

# FIRES OF DESIRE



A FICTIONAL  
NOVEL

*THE TRUTH IS NOT WHAT IT  
ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE."*

MATSIKITI FEZ

## Fires Of Desire

#1

It was the loud bang of two vehicles crushing against each other she first heard, followed by mayhem of panic, shock and perhaps injury. It took Nolo a couple of seconds to comprehend what was happening as she gasped at the way the crush surged her body forward.

Another combi coming from behind had hit them from behind. Obviously rushing for the two people on the following bus stop. The other driver was in the wrong, that she was sure of, it was a premature turn. The screams and shouting made it hard to hear anything.

Nolo closed her eyes briefly and opened them, the two drivers were in an argument, so heated there was pushing and exchange of insults.

Her eyes fell on the school kid seated besides her, also confused. She looked at the watch on his wrist, the time almost snapping her back to reality as she remembered she had an interview she had to get to. First impressions mattered, being late for the interview wouldn't be the best way to beg for a job.

From the corner of her eye, she watched as their combi driver threw the first punch. Not wanting to see more, Nolo turned away, her hands grasping at her handbag.

"Let's go."

The school child looked at her then nodded getting off. Nolo couldn't bother turning to see if anyone was hurt as her feet moved forward, one after the other. She fought to turn noticing people were coming closer, others already holding their phones. The school child took a different direction, probably headed to school... or not.

Nolo kept moving, she was close to where she was going. Curiosity made it harder the more she moved away, she turned her head and looked over. A crowd had formed, she could not see anything anymore. She turned her head back pushing the incident to back of her brain, pushing it further back to where the other disposed memories stayed.

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The watch on the wall ticked loudly that Nolo couldn't help but keep her eyes on it while she tapped her heel on the tiled floors, her hand on her lap. Her nerves made it hard to look away from the watch, another person got called in. Nolo peeled her eyes from the watch and watched as another person who had applied for the same post she had applied for walked away following a woman who was calling the rest of them in.

Interviews, she hated them. It always felt like a game, like the interviewee enjoyed watching the panic and listening to the voice full of fear and perhaps hope mixed with doubt.

But for her she hated it all. From the time of walking through the doors of the company till leaving. Her nerves never seemed to rest.

At first when she arrived they were twenty and now only five were left. Five including herself. She took another deep breath and looked at the four others with her. All of them older than her and with experience more than hers. It depressed her even more. She knew just like any other job interviews she had went for, she was not going to get called back.

It was the usual procedure, go for an interview and never get a call back. Sometimes she got a text, usually one line saying something along the lines of being thanked for coming but unfortunately blah blah blah.

She hated it but at the same time also hated how some never said anything. Minutes passed then the lady calling them in walked over.

“Onolo Fena.”

Nolo stood up and smiled. She followed the woman, now as she walked she wondered how everyone else was leaving or if they were being put in a waiting room so to be told if any got the position.

Nolo wondered endlessly as she followed the lady to a board room where two men and one lady sat in formal suites.

They looked so formal they made her even more conscious of her P50 dress from the Chinese shop, body hugging and knee length. Short sleeved, she compensated herself with the fact that it didn't show cleavage. Just her hips and ass.

She smiled shaking inside. “Good morning.”

The lady who led her to the boardroom walked out leaving her with her interviewers.

“Morning, you can sit.”

She sat down taking a deep breath. She put her handbag down then put her hands on top of the table staring at the bottles of water in front of them. She smiled in fake confidence because if there’s anything her father had ever taught her, it was to never let your fear show or else the enemy will attack.

She wondered if her mother had showed fear and that’s why the enemy being her father had attacked.

“What is your name and please tell us about yourself.”

Nolo kept her pose. “My name is Onolo Fena. I am a twenty five year old female with an a degree in Economics obtained at University of Botswana. I also have a diploma in Business Administration And Marketing.”

She carried on talking not forgetting everything she had been practicing in front of her mirror. Like a record, she played out the words she had said more she could count.

Nolo listened carefully to questions then answered. Fifteen minutes later she walked out. The lady who had led her to the boardroom stood up from her desk and smiled looking at Nolo.

“You look unfazed, you are the first. Go iragalang mo teng? (What’s going on inside?)”

Nolo laughed. “It’s a show. I think I peed myself a bit.”

She laughed too leading her elsewhere. “I have been there before. It’s scary.”

“I don’t think I will get it. I don’t have much experience.. from the poster it was said they need someone with ten years experience.”

The lady smiled. “You will be surprised. You can go straight to that desk, they will show you out. Thank you Onolo.”

Nolo nodded and carried on walking. Minutes Later she was out of the gate and walking down the street. She looked at the time and stopped a combi passing now going to work.

The combi dropped her off by the corner near her work place. She stepped out paying and started walking with a quick pace, her fake doctor note in her handbag.

Her phone rang, she slowed down then took it out picking her sister's call.

"Hello?"

"Hey, did you get?"

Nolo chuckled. "It's your faith in me my sister."

Nicole laughed. "You didn't call. You said you'd call."

"No..they said they will call me..I doubt it. They even asked why I applied with no required experience."

"Ebe o reng? (What did you say?)"

"That I have always been in love with making enough money."

Nicole laughed. "Ke serious Nolo."

"I told them that experience doesn't make you good at it. It just means you are familiar with it. And I am also familiar with it. I worked a bit after varsity."

"Do you want us to pray about it?"

"I am a minute from the door.."

"Something else will come up. And we are grateful that you do have a job in meantime."

Nolo sighed. "I am an intern receptionist. I have never heard about that one before. It's just a way of exploiting me. Ke duelwa P2.1k. (I get paid P2.1k. It's barely enough. Sometimes I think I should just be a maid, I studied the wrong thing Nicky..."

"You did not. You are going to get something. Don't give up too early."

"I don't think me moving to Jwaneng was a great idea."

"You are being too hard on yourself now."

"How's work?"

"My class is about to start. I just wanted to check up on you. Mama says you haven't called in a month.. please call her."

“Eemma.”

“Sharp, bye.”

Nicole hung up as Nolo walked through her work doors. She looked at her boss’s PA by her desk.

She smiled as Nolo walked over. “Thank God you are here. I am so pressed.”

Nolo laughed. “Go.”

Sego stood up and rushed away. Nolo sat down and called HR.

