let go of me idiot I really need to use the bathroom." I say pouting but he shakes his head and capturing my lips. Every time he kisses me sends me to paradise. A world only he can take me to. My whole feels like a whole shockwaves are travelling in my veins. I know I want to push him or not respond but his kiss does things to me. Things I cannot even begin to comprehend. We pull apart because nature's need for air calls. He smiles while still catching his breath. Him: "Now that's what I call a morning kiss." He says before getting up heading to the en-suite. This guy is unbelievable; I just told him that I needed to use

the bathroom. Mxm I'm going to go in there and do my business. I get off the bed and make my way inside. I open the door without knock and how I wish I hadn't because I found him only in his boxers and he looks like he was about to take them off as well. I quickly covered my eyes and turning around. Me: "I'm so sorry but I told you I needed to use the bathroom. Is there at least a lavatory in this house that is open?" I ask refusing to turn around. My breath hitches as I feel his breath on my neck before I can feel him nipping and nibbling on my ear. Him: "Why should you leave when we can just share? Don't tell me you're worried that you will stink the whole bathroom." He whispers in my ears but I turn around to retort back but why was I such an idiot because I am met up with his face that is way too close to me. I swallow my words before they can even escape. My throat suddenly feels dry causing me swallow hard. His eyes look sexy and I think also bloodshot. This is dangerous territory and I think if I stay I might get burned. I try to move back but I was already late as he pulls me by the waist and captures my lips once again. I swear at that moment I saw stars. He then moves from my lips to my jaw kissing as he moves to my neck. I release a moan when he kisses a sensitive spot. I shudder at the contact and I found myself melting and I had to grip on his hands to steady me even though the way he was gripping on my waist means he was holding me steady. My eyes widened when I could feel myself twitching in places that I never knew I could. His hands moved from my waist to my butt slightly squeezing them causing me to moan and him to groaning. I felt something poking my midsection but my mind was too hazy to even react. He stopped his assault on my neck and held gazes with me. I don't know what was happening at that moment but I found myself lost in his eyes. After some times he smirked and shook his head finally dropping his gaze and it felt like he was also releasing me from the trance his gaze seemed to put me in. Him: "There is a bathroom down the hall on the right side. I think I should start my shower now and thanks to you it seems like I'll be taking a cold shower." He said before turning and entering the shower I regained my composure and rushed outside the bathroom and entered the bedroom. I threw myself on the bed releasing a breath I wasn't aware I was holding. What has gotten into you Kea? You never act like this before. Now my underwear is probably wet. This will be a very long week. 30 Sip the juice put it down and look down. Take a bite of toast put it down and look to the side. Sip the juice put it down and look down. That has been my routine for the past minutes. Why? You may probably be wondering. Well the thing is I am having breakfast with Daniel and things have been pretty awkward since the incident this morning. I have been trying to avoid his intense gaze. I swear he revels in seeing me flustered. Him: "How about we take a walk on the beach after breakfast?" he broke the silence and I just nodded without looking up. He chuckled at my reaction "Yeah you better hurry up because I want us to also go to the mall. I'll go get ready while you finish your breakfast." I hear the chair screech and I can finally breathe. My breath hitches once again when his breath fans over my neck. He kisses my cheek before leaving for real this time. ***** The breeze feels so refreshing against my skin and the sands against my toes is equally refreshing. What is also great about this part of the ocean is that it is totally private meaning we have it all to our selves. Daniel is also surprisingly quiet and the awkwardness has totally diminished. I feel his fingers intertwining with mine. I raise my head to see him taking a snap. Him: "Say cheese!" I frown before posing. Tongue out pout the works. I mean who can say no to taking pictures especially when you have no idea why you're taking them. Me: "Why are we taking pictures?" I ask after our session of snapping photos. Him: "We're in our honeymoon so obviously people will be expecting photographic evidence." He said rolling his eyes and shaking his head. Me:

“Are you mocking me? You’re definitely mocking me.” I said pointing an accusing finger at him. Him: “Me never.” He said stifling a laugh. I was about to hit him but he dodges and runs away. I run after him to make him pay for making fun of me. *** “What do you think?” I said twirling. We had gone to the mall after playing on the sands running and laughing. I had enjoyed my time but the shopping was very torturous. I don’t like shopping nor do I think is therapeutic. But that was nothing because shopping with Daniel can be very demanding. He takes everything he thinks is pretty without looking at the price tag. As for me I don’t believe in spending too much on clothes but the guy had a black card so he was pretty much throwing that at my face. He was like “Why worry about price tags when I have a limitless card. I’m taking everything your eye sets on.” Like for real? I know he had a limitless card but there was no way that I was going to blow it on clothes. So yeah he took everything my gaze would fall on because eyes are eyes and they can be very curious and you don’t control where they land. The guy is so stubborn that he didn’t hear me--- no he refused to hear me when I try to tell him that I was just curious and don’t necessarily find some pretty. Anyway this led to here Sponsored me in our bedroom trying different outfits with him watching and grinning like an idiot. Him: “You look just gorgeous. I told you that you would look great in it.” I rolled my eyes and shook my head. I head back to the en-suite to try another outfit. This time it was a red and black lingerie yes he also took me to a lingerie store. He refused to leave without me taking anything so I took it because it was the least revealing one in the store. I was hesitant in going back in the room because this is ridiculous but maybe I can turn the tables on him after all he was the one who forced me to buy this. I let my hair fall loosely on my shoulders before entering the room. Daniel was on his iPhone doing whatever. Me: “What do you think of this?” He raised his head and he jaw literally dropped to the floor. He shifted uncomfortably on the bed and he turned his head away from me. Him: “I think you should take that thing off before I do it myself.” His voice was hoarse and I silently laughed. Me: “But you haven’t told me how I look.” I walk over to where he had turned and I pout at him while stifling a laugh. Him: “Don’t start a game you won’t be able to finish.” He stared at me and his eyes where dark with lust and I froze on the spot. He was right about one thing because I was really regretting probing him. Looks like I poked a bear and now I’m trapped in its grasp. He got off the bed and walked slowly to me. I don’t know why but I found myself mimicking his movements somehow there was an invisible magnet pulling me to him. He captured my lips and this time the kiss was not sweet but filled with passion and unmistakable urgency. I felt fireworks exploding in my head and my body literally went numb. He pulled me closer to him and his hands served to steady me as I had lost all my senses. My hands moved to his neck pulling his face closer to mine deepening the kiss. His hands went down and settled on my ass and he pulled me up and I wrapped my legs around his waist. We pulled apart to catch in air and we locked gazes. At that moment his eyes were the most beautiful things I have ever set my eyes on his lips now fully plum from the sucking. He smirked before capturing my lips once again. He sucked on my lower lip and I found myself moaning and he took the chance for his tongue to enter and it found mine ready. They tangled and mingled together dancing to their own tune. I finally gave up as my head was getting fuzzy. He explored my mouth for a while before moving to my neck. He was groaning as he nibbled on my neck and for a second I felt my soul leaving my body. I have never felt like this before. I felt his hands on my hardened nipples then his lips went to my exposed chest and started sucking and pinched them simultaneously. I rolled my eyes back and moaned in pleasure but when I felt his lips on my navel it was enough to bring me back to**

reality. Me: "Daniel what are we doing?" it took all of my strength to manage that out. His lips and hands were doing wonders on my senses. His touch felt like fire against my skin sending unbearable pleasure all over my body. Him: "Mhmm..." he just groaned. I pushed him off and that brought him back. His eyes were very small and still dark with lust but he was slowly regaining his senses. My own senses came back and I quickly covered my body with the pillow when I realised that I was only left with my panty which was wet as hell and he was only in his boxers with the bulge so huge that it made me shudder at what the size might have been. He started laughing out of nowhere causing me to be flushed once again and I sank deeper into the headboard. He moved closer to me and perked my lips. Him: "I can't believe I'm taking another cold shower. This will be a very long week." He mumbled to himself but I managed to catch what he was saying. He got off the bed and walked to the en-suite but it seemed more like he was limping. Poor thing now I feel sorry for him. I was waiting to hear the shower running before rushing to take a shower in the bathroom across the hallway. He is not the only one who needed to refresh. I took a warm shower and I kept laughing not believing that it was me who was in that heated making out session. God he almost popped my cherry. If I didn't recover my senses back then I would have been deflowered. I finished showering and put on the fluffy white towel on the rack and took a smaller one and wrapped it on my head. I made my way back and it seems like temptation is something I would not be lacking in this beach house. I found Daniel in only a towel covering his midsection with his torso and chest bare for me to feast on. He smirked before going to the wardrobe and pulling out his t-shirt and shorts. He looked at me. Him: "I should get dressed in the bathroom because it feels like there is temptation everywhere." He said before heading to the en-suite. I released a shaky breath before taking out my pyjamas but I also pulled out one of his t-shirt. Well for safety because since it is spring there were shorter and revealing. Thing is I couldn't risk it so I also took my lotion and went back across the hallway to the bathroom to get ready. I got back after I was done and found him in the bed. He smiled when he saw me. Him: "You know you wearing my t-shirt is also tempting on its own so I'm not sure if it's really helping." He said and I found myself gripping tightly on the lotion. He laughed "I think I'm going to take a walk on the beach and don't follow me because I don't want to take you on the sands even though it is tempting and would be very romantic." He got off the bed and made his way to the door. I found myself grabbing his arm when he reached my side. He stared at me confused and I quickly let go of it and moving out of his way. My head was bowed down due to embarrassment. I don't know what I was thinking or doing. I felt his fingers on my chin as he lifted my head to face him. He was smiling and he perked my lips. Him: "You're so gorgeous the most beautiful woman I've ever laid my eyes on but I have to leave now before I impregnate you right here and now." He kissed my forehead before leaving and I found myself sinking on the floor. He has a hold on me and I hate him for it because it looks like he can handle himself well. Now I was really disliking his parents for locking all the other bedrooms. They are extreme if you ask me. I collected myself and went over to my side of the bed getting under the covers. I wanted to be asleep when he was done with his walk on the beach. My phone rang on my side and I picked it up without looking at the caller ID. Me: "Hello!"?: "..." silence all over again. This better not be Daniel but my gaze fell on the coffee table where his iPhone was currently charging. Me: "Okay look this is getting annoying. I'm sick and tired of these phone calls. Don't call me anymore!" I shouted at whoever it was before hanging up. I laugh at myself because I was beginning to think these calls were made by Daniel but then I was receiving these before I even met him and that time he

called he was using a landline while these are always private. I was getting to sleep when Daniel's phone started ringing. I rolled my eyes before getting off the bed to answer his phone. Me: "Hello Daniel's phone Kea speaking!" I just picked it up without looking at the caller. I started getting nervous when I couldn't hear the other person. What if it was the same person that was calling me seconds ago? I looked at the caller before rolling my eyes and shaking my head. Dramatic much?! "Olivia what do you want?" I ask seeing as she was not planning on talking. Her: "Where is Daniel?" she asked and it took all of me not to hang up. Me: "If by the Daniel you happen to mean my husband well he's in the shower. He has to freshen up after all this is our honeymoon and making love to each other is on the menu 24/7." I said smirking like she could see me. Her: "Fuck you and him you fucking assholes!" she shouted and it took all of me not to hang up. Me: "Don't worry fucking is what we were doing and we're planning on doing it until we head back home." I said and it was followed by her curses. I hung up and walked over to sleep. That will teach her to call someone on their honeymoon. I am sure by now she is red with anger. 31 It is Sunday and it means lazy day for me. I was back from the honeymoon; we arrived yesterday night so I was still tired. All in all I had a great time and nothing happened between me and Daniel even though there were a lot of sexual tensions. I don't know where this tension came from because I have never experienced it ever in my life. Anyway now I am in the kitchen making sandwiches for Daniel and the kids. I haven't seen Olivia ever since we came back so it is just us. Daniel and the kids are in the game room playing. I finished making the sandwiches for them and also for myself. I put the plates on a tray and it looks like I'll be making two trips there because I also need to give them their juice. I go to the game room to hand them their food. Dintle/ Tshepo: "Thank you aunty!" Daniel: "Thank you wifey!" They say as I hand them the sandwiches and they are already digging in. Me: "Relax people I still need to fetch your juice." I say before heading back to the kitchen. I was almost at the kitchen door when bell rang. I sighed because this means I have to take it since Daniel and the kids are in the game room. I tell you once there are in there they won't hear a thing. I walked over to the door and I was surprised to see Zoe and Njabulo at the door. Okay! This is interesting. Zee: "Is this how you welcome your guests?" she said after I have been staring at them without moving or saying anything. Me: "What are you guys doing here?" I said out of surprise but as soon as I said I regretted it "No don't get me wrong. It's just... you're together... and here... weird." I added and to be honest this is weirding me out. Zee: "Don't you think you should let us in first?" she said and snapped me out of the weirdness trance I was in. Me: "Oh yeah come in. I'm sorry it's just that I wasn't expecting you guys." I said as I let them in and close the door. I lead them to the kitchen so that I can take the juice to Daniel and the kids and also make something for them. "I was making some sandwiches I can make you some." I say after we enter the kitchen. Zee: "No it's okay but we'll have juice right Bulu?" she said taking a seat on the stool and Njabul... wait she just called him Bulu. I feel like I'm missing something here. Anyway I decide not to dwell on it so I just pour juice for them and hand them to them. Me: "Okay let me call Daniel I was go---" I was interrupted by them both mind you this the first time Njabulo said anything. Zee: "Um Kay we actually came to talk to you." She said and I frowned in confusion. Me: "Okay soo..." I said giving them the chance to say something. Zee: "Me and Bulu are officially dating." She said blushing and he was also blushing. Ncooh this is so cute. They are so cute that I can't help myself from smiling. Me: "Congratulations guys! Anyway is that all you came here for or..." I was so happy for them. I was happy that Zee finally found someone and like I said before Njabulo is decent and looks like a great

guy and not like her exes I swear if I see one of them I would wipe the floor with them. Zee: "Well I already told my other brothers but of cause they were against it but SisMahle spoke to them and they finally excepted. BhutiMandla however was still not okay so he put him on a month trial. My brothers and drama are best friends." She said smiling. She was playing with the hem of her shirt something she does when she is anxious. She looked at me with begging eyes "I also want to tell BhutiLwazi but between all my brothers he's the worst and that's where you come in. Can you please talk to him like SisMahle did to BhutiThemba." I just stared her not knowing what to say. I mean I know Daniel can be difficult but what can I do and besides Amahle and Gavin (Themba's first name) love each other. Njabulo: "I know what we're asking you may seem hard but Dan is my friend and I know him. Look he'll only listen to you and that's why we need your help." He said also pleading. They seem so desperate but I don't know how I will be able to help them. Me: "Look I understand you guys and I want everyone to be okay with your relationship cauz I think you make a pretty cute couple but Dani is Dani. He is stubborn as a mule no scratch that he's worse." I can see the disappointment on their faces and that made me instantly feel bad "Fine I'll try to talk to him but I can---" I was interrupted by Daniel yelling. Him: "BP we are those juices. Seriously we have been waiting on them for forever we even finished our... Oh hi guys." He stops his yelling when he entered the kitchen. If you could see Zee and Njabulo they looked like they wanted the ground to just open and swallow them whole. "What brings you here and together? Zana care to explain." He said in a stern voice and I almost peed poor Zee. Her: "U-uh... I-I... we uh... uh." Poor Zee she was stammering and I decided to step in. Me: "They came here to tell us something but take the glasses and juice to the kids so we can have a talk. Don't wet your panties it's nothing serious." I said before smacking his ass. I don't know why but a part of me liked it. Daniel turned to me glaring but he couldn't hide the smile on his face. He turned away and took a jug of juice and the glasses leaving without saying anything. Zee: "Did you just... I can't believe you made my brother blush." She said laughing and I shook my head in embarrassment. Like what the F Kea? Me: "I did not he was so not blushing." I say covering my face because this is wow. Njabulo: "He was blushing... Dan was blushing... the gents are gonna love this." He said also laughing. Well at least now he was comfortable. Me: "Anyway I just sent him away so that we can calm down. Yoh Zee your brother is scary I can't believe I did that." They are still laughing; I roll my eyes and shake my head. They finally stop and I continue Sponsored "Anyway Njabu tell me something. Are you really in love with my Princess and have good intensions with her? Because you will not have only the Dlamini bros after you if you dare hurt her but you'll also have me to deal with." Him: "Of cause I do. I have always liked her but I didn't act on it cause one I was scared of rejection and two because of Dan. However I swear I love her and I have the best of intensions for her that I'm willing to risk my friendship with Dan." He was smiling and I can see the love. Ncooh I am so happy because zee deserves someone to cherish her. He continued "Yoh she has the most protective brothers I swear Jay even threatened to rip my head off and he wasn't even joking. Can you believe the trial they put me in means that for a whole month every time I ask her on a date means I'll also have Jay or Gav as our chaperone." He shook his head and I found myself giggling. These brothers are so overprotective of Zee that they make me wish I had an older but all I have is an older mean sister mxm. Anyway Jay is Jayden (Kwezi) and Gav is Gavin (Themba). These siblings all have English names as their first names but they call each other using their xhosa names. Cute right? "Y'all seem happy?" shit that was Daniel. I thought I was ready but whenever he uses that voice Yoh I swear even the meanest gangster would

pee on himself. Me: "Dani sit down honey!" I say but my voice was high-pitched so you could tell that I was freaking out. Him: "Uh huh!" he said eyeing me suspiciously before taking a seat. I don't know why but I held his hand that was on the counter. I eyed the two lovebirds and I swear they were sweating bullets. His attention also went to them "So anyone care to explain?" he said and his thumb was busy drawing circle on my hand and I have a feeling that it was involuntary. I cleared my throat because that small action was doing things to me. Me: "Honey look promise not to get mad or anything." I waited for confirmation and he nodded still looking at the two suspiciously. I feel him tense and I know he can sense something but I continued "Zee and Njabulo are d---" He stood up and roared or growled but I couldn't tell because I was freaking out. Him: "Fuck you man! How dare you make a move on my sister? Fucking idiot I would not have this! You can forget it! Geez she is like your sister!" he was beyond pissed and I could see the tears falling on Zee's face. I stood up as well and took his hand and try to pull him with me but he was like a mountain. Not knowing what to do I hug him from behind and I could feel his anger dissipate a little. Me: "Please follow me Dani." I kept begging and after a while he gave in. He took my hand and he was the one leading the way to my bedroom. Don't ask why because I was just going to take him to any vacant room. He closed the door and crossed his arms on his chest. Him: "I'm here now so what?" he said in his stern voice. How I wish he could drop that. I took a deep breath before walking over to him taking his hand in mine and leading him towards the bed. He watched me without saying anything and obliged without any objections. I made him seat at the edge of the bed and I sat at his lap. Don't ask me what I was doing because I had no idea. He was still watching and I took a deep breath before wrapping my arms around his neck. Me: "Listen and don't interrupt me. I know you love Zee and guess what I do too. I have seen the kind of guys she dated before and I can understand your reservations but you also know Njabu and you know he is a good guy. I've seen how he looks at Zee and I can tell he loves her I know you see it too. Look she deserves to be happy too and you can't take that away from him and if it doesn't work out it's fine we'll be there to pick up the pieces but we can't be in the way of her happiness because we fear the unknown." I was staring deep in his eyes and I can see the pain that he is trying to hide. Him: "I know that he loves her. I have realised how he looks at Zana since she was like fifteen but you won't understand this is much bigger than it looks. I know Njabulo he's my friend and I know he would never hurt her at least not intentionally but this is deeper than you think." I can see this is deeper but Zee is my best friend and I want nothing but her happiness. Me: "I know and I won't force you to make me understand but Njabu is your friend. If you have some reservations talk to him but don't stand in the way of their happiness who knows this can blossom into something beautiful. So please Dani talk to him." I plead then I plant a soft kiss on his lips. I pull away but he puts his hands on my cheeks and pulls me for a deep passionate kiss. We pull away after a while and our foreheads connect while we stare deep into deep each other's eyes. He smiles planting a soft kiss on my lips before staring deep into my eyes again. Him: "You're amazing. Now let's go downstairs I'm sure the lovebirds have peed themselves by now." He chuckles before we head downstairs walking hand in hand. When we reach the kitchen we find Zee crying silently with Njabulo comforting her. I feel Daniel's grip tightening and I can tell the sight is hurting as much as it hurting mine. "What's up lovebirds! Anyway you can date but Njabulo you and I need to have a bro talk." Zee gets up and crushes us in a tight embrace. This means a lot to her and Njabulo is just watching us smiling and I call him to come to this group hug. We hug and they are busy saying "Thank you thank you!" over and

over. Daniel: "Okay that's enough hugging. Zana I'm sorry for making you cry princess." He is staring at her before kissing her forehead and hugging her. Njabulo and I watch the sibling moment with smiles on our faces. "I love you princess. Njabulo bro you better take care of her and we'll talk later but right now you guys need to love and leave us cause I want to have a relaxing Sunday with my family." We all laugh before hugging one last time and sending the couple out. I am happy that my princess is happy and now to enjoy family time with Daniel while it still lasts. ***** Today it's Saturday morning and I am in the kitchen making breakfast. Olivia is still nowhere to be found and Daniel doesn't even want to talk about her and I couldn't care less. Zee on the other hand is so happy that his brothers are on board with her relationship and Daniel did have that bro talk and it seems like it went well. Puleng my dear Coloured has been acting weird. Apparently she went on a hiatus while I was on my honeymoon but she is not willing to tell us where she went and we didn't want to force her to talk she will when she's ready. Anyway while making breakfast the bell rings and I swear I wanted to kick whoever was behind that door in the shin. I mean seriously who visits so early in the morning. I make my way to the door because there was no one else who was going to come to the door especially so early in the morning. I open the door and mood just got even fouler. What is she doing here? Me: "So early in the morning and you're already ruining my day. What the hell are you doing here?" I asked pissed off like really. To think I was enjoying my time with Daniel and the kids. I honestly didn't need her to ruin it.

32 I am looking at her and I can't help but feel like I am being tested. I am sitting across from her in the lounge. I cannot believe that she is here and so early in the morning. I am looking at her as she is busy literally scanning the house. Me: "What are you doing here and actually how did you find where I live cauz I don't remember informing you?" I ask her and the irritation in voice could not go unnoticed. Her: "Hau is that a way to talk to your older sister?" she said feigning shock. Mxm I was making breakfast and now she was disrupting my plans. Me: "Just cut the crap! What brings you here? You do know that we were going to bring the kids right? Isn't it a little too early? I'm surprised that you can even wake up early or perhaps you didn't sleep at home." I am surprised because while I was still living with them she slept till twelve that's if she didn't have a late night. She shifts uncomfortably and instantly I get curious because judging from her reaction she wasn't here for the kids. What scheme could she be cooking with her mother? She cleared her throat before beginning. Her: "I am actually looking for a job." She said and my eyes grew wide before I burst out laughed. Me: "Ha ha... you... ha ha... work? Ha ha... Good one." I was laughing so hard that my tummy was beginning to hurt a little. I expected her to laugh back but she seems to be flushed. Oh God she's serious! I recollected myself before continuing "You seriously want a job? You didn't even pass your matric and what of your blessers? Plus I don't know why you're telling me this." Her: "I know that I have not been the best of people but I need to work for my children. It took me a while to realise that I have been a bad mother but having them away from me made me realise that." She said sincerely but I am not about to fall for it. She can be an actress like her mother but stepmon takes the cup. Me: "I get that you want to change for your kids but what are you doing here cauz you should be out there looking for a job." I wanted to give her the benefit of the doubt but you can never know with her. Her: "I was thinking maybe you can talk to your husband and maybe he could hire me as your maid. That way I can also be closer to my kids." She said softly and like I said I wanted to give her a benefit of the doubt

for my angels but there is no way I will be having her around as my maid. I already have Olivia to worry about I cannot be having her also trying to worm her way into my husband. Me: "Yeah there is absolutely no way that I'll be hiring you as my maid and besides why are you looking for a job anyway? What happened to the money you guys got from my lobola cauz I know for a fact that your mother took all of it?" Her eyes grew wild clearly not expecting my response. Her: "Please hle I am your sister and you need to help me out. The money went to pay off debts. You know mom is terrible at managing dad's taxi business and not to mention Uncle Thabiso who is just as worse. To be honest I never realised that we were depending on your bursary for grocery and now I think I should act like the older sister and mother I never was." I was taken aback by what she said. Maybe she is sincere. Me: "I guess I can find something for you but there is no way you'll be my maid or anyone else's. I know you and I don't want to be responsible for anyone's broken marriage." I said because I know what she is like. I cannot even begin to count the many times that she broke people's marriages and I don't want people to blame me for introducing her. She was about to say something but was interrupted by Daniel calling for me. Him: "BP wifey! Come on woman. You can't leave and make my bed cold plus I don't even smell any food. I want to cuddle with my wife it---" he stopped when he enters the living room and sees that we have company. I found myself blushing because he was only in his shorts and nothing else. I see Palesa gawking at him. See why I don't want her around. His jaw clenched "Oh hi sister-in-law! What brings you here so early and how did you know where we live?" His voice was stern and I saw her sweating a little. He walked over to me and planted a soft kiss on my lips. Her: "I-I uh... sh-she I... umh!" she was stumbling and not making any sense. I stifled my laugh because she was so nervous. This husband of mine can be very intimidating when he wants in fact all the Dlamini men seem to possess that quality except for Kwezi but he could be hiding it like Daniel does sometimes. I decided to step in because if I don't I fear she might pee on herself because just imagine being in the presence of someone as handsome and ripped as my husband shirtless and have his "shit your pants" voice on. Yoh it is hectic out there. Me: "She is here looking for a job. She thought that maybe I know someone who is looking for a helper?" I said looking at him and he was frowning. Him: "Do you have any qualifications?... Do you have experience?... Do you at least have a matric?" I hear him sigh deeply. He was asking her these questions but she kept shaking her head. It was hopeless really all she ever cared about is tearing apart families and looking good. Daniel rubbed his temple before continuing "I decided to step in because if I don't I fear she might pee on herself because just imagine being in the presence of someone as handsome and ripped as my husband shirtless and have his "shit your pants" voice on. Yoh it is hectic out there. Me: "She is here looking for a job. She thought that maybe I know someone who is looking for a helper?" I said looking at him and he was frowning. Him: "Do you have any qualifications?... Do you have experience?... Do you at least have a matric?" I hear him sigh deeply. He was asking her these questions but she kept shaking her head. It was hopeless really all she ever cared about is tearing apart families and looking good. Daniel rubbed his temple before continuing "We'll see what we can do and if you don't mind you can go home and we'll bring the kids later. As you can see my wife and I have some unfinished business to take care of." He said the last part nibbling my ear causing me to release a moan. God I was so embarrassed but I wasn't the only one. Puleng left and I had to push Daniel away but did he budge? No. Me: "You should let go cauz I was making pancakes." I say trying to make him stop but did he listen? I am sure you know the answer by now. His hand went

under my shirt and started massaging one of my twins while his lips left trails down my ear my jaw life and finally settled on the weak spot in my neck. God he feels so good. Him: "You left... the bed... too early... I was still... enjoying cuddling... with you." He said groggily through his sucking and his voice was laced in lust. I released a shaky breath because that was enough to make me dripping wet down there. Two can play that game. I shifted my position and made sure I was straddling him. He was now kissing my lips and he was smiling through it. Now both his hands were busy playing with my twins. I placed mine of his bare chest and started moving them slowly and sensually down and he groaned when they settled on his monster. I then proceeded to put my right hand under his shorts and I felt his monster twitching. He broke the kiss and stared right in my eyes. His breathing was abnormal and so was mine. "We should take our act to our room because I don't fancy having the kids walking in on us." He perked my lips before standing with me still in his embrace. My hands went to his neck with my legs wrapped around his waist. He kept perking my lips with me giggling as we climbed the stairs. "Can you carry us too Uncle!" we both froze when we heard Dintle's angelic voice. They were sitting at the top stairs watching us. I wonder how long they were sitting there. Me: "I-I uh... uh I... help Dani!" I was tongue tied and the idiot just laughed. I hid my face in his neck and I felt the vibrations as he laughed. Him: "I will carry you but you guys need to brush your teeth first then we'll all go down and help aunty make breakfast cuz she is making blueberry pancakes." I heard him say followed by loud cheering from the kids then they were gone. I got off him and hit him on the arms but I am sure to him it felt like I was tickling him. Me: "You're so cruel and who says I was making the blueberry ones." I was pouting. He perked my lips. Him: "God you look so cute when you pout. As for the pancakes you are now." He said before leaving me. Blueberry pancakes was his favourite and lucky for me I was already making that flavour. ***** The nerves were killing me and I was anxious as fuck. I kept checking my phone for the time and it feels like it was moving at all. Why am I here you may be wondering? I will tell you. A few days ago my father-in-law called me to his mansion... nope that was not a mansion because it was too big to be one. It looked like some type of a villa. The design was spectacular and grand. I thought Amahle and Gavin's house was big but it doesn't even come close. Anyway moving on from the mansion he call to tell me that I should cancel my bursary for next year because they will be funding me. I could not object because he used that stern Dlamini voice and all I could was nod. So that's what I did I sent a request to cancel my bursary application for next year and you could never guess the reply I got. I was asked to a meeting with one of the bursary representative before anything can happen. That brings me to here and now. I was inside a cafe waiting on whoever it is and I arrived early bad move because I have been sitting here waiting for about half an hour. "Kearabetswe?" I heard a very strong and deep voice behind. I cursed under my breath because it means the rep is actually a guy making me more nervous. Perhaps seeing that I was not moving he walked to the front and my jaw was on the floor. He was the most handsome guy I have ever met. Well maybe not more than Daniel but boy was he very handsome. He was tall and somehow his face look familiar but I couldn't quite pinpoint it. He took out his hand for a handshake and I took it and started shaking it. "Nice to finally meet you formally Kea. I can call you that right? I hope I am allowed to call you that... Uh I think you can let go now." He said smiling and I was grinning like an idiot. It took me a while to finally register what he said. I was flustered when I realise that I was still shaking his hand. I retrieved my hand and muttered a quiet sorry. He shook his head before taking a seat. "How are you doing? I hope you haven't been waiting for too long." He said while

unbuttoning his suit button. He looked very dashing with nice hair cut and clean freshly shaven face. I found myself gawking again. God lord save me now. Me: "Do I know you?" I covered my mouth soon as the words left them. He chuckled and that did not ease my embarrassment. I didn't mean to say that aloud it's just that I feel like I know him from somewhere. Him: "I don't know if I should say we know each other but I was at your wedding. Dan and I we're actually business associates and also our mothers are kind of friends... we've also been friends since high school." He said nonchalantly. Now that makes sense. Me: "Oh now I remember... you also came with your mother and sister I think." I remember he was with that woman but then again I could be wrong. Him: "Yep that's me. Now moving to why I called you here." His face changed and it was now serious. "I don't think you should cancel the application. I know that your new family can afford your studies but I need you." He said in such desperation that I found myself frowning in confusion. Me: "I'm not sure I quite follow." He smiled once again and it seems like it was contagious because I found myself smiling as well. Him: "KPM accounting and auditing is a firm that I started for my sister but she is still in school so I am just holding the fort. I saw your matric results and I knew from that time I had to have you on board hence I offered the bursary. I was hoping that after you're done studying you could take directorial position till she also finishes with her studies as well." I was taken aback by what he said. Directorial position? When I got the bursary I thought I would start in the junior position just to pay off what they supported me with during my years at the University so this was new. Me: "So what you're telling me is that I would have to take the position and once your sister is done with her studies I would have to step down and start from the beginning." I just had to know because I cannot have my hopes up only to be crushed once the madam takes the seat. Him: "Don't worry you will still keep your position because you are very skilled and I would be a fool to degrade your skills like that. That only means that you will be working side by side once she is done." I cannot believe that. This means that I will be earning money that I worked hard for and not to be mention starting off at the directorial position is something I never imagined. I was a little hesitant of being handed stuff but I could not exactly say no to my father-in-law but I hope he will understand that this is a great offer. Me: "You are very convincing but I will have to get back at you. Funny thing is that I still don't know your name." I began loosening up. Him: "My apologies ma'am. My name is Kgosi Adams. I won't divulge on my middle name cauz I hate that name." He was busy pouting when he said the last part and I found myself blushing. I hope that there will be no time where I will be in the same room with him while Daniel is around because I know he won't like me blushing to any other guy.