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It always came at the times she wished they wouldn’t, the voices. It would have been better if it were one but they were multiple voices screaming making it hard for any thoughts to get processed. Nicole sat in her shared office in Gaborone listening to the screaming voices in her head. She closed her eyes mumbling to herself. Trying to talk to herself out of drowning in the unknown. She opened them seconds later, her eyes falling on the black mamba on her desk.

She screamed jumping away. The snake looked at her hissing, it looked so angry, her knees weakened. It was black, so black and shiny. She turned picking the trophy on her colleague’s desk and threw it at the snake.

It raised it’s head even more angrily. Her colleague walked in.

“Nicole!”

Nicole looked at him. “Look!”

He rushed over and looked at her desk. “What? What is it?”

Nicole turned, her eyes falling on her tapped stick. Her heart raced so much that she staggered back, fear still visible in her eyes.

“What is it?”

She swallowed then looked at him. “A cockroach. It ran off.”

He laughed. “Lona basadi la lapisa! (Women are tiring.)”

Nicole leaned against the wall. She closed her eyes, tears filling her eyes. It was becoming too much. Everything, she wanted it to all stop. Her colleague looked at her, worry wiping off the smile on his face.

“Nicky... are you ok?”

She looked at him admitting to herself a little louder than she preferred. “I feel I am going crazy.”

“You are not. I fear lizards too. I am a man but I will jump if I see one. It’s ok. There are cockroaches in this office. You know who is untidy. She probably brings her cockroaches all the way from her house.”

Nicole laughed. “You have started. Let me go for my lesson. I am late.”

She slowly walked to her desk and took the exercise books together with her handbag. She looked at her stick then walked out leaving it headed to her form 1 class.

Nicole walked in just as the class went quiet. She put the books and her bags on the table, the voices in her head starting. She took out her water from her bag then drank all of it.

Nicole took a deep breath and looked at her students.

“Take out your textbooks. We are starting a new topic today.”

She turned and picked a choke and wrote on the chalkboard inwardly talking to herself, her hand shaking.

“Don’t listen to them Nicky... they are not real..don’t listen...”

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Later that day, in Jwaneng, Nolo walked to a shopping mall in her three inch block heels. She walked towards a supermarket then picked a basket, her eyes scanning the shop. She put a few things inside and walked to the till.

Two SSG officers walked in the shop, Nolo looked over at them, they had the same body structures and heights she could understand why they were hired.

One of them turned looking over immediately locking eyes with her. Nolo looked away and paid for her things then walked out of the supermarket.

She walked across the parking lot, she took out her ringing phone from her handbag and looked at her boyfriend calling. Her mood dropped further to zero, his name alone annoyed her. She didn't understand why this relationship wasn't ending.

She swiped the screen about to pick, two thin boys walked from behind. One bumped into her from behind, Nolo turned confused then the other one snatched her phone from her.

She screamed as they took off running. Nolo dropped her plastic screaming more.

“Legodu! (Thief!)”

A man passing by paused and looked. “What did they take?”

“My phone.”

“Ahh give up my sister. Eish... these boys.”

One of the SSG officer appeared from nowhere running through the cars going after them.

Nolo watched as he ran so fast it was as if she was watching a movie, one of the boys dropped the phone noticing he was after them.

Nolo picked her plastic and ran over in her heels. Feeling like they were delaying her, she bended taking them off and ran barefooted while holding them with her other hand.

She caught up to him, he had caught the one who had snatched her phone.

The small boy fearfully looked at him. “Ke kopa maitswarelo. (Please forgive me.)”

The SSG officer slapped so hard he staggered feeling dizzy. He looked at him. “What's your name?”

The boy blinked as blood filled his mouth. “Ompile!”

“Ompile, go to the police station. I will meet you there. Tell them what you did. Stay there till I come. If you think you can run off, try it. Go!”

The boy staggered back unable to see properly from the lightning slap.



The SSG officer turned to Nolo. He smiled handing her the phone.

“It’s cracked. I am not sure if it’s from the way he dropped it.”

Nolo took a deep breath getting her phone in relief. “It was already cracked. Thank you so much. I don’t know what I was going to do from here. Thank you.”

He smiled. “It’s ok. You need to be careful.. crime is on the rise. Are you ok though?”

“I am fine..I am fine now.”

He looked at her feet. Nolo sighed. “I wanted to run properly.”

He laughed then took her shoes from her and knelt down helping her. Nolo smiled as he stood up.

“Thank you so much.”

“Just doing what I get paid for. Where’s your car? I will walk you.”

“I don’t have one. My house is close by. I am walking.”

“Ok, I will drop you off.”

“There is no need. You have done so much more already. Thank you.”

“What’s your name?”

“Onolo.”

“Let’s go.”

He wasn’t asking, Nolo could make that out. Everything in her wanted to decline but then if it wasn’t for him she’d be phoneless. Either way, he wasn’t asking... it was a command. He took her plastic from her then took her hand and led her to the Botswana Defense Force 4x4 Legend 50.

He opened the door for her. Nolo got in then he handed her the plastic. He closed the door for her. Nolo watched as he walked round the car and jumped in. He started the car and drove off.

She directed him to her house. He parked at the gate and looked at her.

“You stay here?”

“Eerra.”

“I need your number. From here I am going to the police station. They might need to call you.”

“Ok.”

He handed her his phone. Nolo tapped her number then handed him the phone.

“Thank you so much.”

Nolo stepped out of the car and walked to the gate. She made her way to the two and half she was sharing then turned her head. He was still parked and staring at her. She stared back for a second or more before looking away.

She unlocked her door and walked in. Her phone started ringing.

Nolo picked the unsaved number.

“Hello?”

“Hi.. I was just checking if you didn’t give me the wrong number.”

Nolo moved her curtain and looked at him. He waved.

She quickly closed the curtain. “No. I did not.”

“Did I tell you my name?”

“Nyaa rra..(No.)”

“Kano. It was my first time witnessing thieves stealing from a beautiful woman. Go normali hela? (Is it normal?)”

An involuntary laugh escaped her lips.

“O montle (you are beautiful) it’s hard to imagine. Are you ok though?”

She smiled. “I am fine. Thank you.”

“Sharp akere?”

“Eerra.”

He hung up then she opened her curtain watching him drive off. Nolo laughed alone and moved from the curtain.

**Fires Of Desire**

#2

The darkness always scared her, from when she was young, it didn't get better with age. Nicole parked her Honda Fit near the door. She stared at the darkness around her. All her lights were off.