33 I walk in the big office building and this is my first time coming here. I walk over to the reception and I am silently praying that the receptionist behind the desk doesn't give me any type of attitude. I clear my throat because she was busy reading something I think because she was facing down. She lifts up her head and from the look on her face it doesn't take a genius to tell that she was annoyed. Her: "Can I help you with something or do you have an appointment? If you're looking for a job then you're in the wrong place because we are not hiring." She said with attitude. Me: "I am here to see Daniel." I said and she laughed at me. Her: "Mr Dlamini is a very busy man I'm sure he has no time for the likes of you... Do you at least have an appointment? I didn't think so. Sorry without an appointment you can't meet him. FYI he is married in case you were thinking of trying your luck." She said smugly. So she knows that he is married interesting. Me: "I don't think I need an appointment to

see him. You said he is married right do you know his wife?" I asked because I was curious. I honestly could not wait to see her face when she realise that I am the wife. Her: "It's Olivia of cause but I don't expect you to know her because clearly you are not in the same class as her." She spoke in a dismissive tone eyeing me up and down. I wonder what is wrong with my outfit. I am wearing my blue washed off skinny jean grey long sleeved Adidas crop top and black Adidas lace pumps. I believe I looked very decent I mean yeah it is not the typical business attire but I looked okay. I took my phone and dialled Daniel because I think that it is time for her to get off her high horse. It rang and on the forth ring he answered. PHONE CONVO... Him: "Wifey!" he said over the phone causing me to smile. Me: "Hubby I am downstairs at the office but your receptionist won't let me see you." I pouted eyeing the receptionist whose eyes just went wide. Him: "Put the phone on speaker." He said and his voice was laced with a slight annoyance. I put the phone on speaker and placed on top of her desk. Me: "It's on Dani." I see her swallow hard. Him: "Agnes how dare you prevent my wife from seeing me?" His stern voice was on which means shit's about to go down. Her: "I-I uh... I s-sir." she was stammering. Him: "Just shut up! You are going to accompany her to my office make her coffee and then you will apologise to her or you're fired!" she was holding back tears. Daniel can be a little extra sometimes. I swear when he said "Just shut up!" he was roaring and I also jumped out of fear. "Umh wifey to what do I owe the pleasure of such a surprise? Please tell me you were missing my body cauz I am yearning for your touch and that ass wow I co---" Okay I think that was enough. Me: "Dani you're still on speaker. We'll talk once I'm there." I interjected quickly. Trust Daniel to embarrass you in front of other people. I am sure by now everyone thinks that we are always at it. I hung up and my attention was on Miss "You're not in the same class as her." She will learn to not look down on other people. Well she did accompany me to Daniel's office she also made coffee for me and also apologised. The office was very spacious with a very large glass window with a great view of the city. It had a large glass desk with Daniel's office supplies on it and family photos with his bonded leather executive office chair and two PVC visitors' office chairs. There was a mini fridge and a large leather couch with a wooden coffee table. There were two doors which led to God knows what. Daniel was sitting in his chair watching as I am busy analysing his office. Him: "Like what you see? So what brings my beautiful wife here in that smoking getup?" He was smirking at me. His eyes scanned my body and he licked his lips seductively making me feel naked. Me: "I am here to feed you." I placed the Tupperware that I was carrying on his desk and walked over to sit on his lap. "Funny story Olivia was the one to call and inform me that on Thursdays you get so busy that you often skip lunch." His eyes widened and I think he doubted what I was saying. It was true she did call and it was weird especially since I wasn't aware that she had my phone numbers. Him: "She did?" he asked and I nodded. I saw a glimpse of a fleeting emotion and I could recognise as delight but I decided not to dwell on it. Me: "I don't care about what she does but the only thing I care about is making sure my baby is fed." I said and his demeanour changed. His hands that were resting on my ass all this time squeezed them. Him: "I'm glad you're here to feed me cauz I am starving." He said kissing my neck causing to gasp. Me: "I came to feed your stomach not your beast. And besides I'm not about to lose my innocence in your office." I got off his lap and went to sit on the other chair. Him: "One of the doors here leads to the bedroom but you are right I need to make your first time special. Anyway I talked to Johnny about Palesa saga and he said he might have something for her. So what did you cook or is it takeaways?" Me: "Is that your way of trying to trap Jo with Palesa? Ncooh baby boo feels threatened!" He glared at me and I giggled

because it sure is nice to see this side of him. "I cooked obviously cuz what's the point since you can order for yourself. I cooked pap Sponsored gravy and steak and some ribs cuz I heard xhosa men sure love their meat." He grinned widely before opening the Tupperware and starts to dig in. I smiled wickedly when I thought of how to get on his nerve "And who says you'll be my first hubby?" If you could see his face he looks pissed as hell. Him: "I swear anyone who dares to touch you... I will behead them and hang their head on our bedroom wall for decoration." I swallowed hard because he wasn't joking. Heh this guy mara. ***** NARATED Daniel turns off the ignition of his car gets out and locks it. He walks into Olivia's restaurant and finds that there was no one except for the picnic that was laid on the floor. The room was dim with a slow love jam playing in the background. The picnic consists of a red blanket laid on the floor two fluffy white pillows two lit candles a vase with white and red roses on it and a picnic basket. He had received a call from Olivia today after Kea left the office. He was startled at first because they haven't spoken to each other since the wedding. Olivia appeared from the kitchen and she was smiling at him in a red little number. Daniel shifted uncomfortably and wondered what Olivia was playing at. Her: "Don't worry I'm not planning anything I just wanted to apologise. Let's take a seat first." She said before going to sit down on one of the pillow. Daniel followed and sat down so that they were face to face. She opened the basket and took out a bottle of white wine two glasses two plates and two sandwiches wrapped in aluminium foil. She opened the foil and placed the two sandwiches on the plates while Daniel was pouring wine for them. "I know you're probably wondering what's up with the candle lit setup and picnic stuff mashed in one. I remember on our first date you took me to the park and we had a picnic there. You also brought a bouquet of red and white roses." She giggled when she reminisce on their first date. She took a sip of the wine and turned her gaze to Daniel who was watching her intensely. Him: "Is that why you called me here to reminisce about the past? Look Liv I don't have time for your games cuz now I have a wife waiting for me at home." His voice was cold but she gathered the strength to carry on. This was her fighting for her man and there was no time to be weak. Her: "I know and as I had said before I wanted to apologise for my behaviour lately. I have been acting like a bitch and it's because I felt threatened. I saw how you looked at her and the fact that your father likes her didn't make things better. Plus you assured me that you will make her leave within a week and it didn't happen. I admit that I was a sore loser and I am sorry." She sighed placing the glass down in order for her to take Daniel's hands in hers. She was relieved when he didn't pull back "I took these couple of days to think about us and also to reflect on my behaviour and I realised that my insecurities was pushing you away which is something I never wanted. I will take whatever you decide be it me being your second wife or being just a lover to you. I am prepared to accept anything just don't push me away. I don't think I could handle losing you and these couple of days have been hell for me. I love you Daniel and for you I'll even be a mistress. I also decided to bury the hatchet with Kea and I won't come in between you guys anymore." She was happy when Daniel began wiping away her tears and he also perked her lips. Him: "Don't cry babe you know I hate to see you cry and I will never leave you." He perked her once again before pulling her into an embrace. "I love you!" he said kissing her head. She giggled and she couldn't help but feel satisfied inside. She made a little victory dance on the inside. "Score one for me. Nobody messes with Olivia and expect to succeed not when it comes to my man." She thought to herself. It looks like things are finally looking up for her and all that is left is to fuck his brains out until he forgets about Kea. 34 Kearabetswe (Warning: It gets a little steamy at the end so if you're sensitive do skip those

parts.) I can't believe it has been almost a year since I got married well more like forced into one. Our wedding anniversary will be in a few weeks and to be honest I'm not really looking forward to it. A lot of things happened during these past couple of months: Daniel and Olivia are back together; you can't possibly imagine my surprise when they walked in together hand in hand with Daniel clinging on to her tightly I guess Jonathan was right and I have to admit a part of me thought that he was saying this out of jealousy but turns out he was right. Puleng has changed a bit; she is still our crazy bitch but now she seems less interested in guys and she still hasn't told us where she went during my honeymoon. Njabulo and Zoe are still in love and it seems like they are only getting stronger. I still get flustered when I am in Kgosi's presence but lucky for me Daniel wasn't around during those times; he would ask me to lunch and talk about KPM and stuff in general. My father-in-law agreed to let him fund my studies because apparently he is a family friend and they trust him. Jonathan gave Palesa a job and she was sort of like a personal assistant who leaves important tasks like scheduling meetings or taking minutes during meetings to his secretary; I am not really sure about the actual arrangement she has been rather quiet and not her usual obnoxious self which I am thankful for and she has also taken her role as a mother seriously. Jonathan and I have been going out; we are not dating or anything but I enjoy his company and I so wish there was a way to get Daniel to divorce me but his family are still rooting for us and his father would ask about when is he getting a grandchild any chance he gets. Me and my bitches and I we are now in our third year and it was a little difficult as it is more work but we are pulling through. My sweet angels are still sweet and they have changed schools to the one closer to us; they also moved into the room Daniel prepared for them. I now have a licence due to Daniel insistence and I have to say he was a very strict teacher; there were times where I would quit in the middle of the lesson and try to walk back home because I couldn't take it but in the end it worked out since I passed my driving test. I also have a beast that Daniel bought for me as a birthday present; you can't imagine my surprise when I saw a brand new red Lamborghini Urus parked outside our house and I was like "Do you love your car so much that you would buy it again in a different colour?" and he was like "Nope this is for you babe. I've seen how much you loved mine so I thought you should have one of your own." and I was screaming at the top of my lungs because dude that was the best surprise ever and that also meant that I will be driving my angels around anytime I want without relying on anyone. As for step-monster she tried to come and act all loving but I swatted her away as fast as she came because I know it was all fake. The anonymous calls stopped that day on my honeymoon and I have to say I am relieved because I was beginning to think that I might have a crazy stalker out there. Things between Daniel and I have been shaky because sometimes he is hot then the others he is super cold; He would be a clingy and overprotective Daniel then the next he won't even acknowledge my presence but one thing is still for sure he doesn't like me hanging around other guys especially Jonathan. That has been pretty much a rundown of what happened these past couple of months. ***** At this moment we are in a stadium watching Daniel and the other guys warm up before their match. Apparently it is some soccer match against some other businessmen. It is a friendly and not a lot of people are invited only a few family and friends but because they are millionaires if not billionaires they decided to book the whole stadium. Like for real who does that? They are probably flexing their money. The team is Daniel Jonathan Njabulo Skhumbuzo Gavin Jayden Luphelo (Daniel's cousin- BabLanga's eldest son) Jacob (Lindokuhle's husband- BabFezile's daughter) Quinton (Gavin's best friend) Qhawe (Jayden's best friend) Liam (Jayden's best friend) and apparently

Kgosi was going to come but seems to be held off. I was silently saying a silent prayer that he doesn't show up because I don't want to see Daniel losing his marbles. Ladies and I are sitting on one of the benches watching the guys warming up and flexing those muscles. There were about four benches there. The other team hasn't arrived yet because the match only starts later on but the guys decided to warm up and we are busy enjoying the show because it is lit. Even though I will always say Daniel is a jerk and I hate him but in my eyes he was the sexiest guy out there. His arrogance just tops it off and not to mention that temper Yoh fire. Yeah I know I am crazy for feeling things for someone as insufferable as Daniel but what can I say the guy is hot. The ladies were me Puleng Zoe Amahle Palesa (Yep she was also invited) Lindokuhle Samantha (Quinton's wife) Refiloe (Qhawe's girlfriend) Nobuhle (Luphelo's wife) Olivia (How can she not come when her fiancé is here) Joy (Olivia's friend) Melissa (Olivia's other friend). Anyway these days Olivia has been acting nice and greets but I was not going to fall for that because I have lived most of my life with fake witches like her. While we were still busy watching Daniel walked over to us to perk Olivia on the lips and gave her a towel to wipe his sweat. Everyone was uncomfortable and my crazy bitch wanted to give them a piece of her mind but I stopped her because I wasn't looking for drama and I sure wasn't going to give them the satisfaction of getting to me. Palesa watched in curiosity and I can just imagine what her mother was going to say once she tells her. Once there were done he went back to the field. Amahle: "Are you Okay sisi?" she asked and I nodded. It was true because I have been living with them for months and I am used to this. Jayden made his way to us and squeezed himself between Zoe and me. He placed his hands on each of our shoulder. Him: "It feels so nice to be surrounded by so many beautiful ladies. Hello Ladies and Pearl!" he said and I was confused on who was Pearl now. I memorised each of the ladies names and I am sure none of them was named Pearl. He looked to Olivia and his friends "Hello to you "lady that my family hates" and your unwanted friends." He said nonchalantly wearing a scowl and the other ladies laughed while I just stifled my laugh. Yoh this guy mara! You should have seen their faces totally priceless. I pinched him but it was like I didn't do anything. Zee: "BhutiKwezi no need to be rude!" she was also laughing but acted like she wasn't. Him: "Whatever. My brother is a fool... he is married to one hot stuff and he has the nerve to cheat with an ironing board hai mahn." Okay I couldn't take it any longer I just lost it. Everyone except for Olivia and her friends also lost it. This Dlamini brother is crazy. He said this and his face was serious. Like seriously was he not aware of what he just said? Me: "You should stop joking like that but thanks anyway." I said and he shook his head. Him: "It is true. You're hotness personified and if he wasn't my brother I would have taken you from him ages ago. Just look at those twins." He said eyeing my twins. Seems like he is crazy and a pervert. His hand that was on my shoulder moved to my twins but he stopped himself "I should go before my brother have my head and forgets that we're brothers. Bye hotness ladies and Pearl. I said ladies not ironing boards." He said before leaving. We laughed again. He lifted the mood for us but I was still curious about this Pearl of his. Jonathan came to us and asked for his water bottle. Yes I had his bag with me even though his PA was also present. He took a sip of it and pulled me aside. Him: "Are you okay Evie? I mean with Daniel's action just now." He asked and I appreciated his concern. Me: "Yeah I'm cool I am used to it after all." I said and he nodded gulping down his water. I have to say the sight was breathtaking. The way his Adam apple bobbed down with each gulp was sexy. I found myself taking pictures. When he saw that I was snapping pictures he started posing and flexing his muscle with me giggling. We were busy when there was a loud crash causing me to jump into Jonathan's

arms. I looked to where it came from and I saw a broken bench by the wall and then my gaze fell onto a fuming Daniel. Some of the ladies who probably haven't seen his angry side were horrified and terrified. Olivia ran to his side to calm him down but soon as her hands touched him he roared at her causing her to stumble backward and she fell on the ground. Gavin and Jayden tried to also calm him down but he wasn't having any. Jonathan rushed to his cousin and I ran to Daniel. I hugged him from behind and he was breathing abnormally. I tightened my embrace and I kept whispering "It's Okay" softly to him. He placed his hands on top of mine that was embracing him. After a few minutes he was breathing normal again and he turned to face me. His gaze was very intense and I was shaking a little. Funny his outbursts don't scare me as much as his stern voice and his intense gaze. Him: "Hand over your phone." His voice was stern sending chills all over my body. I obliged because as I had said before his voice and gaze scares the shit out of me. He unlocked it because he knows the pattern. I watched as he did whatever he was doing. The next minute he was snapping pictures of himself more like taking selfies. I watched in amusement wondering what he was doing. Don't tell me he was angry at me for taking Jonathan's photos and not his? Haiké the husband I have people! Once he was done he handed it back to me. I went to my gallery seeing his photos but the ones I took of Jonathan weren't there. Me: "Did you ju... Haibo Daniel!" I was shocked to say the least. This guy is now twenty six but he sometimes acts like a six year old. Him: "You are not allowed to take pictures of any man that is not me. If you want to take pictures just say and I'll be happy to pose for you." Oh my God he was dead serious! I found myself laughing so hard that the others looked at me in confusion. I am sure there are probably thinking that I was also crazy but I right now I couldn't care less. My tummy was hurting and I wanted to stop but he was pouting making him more childlike. Like seriously who breaks a bench and throws tantrums just because their wife is snapping pictures of another man. Maybe it is bad but he didn't have to act like that. I was still laughing when he perked my lips. I frowned at him in confusion and he just smirked. "You wouldn't stop laughing so I had to shut you up." He chuckled which made me giggle. The others were just staring at us and only then did I become embarrassed. "Sorry I am late I was just held up at the office. I hope I didn't miss much." I froze on the spot. Why did he have to show up now? I didn't want to turn and face him because I know I would have become flustered and I think I have enough Daniel drama for one day. The others went to greet while Daniel was eyeing me suspiciously. I couldn't hold his gaze because I know my eyes would give me away. Me: "I need to use the bathroom." I said still staring at the ground before running to the bathroom. I entered the bathroom without locking and rushed to the basin to splash water over my face. There is something about Kgosí that makes me giddy and excited. I don't know what it is but I don't want Daniel to get the wrong idea. I mean he got angry at me for taking Jonathan's pictures just imagine what he would do when I get all flustered in front of Kgosí. I hear the door close shut and I watched in horror through the mirror as Daniel locks us in. Him: "So I should also worry about Kgosí too? Come on Prim can't you see you're a married woman. Why should you act like a loose slut fanning over each guy you come across?" He was seething but he had no right. I turned around and made my way to him. Me: "Married woman!? Married to whom exactly? And don't you dare call me a slut when you're busy fucking around with Olivia knowing full well we're married. If there is any slut between us it is you. So don't fucking patronise me you fucking hypocrite!" I was shouting at him because I have had enough. It's not like I have done anything wrong if anything he is the one in the wrong because he is also with Olivia while we are married. Him: "Aahh! You're fucking frustrating. You know I hate