Nicole kept her car lights on as she stepped out regretting not leaving them on in the first place. She took out her house keys and unlocked her door.

Her heart beat even faster as she imagined what would be waiting for her in the dark. She quickly switched on the light in her leaving too. She walked to her kitchen and switched it on.

With fast and careful movements, she switched on all lights before going back outside to switch off her car lights.

Her neighbor who had been watching her smiled.

"Scared of the darkness?"

Nicole turned startled then laughed looking at him. "Yes. Slightly."

He smiled holding his cup. He was a doctor, Nicole had long observed that. A gynae to be more specific. He moved a week after she moved. Drove a beauty silver Benz. An AMG. She always wondered if he had taken a loan to get it.

"Feel free to always call me out if you are too scared to switch them on."

She smiled. She had never had a longer from conversation with him before.

"I will. Thank you Thabiso."

He smiled. "Sure Nicky."

The way he said her name was different. Matter of fact, the way he spoke was different. He had an accent, like he was staying overseas or just in a foreign land.

She walked inside her house locking her car. She locked the burglar bar and her door like she always did before walking to her bedroom.

Nicole undressed then stood under the shower lathering her body with the shower gel. A voice called her making her pause.

She listened carefully but it was silent except from the water hitting the tiled floor in the shower.

Nicole took a deep breath and finished up then walked to her bedroom with her towel around her body. She hated silence. It crept her out. She'd call her sister, talk to someone, keep herself occupied... distracted but Nolo wasn't the best option. Not today at least.

She reached for her phone and she started playing her audio novel while she dressed up.

Someone called her name again in her head, voice soft and quiet, it almost sounded like a whisper, almost sounded like her sister.

Nicole increased the volume on her phone blocking it all out and let her mind wonder around the book she was listening to.

Thirty minutes later, someone knocked on her door. Nicole froze then he spoke.

"Nicole, it's Thabiso."

She sighed walking to the door and opened for him. He smiled as she unlocked the burglar bar.

"You must have relatives at BPC. There's power cut all around expect here."

Nicole looked at him confused then walked outside. She laughed.

"What's going on?"

He laughed too. "I think they know you are afraid of the dark."

"I'd be so terrified right now if the electricity was gone."

"Can I heat my food?"

She nodded and let him in. She heated his food in her microwave while the audio novel went on. Nicole took out his plate a minute later.

"There."

"Thank you. Are audio books as nice as reading it on your own?"

"I prefer listening than reading. I lose concentration easily."

Thabiso looked at her as she spoke calmly. He knew her too enough to assume that was just how she spoke and it made him wonder of other

things. She probably sounded sexy during sex. He could only imagine listening to her moans while riding her.

“Thank you. Did you eat?”

“No. I am about to cook.”

“We can share mine. I won’t finish it and with the electricity gone, I am not planning on keeping it.”

She looked at the spaghetti Bolognese then smiled getting her own plate with two forks. Thabiso put over half in her plate. She paused her novel and switched on the TV.

“You can sit. Thank you. You have saved me an hour of cooking.”

Thabiso sat down laughing. “You are welcome.”

“Nicole!”

“Yes?”

Thabiso looked at her. “What?”

Nicole looked at him realizing he hadn’t said a word then laughed. “I forget I am not at school. These students are in my head.”

Thabiso smiled. “You are a teacher?”

“Yes. A Science teacher. You?”

She asked him like she didn’t know just to get him to talk so to get her distracted. Nicole ate listening, clinging on to every word and not giving herself time to think of the words... just listening.

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Nolo laid in her bed watching a movie from her cracked screen laptop while holding her flusk of green tea with some lemon squeezed in. She had read somewhere that the mixture helped with losing weight, she wasn’t sure it was working since she was still a size 36.

She sipped her tea as the character in the movie got brutally murdered. Her phone rang disrupting her, she reached for it, her eyes on her laptop.

Her slowly eyes moved to her phone screen then she looked at the time. She cleared her throat then picked.

“Hello?”

“Hi, o robetsi? (Are you sleeping?)”

Nolo paused her movie listening to his deep voice, deep and husky, almost like how someone would sound after a long night of drinking but for him that was just how he sounded.

“Nyaa rra. (No.)”

“What are you doing awake at this time?”

“I was watching a movie.”

“Alone?”

“Yes.”

“And you are not bored?”

She smiled. “No..I am used to it.”

“That’s one thing I can’t do. Ke ta borega gore. (I’d get so bored.) Anyways, I went to the police. The boys in jail. They were both arrested and the next six months they will be inside.”

“Thank you so much. Do I need to go to the police station?”

“No. You don’t have to. I just told them they can call you if they need to know anything. I doubt it.”

“Ok. Thanks.”

“You are welcome.”

There was silence then he chuckled making her smile curiously.

“What?”

“What time do you go to work in the morning?”

“At half seven. I start at 8.”

“Ok. O pagama di combi or there’s someone who picks you up?”

“Combi.”

“Ok. Sharp akere?”

“Eerra.”

Seconds passed as they both listened to each other breathe. Nolo held her phone unsure of what he was thinking. He finally laughed.

“I am hanging up. Bye.”

“Bye.”

He hung up. Nolo looked at her phone and laughed. She put down her phone and played her movie till it ended. She closed her laptop and pushed it under the bed.

Nolo got her sleeping pills and took two before switching off the light and lying on her bed waiting for sleep to take her.

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Deep in her sleep, six year old Nolo held on to her older sister as they hid in the kitchen cardboards that reeked of something rotten, food or animal, she couldn't be sure.

Nicole held tightly as they listened to their mother getting beaten. She was crying as usual and Nolo was crying too. It didn't matter how many times it happened but it made her cry every single time.

Nicole held her tightly shaking. “Shhh... shhh...”

Nolo buried her head on her sister's chest. The screaming soon stopped. It was dead silent but they remained still. More time passed till she wasn't sure how long they were in there.

Their mother opened the kitchen unit doors. Nolo looked at her. Their mother swallowed.

“Come out.”

Nolo crawled out and hugged her bursting into more cries. Her mother hugged her tightly. Nolo turned and looked at her sister who was staring into nothing.

“Nicole!”

Nicole sat in the cardboard remaining still.

“Nicky!” She yelled even louder. Nicole turned to her, her eyes black and scary, Nolo screamed jumping back.

She gasped, her eyes snapping open waking up from the dream. She breathed heavily sweating, her night dress wet.

“God...”