swearing... I could jus... Aahh!" He growled at me balling his fists in frustration. Me: "Yet you're also swearing. You're the highest of hypocrites. And if you want to hit me do it. Do it if it'll make you feel like a man but as long as you're with Olivia you have no right on who I bat my eyelash at." I was as equally as frustrated as him. He infuriates me. I was about to say something when his lips crashed into mine violently. I hate myself for responding back but the kiss was so intense and feverish that I couldn't help it. He bit my bottom lip causing me to gasp then his tongue violently entered my mouth and it met mine ready for his. Our tongues mingled together in synch dancing to their own tune. His hands grabbed my waist and pulled closer to his body while mine went to his neck bringing his face closer. Our tongue fought for dominance but I gave in and he explored my mouth. We pulled away to gasp for air. Our foreheads were connected and our eyes were filled with lust gazing into each other. He kissed my lips once again before travelling down my jaw to my neck sucking on them causing me to release a moan. He also groaned and his beast was busy poking my midsection. His hands travelled to my ass and he squeezed them before pulling me up to his waist. I pulled his muscle top over his head and threw it on the floor. Then our lips met again with my hands exploring his ripped torso. He walked to the basin and placed me on top of its counter. In one swift move he got rid of my romper and I was only left with my panty. He gaped at my body while biting his lips which was the sexiest thing ever. Funny enough I wasn't embarrassed that he saw me naked but at that moment I felt wanted. He attacked my lips once more and this time it wasn't feverish but more passionate. I was pulling him closer to him while his hands were fumbling with my panties. Him: "So wet already!" he said over the kiss. I moaned because his voice was so sexy. His grip on my thighs tightened and he kissed me more hungrily. He moved to my twins kissing them both then he cupped them in his hands biting his lips as his gaze was now on them "Perfect just perfect!" he said over and over again. I was going crazy with the way he was admiring them that it felt like I was about to cum. Perhaps sensing this he perked my lips then he went to kiss and suck on one while his other hands was rubbing and playing with the other. I was a moaning mess because he felt so good. He went to suck the other with his other hand doing the same to the other. Me: "Aaaah... fu... aaah... Dani... fuck." I was a mess and he didn't seem to want to stop the torture. At that moment I had an overwhelming want for his beast to be inside me. His lips left my twins and he went down. He parted my thighs and he buried his face in there. "Oh fuck!" I cursed because man his tongue felt like heaven on earth on my already wet honey pot. He sucked on my labia and it felt so amazing. His hands were holding my waist steadying me. He nibbled and sucked and he would bite my clit from time to time. "Aaaaah... y-yes... aaah God... J-Jesus Dani... aaah yes y-yes." I was a screaming mess at that point. He was muffing me and the pleasure was out of this world. His touch was like fire on my skin. His other hand moved to my boob and was playing and pinching it while the other kept steadying me. I rolled my eyes back in pleasure with my hands on his head. This was my first time being muffed and I swear it was the best feeling ever. He said "You're mine!" while still eating my cookie and the vibrations was enough for me to come undone. My body shook violently and I screamed at the top of my lungs while gripping onto his head so hard. He cleaned me by licking me. He then kissed me on the lips and I have to say right then was the most intoxicating taste ever tasting yourself on someone else's mouth. He pulled away and dressed me because I was still numb from the pleasure. He also wore his muscle top. He perked me one more time. Him: "You're mine. Mine and no one else's." He stated before hugging me. He whispered on my shoulder "You are mine. I am also yours but you don't see it damn it." I was wearing an off the

shoulder romper so I felt my shoulder getting wet. Is he crying? I pulled away and grabbed his face so that he was facing me and indeed he was crying. I wiped them with my thumb. Me: "Are you crying?" I was concerned now. It broke my heart to see him like that. He pulled away and wiped them himself. Him: "You'll never understand." He walked over to the door unlocked it then he left. He left just like that leaving me on top of the counter frozen and this time it wasn't because of the pleasure but rather out of concern. He was clearly hurting and not knowing the reason behind those sad eyes was hurting me. My fingers went on my cheek and the dampness made me realise that I was crying too. Being a Pisces sure is annoying. 35 Amahle and I we're sitting on one of the benches at the bird park watching the kids play. The guys game went pretty well actually they won ten to two. Six of those goals were scored by Daniel and I was busy shouting "That's my husband people!" I was so proud. Kgosi also scored two goals while the other two was scored by Quinton and Jayden. Gavin was the goal keeper and he said he allowed those two goals because he didn't want the other team to leave with nothing. He did let them win because if you could have seen him catching those balls right left and centre then at the last added time they scored and the mistakes made were intentional even a blind man could see that. As for Daniel and I we haven't exactly talked after whatever transpired in the bathrooms. Of cause everyone knew we were up to no good because of the hickeys that was left on me. All thanks to my light complexion and the romper I was wearing. Olivia had left with her friends when I came back but I was still worried about Daniel. Anyway moving to the present Amahle thought it will be a great idea to have an outing with the kids. We took them to the lion park had lunch at Papachinos and now we are at the Montecasino bird park. We are taking a breather while the kids play and watch the birds but by kids I only mean three of them because David was just lying on the grass playing on his phone mind you he is only ten. He acts looks and sounds like a fourteen/ fifteen year old in fact when I first met him I thought he was fourteen only to learn that he was only nine at the time. He is a splitting image of his father but what is creepy is that he even acts like him. Me: "Mahle how do you handle someone like Gavin? Your husband sisi can be very scary sometimes. I mean he looks like he is always so serious." I was sipping my strawberry milkshake watching the kids. She was also watching smiling. Her: "Same way you handle your husband. He is not as scary as he seems just as Lwazi is. They have that Dlamini demeanour even Kwezi has it but he reveals his playfulness to the world and leaves that for the business. I swear as free spirited as he is when it comes to business you won't even recognise him." She was smiling. I swear she is always smiling and she looks gorgeous. She has this inner glow even when she is frowning she still has it. She is wearing a Versace Barocco SS'92 print silk shirt dress that is just above the knees and paired it with red Versace embellished crown pumps (Heel) with pearl necklace diamond earrings a black Louis Vuitton bag and a Gucci watch. She looked classy in her outfit that it made feel out of place in my baby blue skinny jean black Nike cropped top and purple Nike dunk sky high liberty sneakers. I am hopeless I don't even have some jewellery on or at least a bag. I thought why have a bag if you have pockets and a car? On the upside at least I now wear brand sneakers instead of my canvas shoes you can get at Pep or street vendors and brand cropped tops instead of those you can get at Mr Price because yeah my husband thought a wife of his cannot be seen wearing such (My skinny jean is actually from Mr Price but he doesn't need to know that.). Anyway I don't believe I have seen Amahle in sneakers at all even during the guys' soccer match she was wearing jeans but with heels. As for me I only leave them heels for special occasions. "Anyway I have been meaning to ask you something." That was her snapping me out of my temporary daze. I

didn't even know why I was comparing us but I am sure people are probably thinking that I was just a nanny. Why am I still thinking about our clothes? Me: "Ask me what?" I throw my cup in the garbage bin next to the bench we were sitting on. Her: "How are you coping with Daniel and Olivia situation? I know it's none of my business but I never thought Daniel would bring her to the game and much less show off in front of you. Like are you Okay?" her voice was laced in concern. Me: "Don't worry about me I'm used to it. I mean I share the house with them s---" I stop myself when I realise what I had said. I turned to her and held her hands as I plead with her "Please don't tell anyone about this especially not his father. I don't want to cause a rift between him and the family. He will tell them himself when he is ready but please don't tell anyone not even your husband please." Her: "I can't promise you anything especially with my husband because we don't hide anything from each other but I'll try not to say it unless the topic arises... you are a great woman you know that? One would use that situation to get rid of the other woman even if it would cause a rift between the family members. Daniel is lucky to have you as a wife even though he is too stupid to see it I won't say he is blind because even a blind man can see that." She squeezed my hands in reassurance and I found myself smiling. "Say there is something else I was wondering about." I giggled at her because she was being cute about it. Me: "You're always wondering." I edged her to carry on. Her: "I'm just very observant that's all. Don't take this the wrong way or anything but I noticed something and I was wondering what is happening between you and Kgosi?" she was hesitant and that made me smile because she looked so adorable. Could she be more perfect? Me: "Oh him? Nothing is happening between us he is just handsome. There is just something that happens to me whenever I am around him and I get all flustered but nothing is happening or will ever be because I'm a married woman." I saw her nod and she smiled. Her: "I was just curious but you're right he is very handsome. He has that commanding presence that macho vibe. I remember the first I met him I was flustered and stuttering and my husband didn't like that at all. I mean he is younger than me and I was married but did my husband see that? No he punished me and I couldn't even walk for a week. And guess what? A month later I found out I was pregnant with Esihle." She was giggling and I was too because I can just imagine her limping for an entire week. Esihle is their four year old daughter. Her name is actually Chloe Esihle Dlamini and her older brother is David Bonginkosi Dlamini but like I said they call each other by their Xhosa name. Like why have English names as your first names if you are all going to be calling each other by your Xhosa names? Another thing I don't get about BabMadla and MamJessica's flock. She continued "His so called punishment was him denying me to climax. He would pull out every time I was about to reach my peak and that happened for an entire day like he was not giving me time to rest and on the other hand I was sexually frustrated. At exactly nine o'clock in the evening was when he allowed me to cum and he also came with me. Then he was like "No other men is supposed to make you blush or make you flustered. Only I get the pleasure to see you like that." From that day I learned to act unbothered by other guys' presence." She was mimicking his voice and I couldn't help but crack up because that was spot on. Me: "Hai Dlamini... man and... their possessiveness hai. You should teach me how to act unbothered because Daniel is also crazy possessive." I was breathing heavily from the laughing. Mind you she was just giggling and I was laughing at the top of my lungs so not ladylike. "You guys do realise there are certain things that should not be spoken in front of minors." That was David in his monotonous voice. He was standing in front of us with his hands on his jean pockets. Amahle: "How long have you been standing there?" she was panicking but her son just stared at her like he would

rather be somewhere else. I swear at that moment I saw his father. Him: "Long enough to know you do a terrible impression of utata and also long enough to know how Sihle was conceived." I swear at that moment air left my lungs. Amahle was fanning herself with her hands. He was just standing there smirking at us. Me: "How old are you again?" Are ten year olds supposed to be like this? Him: "Why are you looking at me like you're expecting an answer when you know full well that it was rhetorical? For a smart lady you do act dim-witted." Yoh this child was showing me flames. Like why was dim-witted even in his vocabulary? I have never been reprimanded by a ten year old before. I wonder how Mahle was handling this. Her: "Do you want me to call your dad" She was warning him and that seems to be working because that stoic facade he was sporting was broken. Him: "No need to call tata I'll just be with the little kids." Did he just say little kids? He does know that he is also little and a kid right? I always thought my angels were very matured for their age but I hadn't met David before. I was mortified and I wasn't the only one. Her: "I swear this child is going to cause me to menopause early. Now I am experiencing hot flushes because of him. Hai there is no way I am allowing Themba to impregnate me again. I just cannot handle another Bongi and I pray every day that Sihle doesn't turn out like him." Did I laugh or did I laugh. I swear this whole family is drama. ***** I was woken up by something wet on my forehead. I came to my senses and felt that those were lips meaning someone was kissing m... wait who is kissing me now? I flutter my eyes open to see a smiling Daniel. Him: "Happy Anniversary my Beautiful Prim." He then planted a soft kiss on my lips. He then gave me a breakfast. It was two sausages four blueberry pancakes bacon two fried eggs green salad and a glass of mango juice. Me: "Oh breakfast in bed? How lucky and happy anniversary too." I say before I rush to the en-suite to brush my teeth after I was done I came back and took my breakfast and he was still there. I take a bite of my sausage "What has your mother have planned for us?" I see Daniel frown. Him: "Nothing. Look BP I know I may not be the best of a husband but I still am your husband. Today is our anniversary and I made the plans myself. It is our marriage our anniversary and I don't need people to make plans for something that concern us." He was holding my hands and the sincerity was sinking me slowly. He smiled "Let me leave you to your breakfast while I go down and make sure the kids are done. After you're done call me so that I run you a bath." He perked my lips once again and left. I am assuming going downstairs. I ate my breakfast and it was delicious. It was nice for once to have someone cook instead of being the one doing the cooking. Daniel came back even before I was done eating and he disappeared to the en-suite I am guessing to run me a bath. To be honest I wasn't going to call him to run me a bath like I am not an invalid but maybe this was his way of celebrating our anniversary. He came back and took the dishes and left again. I got off the bed and head to the en-suite. OMG I was so surprised! My hands fell on my mouth that was hanging agape. He ran bubble bath for me with rose petals scattered on the water and on the floor there were three vanilla and rose scented candles on each corner of the tub and a glass of champagne but I don't see the bottle but I am not complaining. I didn't see this when I came to brush my teeth but maybe he had hid them in the cabinet. Yeah that explains it. I strip naked and got in the tub with Demi Lovato's Tell me you love me playing softly in the background. I am a fan of Demi Lovato so it was a cool gesture. The water felt so good against my skin that it was almost a sin to get out but I had to. I got out dried myself using one of the towels on the towel rack. Tatiana Manaois's Heaven was now on. Basically he made a playlist of my favourite tracks. That is so romantic and I have to say I never imagined him as the romantic type. I covered myself with one of the towels and left the bathroom to the bedroom. I found him looking

fresh in a black Gucci jean Gucci black GG Toscano belt white cement Nike Air Jordan 4 OG AJ4 Gucci watch burgundy Givenchy logo band polo shirt and a black Chicago White Sox baseball cap. All in all he was dripping swag and smelling money. He is very handsome as he is but add that mswenko to it then you got a killer combo. His musky perfume was doing wonders to me. I swear if he were to ask to take me now I would gladly do it. Him: "I'm hot neh? I know you can't believe that all this deliciousness belongs to you." He said smugly. Apparently vanity never leaves this household. Me: "Does your ego ever rest? Anyway why are you here?" I say as I make my way to the walk in closet to take out my undergarments. I don't know what Daniel has planned so I have no idea which outfit to pick. My breath hitches as I feel his breath on my shoulders and his hands on my waist. Him: "You're one sexy mama. I feel like we're thee power couple with me being the hottest handsome billionaire and you being the sexiess beautiful queen." I wonder what dreamland he is living on because last time I checked we were only married and not much of a couple plus which power was he talking about. He kissed my shoulders and the tingles were on "I came to give you your clothes. Let me go and make sure the kids are ready." He turned me around and kissed my lips before leaving me. I walked over to my bed and see the clothes he picked for me. My mouth went agape again because this guy had couples goals on point. I was so excited to wear them now so I quickly lotioned put on my undergarment and slipped into my clothes. I sprayed my Playgirl VIP perfumed body spray on tied my hair into a messy bun and put on my lip-gloss (Yeah still not into makeup). I look at myself in the mirror once and I looked good but it's not that that was adding to the excitement but because we matched. I was in my pink Nike Air Jordan femme kicks black high-waisted Gucci skinny jean Gucci black GG belt burgundy Givenchy logo band cropped top and a Gucci watch. I can't believe he bought us matching clothes like it was on but I still won't say we are a power couple because I am still in school and there is still that Olivia issue. I went downstairs and found Daniel and the kids already waiting for me. There were also in matching outfit like that was the best picture ever. Me: "Are we having a family outing because that's so adorable. I can't wait to flood my Instagram with our pictures." I hug my babies because they looked so cute. Daniel: "Nope it's just us babe the kids are going to visit my parents." I pouted because I wanted them to come with. I am sure we were so cute together in our matching getup. Me: "Can we please keep them; we will look so adorable together. Pretty please with strawberry pie on top." I was batting my eyelash and pulling a puppy eyes. He perked my lips. Daniel: "Stop being cute. We can't go with them cauz I already made plans for the two of us and besides my parents are looking forward to having them around. So stop sulking and we'll just take pictures before we leave." He gave me a side hug before kissing my pouting lips. We took selfies and then he called on of our help to take full body pictures. Then he said we should also take pictures outside and once again my mind was agape because outside was an Audi R8 V10 parked in our drive way. Me: "And then nou? Who are you try'na charm Dani?" Like seriously how rich is this guy? But he did say he was a millionaire or was it a billionaire. Him: "Stop gawking and let's take more pictures before we go. Martha would you please take more." I nodded and then we took more pictures on his iPhone. Me: "So dear husband how are we all going to fit in this beast?" I said when I realised that it is two seaters. Him: "We'll squeeze them in there are kids after all and if you're worried about traffic officers then you have nothing to worry about cause I'll handle it." He just shrugged like it was no big deal. I on the other hand was freaking out because I didn't want to go to jail. Just imagine us and our swag self behind bars. We did arrive to the Dlamini mansion in one piece

and no there were no traffic officers who stopped us. We left the kids and I was sad but they were just excited to spend time with my in-laws. I swear it is like it is their grandparents and my in-laws also loved them and accepted them as one of their own. We were now walking hand in hand in the park. It was Daniel's idea to just walk around the park like we are on our first date or as if he was just courting me. The gesture was cute and the stares we got I was doing a vosh on the inside and I was like "Yes people we're hot and guess what he put a ring on it even though he was forced but whatever." Well yeah I didn't say that aloud but whatever. Him: "This is my first time walking in the park like this and it feels very fulfilling. I feel my heart swelling with pride when other guys are staring and I know you're all mine. I just want to show you off and be like "That's my wife people. Yes I put a ring on it. And I know you ladies wanna be her and y'all gents wanna have her but you can't." So I am happy to be here and with you." He said and that was so sweet because I felt what he was feeling. Even though it was just a simple walk around the park but it felt great taking it with him. I was blushing so hard right now. "Hey lover boy mind giving us your tens?" We turned around to see these two slay queens gawking at Daniel like he was some snack. Like don't they see me standing next him in matching outfits and with our hands interlocked? Like how obvious does it get that he was taken? ??: "Ain't gonna say anything handsome?" The tall dark skinned asked popping her gum and it was kinda annoying. They were both wearing fur coats and I kind of wondered if they were not hot especially in this heat. Daniel: "What do you think wifey?" He pulled me closer to him and pulled me into a passionate but short kiss. ??: "Oh Honey no need to call her that. We know y'all just dating but don't worry we're just gonna have a little fun then leave you two alone. If you were my BF I wouldn't mind sharing you." The light skinned one was the one to talk. She was not chewing gum but she was sucking on her lollipop making all kinds of seducing faces. I looked over at Daniel and he was expecting me to talk. I rolled my eyes and looked over at the two slay queens. Me: "Oh "honey" if he were your man you wouldn't wanna share him because he is not the type to tap and go and FYI we're married." I take his left hand with mine and flash our rings at them. Their mouths hung open so wide that the lollipop fell from the light skinned one. I continued "But you can take his numbers because I know he won't entertain you. You see he values real woman and not some cheap sluts who thinks they're the IT." I took out his iPhone and put it in their faces. They did that hair flip thing and cat walked away. "Yoh that was hot!" We turned again to see a tall guy who looks to be at my age staring at me with his hand on his mouth. Daniel: "Walk away boy before I break your face." The poor boy scurried away because Daniel had that "Don't mess with me" voice. "I think we should leave now cauz I have outgrown guys gawking at my wife." He tried to take my hand but I moved it away. He looked at me "Okay you're mad... and judging by your face it's me you're angry with... What did I do this time?" Me: "Well I'm sick and tired of putting hoes in their place acting like I'm not worried while deep down I know you're not mine and I don't even know if you're the cheater type. I mean like I'm with you now but I know it won't last. Like it's freaking frustrating! I can ju---" His lips stopped my rant. The kiss was sweet but too short for my liking. He smiled at me and I found myself blushing. Him: "You wanna know a secret?" I nodded my head and he perked my lips before continuing "I find every single gesture you do sexy. I love all your reactions from your pouty self to your angry self but the only thing I don't like it's your sad face. Other than that I find you so damn sexy that it takes everything in me not to take you every time you make a face." He perked my lips once again causing me to be flustered. Me: "Y-you... I uh... Fuck you!" I was stuttering because this guy knows how to get

to me. I hate myself right now for being weak. He kissed me again this time it was slow and passionate. My knees began giving me away but his strong arm was there keeping me in place. We pulled away and stared into each other with our foreheads connected. Him: "I wouldn't mind you practising what you preach." He whispered to me but I frowned in confusion. What was he on about?... Holly fucks! I pulled away and punched his arm. He ran to his car laughing and I ran after him. He is such a pervert! Olivia I parked my Lamborghini Aventador S outside of Jonathan's apartment. Right now my blood is boiling and he is the only one who can help. We are cousin as my mother and his father are siblings of cause his father is the elder one. I know my cousin can be a little boring and too orthodox but he loves me in fact everyone in our family loves me from my father's side to my mother's. Any way my name is Olivia Smith and I am twenty three years old. I am a chef and daddy bought me my own restaurant because I always get what I want. I am beautiful sexy come from a rich family and like I said anything I want I get which is why I was infuriated by Mandla's rejection. That man doesn't like me and refuses to acknowledge me and not that harlot he made Daniel marry. I ring his bell and he is sure taking his time. I rang it again and again and again because we have to act now. I don't want Daniel to sleep with that slut because at the end of the day men are men and will always be. They always think with what's hidden inside those pants of theirs. I rang the bell once again and the door opened revealing an angry Jonathan. Him: "What are you doing here Livy?" he asked and I pushed him aside and made my way to the lounge area. He followed after me and he was annoyed but I didn't care "I asked you a question Livy." His voice was firm. Me: "Oh come on now Johnny is that a way to treat your darling cousin." He raised his eyebrow. I guess he wasn't having any maybe he just woke up. I decided to get to the point "We have to act now. They are together now and we can't have it. What if Daniel decides to sleep with her then we're doomed. We have to act now before it's too late. We should attack before anything happens. We need to separate them quickly." I was pacing around because the mere thought of losing Daniel to that orphan was infuriating me. Yeah I know she is an orphan. Her father died about six/seven years ago and her mother left her when she was just a baby and I am sure she is probably dead of AIDS because I heard that she was a whore. It's like the saying goes "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree." A home wrecker birthed another home wrecker. My pacing halted when I heard Jonathan chuckling. I wonder what could be so amusing here. Him: "Is that why you came to disturb me? Come on Livy have some self respect if Daniel decides to sleep with his wife if he hasn't already that's all on him." My mouth went wide with surprise. How could he be so insensitive? He knows that Daniel and I love each other and we have been together for nine years now. Me: "Don't be insensitive cousin. I love Daniel and he loves me too. We both know his so called wife was forced onto him and he actually wanted to marry me. And don't act like a saint we both know you want her." I know about his infatuation with that ugly duckling. I still don't get why they like her I mean yeah she has a booty but she is so ugly and lack so much class but who can blame her really. Him: "I like her it's true. I mean who wouldn't want her as a woman when she is so beautiful with that banging body but what is also a bonus is that she has all the quality of a woman worthy to be wifed. But that doesn't mean I would sabotage her relationship with Daniel. If she leaves him it'll be because she wants to not because I had a hand in that and I think you should do the same." I faked gagged when he said that because he has always been the sappy type. Me: "I didn't come here to listen to your crappy advice. As for letting go... never! Daniel loves me and he won't leave me and that's why he's still with me even though his family married him to that ugly duckling."

He was making me mad with his stupidity. Him: "Don't you dare call Evie that and if you're so sure that he loves you then why are you here? Stop fooling yourself Livy Daniel no longer loves you he is just with you because he feels sorry for you." I slapped him so hard across the face. His eyes were angry as his hand went to his cheek but I don't care. Me: "Don't you dare say that. He loves me but he won't leave that wife of his because of his father... his father yes. I will let him know that even though Daniel is married to his "chosen daughter-in-law" I'm the one who keeps his bed warm every night. That is genius." I could almost see his father getting mad at him and then he will leave her and we can finally get married. Jonathan grabbed my hand and he was seething. Him: "Don't you dare do such a stupid thing. Do you want to break the relationship between father and son? It is already shaky as it is because of you. And don't be stupid do you honestly believe Daniel will forgive you after you've done that. Also his father will force him to get rid of you not Evie but the damage would have been done already. You know what just quit with this nonsense of getting between married people and if you were meant to be with him you would already be his wife by now. You know the way out and I swear if you ever try to hurt Evie I will forget that you're my cousin." With that he left. I have never seen him so angry before. He has always been the kind type and rarely gets mad. I don't know what this witch has done to the men in my life but I will never back down. I will destroy her because I never lose and no one should blame me she is the one who took him away from me. I had him first and we were happy until she showed up. She is a home wrecker's daughter after all. 36 Narrated Kgosi walked into her mother's mansion. He has the remote so there was no need to be buzzed in. The door was not locked so he walked in without knocking. Him: "Mother?! Mother where are you?!" he was shouting as he was walking around the house searching for her. He opened the sliding door that leads to the swimming pool. He found her mother sitting besides the pool with her feet dipped into the water. She looked distracted and he felt a pang in his heart. He hated seeing her like this but she is so stubborn. "I've been calling for you. Are you okay mother?" she raised her head to see her son. An automatic smile made its way to her face. "He looks just like him?" she thought to herself. She felt her thumb on her cheek and she knew she was crying. Her: "Hello my boy. I've missed you so much and you no longer come as often." She took his hand that was wiping her tears into hers. Him: "I missed you too mother but you refuse to come live with me." She shakes her head. Her: "You know why I can't leave this house." Him: "When will this ever end? I hate this mother I hate that you won't allow yourself to happy mxm. Anyway I came to tell you that I'm moving ahead with the plan." She stared at him in confusion then like a thunder it all came back to her. She started panicking. Her: "No no please don't. Not yet anyway. Please don't you how your father is h---" he interrupted him. Just the thought of that man makes him sick. Him: "Don't talk to me about that man. I'm moving ahead with this whether he likes it or not and he shouldn't dare get in the way again. I will give you a week. Only one week." He was clenching his jaws. Her: "No please you do---" Him: "I said one week mother." With that he left his mother who was shaking. She hated seeing her like that but he cannot wait any longer and she wasn't helping. She was a coward but a very stubborn one because she won't let anyone help.

Kearabetswe Today has been very eventful and by that I don't mean drama filled but the romantic type well the only drama was Daniel and his possessiveness. He would tell off every guy who looks my way even if he was with his girlfriend or wife. Like I said before drama and him are best friends. Anyway as I had said today has been eventful. He took me to the National Art Museum then we went to Gold Reef City and there we went bowling at the Ten-Pin Bowling alley and also went to the theme

park to catch rides we went bungee jumping on the Soweto towers and I have to say I was freaking out. It was my first time bungee jumping and it was scary but Daniel was there to assure me but it was still scary nonetheless. After the jump I was filled with so much adrenaline that I wanted to do it again but Daniel was not having any because as much as he tried to hide I knew he was scared. Afterwards we went to the Falcon Peak Spur Steak ranch and had our lunch. Then we went to Sterkenikor at Greenstone Shopping centre and watched a movie. He asked me to pick one and yes I picked a romcom which I didn't even get to enjoy because of him. He would hug me out of nowhere kiss me steal my popcorn while his was still in his hands he would tickle me or just talk all throughout the movie and yes we got chased out because of him but I made him buy the movie because it seemed interesting. We went to the beauty salon where I had my manicure and pedicure while he had his pedicure. I am not a fan of nail extensions but in all honesty I am not used to them so I just optioned for gel nail polish. That way it would last longer. Daniel only cut his toenails removed cuticles had a foot massage and paraffin wax while I had matching red gel nail polish on my toenails and fingernails. I wanted him to also do his hands but he said no but after he had paraffin wax on his feet he asked it to be done on his hands as well. It was a nice relaxation time for us but Daniel was extra as always he didn't want us to remove our rings but we ended up convincing him in the end. We also went to the barber where I watched him get his haircut. He was restless though because they were full which meant that there were a bunch of guys. He would turn around every once in a while to check if they would dare try anything. The barber even had to put up a chair next to Daniel so that I would be next to him and he won't have to keep turning his head. He was holding my hand all throughout his haircut grinning like a man who just won the lottery. Now we were in a hotel room getting ready for dinner. He had booked us into a hotel and I was surprised to see that he had our bags. Don't ask me when he packed because I have no idea. Anyway I was doing the finishing touches to my hair. My hair was naturally curly but I like straightening it out. I had straightened it and put it in a neat bun. I was wearing a black Gucci jersey cocktail dress with organza plisse capelet gold Christian Louboutin red bottoms stilettos a black Chanel handbag finished off the look with diamond earrings and a red MAC lipstick. All of these were in the bag that he packed while I was probably sleeping and I almost fainted when I saw the price tag like who buys a fifty four thousand rand dress? He went all out but I am curious how he managed to pick out clothes for me. a black Chanel handbag finished off the look with diamond earrings and a red MAC lipstick. All of these were in the bag that he packed while I was probably sleeping and I almost fainted when I saw the price tag like who buys a fifty four thousand rand dress? He went all out but I am curious how he managed to pick out clothes for me. I was using the en-suite while he used the bedroom to get ready. Yep he booked only one room for us apparently we are not supposed to be apart. I look at myself in the mirror one more time before going back into the bedroom. I found Daniel already dressed in a black stripped double breasted two-piece suit white shirt which he left the two top buttons revealing his gold necklace Gucci black wide leather GG crystal belt silver band on one wrist and a silver watch on the other and black velvet men's loafers dress shoes with gold plating. I was afraid to ask their brand because I can just imagine how expensive they are. Daniel is one of those rare species where he would be in simple shorts and he would still be good looking but him in a suit was something out of this world. He looked dapper and dashing. Even his arrogance is on another level and the walk Jesus save me. Like when he is looking like this with his walk your panty would be on the floor and you would be squirting by just looking at him. His smell

that intoxication smell that drowns the whole room and would be left on you after he holds you is just wow. I swear right at this moment I felt myself throbbing down there and if he would ask me to strip naked I would without hesitating. "I'm dashing aren't I?" he did a little spin showing off. Me: "Clearly modesty doesn't exist in your vocabulary." I rolled my eyes and shook my head. Him: "Not when you're this good looking. Even my sexy beautiful wife drools every time she sees me." I giggle and he smirks. Me: "You're feeling yourself neh?" I watch as he starts doing the "Thuso Phala" dance. Him: "I woke up like this." He then starts flipping nonexistent hair. I burst out laughing because he looked so silly. Just imagine a guy in a dapper suit flipping his imaginary hair. ***** We were at the hotel restaurant and Daniel decided to book the whole thing. The room was decorated in white and gold. In the table there were candlelight and a bouquet of evening primrose flowers. The room was a little dim but bright enough and slow love jams were playing softly in the background. I had so many questions to ask him but I was hesitant especially with the ambiance. Daniel had my hands in his and I felt him squeezing them. I looked to him and found him smiling. Him: "I know you wish to ask something so just go ahead." I stared at him for a while before finally saying something. I was thinking about where to start. Me: "What's with the expensive... well everything and how did you manage to buy girl clothes? I mean if it were me I would have had trouble picking stuff for you." Okay that was not my main question but that's what came out. Him: "Well I'm trying to charm you. I know with our marriage we were forced into it and we haven't exactly acted like a couple. Hence I'm trying to charm you and also with the different things we had today was me making up for the times we never went on dates. I guess it was me courting my beautiful wife. As for the clothes I had help from Zana and sisMahle." I was rendered speechless and it is not from Zee and Mahle not telling me about this or the fact that they picked expensive things but whatever. He scratched his neck using the other hand "So is it working?" Me: "Perhaps but I don't need expensive stuff to be charmed." I was blushing nonetheless. Him: "Well that was to show off to the others." I giggled and he grinned. All of a sudden he became serious which took me by surprise "Look Prim I know I haven't been the best husband to you nor have I been the best friend you deserve but I promise you... you mean the world to me." He snapped his hand then the waiter came with a tray which had two boxes. He took them from him and gave it to me. I opened first the bigger box and it was a brand new iPhone 8. Me: "Daniel I can't." I try to give it back and he gave me that "Take it or else" look. I was excited to have an iPhone. Never in my life had I imagined having one but now it is unreasonable since I drive a Lamborghini and wear a fifty four thousand rand dress let's not talk about the shoes. When my dad was still alive I would have imagined myself here but after his death all hope was lost for me. I opened the smaller box and inside was a charm bracelet. He took it and put it on my wrist. It was beautiful and there was diamonds and small charms like a key and a padlock a heart some silly smiling emoji a bird and they were all so tiny and cute. He took the heart shaped charm in his fingers. Him: "This is my heart and it belongs to you and only you. I know right now it feels like a lie but it does and I hope that one day you would deem me worthy enough to have yours. There is this place in Korea where they have this lovers' lock thing where couples lock padlock and throw the key in the river. This is kind of like that and you have the key so you will decide if you lock your heart with mine or perhaps you would save it for someone else." I don't know why but at the end when he said someone else his voice was breaking a little. He moves to the emoji "This is your smiling face which I adore. I did say that I loved all your gestures but there is something that happens deep down inside me when you smile. It is like the whole world