Nolo’s alarm went off startling her. She quickly turned it off and took a deep breath.

It was the same dream... same throughout the years and it never stopped having her waking up to screaming and sweat.

She slowly got off bed annoyed, most of the time she couldn’t sleep at all and when she did she had a dream haunt her. So much for luck.

Nolo walked to the bathroom and stood up her shower where she washed off the sweat pulling herself back to reality.

Over an hour later she walked out of her room in her slacks and a blazer, her heels hitting the floor.

Her housemate walked out of her room in her pyjamas. Nolo rarely saw her, she was nurse and mostly was at work or visiting her boyfriend.

She smiled. “Hi..”

Nolo smiled back locking her door. “Hi, I haven’t seen you in a while.”

She laughed. “Night shift mma. How are you? I heard you leaving last night. What time did you come back? I didn’t hear you.”

“Leave? I never left.”

The housemate smiled. “I heard you. Your door opened then you walked out. I heard your footsteps.”

Nolo looked at her confused. “I never left. I was here the entire night. Ebile I slept a bit late then drank some sleeping pills. Are you sure it wasn’t the neighbors? Because I never left.”

A military green Legend 50 parked at the gate. They both turned looking. Kano rolled down his window and smiled looking over at her.

“He’s here for you?”

Nolo nodded. “Yes. I don’t think the noise you heard was here.”



The housemate smiled. "Or I was dreaming it. I came back late and I was so tired. I heard it in my sleep though I couldn't bring myself to wake up. Our bodies never gets to rest."

Nolo smiled. "Tell me about it. Bye!"

"Sharp."

The roommate walked in the bathroom while Nolo walked to the car. Kano smiled in his uniform.

"Hi."

She looked at him confused. He stepped out of the car then took her handbag from her and her hand. He led her round the car to the passenger seat then opened the door for her.

"I have to get to work, I-"

"Tsen. (Get in.) I am taking you there."

She looked at him then got in. He handed her the bag and closed the handbag. Nolo watched as he walked to his door. He jumped in and started the engine.

"You look beautiful." He handed her the coffee he had bought for her. "I got you coffee. O jele? (Did you eat?)"

"No. Thank you."

He drove off as she sipped her coffee. Kano stole glances at her, Nolo turned catching him staring then looked away, a smile covering her face.

"Where do you work?"

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At her workplace, Kano parked the car and looked at her. Nolo looked at him with a smile.

"Thank you. I have a boyfriend."

Kano fixed his green cap looking at her. "Ok. Where does he stay?"

"Orapa."

"Ok. I will get you breakfast. Bye."

Nolo stepped out of the car and walked away. Kano watched as her butt shook in her slack. He dialed her then watched her slowing down picking turning to him. He locked eyes with her.

“Hello?”

“Break up with him.”

Seconds went by as she remained silent. “Eerra.”

“Sharp.”

He hung up and drove off.

## **Fires Of Desire**

#3

At Nolo’s workplace, she walked to her desk then sat down calling her sister.

“Nolo...”

“Mma, so yesterday my phone almost got stolen. Two boys came up to me, one of them snatched it and ran off. An SSG officer ran and caught him. You know how they are mme ene I had seen him minutes before in the supermarket I was doing my shopping in. I think he must have followed me out or something because there was an eye lock that happened between us when we were in the shop. After that moguy drops me off at home, ebile he’s not asking, he was commanding gotwe let’s go. He drops me off then drives off. Calls me later in the evening telling me gore those boys got arrested, that’s when he asked me what time I go to work. Gompieno he comes to pick me up a nteketsi coffee and he drops me off ko tirong. Gotswa ho he says he will get me breakfast. I told him I have a boyfriend keha a botsa gore where does he stay, I tell him Orapa. After that I step out of the car and walk away, moguy calls me seconds later and just says break up with him.”

Nicole laughed. “Waaka!(Lies)”

Nolo laughed too. “I swear to you. Kana he’s your tall SSG tyga guy. Muscles and shit. He sounds like he drinks alcohol every night, the voice is hoarse. But then his smile...”

“What smile? He sounds like a control freak!”

The sisters laughed. Nolo smiled. “No. He doesn’t. He just...” She smiled. “Mxm, gape it’s too soon to tell.”

“Don’t tell me you already like this stranger. He does she just tell you to break up with Bokao just like that?”

“I was already going through break up with him. That relationship died when I moved from Orapa. I hear he’s sleeping with Tshohle.”

“I never liked him. But I am not sure about your stranger mma.”

“Ah mma, this stranger has that thing. Gape he’s handsome. O kare he can feature in an American movie where he’s a S.W.A.T captain or something along those lines. He has a command aura. Goes with the job.”

Nicole laughed. “You have known him for what? Ten hours and already you sound like this?”

Nolo laughed too feeling stupid. “Its just that I haven’t seen a man like him in a long while. A man who’s in control.”

“Those people are scary. They killed three guys yesterday. Gatwe thieves. They are not afraid to kill and... ahh nna kea tshaba. (I am scared of them.)”

Nolo smiled. “Nna that thrill turns me on.”

“You need help..”

“I am being honest. It’s questionable yes but a man like him... a commanding attitude is attractive to me, the fact that he knows what he wants and he will get it no matter what is a turn on. Rough and scary but soft on the inside is what I want. I want someone who can really wake up the flame in me. Kano.. he... he’s a stranger but there’s something about him. I don’t know.”

“You need psychological help my sister.”

They laughed. “Let me get to work.”

Nicole sighed. “Be careful of what you wish for.”

“Bye!”

Nolo hung up smiling then fired up her computer. She looked at her phone thoughtfully. From the time the thief had snatched her phone, her so called boyfriend hadn't even called to check what had happened or even texted.

She picked her phone and sent him a message.

Nolo: I don't think this is working. Let's break up.

He replied a minute later.

Bokao: Ok.

Nolo looked at him at his message and clicked her tongue deleting his number.

"Nxla, Satan!"

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At the Junior Secondary School, Nicole prepared for her class, her earphones plucked in her ears. She sorted out her notes listening to music.

Another teacher walked in the office and tapped her shoulder.

"Hey.."

Nicole turned to her, her heart skipped as she looked at her black eyes, she tried opening her mouth to scream but nothing came out.

"Nicole!"

Nicole closed her eyes and opened them. The teacher pulled out her earphones smiling.

"Hi."

Nicole looked at her eyes, they were now normal. She took a deep breath.

"Hi."

"I am borrowing your stick."

"Uh.. I lost it waitse."

“Eish, where?”

Nicole stood up putting her shaking hands behind her. “I think I forgot it in my last class yesterday. I tried looking for it but I think the students took it.. borrow from Mr. T.”

“Yeah, ok thanks.”

Nicole watched her walk out. She picked her sitting down and picked her phone. She called her mother.

“Hello?”

“Mama...”

“Nicole... how are you?”

“I am fine. Remember the things I told you I see? They are back. We should go and see that man so he helps me again. I feel like I am going crazy.”

“Ok. But it will have to be on Sunday. Your father goes to the farm. He shouldn't know about this.”

“Ok.”

“How is Nolo?”

“She's fine. She's doing well.”

“She doesn't talk to me. She still hates me.”

“No. She doesn't hate you.. Nolo is Nolo. She likes bottling things. She will call.”

“Ok. I am happy you are coming soon.”

Nicole smiled. “Me too.”

“I hate to go. Your father is here. Let me hide this phone.”

She hung up. Nicole took a deep breath knowing if her father found out about that phone he'd beat her up.

She stood up receiving a message from Thabiso.

Thabiso: Movies later on? Yesterday was fun. I want to do it again.

She smiled then typed back.

Nicole: I liked it too.

Thabiso: So movies later on?

Nicole: Yes. I'd love that.

She looked at the time then grabbed her things just as Nolo sent her a screenshot of her messages with Bokao.

Nicole: Good riddance to rubbish!

Nolo: Free at last.

Nicole smiled then hurried to her class.

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Nolo knocked off just after four. She walked out of her work premises, her eyes falling on the military green Legend 50.

She slowed down walking over to the car. Kano looked at her and smiled.

"Hi."

"I didn't SSG's made it a personal mission to make sure civil servants are safe at all times. Le duelwa bokae? (How much do you get paid? (Is this within your paycheck?)"

He laughed. "I wish it were. Good guys don't get enough pay."

She smiled as he laughed. He didn't have the cap on and his mohawk kind of haircut looked so good on him, he reminded her of Vuyo Dabulo.

"Ebile kene kere le founele office ya president so to tell him that civil servants should start contributing to our salary increment. Mongwe le mongwe a ntse P5.00."

She laughed. "Garena madi. (We don't gave money.)"

"O ngame Nolo. (You are stingy Nolo.) I saw in your plastic o rekile.." He paused laughing making her laugh too.

"Leave me alone. Times are tough."

He stepped out of the car. "I am not judging you."

"You are judging me. Garena madi. (We don't have money.)"

“You are dressed like someone who does.”

“There’s no need for the world to know the struggle.”

He smiled looking in her eyes. “Want a lift home?”

“Thank you. You don’t have to.”

He took her hand leading her to the passenger seat then opened the door for her.

Nolo got in. He jumped in and drove off. Kano slowed down at the red traffic light and looked at her.

“So you are single now?”

She turned to him unable to help her smile. There was something about this man, something that made it hard for her not to smile even though she had just met him less than 24 hours back.

She couldn’t remember when she had last felt like that, it felt stupid that she was even thinking like that but his smile made her smile back.

“Yes.”

“Good.”

He drove to her house and parked by the gate. “Sharp akere?”

“Eerra.”

She stepped out of the car and walked through the gate feeling his eyes on her. She turned to him and waved. He smiled waving back then watched her till she walked inside her house.

Kano’s phone rang, he quickly took out his phone and picked smiling.

“Hello?”

“Your uniform looks good on you.”

He smiled shyly, almost blushing then looked at her window catching her staring at him. He blushed then looked away getting even more shy.

“Thanks.”

She hung up. He looked at her window again and she had moved.

“Fuck Kano! What’s that feeling?!”

He drove off smiling to himself.

## Fires Of Desire

#4

Nicole walked inside her house just before dusk. She walked to her bedroom and kicked off her shoes. She looked at herself on the mirror catching her reflection staring right back at her. She looked in her eyes feeling as if she were trapped.

She moved from the mirror, the voices coming back. She could hear them whisper...chant. She picked her phone walking to her sitting room where she connected her device's Bluetooth to the speakers and started playing music a bit louder than usual.

She sighed in relief then walked to her kitchen and started with dinner. Over an hour later, she put her desert in the fridge.

She hurried to her bedroom where she took a quick shower and changed into her pyjamas. She walked past the mirror feeling it summon her. She picked a throw on the bed and threw it over covering it before walking out singing along to Adele.

A knock made her pause. She took a deep breath then walked to the door and opened.

Thabiso smiled holding a bottle of wine and a box of pizza.

"Hi."

She moved from the door smiling. "I cooked dinner."

Thabiso chuckled. "I should have called but you can keep it."

Nicole took the pizza and wine and walked to her kitchen. She put everything in the fridge then handed Thabiso her remote.

"I never watch much. But I have Netflix so you can pick movie for us."

"Ok. What do you normally go for?"

She looked at him smiling. "Nothing too serious. Definitely not thriller, mystery or any psychotic movie. Maybe action. Drama. Romance, even comedy."

"Why don't you like thriller?"



Nicole sighed. "I am an overthinker. I don't want to sleep wondering. I end up dreaming about it. No horror too. Scares the shit out of me."

Thabiso laughed. "O ngwana wa motswana ka nnete. (You are a true motswana child.)"

Nicole laughed. "Yes. Wa itse le wena. Ke ngwana wa ga Jehova. I will dish."

"Ok."

He chose a movie while she dished for them taking her time with detailing. She garnished both plates with parsley then picked them and walked to the sitting room where he was.

Thabiso looked at the plates, it looked like a meal from a restaurant on TV.

"This smells really nice. It looks like it cost P1300."

Nicole smiled. "Well... you need to taste it first."

He put the remote down and ate a bit. His eyes widened.

"You cooked this?"

She nodded. "I tried."

"This is delicious! Why are you not a chef?"

Nicole laughed. "Ija. What are we watching."

"This is good Nicky."

She smiled eating too. Thabiso smiled. "A chose a romcom."

"My fav!"

He chuckled. "I am glad I hit jackpot."

She started laughing. The lights went out, Nicole gasped dropping her fork, fear nearly choking her.

Sensing her fear, Thabiso held her hand.

"I am right here. Nicole..."

He took her plate and put it on her glass coffee table then took out his phone and lit up the torch.