doesn't exist except for you and yeah I kind of lose it when you are smiling to another guy. Then there is the eagle. I know sometimes you feel like you are not strong enough or worthy but I know you are capable of anything as long as you set your heart into it. I want every time you feel discouraged you should look at it and remember that you are worthy and you are meant not to just fly but soar like an eagle." At that point I was a crying mess. Good thing I had no makeup on or I would have been smeared with mascara. I got off my seat and went to sit on his lap. I smashed my lips into his in deep passionate kiss. I had overwhelming emotions and I decided to pour them into that kiss. My head started to feel dizzy and it was like oxygen was taken out of me. I felt his bulge poking my ass and I moaned to the kiss. I heard him groan and squeeze my ass. We broke the kiss because nature interrupted with the need for oxygen. "I think we should head back to our room before I take you in front of these people." I got off him and he took my hand while the other is holding my bad. We made our way out and as we pass by the waiters they gave us or Daniel that "Someone is gonna get some" look and I blushed because that was embarrassing. 37 Soon as we entered the bedroom Daniel smashed his lips into mine in urgency. He threw my bag somewhere and right at that moment I didn't care. I jump and wrapped my legs on his waist and his hands were on my ass squeezing them. He walked over to the bed and gently placed me on the soft mattress without breaking apart. He broke the kiss and stared down at me. His eyes were so full of lust that there were slowly drowning and sinking me slowly. Him: "I think I should have told my sisters to buy Versace that way I would have been able to do the whole Versace on the floor thing." I giggled at him because he never ceases to be stupid. He smirked before taking the remote that was on the night stand. I watched as he pressed a few buttons then the whole room became dim and Bruno Mars Versace on the floor (Slow version) played. He took off his blazer and his shoes then he took off his watch wristband and necklace then placed them on the night stand. I watched as he unbuttoned his shirt slowly. I tried to take off my jewellery but he stopped me. I was beyond turned on watching him strip slowly in front of me. His shirt fell on the floor and what was left was his ripped and toned muscles. They way they bulge as he moves. I wanted to run my hand on each one to memorise how they feel against my hands and more importantly how they would feel against my skin. He took off my shoes in slow motion it's like he was savouring every moment. Then he went to my jewellery and every time he would touch my skin I would feel tingles all over like his touch was sending electric shock to my skin. I watched as he got off the bed and walked to his bag and took out a tie. I began getting nervous because what if he was into the BDSM or whatever they call it. I don't fancy myself being tied and beaten or strangled. "Relax I'm not that kind either." He said after he got on the bed I guess he felt my discomfort. He kissed my lips feverously sending me on overdrive. His lips left my lips and he left a trail of kisses until he was on my ears. He kissed and bit my ear causing a moan to escape my lips. He whispered softly "I'm going to blindfold you now. Do me a favour and don't remove it until I say and don't be nervous just focus on my touch." After saying that he kissed my lips once again and blindfolded me using his tie. I was nervous but the excitement was also there and inundated the nervousness. I decided to trust him and as soon as I relaxed I felt his hand on the zipper of my dress. Not being able to see him made the moment even more electrifying. I let my senses give way and I was transported to a magical world where nothing mattered but only his body against mine. He stripped me off my dress then I felt his lips on my soft spot in my neck sucking and that felt amazing. His hands were caressing my body and with each touch it felt like thousand electrical charges were being transferred into my veins. He kept

saying "Perfect" and "Beautiful" with each kiss. I think not being able to see him was playing a major role in intensifying the feeling. I felt my bra snap and soon my chest area was bare. In no time he was caressing them and leaving kisses. I think he was worshipping them and just imagining him doing that made my body beam with erotic excitement. Right at this moment I was beyond aroused and I know I am dripping wet down there. I felt him bite my erect nipple while his hand was pinching my other equally erect nipple. Me: "Oh fuck yes..." I moaned loudly. He groaned against my breast and it was the best feeling ever. I felt his lips leaving trails of kiss as he travelled down. His hand went to my pulsing nuna while his lips are leaving kisses on my skin. I don't know paradise nor do I believe it existed but at that moment I had a taste of it. "Aaaaahhhh... fuck... aahh." my body shook violently. I stiffened "I-I think... I just... came." I was beyond embarrassed at that time. Who climaxes after just being touched? Daniel took off the blindfold then he crashed his lips into mine. He pulled away and kept gazes with me and the way his eyes looked darker and smaller was driving me insane. Him: "No need to be embarrassed babe. I am irresistible after all. And to make you feel better I'm finding it hard to hold myself too." He took my hands and placed them on his belt. I smirked before unbuckling the belt and throwing it somewhere and then I unzipped his pants and pulled them down and off with his help. "Are you sure about this?" he asked and I nodded. I think I was ready to give myself to him. He smiled before crushing his lips into mine and I returned it with an equal intensity. I gasped when I felt him rip my panty off. He took the chance to smash his tongue inside. Mine took the challenge and they fought for dominance. They mingled together in dance even prima ballerina would lose to. I felt his finger enter my dripping wet honey pot and we both groaned together. His lips left mine as it trailed down to my garden. He licked me clean and I found myself throwing my head back in ecstasy. He then started sucking causing me to moan in pleasure. I gasped when I felt him rip my panty off. He took the chance to smash his tongue inside. Mine took the challenge and they fought for dominance. They mingled together in dance even prima ballerina would lose to. I felt his finger enter my dripping wet honey pot and we both groaned together. His lips left mine as it trailed down to my garden. He licked me clean and I found myself throwing my head back in ecstasy. He then started sucking causing me to moan in pleasure. He opened my thighs even wider and he ate me then without notice his finger entered me. He started going in and out in a slow painfully pace causing my hips to jerk up. He smirked before going faster and faster then he entered another finger causing me to lose my senses. I screamed at the top of my lungs as I reach my high. He licks me clean using his tongue then he moves up to kiss me. The kiss was feverish and I think by this moment we are both ready to finally be interconnected physically and emotionally. "You ready and are you really sure?" he asked once again. Me: "I need you inside me now but please be gentle okay." I say panting and he smirks. We kissed once again as I help him slip out of his briefs. I close my eyes and I grab his beast into my hands because I want to put him inside myself. Call me crazy but I also don't know what's happening to me. I hear him grunt as my hand comes into contact with his second brain. My hands freeze because he feels very huge in fact too huge. Maybe it's because I have tiny hands. I test his length and Jesus it feels long. I open my eyes and look down and eyes go wide. He is so huge! I don't think anyone is allowed to be this huge and there is no where that thing is going inside me. "I can't do this!" I shout before slipping under him and off the bed. He is taken by surprise... well so am I. He watches me in shock and I can see some worry. The Weekend's Earned it was now playing. Him: "What's happening? Are you having second thoughts? I did not scare you or force you did I? Did I hurt you?" he was

shooting questions one after the other. Me: "No no don't worry you did nothing but you're huge." I quickly say because he was blaming himself. Well it is partly his fault for being huge. Him: "Is that why you stopped because I'm gifted? Come on BP what did you expect? I'm black obviously I would be gifted and if you're worried about me hurting you then you have nothing to worry about because I wasn't planning on hurting you." He folded his arms across his chest. My hand was on my bare hips. He is so nonchalant about that I feel like slapping him. Me: "You're not all black okay and that's not being gifted that is being... being... being burdened." I couldn't find the right words. "I'm not about to be hospitalised because of sex. You will rip me apart shred me into pieces. Look Daniel this is nice and romantic even but I can't be a victim of a gorilla attack." He laughed at me. Here I was being serious and he is laughing at me. Him: "Okay don't you think you're exaggerating a little. A gorilla attack seriously? Tell me something Prim don't you want to make love to me?" he stopped laughing and now he was serious. I climbed on the bed and positioned myself between his legs. I held his face in my hands and placed a quick kiss on his lips before staring deep into his eyes. Me: "Of cause I want to. You are my husband other details aside. I want you to be my first and I can't imagine anyone else being my first. I thought I was ready but clearly I am not and besides I don't see myself limping out of this place. If it were at home then yeah because I won't feel like people are judging me." I release a long heavy sigh because for a moment there I was ready to lose my purity. Him: "I guess you're right and I'm sorry for not doing things right." I shook my head because it is not his fault but perhaps mine. "I think you should at least put on my shirt cauz I don't think you're being fair." He said and I just moved down "What are you doing?" Me: "Servicing you. It's the least I can do." I didn't wait for his approval as I took his length into my hand. He was already wet with pre-cum. I lick my lips to wet them and start sucking on his length. Of cause I couldn't take all of him so I also used my hand to help with my movements. This is my first time giving a head so I hope I'm doing this right. I hear his ragged breathing. I need to breathe so I move to his balls while my hand is stroking his member. I feel some movement on the bed then I hear muffled groans. He must be using a pillow. I move back to sucking his member. I also use my teeth to create more friction. I feel his hand gripping my hair I guess I'm doing this right. My other hand is kneading one of his balls as the other is helping with my stroking. I quickened my pace with the help of his hand that was also guiding me. I accidentally moan then I feel my head being pulled away. The next thing I know my chest is covered in some slimy liquid. This must be what sperms looks and feels like. His body is all sprawled out on the bed with the pillow still on his face. I make my way to the bathroom and take one of the hotel face towel and I wet it then wiped myself clean. After I was done I took another and wet it before making my way back to Daniel. I find him sitting at the edge of the bed with his gaze on me. I felt myself shrinking under his gaze. "I-I thought... uh y-you might..." I couldn't finish so I just gave him the towel. He smiled before taking my hand making me wipe him. My hands were shaking. After I was done he threw it on the floor and pulled me to him so that I was sitting on his lap. I couldn't hold his gaze so I was facing down. He lifted my head using his slightly rough finger and perked my lips. Him: "Should I be worried?" I frowned not getting his point. "I mean that was the best head I've ever gotten." I playfully hit his chest which caused him to chuckle and I found myself giggling. He brushed my hair back and planted a kiss on my lips. It was quick and sweet "You don't have to feel embarrassed for what you've just done. I am your husband after all and I appreciate it. Now let's get to sleep." He perked my lips once again before pulling us up. He covered us with a quilt as we cuddle together. I was tired and I felt myself already

slipping away. I feel him kiss my head and I heard him whisper “Goodnight umfazi onentliziyo yam (The woman who has my heart).” It was lights out for me as I slip into a peaceful slumber.

38 “You seriously didn’t give him the cookie? What is wrong with you RK?” that was Puleng reprimanding me for not giving my cookie to my husband. The irony in that is so rich. Me: “Since when did I become RK?” that was me trying to circumvent. Her: “Since you became blood pressure but don’t even try to evade my question.” I rolled my eyes because I thought I was getting away with this. Me: “I did want to give it to him. I swear I was ready but when I saw that mammoth God it was so huge. I was scared he would break not just my hymen but my bones and internal organs as well.” I shudder at the thought. Her: “You do realise you’re just being silly. He is your husband and as for the pain you’re going to experience it whether he’s big or not but you’ll enjoy it more with a big one. (Sigh) Okay tell me something. When you say you were ready to give it to him what the hell were you expecting? Did you think he had a small peanut for a penis? Look Kay I know in your mind you think big will be more painful but let me tell you a little secret. With a big one you will feel the pain but it comes with the most pleasure and as for small all you will be feeling is pain because trust me you won’t even enjoy it.” My eyes grew wide because I have a very crazy friend. She nods while humming “Trust me I am talking from experience here. My first time was the worst because the penis was small and I didn’t even get to climax properly. The second time was like my first time because it was big and boy it hit all the right spot... God that was the best sex ever and it was more memorable than the first.” She was fanning herself causing me to laugh. Me: “Okay I get it.” To be honest I didn’t want her to continue divulging on her sexual escapades. Her: “No you don’t. If I was given an opportunity I would certainly make my second time be my first but I can’t and you have the rarest opportunity. Your first happens to be big and he is your husband so it’s not like you’re doing it at his backroom hoping that his parents don’t knock off early.” She was smiling probably thinking about the memories. “Are you guys done talking about my brother’s size?” that was Zoe turning her attention to us. We were in the cafeteria having our lunch as usual but the moment I started talking about what happened during my anniversary she turned her chair and put on her headset because she refused to listen to me talk about her brother’s size. I guess that is one of the cons of dating your friend’s brother much less marry him. Me: “I think we are done now and yes I will sleep with him. It’s not like I was considering anyone else.” I see her shake her head. Technically I was telling Puleng that but whatever. Her: “I say don’t sleep with him if you’re not ready and besides there is that Olivia issue in fact I say don’t sleep with him until he gets rid of her.” She had a very determined look on her face while nodding her head. Puleng: “I say she should hurry up and sleep with him already because there is Olivia in the picture. You mark your territory before that witch takes him away from her.” She is shaking her head as she says and Zoe also shakes hers. Her: “Trust me my brother will never leave Rosy Kay and I say you punish him and let him suffer from blue balls.” Puleng: “If she doesn’t give it to him he will only fall in the arms of that witch.” Zoe: “No he needs to decide what he wants because if she gives in now then he won---” Okay I think that is enough now. Their back and forth bickering is getting on my nerves now. Me: “That’s enough! I will sleep with my HUSBAND when I’m ready even if it’s today or ten months from now that’s my choice.” I put the emphasis on husband because I feel like it is my choice. I watch as they are gazing at me in horror before the three of us burst into laughter when we realise how crazy we are. Yeah we are crazy alright. DANIEL I am in my kitchen making myself sandwiches

when my idiot brothers decide to just budge in my house. Now I am getting regretful for giving them my house keys. We each have keys to the others apartments and houses. Yeah well that's how our family operates. We have access to each others' everything. I watch them as they act like this is their house. Themba opens my cabinet and takes out two glasses and two plates (Yeah he knows where everything belongs) while Khwezi takes out a jug of juice from the fridge and they put them on the table. They pour the juice for themselves and they are watching me expecting me to make them sandwiches but there is no way I am doing that they can do it themselves. Me: "Don't give me that look and since this is your house you can go ahead and make yourself a sandwich. You two are unbelievable you didn't even pour juice for me." I shake my head before putting my sandwiches on my plate. Yeah well I have a very big appetite one won't do. I make my way to take the glass from the cabinet. The least they could have done was get one for me. I make my way back only to see my plate empty... What the? I lift my head only to see these two idiots munching on my food. I swear if they were not my brothers I would have strangled them. Well I wouldn't have even if they weren't but I would have punished them somehow. Khwezi: "Don't look at us like that you know you make the best sandwiches even Mr grumpy pants here can't make them right so much for being a chef." He said nonchalantly causing Themba to smack his head. I chuckle lightly. Me: "Whatever. So what brought this home invasion?" I say as I start making other sandwiches for myself. These two idiots don't understand the art that goes into making a sandwich. Themba: "Home invasion bro? You're one crazy ass in fact the both of you are but that's beside the point. Ma asked us to get the details from your anniversary." He said monotonously. Yep that's my older brother. Khwezi: "Seriously bro you're just gonna lay it like that? How about hiding the fact that ma asked us to spy for her. Ai I wonder how my sister handles your ass." He earned himself another smack in the head. Themba: "Just shut your yap you crazy ass and talk about my wife again I will shred your ass." He warned earning a smirk from me and Khwezi. Khwezi: "Yeah yeah whatever. Tell us bro did you finally make her yours." He winked at me. Me: "Bro does your eye feel alright or did some dirt get in?" I said sarcastically causing him to click his tongue. Me and Themba chuckled "You can go ahead and report to ma that everything went great. As for making her mine that will wait for another day." Themba: "Okay that's very petty of you. We didn't just come here to spy for ma but I want to know if you finally did the deed." Honestly I feel like my family is nosy. Me: "You talk as if it'll be my first time but to answer your question no we didn't but we were close however she got scared by uJunior." Khwezi: "Stop calling your junk uJunior... what would you call your son?" Me: "And who would have made him? uJunior of cause." Yeah I do sound stupid but you automatically turn into one when you're in the company of my brothers even the stoic Themba turn into one himself. Him: "Okay you guys need to stop talking about your second brain and much less naming them." Khwezi and I chuckle because he just called uJunior my second brain yet he's against giving it names. Ironic or cliché can't really decide. "I am just glad that she gave you none." Wait what now? Did he jus... Me: "And why is that?" I really want to know. Him: "You are still with that shapeless witch." Khwezi laughed. Yeah my family don't really like Olivia and they have never hid that not from me nor her. "You can't expect your wife to give you something as precious as her purity while that witch is still lingering around you. You need to leave her and I pray in fact I will have a talk with your wife and convince her not to give you her purity until you man up and get rid of that shapeless witch." Ouch he is blunt when he wants to but he is making a valid point. Khwezi: "Bro don't you think that's harsh?" Themba: "Do you want that shapeless harlot around?" Ai