Thabiso smiled. "Hey... it's ok. I am right here... I am here with you." He hugged her tightly. Nicole held him back, her head on his chest.

Electricity came up lighting up the entire place. Thabiso rubbed her back.

"It's back."

Nicole moved her head opening her eyes. She looked around and smiled.

"Thank God!"

Thabiso looked at the tears staying afloat in her eyes.

"Why do you fear darkness?"

She looked at him wondering if telling him she knew things stayed in the dark would make her sound like she was crazy then she sighed.

"I am just scared. I guess it's one of my flaws."

He rubbed her cheek. "I am scared of heights."

She smiled. "I feel better."

They both laughed and took their plates as the TV switched on.

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In Jwaneng, Nolo looked at her phone then finally picked it up. She looked at the time then called her.

Her mother picked just before the call could cut.

"Nolo..."

Nolo took a deep breath and swallowed. "Mama..."

Her mother heaved a sigh through the phone and started crying.

"Nolo..."

Tears filled Nolo's eyes. "Mama.."

"I miss you."

"Me too."

“You never call.”

“I.. I have been job hunting and busy at work.”

“Oh... I understand.”

“How are you?”

“I am happy now that you have called.”

“I am happy to hear your voice.”

Her mother laughed. “When are you coming to see me?”

“Soon.”

“I love you my girl ..”

“I love you too mama.”

Her phone beeped telling her of an incoming call.

“Mama, a work call is coming through.”

“Ok my girl. Call me again.”

“I will.”

Nolo hung up and picked an incoming call.

“Hello?”

“O jele?”

She smiled. “Yes.”

“What did you eat?”

“Ke jile magwinya a mabane..(I ate yesterday’s fat cakes.)”

“What should I get you then?”

She smiled. “I drank tea. I am fine.”

“Nolo wee?”

“Rra?”

“Ke go tlele eng? (What should I bring?)”

“Anything is fine.”

“Ok. I am coming.”

“Thank you.”

He hung up. Nolo submitted her CV to a few companies through email. Over thirty minutes later he called.

“Hello, ta o tse. (Come and take.)”

She hung up getting off bed in her pyjama shirts and her vest.

She slipped her feet into her push ins and walked outside. She walked to the gate where he was parked. She got in the car, Kano smiled looking at her, her long hair was let down.

He looked at her face now with no makeup, just her bare skin and it took nothing away still.

His eyes went to breasts, her nipples showing through her vest. His eyes went down to her thick yellow thighs.

“Hi...”

She smiled. “Hello.”

He reached for a food paperbag from the backseat and handed it to her.

“Chisa nyama.”

She smiled. “Thank you.”

“Your hair is long.”

Nolo touched it smiling.

“You should let it down o ya tirong.”

“I will.”

His phone rang. He looked at his boss calling.

“I need to go. I will see you tomorrow.”

“Ok.”

She stepped out of the car with her food. Kano stepped out too then open the gate for her.

She smiled. “Bye.”

Kano pulled her back with her arm and put her hands on her slim waist, his lips rubbing hers.

She closed her eyes as he french kissed her, his dick jerking in his pants. Nolo touched his shoulder standing on her toes as goosebumps erupted on skin, chills running down her spine. His hands went down to her soft jiggy butt and squeezed kissing her harder.

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Just a gentle alert, read carefully. Those who skip things, I don't encourage it this time around. Each word, each sentence is important. Good morning, our last bonus from yesterday.

## **Fires Of Desire**

#5

Nolo breathed heavily as he wrapped his arms around her, squeezing her body just enough for her to feel his weapon on her stomach and the hard muscles of his body against hers.

Her nipples hardened as the kiss intensified so much she felt her panty pool. Kano paused then pulled away.

“Bye.”

Nolo looked at him, confused and shaken. He smiled..

“You can go.”

She blinked then turned and walked to her room. Nono stood against the door, she put her food down and fanned herself.

Seconds later she walked to her window and moved the curtain. She looked at the double cab drive off then moved away putting her hands on her face.

Seconds later she found herself laughing. She didn't even know his last name. What if he had a girlfriend? Or better yet a wife and kids.

He was too good looking to be single. Maybe not married but there definitely had to be a girlfriend. She reached for her phone and sat down going on Facebook.

She searched for him on Facebook but a lot of Kano's came up. She bit her little finger's nail then typed 'Kano SSG'.

She waited as the results loaded but there was nothing.

She picked her chisa nyama paperbag and looked inside inhaling the delicious mouth watering spices already.

She picked the meat and took a bite going to her Whatsapp. His profile picture was the BDF double cab.

Her mind trailed off as she thought of that kiss... the way he had taken over.. his hands on her body. She squeezed her thighs together thinking of how his weapon had just expanded.

She hadn't had a man touch her in over a year now she had almost forgotten how it feels.

Her phone vibrated ringing, she looked at him calling, excitement shooting butterflies in her stomach.

"Hello?"

"O seka wa thola o nkaraba yalo Onolo, (Don't ever answer my calls like that Onolo,) hello is for strangers, am I stranger to you?"

Nolo smiled lying down on the bed. "I don't know, are you?"

"Should I come back and show you I am not?"

Nolo turned to her side putting her feet on the wall. "Where is your girlfriend?"

"Gaayo. Ke wena hela. (There's non. It's only you.)"

"This is the time for you to be honest."

"There is no one. As far as I am concerned, I am talking to a potential."

Nolo bit her lower lip. "You stay here?"

"No. There's an emergency that needed our services."

"Where do you stay?"

"In Gabs."

"Monyana wa gago was Gaborone o kae Kano? (Where is your Gaborone girlfriend Kano?)"

Kano laughed. "I am single."

“When was your last girlfriend?”

“Three months back. We broke up.”

“Why?”

“It wasn’t working.”

“What wasn’t working?”

“The relationship. It was mutual agreement to end things. We were together for two months then called it quits.”

“You sound like you are lying mme go sharp rra. Thank you for the food. Bye.”

She hung up then switched off her phone. She reached for her laptop sitting upright.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone later that evening, the third movie ended as Nicole finished her fifth glass of wine feeling drunk.

Thabiso put down his glass. “This was more fun than yesterday.”

Nicole laughed feeling lighter. “It was.”

“I enjoyed the food. You should think about being a chef.”

“Maybe in the future. Right now I am just trying to teach and not mess it up. I love teaching. The goal is to be a lecturer one day.”

“You studied education?”