he doesn't know how to be delicate this one. Khwezi: "Oh no the ironing board has got to go!" and then what happened to being harsh. Me: "I hear y'all but it's not easy. I do care about my wife and what to be with her and only her but things with Olivia are complicated." I do want to break up with her and have been wanting for a long time but things are very complicated. Khwezi: "Nothing is complicated you're just being Lwazi about it. You have no idea how lucky your ass is for having someone like uKea and you want to complicate things with that ironing board. Mxm some of us have real fucking complications with Pearls and here you are with your plank complicating shit!" he stormed out. Okay that is the first time he does that. I am the outburst guy here not him. Here is our personalities; my big brother Themba is the calm and collected one with zero subtlety Sponsored "serif";mso-bidi-font-family: "Times New Roman">Here is our personalities; my big brother Themba is the calm and collected one with zero subtlety then there is me and my outburst because dear me have zero control over my emotions then lastly my little brother Khwezi who is the chilled and mellow one who doesn't take life seriously except for when he is working. So yeah his outburst is totally out of character for him. "Yeah I think that one has some serious issues he is trying to hide from us but as for you you need to make up your mind. It's either your wife or that harlot cauz you can't have them both and whatever complication you're talking about UNCOMPLICATE it and now before you lose her forever. We both know that will be your end." He takes his sandwich and leave. Huh great! I have to fix this for Prim and soon before it's too late but then again this issue with Olivia is not easy. I smile as my eye lands on my wrist and view the Rolex that my wife bought for me for our anniversary. I was angry at first because she spent a lot of money on it money she was supposed to spend on herself but she can be stubborn if she wants to. She almost had my head because I was refusing her gift so I accepted it and I will cherish it as well as the memory of her giving me a head. I was surprised to see that she can give one but damn that was the best one I've ever gotten. I even had to cover my mouth with a pillow to suppress my screams. Damn my wife is the best! Huh Daniel you're fucked up dude. KEA After my talk with my bitches we went to the rest of our lessons. Afterwards I went to Jonathan's place because I haven't seen him in a while well after the match to be more precise. He was surprised and elated when he saw me I guess he missed me too. Now we are in his kitchen as I watch him cook. This is the first time seeing a man slaving in the kitchen. I know some guys know how to cook. I mean I think Daniel also knows how to but this is my first time seeing one in action. Him: "I have to say I have been missing my Evie I thought you have forgotten about me. Anyway how was the anniversary with boo?" I giggle at boo. Me: "I would never for as long as I'm still living unless I suffer from amnesia. As for the anniversary it was amazing. I hate to admit it but I never thought Daniel had a romantic bone in him." It's his turn to chuckle. I am sipping my juice while I wait for his food to be done. I do lick my lip from time to time as the aroma hit my nostril and I have to say I am thankful and relieved that my stomach hasn't growled yet seeing as the smell is very appetising. Him: "That one is a charma total ladies man. You should have seen him in high school girls were falling on his feet." He was stirring the pot. He is smiling the whole time probably thinking of those days. Me: "Uh huh... so what are you making?" Okay I didn't mean to say that but my curiosity was peaking especially with the aroma that is filling the room. Him: "I'm making pap and beef stew." He added a bowl of vegetables I guess to the pot. Me: "I thought you'll say you're making potjiekos or something. You know sometimes you sound more black than white." Him: "That's cauz my mom is black." He said casually but my eyes widen in shock. Me: "You're mom is what? Don't get me wrong or something but

you don't look mixed." I swear this guy doesn't look mixed at all. He is white like his skin is not even tanned. Him: "Well she is my stepmom but she is the best that's why I call her mom. My real mother died when I was only four and my dad married my mom when I turned eight and she has been my mother ever since. She is a great woman and I love her like my own biological mother. She is a very caring and strict Zulu woman and what is also great is that her family also accepted us as one of their own. Besides my mother being black I also grew up around my black cousins and my friends are black well some are mixed but you get my point. So yes my dear Evie I am black." I was caught speechless but at least her stepmother was well is the best. She is proof that not all stepmothers are the Devil's advocates like mine. Me: "That's nice I'm glad that she was the good stepmother and not the evil one." Him: "Yeah she is the best." He turned to me leaning his body on the countertop. He stared into my eyes and his gaze was so intense that I was getting a little uncomfortable. "I have a confession to make and I don't think you gonna like it." I swallowed hard. I don't think I like where this is heading.

39 There was a long awkward silence as we stared into each other's eyes. I took a sip of my juice because for some reason my throat was parched. I edged him to continue by hinting with my eyes. Him: "I kinda have been using you." Now he was avoiding my eyes. I furrowed my brows in confusion and a little rage. No one wants to hear that they have been used. Me: "What do you mean you've been using me?" my voice came out harsher and firmer than I had intended. Him: "Just let me explain please Evie." He tried to take my hands but I pulled away before he could touch them. I can feel my blood boiling with rage. I had trusted him but he has been using me all this time probably in cohorts with his cousin. Me: "I trusted you Jonathan. I thought you of all people understood me but I was a fool. I was stupid to think you would side with me instead of your cousin. Of cause it all makes sense now you were distracting me telling me how much Daniel loves your cousin and not me. How he would never leave her. God why am I the one who always gets the short end of the stick?" I was pacing around the room trying to make sense of all that's happening. How did I not see this coming? But then again he was a really good actor pretending like he cared. Him: "You need to calm down Evie that's not how it all happened." The nerve he had. He tried to stop my pacing but the mere sight of him was repulsing me at the moment. I don't how it happened or when but I tried to turn one minute then the next I was covered in apple juice. Me: "Fuck see what you've done!" My body was shaking from both anger and the cold liquid that was seeping into my clothes. He tried to wipe me with paper towel but I pushed him away "Don't touch me asshole! I swear you lost the respect that I had for you!" he raised his hands in surrender. Him: "Okay fine I get it you're angry but please listen to me. You're blowing this totally way out of proportion. You have not even heard what I had to say but you're already sentencing me." He did have a point. I didn't even hear what he had to say and I was already jumping to conclusions but I am still wet and the juice has now clung onto my skin and it was sticky. Sensing that the anger is now decimated he continued "Now that you're calm I think we should wash those while you take a shower." Me: "I'll take a quick shower but as for the clothes I'll take them to get dry-cleaned." Well yeah I couldn't exactly machine wash a Versace dress now would I? I was wearing a Versace chain-print sleeveless sheath dress with my jean jacket and Adidas kicks. Yeah the dress was from a pile of clothes Daniel found fitting for his wife. His words and not mine. Yeah I took a shower which calmed me down even more and Jonathan borrowed me his Adidas sweatpants and Nike t-shirt and luckily my kicks were not affected. Now we were in his lounge sitting on his

chaise. We were on the same seat because he was insisting even though I protested. Him: "Let me tell you a little story and it is about Daniel." He took my hand in his. I wanted to protest but I let it slide. Me: "It's about Daniel... my husband Daniel?" He chuckled at my question but I could not reciprocate because I still had that "Using you" racking in my brain. Him: "Yes and please let me finish before you start sentencing me. Even criminals get to make their case before being sentenced." He has jokes I see but I nodded nonetheless. "Dan and I have been friends since high school together with Skhumbuzo Njabulo and Kgosi. We were tight as we are now." Me: "You were friends with Kgosi?" I couldn't help but ask because the only time I saw Kgosi together with them was during that soccer match and at the wedding but he wasn't amongst the groomsmen. Him: "Will you let me finish my story." He was pouting and if I wasn't angry and confused I would have found that cute. Me: "Well I was just curious I don't see him around that much." Him: "Well yeah he is managing his own company together with his sister's so he is always busy. He started both the companies from scratch unlike most of us who took over our family companies but that's another story for another day." Once again I nodded "Back to the story. So when we were all in Grade 10 Dan had this major crush on this girl Sandy. She was also doing Grade 10 and to be honest every guy had a crush on her." I interrupted again. Me: "Meaning you also had a crush on her?" I wiggled my eyebrows but he gave me the "Really" look so I shut up mumbling a sorry. Him: "Moving on she was smart pretty and well mannered I guess. So my boy Dan was in deep but yeah he was afraid of being rejected." I was about to interrupt again but I resisted the urge. "So the guys and I persuaded him to ask her out because a lot of girls wanted him as well. Well our whole squad was known as the IT squad every guy wanted to be in it while every girl wanted to be with us but the most popular one was definitely Dan and then Kgosi. Kgosi was that mysterious quiet guy so a lot of girls fanned over him then Dan he was the athletic one. He was into soccer rugby Sponsored tennis athletics and he was pretty good at everything not to mention at that time he was already well built so yeah girls were falling on his feet." Me: "Okay I know you want me to let you finish but I want to know where I fit in all of this. I get it you were all hot in high school and yeah I wish I knew you guys back then but get to the point already." I know I was supposed to resist the urge but I couldn't help it. Him: "Yoh you have zero patience sisi." I have said before that he sometimes sounds black and that sentence right now sounded black to me. Anyway I need to hear where all this heading so I guess I should pay attention to him "As I was saying we got him to ask Sandy out and she agreed. They went on a date and Dan pulled all the stops shem he was a charma after all. However during the date Dan realised that Sandy was just stringing him along to get to one of us." His gaze was on me throughout but during that last sentence it fell on the floor. I guess it was a touchy subject. Me: "Did she want Kgosi?" my voice came as a whisper because I could just imagine how Daniel felt. Imagine having someone agree to a date only to realise that they were after one of your friends. That must have sucked and I thought of Kgosi because he said they were both popular. He shook his head still facing down I guess I got that wrong. Him: "No. It turned out that she had a crush on me." My eyes widened in shock. "Dan was absolutely gutted and that changed him completely. He felt betrayed because had she been honest from the start then he would have helped her get with me or with anyone she liked in our squad. That's what we were all about. The brotherhood mattered to us more than our own feelings but the fact that she lied and was intending on using him that destroyed him." His shoulders were shaking so I lifted his head and made him face me. His eyes had profound sadness in them. Me: "So what happened next?" I edged him to continue even though the thought

had my heart ranching in pain. I just couldn't imagine what Daniel was going through at that time. Him: "He completely changed he became heartless and cold. He would ask girls on a date act like a perfect gentleman then take them to a hotel where he would sleep with them but deny their climax." I furrowed my eyebrows. It was hard to believe that Daniel my Daniel would do such. "He turned into a monster. Some of those girls were still virgins so he would break it but deny them to orgasm. He was not the same Dan and it was all my fault." Me: "No no no it was not fault. You didn't ask for her to be crushing on you or use him." I know Daniel was gutted but I can't let him think it was his fault. Him: "It is because in my quest to try and get the old Dan back and to possibly mitigate my guilt I did something worse." I know I wanted to know the story but this was getting heavier. "We were in Grade 11 when my cousin transferred schools to ours. She was only fourteen at the time but since she was my cousin she was perfect. So I introduced them to each other and invited her to every party or gathering that we had. It worked because they started flirting with each other and then I made Dan swear on bros' honour that he wouldn't hurt her. I swear had I known back then that this would happen I would have never done that." Me: "Okay you're losing me there a little. You introduced your cousin to Daniel your cousin as in Olivia right?" He nodded "Yeah so what could be so terrible because I think Daniel is over that phase and he is still together with Olivia." Him: "You're not getting it are you? Because of that stupid bros' honour Dan is unhappy and still stubborn as hell." Yeah I was still lost. Wish Shaka from The Queen was here to balance me a little. Yeah I had to add that because this was getting gloomy. "Things between Livy and Dan were great at the beginning. There were good together and we were just happy to have our boy back but they had their first misunderstanding and they couldn't break up because of the code. They got together and we all thought it was just a minor misunderstanding but then it occurred often. They would break up and Dan would be all about us. Hanging with us even on odd days and he would organise brocations and all but then they would get back together and he would forget us." His voice was getting hoarse so he went to the kitchen to get water. My throat was also parched so I also asked him to also get it for me. He came back and we both drank at the same time. "Where was I? Oh yes so I think we were in Varsity when I realised that the relationship was toxic and I tried everything to break it but I failed then you came along and when I saw how much he cared for you I decided to use you... I know it was uncalled for but I thought if I could make it seem like I wanted you then he would finally break up with Livy for good. I know my approach was bitchy but I knew that if he felt threatened then he would act because I saw the way he looks at you and he has never looked at anyone like that not even Sandy. I finally had a breakthrough with you and when you told me you were married I thought I was late but what do you know you were married to him after all." Me: "So you never liked me it was all just a lie?" I got up and breathed deeply. I can't believe he made me think that he liked me while he was just pretending. Him: "No I did like you. Look Evie you're beautiful inside and out and any guy would be lucky to have you but you were off limits the second Dan set his eyes on you and the day you two got married." He also got up and walked to where I was leaning on the wall. He caressed my cheek "I liked you the moment I laid my eyes on you but I fought against that the moment I realised you were the girl that had Dan forget about us when he was on a break with my cousin so at that point I started devising a plan to get you with him but his father beat me to it." He chuckled at the end. I removed the hand that was caressing my cheek and moved away from him. Me: "Why didn't you just tell him that he should forget about the "Bros' honour" instead of playing me." I feel him hug me from behind. Him: "You know how

stubborn your husband is. I did tell him countless of times but he told me that he didn't want to hurt her and that he would find a way to breakup with her without hurting her and yeah I've been waiting for that day." He turned me around and we were facing each other. I can see the truth and sincerity in his eyes but then he has been lying about his intentions. "Look Evie I told you my cousin was raised with a silver spoon and she pretty much received everything she wanted and she hates losing. Dan is one of those... well was one of those wanted bachelors so to Livy he is just a prize she won and isn't willing to let go. I think at some point she realised that her tears had an effect on him and every time she would feel threatened she would use that to her advantage. We all tried to make Dan see that but he is too damn stubborn and too fucking kind. So yeah I took matters into my own hands and I feel shitty for using you so please forgive me." Me: "I get why you thought you should do this but you could have at least told me about it instead of using me." I moved away from him and I made my way to get my backpack. I heard him speak behind me. Him: "It had to be convincing and I didn't want you to feel guilty about what we're doing but now I'm tired of deceiving you. I know now you're still angry with me but I hope you can find it in your heart to forgive me. And Evie be careful with Livy she hates losing and right now she is losing but you can count on me for everything." I nodded still not facing him. I felt his hand on mine but I was drained to even push him "Let me walk you." We made our way to the door and when we opened we found Palesa who looks like she was about to knock. Her: "Umh I only wanted to give you these files but I can come back at another time." She said looking at our intertwined hands and my getup probably assuming the worst in that pea sized brain of hers. Me: "No need I was on my way either way." I said to her and then turned my attention to Jonathan. "I guess I'll see you around and thanks for being honest I guess." I left them and made my way to my car. I was too drained to try and clarify things to Palesa so that she doesn't think the worst or spread the lies or to even ask why she was only handing office files at this hour. I just hope that when I get home Daniel would be at least sleeping because ever since our anniversary he had decided that he was moving back to his bedroom and finally sleep on the same bed as his wife. I know if he sees me in Jonathan's clothes and coming back this late he will flip and God knows I have no energy for all that.