“Yes. But it was after my biomedical engineering degree. I couldn’t get a job so I made new plans. I always wanted to be a teacher. Growing up... I think that’s what I wanted.”

“Ke lona ba go utswa di chalk mo classeng. (You were the ones stealing chalks in class right?)”

Nicole laughed. “Yes. I used to steal a lot. Ebile I didn’t steal small chalks. I’d get in the storeroom and steal the long ones.”

Thabiso joined in laughing. “I knew it!”

“Can I tell you something. I am not crazy... but .. sometimes I forget part of my childhood. I remember things from when I was around four years till I think when I was 12 or somewhere there. From there my memory is distorted.”

“Distorted how?”

“I don’t know. It’s like there are gaps that I just don’t remember. Sometimes I dream those things that I don’t remember and it would take me a while to actually connect it to when I was young.”

“Are they good memories?”

“No. Some are not. Some are. You are a doctor right?”

“A gynae. But yes, I am. The human brain is funny. Sometimes it locks away other memories as a way to protect you from things that can potentially hurt you.”

“But there are good memories. Memories of my sister and I but whenever I dream of those ones.. I dream of myself as my sister.”

“What do you mean?”

Nicole laughed. “Yes. Like... we’ve swapped. Ene she’s in my body and I am in hers. It feels like me. A lot like me. It feels like my body.”

She looked at his face then laughed more. “I am messing with you. I feel drunk.”

Thabiso laughed. “You are drunk. I think you need to get some sleep.”

She tried to stand feeling dizzy. Thabiso put his arms around her. She giggled. He picked her up then walked to her bedroom. He laid her down.

“I will lock you inside and throw the keys through the window.”

She smiled at him, her eyes half closed as her head spun.

“But I am not sleepy.”

“You are drunk.”

She got off bed then kissed him almost falling. Thabiso laughed.

“Ok that’s it. You need to sleep.”

She smiled holding onto him. “Okay.”



He picked her up and laid her down then kissed her cheek.

“Sleep.”

Nicole smiled and closed her eyes. Minutes Later she was breathing softly. Thabiso looked at her then looked at the photo frame next to her bed and she was standing with another lady. They almost looked like twins only the other one was lighter in complexion. And a bit more thick. But still... they looked almost like twins.

He looked away turning to her. He covered her with her blankets then walked out. He locked in her house and threw the keys inside through her window

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That same evening, Nolo gasped waking up from the intense dream drenched in sweat. The knock on the door sounding a distant away.

“Nolo!”

Her phone started ringing, she looked around the darkness in confusion as the dream slowly dissolved till she couldn't remember what it was about. She wiped the tears rolling down her cheeks.

“Nolo!”

Nolo slowly got off bed and walked to the door. She turned the key and opened then unlocked the burglar bar. Kano looked at her worriedly.

“Are you ok? You were screaming.”

She looked at him unable to speak. He held her waist and pushed her inside switching on her light.

“Hey..”

He looked at her nightdress drenched in sweat then the tears in her eyes. She was still shaking and looked lost.

He picked her up and sat down on the bed putting her on his lap. His hoarse voice softening.

“Nolo... babe...”

She looked at him and blinked. "I am fine..."

He caressed her cheek. He hugged her inhaling her sweat mixed with her body wash fragrance. She breathed on his neck. Minutes went by as they remained still. She slowly gathered herself and looked at him.

"What are you doing here?"

Kano smiled. "Let's go on a weekend away tomorrow."

"Ebe o bata go nja. (You want to fuck me.)"

Kano laughed more. He wasn't in his uniform. Just a t-shirt and jeans.

"That wasn't part of the plans. But it's not a bad idea."

Nolo smiled. "Where are your children?"

"I have none."

She looked in his eyes. "Where is she?"

"I think I am looking at her. She's pretty. She makes me panic, right from the first day I saw her in the shop. I think she has a great sense of humor and I think it's too soon to be feeling the things I am feeling but I can't help it. It's weird because it had never happened before."

Nolo blinked. "Have you ever shot someone? Or killed someone?"

He pulled her closer and whispered against her lips. "I don't want to lie."

She breathed heavily, her heart beat going a little faster. She whispered back. "Then don't."

He kissed her. Nolo kissed him back as something in her woke up. Kano put his hand on her thigh and pushed it up inside her night dress and touched her bare smoothness.

He grunted in her mouth, his dick growing harder. He laid her down and got on top of her and between her legs. His hands moving the nightdress up. He pulled his lips from hers and took it off completely. He cupped her breast kissing her. Nolo breathed heavily, Kano's hand moved further down her flat tummy going between her legs. His mouth following down. As he touched her wetness. He sucked her nipples. She closed her eyes moaning, her pussy throbbing.

He moved his mouth further down and ran his tongue down her pussy. She closed her legs moaning. He opened them and muffled her sucking her till she spasmed throwing her head back

He raised his head and kissed her dropping his dick on her . He rubbed himself on her, her wetness coating his dick.

He grunted in her ear. "Do you have condoms?"

"No.."

He cursed in her ear, the warmth from her body driving him insane..

"I am clean .. we can test tomorrow."

She looked at him, the pleasure making hard to think. He kissed her pulling her closer curving his back and

#removed

"I am clean .. we can test tomorrow."

She looked at him, the pleasure making hard to think. He kissed her pulling her closer curving his back and pushed through. Nolo paused kissing him, his dick sinking in, inch by inch. She took a deep breath feeling him block her path till he was deeply lodged inside.

She looked at him, Kano groaned against her mouth, her entire pussy clamping him.

She felt soo good... skin on skin. They breathed on each other. Kano kissed her sliding out then pushed back in with a low grunt.

"Fuck!"

She closed her eyes as he pushed back in, a moan escaping through her lips. Her tightness made him shiver he knew he wasn't going to last long.

He kissed her neck moving his waist sliding in and out of her, his flexible waist tapping at different angles, her pussy squeezing him with each stroke. She moved her waist underneath him moaning more. He breathed heavily getting more pleasure as he pounded into her.

Her muscles tightened as she moaned even louder, her breasts shaking making it even harder to control himself. Her pussy got even wetter releasing more juices, Kano continued tapping her just right.

Her muscles tightened as he fucked her harder, each thrust leaving her wanting more. She could feel her orgasm approaching, the pleasure

seemed to be multiplying too. Nolo moved her waist meeting him half way, thrust for thrust, their lips on each other, hands everywhere.