40 I make my way inside my house and it seems like they all went to bed since the lights are out. I tiptoe as I make my way to my bedroom. I know the lights are off but you can't be too careful. My main mission is to get off these clothes and take another shower because knowing my husband he would freak out. He flipped over simple pictures just imagine me showing up in another man's clothes and not only that smelling like him. The shower gel that Jonathan uses is very strong and musky so it kind of lingered on my skin. Flick! That was the light turning on and I can bet with my whole life that that wasn't me. Since I was in the dark for so long the sudden brightness of the light was blinding so my eyes had to readjust to the brightness. "This is cosy!" I heard Daniel's stern voice from behind. I turned and found him sitting on the ottoman legs crossed. He had a very unreadable expression on his face. The intensity of it was sending daggers towards me. My heart was beating out of control and I bet my face looks like one of a child who is caught stealing sugar and to think I am not even guilty. He stood up and walked towards me in a painfully slow pace. My feet moved backward on its own until I hit the wall meaning I was trapped. I felt like a tiny deer trapped by a large tiger. He was too close I can feel his breath fanning over my face. Since I was shorter than him he was ducking down a bit in order to be face to face with me. I on the other hand I was avoiding his intense gaze because I swear I

peed a little. He looked calm way too calm if you ask me. Daniel is one to send a table flying across the room. Him: "I don't think it's the right time for a woman to come home." His voice was firm sending all kinds of shivers down my spine literally all kinds. He sniffed my neck "And certainly not smelling like another man's shitty perfume or is it body wash." He brought his grip on my jaws tilting my face to face him. Me: "I can explain." I don't know why I said that because it looks like I made things worse because his grip was tightening. Him: "Why do you hate me so much? My best friend like really you couldn't chose someone else except him. And you have the nerve to come here in his clothes and smelling like him just to spite me. Is that why you have been refusing to sleep with me? You're afraid that I'll finally discover you have been unfaithful." He sneered at me. As much as I was scared of his anger but he has no right. I pushed him away and for some reason I was able to which caught me off guard because I thought he would resist so I had put a little too much power behind it making me stumble. I would have fallen but he caught me only to let go. I fell down with a loud thud. I am thankful that the floor were carpeted because if they weren't I would have suffered from serious butt injury. Me: "What the fuck Daniel?" I gathered myself up. He snickered at me making me boil with rage. Him: "That's what you get for being a loose woman." I slapped him hard and my hand was also hurt but I don't care. He had no right. Me: "Don't you fucking piss me off! I am not like you okay. I don't go around sleeping with people knowing full well I'm married. I have enough dignity and respect for myself to do that. And don't fucking call me loose you fucking whore!" I was shouting at him. His hand was still on the cheek that I slapped. "You are such a hypocrite and you need to come down from that high horse you're on right now." Him: "Did you just fucking slap me?" it looks like he was in shock about the slap. Me: "Yes and I will do so much more if you keep insulting me like you did. How many times should I tell you that I'm not like you? If you want to hit me back? Do it and I'll also hit back. Don't think for a second I'm gullible enough to let you hit me and not fight back. Hit me do it if it'll make you feel better... do it hit me." I was screaming at him while he looked like he was fighting with himself. He was cursing folding and unfolding his fists pacing back and forth and he would sometimes hit his head. It looks like he was about to burst like always. "Okay you know what I'm leaving. I'm going to my apartment I... shit!" I realise what I have done. Yeah I bought myself an apartment with the money I got from the lobola. I bought for a simple if not obvious reason my husband and his fiancé. Him: "You bought an apartment? Why would you even buy one?" He furrowed his eyebrows. Me: "Yes I did and I'm glad I did. Now I'm leaving but I know it's not like you will miss me because you have Olivia right." I went to the closet and took out an overnight bag. I throw in my night attire and something to wear tomorrow. I found Daniel sitting at the edge of the bed his head buried in his hands. I left him and went to the kids' room and started packing for them. I made sure to also include their uniform. This is not how I imagined going to my new apartment. Yeah I bought the apartment so that when things got complicated with Daniel and Olivia I can have a place I can go to but I was not ready. I haven't even stocked on the food. I guess I'll be waking up early so that the kids get ready in time and we can catch breakfast at one of them outlets. I don't even know which but I'll just pick the closest one. I hate doing this but I have to wake them. I shake Tshepo lightly and whisper to him to wake up. Him: "What's going on Aunty? Is it morning already?" He is rubbing his eyes while yawning and if it were any other day I would have thought that was the cutest face ever. Me: "No sweetheart Aunty is just taking you somewhere. Wake your sister up while I take these bags to the car." He nods with his sleepy self. God I hate myself right now for ruining their sleep. After

loading the bag I go back for the kids. I find Daniel with the kids. Him: "You're not taking the kids with you. If you want to leave then go but they stay." He said firmly and I shake my head. Me: "Forget it Daniel there is no way that I'm leaving them behind." I carry Dintle while Tshepo is walking beside me. I know there is a lot he wants to say but I'm thankful for his maturity because he says nothing. Daniel is falling behind muttering a sorry. Daniel: "Don't leave please. I'm sorry okay for everything just don't go. Let's sit down like a proper married couple and find a solution together please don't leave." He is now blocking me entry to the garage. Me: "Our marriage is not proper Daniel and what solution are you talking about? You called me a loose woman and clearly that's how lowly you think of me. I suggest you get out of the way because we cannot be fighting in front of the kids. I've made up my mind and I'm not about to change it. It's clear you don't trust me and only had you let me explain we wouldn't be here." He gets out of the way and I make my way to the car and strap the kids in. I put the ignition on as I make my way to my new apartment. DANIEL I make my way back into our bedroom. I am so frustrated right now. I am angry at myself for saying the things I said. I didn't mean any of them nor do I think of her like that. I just lost it when I saw her in Jonathan's clothes and what made it worse was that she smelled like him. I know she wouldn't cheat but I have been such a fucker towards her. Fuck fuck fuck! You fucking blew it Daniel! I thought we made progress on our marriage after our honeymoon. I even moved back to our bedroom but now she is gone. I am pacing back and forth not knowing what to do. I should have let her explain. I still don't know the reason she ended up in Jonathan's clothes. I didn't want her to leave I thought if I told her the kids are not leaving she would stay but she is stubborn. The backpack she had was on the floor. I pick it up and open it. I know it's wrong to look into people stuff but perhaps something in here will explain why she was in another man's clothing. I find her clothes inside and from what I can gather it looks like they were soaked in... I sniff her clothes and for a second there I get lost in her scent. The one she was supposed to be wearing when she came home. I can also smell apples and from how sticky there are can only mean she had an accident and she took a shower at Jonathan's. Now I feel like shit! I have to get my wife back and now. I take out my phone and call the insurance company. CONVO: CONVO: ??: "Discovery Insurance Mpho speaking. How may I be of assistance?" I am glad the call went through the last thing I needed was that annoying holding music. Me: "Hi umh I would like for you to track my wife's car. She hasn't come home and she is not answering my phone so I'm a little bit afraid." I hope my lie is convincing enough. Mpho: "Can I have her name please and the vehicle made." She was polite I give her that. Me: "Her name is Kearabetswe Dlamini. The car is a red Lamborghini Urus." I know she didn't ask for the colour but I was being thorough. Her: "Please hold for a minute." Yep she puts me on hold. I hope she gets me that address fast. It takes about two minutes and she is already back. "I'm sorry sir but it looks like your wife is avoiding you on purpose." She says softly. I swear if I wasn't desperate I would have told her a few not so nice words. Me: "I don't think I follow ma'am." Yep playing the innocent card and I hope it works. Her: "Well you see your wife was contacted and she answered the phone and asked us not give away her location and I'm afraid as the client she gets what she requests. However what I can tell you is that she is safe where she is. That will be all thank you and have a great night." I hang up. Damn her! Why the hell did they have to be so good? She didn't have to call her mahn. I guess now the only option is my cousin Luphelo. He wasn't pleased to be called this late but he came through. You see he is very good with tracking and I asked her to track my wife's phone number. I didn't wait for the address as I was already making my way out. I bump

into Olivia and my mood just plummeted. Me: "What do you want Olivia?" I say in my firm voice. Her: "I heard some commotions so I thought I should check it out. Are you okay babe?" she tries to touch me but I move my body away. Me: "Just leave me alone." My voice came harsher than I intended but I have no time for her. I have to get my wife back. I rush downstairs to the garage and I decide to take my Urus as well. A text notification comes through. I check the message and it is from Luphelo. That was fast. Good thing about driving at night is that the traffic there is zero to none. I reach the place and if it was any other day I would have appreciate the place but now is not the time. I call her but it rings unanswered. I try again and again but still nothing. I decide to send her an sms that way she can look it at. It's easier to read a text from someone you're avoiding than answering their call. My beautiful stranger: Look baby I'm sorry. I'm sorry for everything for not trusting you for not listening to you for Olivia and most especially for calling you names. I swear I didn't mean all I said. Anyway I'm outside so that we should talk and I get to apologise in person. Luv u. Send... now I guess I should wait to see her move. It's been over an hour and she hasn't replied to the text nor does it look like she was coming outside. I called her one more time but it goes straight to voicemail now. I guess that means I'll be sleeping in the car. I wish I was one of those grannies who keep a fleece in the boot because it is freezing in here but I can do it. I'll just put on the AC. It looks like my battery is dying tonight.

Kearabetswe I love Little Mix's 'We are who we are' especially as my alarm tone but right now I am starting to hate it because it is too early but then again I want the kids to have breakfast before going to school. I groan before getting up and running a bath for the kids. I will fix everything while I let them sleep for a bit. Waking the kids was torture to me more than to them because I hated waking them so early but they need to have breakfast before going to school and also lunch. I could have gone to the inconvenience store but I wanted them to have proper breakfast and also their lunch box. They hated it but we are done now I was doing the finishing touches on them because we have to head out. Me: "So where do you guys want to have your breakfast?" I was putting on Dintle's school shoes. Them: "Wimpy!" They beamed with happiness. At least they agree on the same place I don't even want to imagine what I would have done if they wanted to eat at different places. Me: "Okay Wimpy it is." I finish and kiss both their cheeks but I realise that Tshepo is not really okay. I cup his face in my hands "Are you okay sweetie? You don't look too great. Did you want to have breakfast somewhere else?" Him: "No I want Wimpy. I... are you and Uncle Dan fighting?" my mouth hung agape. This is not the kind of example I wanted to set. Me: "Uhh... your uncle and I uhh... we're not fighting." I was caught off guard. Like how do you explain something like this to a child? I sigh "Look honey we didn't fight we just had a misunderstanding. Uh... yes uh... aunty wanted t-to mo-move... yes to move into the new apartment yesterday but uncle wanted us to move next month so it was just a misunderstanding that's all. Let's leave now we still need to feed those bellies." I tickle his belly with him letting out cute giggle. Of cause being the kid she was Dintle also demanded some tickles. I strap the kids in their seat before I take the driver's seat. I start the engine and put the car into motion. I drive out of the garage into the driveway. I press the remote to open the automated gate and drive out. "Is that Uncle Dan's car?" that was Dintle's voice as we pass a black Lamborghini Urus. I hit the brake and make a reverse. I park next to it and get out of the car. I knock on the window lightly but nothing happen. I knock again but nothing once more so I decide to bang on it and the window rolls down revealing a sleepy Daniel. Please don't tell me he slept inside for the whole night. Me: "Daniel what the hell are you doing here? Don't tell me you slept here for an entire night." I was shouting at

him. I don't know why but the mere fact that he slept inside his car for an entire night made my heart feel heavy. I don't even see a jacket or a fleece meaning he might catch a cold. Him: "Well you wouldn't respond to my text. I told you I was outside but you never came. Why didn't you respond to my sms?" He said in his bleary voice. Me: "What text? Look Daniel I was angry at you obviously I wouldn't read your text. You know what I have no time for this you have five minutes to take a quick shower and you'll find me in my car." I throw my keys at him and make my way to the car. I got inside and wait for him. Tshepo: "Was that Uncle Dan and are we waiting for him?" he asked in his sweet voice. Me: "Yes honey we're waiting for him. He'll be coming with us to school." I said and they beamed in excitement. I resisted the urge to roll my eyes at them. I swear these kids love him more than me. Well maybe not but they do adore him. Daniel finished in record time and because he was using the AC the whole night we had to take my car. I forced him to drive us because I was still mad at him for the things he said. We went to Wimpy and had our breakfast then we ordered takeaways for the kids' lunch box. We left them at school and they looked so happy that I was glad that he was around. He drove us back to my apartment. I lead him to the open plan kitchen I don't know why though maybe it is because if he tries anything I will have a bunch of appliances and cutleries for self defence. Me: "Make your case." I say firmly soon as we are both seated. He stares at me in disbelief before chuckling. I crossed my arms "I'm guessing I tickled your funny bone." Sarcasm at its best. Him: "Okay ma'am or should I say your highness." He dished it back with a smirk on his face. I wanted to wipe that out with my fist. Me: "I'm pretty sure you're in no position for sarcasm unless of cause you're not here to ask for forgiveness. I see what's up I'll just leave." I tried to make my exit but he stopped me. His body was close way too close. It was getting dangerous so I moved back to my stool. Him: "I'm sorry I guess you're right." He sighed looking at me. I swear his gaze scares me because it's like he is searching through my soul making conversations only my soul would get and I didn't like that one bit. "I'm so sorry for jumping into conclusions and for calling you names. I'm so sorry for being an asshole. I'm sorry for being a terrible spouse. I'm sorry for being with Olivia. I'm sorry for every tears I ever caused you to shed. I'm sorry for not being the husband you deserved but I swear if you give me a chance I will try with everything in me to be worthy enough for your love." I was now in tears. Me: "You called me a loose woman Daniel a loose woman. I have lived my whole life listening to my stepmother and uncles talk about how much of a loose woman my mother was and that's also what you think of me." I ferociously wiped my tears but that seems to be failing. Daniel shakes his head. Him: "That's not how I see you I was angry and out of line but please forgive me." His eyes were now glossy. Me: "You don't get it do you? You don't get how much I suffer seeing you with her. The humiliation that you put me through every time you threw it in my face how much you love her in front of everyone. The pain I feel when people are pitying me and asking if I'm okay because my husband is publicly revealing to the world that he loves the other woman and not me. Not only just in front of everyone but my sister and I'm sure every time she rushes home to mommy and they have a party to celebrate my misfortune. Ha ha ha... I guess I can't really complain I was after all an arranged wife." The pool of tears was flooding like the rain on my cheeks. Him: "No don't think like that because you're much more than an arranged wife to me. I am however sorry for being the idiot I am and for not treating you right and for making you feel any less of a woman. I am terribly sorry and no amount of apology could begin to express how sorry I am but if you give the chance then I will spent the rest of our days making up for it." Our hands were in each others' and our cheeks wet with tears.

"I know I shouldn't give excuses it's just that when I got a text from your sister saying how you're busy going behind my back with my best friend and you came back late smelling like him and in his clothes I lost it. I-I just couldn't handle." Me: "Of course I should have known she would try something like this and I guess I would have been surprised if she did nothing." I didn't expect her to do nothing but I guess a part of me was hoping that she had changed. "Oh and Daniel not every woman you meet will be like Sandy." He furrowed his eyebrow before realisation hit him. Him: "You know about Sandy? Was it Johnny who told you?" I nodded and he also nodded. "I guess he also told you how I can't break up with Olivia." Now it was my turn to frown. Me: "You can break up with her if you want he did tell you to break whatever pact you made. The reason you're still with Olivia is that she still has your heart but I won't ask you to break up with her since you still love her. I've decided to give you guys space so I'll be moving in this apartment permanently and we will still be married on paper until you find a way to convince your family to accept her as the woman you love." I was nodding my head perhaps trying to convince myself this is the right solution while he was shaking his head. Him: "I don't love Olivia Okay! I fell out of love years ago and because of the pact I haven't been able to break things off with her because every time I try to do I always hurt her something I promised I wouldn't do. Sandy turned me into an animal with zero emotions so I was scared that if I hurt her then I would go back to that Daniel. Look no woman has my heart or will ever have my heart because it was already stolen by you the moment my eyes laid on you. I will break things off with her because I can't bear to lose you I swear I would lose myself." I was staring into his eyes and nothing about them maybe me believe that he was lying. I wanted to go over and kiss him but my phone interrupted me. It was from my father-in-law asking me to come over to the mansion. Daniel decided to tag along and his father was a little apprehensive but when he saw that Daniel was not intending on leaving he eventually gave in. We were now in his study and I swear this room looks bigger than my bedroom. Him: "My daughter I know my son is a dick." I choked on my saliva. Daniel: "But daad!" he whined but his father interrupted. Him: "Don't play stupid we both know you are! So as I was saying before I was rudely interrupted. My son is a dick and can be a terrible person with a colossal ability to be stupid but that doesn't mean you have the right to cheat on him and especially with his friend." Daniel and I looked at each other in horror. Holy fuck I think I am screwed! Now his father thinks I am a cheater then the whole family will think so too and the press. No I don't think I can survive that.

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