She touched his shoulders then moved her hands down his back to his butt that kept clenching whenever he pushed inside.

She moved her lips breathing on his neck moving more underneath him, the pleasure driving her mad.

Kano pushed her legs on her chest kneeling before her and started drilling her pussy. Each thrust pushing her further closer to her orgasm as her body began tensing. She bit her lower lip lost in so much pleasure, it kept increasing that her body started itching as if Peri Peri was all over.

“Kano...ohh mhmm...”

Kano looked at her beautiful face between her legs as he fucked like there was no tomorrow, his dick knocking into her harder and harder.

“You are so beautiful...”

She looked at him. “Its...awww.. oh it’s...”

She closed her eyes unable to talk. Kano fucked her more, his dick jerking deep inside her. Her pussy narrowed on him as she grabbed the sheets releasing as she convulsed exploding into million pieces, her body vibrating as if she was being electrocuted.

Kano fucked her more holding her tightly then groaned pumping his thick cum inside her pussy. He continued stroking as his dick spurt out his seeds in her and stilled kissing her.

## **Fires Of Desire**

#6

Kano woke up the following morning with Nolo in his arms. He looked at the window figuring it was probably around six. Normally he would have long woken up.

He kissed her cheek then her lips running his hand down her hips spooning her. His dick grew thick and hard again as he thought of the previous night. He positioned himself behind her and pushed through

her thighs parting her p\*ssy lips and slid through filling up her pathway with his dic. He almost lost his breath at just how good it felt inside there, tight and warm.

He kissed her back thanking his Gods for such.

Nolo moaned waking up at the intrusion. Kano squeezed her breast with one hand pushing further in. Nolo held his arm as he slid out and pushed back in her wetness again then he started thrusting. Over and over he pushed in. Nolo stuck out her butt moaning into her pillow as he ravished her without mercy.

Kano drilled her back and forth, he pushed her butt out of the way and watched himself sink deeper inside.

Nolo moaned, each thrust felt soo good she moved closer wanting more. He groaned in her ear going faster, their bodies clapping. Nolo's toes curled the more he fucked her.

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Nolo convulsed screaming onto the pillow, her body vibrating. Kano stilled inside refilling her. He kissed her neck then slid out and turned her around. He kissed her lips and smiled.

“Hi.”

Nolo smiled exhausted. “Hi.”

“Should we go on a weekend away?”

She looked at him, a smile on her face. “Yes.”

“Ok.” He touched her hair staring at her. “What were you dreaming yesterday?”

“I don't know... I don't remember.”

“You were crying. And screaming... for a while I thought someone was attacking you.”

“It was not a good dream.. I think it's the movie I watched before sleeping..it was a horror.”

He kissed her collar bone massaging her breast.

“Ok.”

“I am sorry for scaring you.”

“I was going to break the door. We’d be apologizing to your landlord right now.”

Nolo laughed and smiled. “I am sorry.”

“Don’t be.”

His phone rang from somewhere on the floor. He kissed her chest then got off bed and picked it up.

“Fuck... a colleague. They need the car back. Can I please drop it off? I will come with mine after.”

She nodded looking at him, his eyes going down his muscles then his circumcised weapon.

“We can take a shower ebe o tsamaya.”

“Ok.”

Nolo got off bed too and handed him a towel as she out on her nightdress. She grabbed her toiletry bag and led him to the bathroom. They got under the shower kissing and touching one another.

A while later, Kano walked out dressed. He jumped in the car and drove off while she stood by the veranda. She smiled as he waved then she waved back. He drove off leaving her smiling like a teenager. She walked back in her room and called her sister.

Nicole picked after a couple of rings.

“Nolo..”

“Hi.”

“I tried calling you last night. Your phone was off.”

“Yes, what’s up?”

“Ng ng, nothing much..just that sex e monate. (Sex is nice.)”

Nicole paused then laughed. “O go jele?”

Nolo laughed throwing herself on her bed and inhaling her blankets that smelt like him.

“What if to him it was just sex?”

“Then so be it mme nna I am satisfied! Waitse I don’t care if this is just sex because Ijo! Mosimane o itse matheka mma. The waist works

overtime. He knows how to fuck. I just... I don't regret it. If he's using me then so be it. This is exactly what I needed. Have you ever woken up after good sex receiving more good sex?"

Nicole laughed. "You are going crazy."

"Ng Ng... that dic is worth it. That SSG is who he thinks he is. Ke utwa kuku e dumalana le dic."

"You are crazy."

Nolo chuckled. "I didn't want it to end at some point.. if this is just sex, cool but if it's more... I don't know."

"I am happy as long as you are. Just be careful."

"I will be. He says he's taking me on a weekend away. He's going to fuck me more. I am good with that. Monday when I get to work, I will be effective and motivated."

Nicole laughed listening to her sister. "I have a little headache. I had a wine night last night."

"Do my mixture."

"No.. it's not that bad. Just slightly..I think I may have sexually molested my neighbor. I am so embarrassed. I think at some point I kissed him."

Nolo laughed. "Own up to it."

"Eish. Not now. I am going to Orapa next weekend. Come with me."

"To do what?"

"To see mama. It has started. I need to see someone."

"Someone who's not a doctor?"

"Nolo I can't lose my job because of insanity. It's probably just overthinking and working too much."

"It's been happening. It's not normal for you to be seeing things that are not there. You need to let it go. Those are symptoms to a mental illness."

"I am not crazy!"

"No..but it's been happening. You need to see a doctor. What if it's bipolar? Or schizophrenia? Or a psychotic disease?"

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Nicole held her phone. The word schizophrenia made her frown but it was the fact that she could just openly say it like that to her that hurt her.

“I am not mentally unstable. Those things I just in my heard.”

“They drive you crazy.”

Nicole got off bed and walked to the kitchen.

“I am not crazy. Stop making me sound like I am crazy, that hurts me. Please don't talk to me like that. If you have nothing nice to say, let me hang up because you are hurting me.”

“I am sorry. I am not trying to hurt you. I love you. I am only trying to help. I am sorry.”

“I know. But I am not crazy.”

She made herself the milkshake and drank it all at once. Nolo changed the topic as Nicole sat down.

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng later that morning, Kano drove past the street behind Nolo's, he slowed down at the police cars parked in front of a house with people gathered. He watched as the police carried a dead body in a black body bag. He drove off headed to Nolo's house driving away from the scene.

He parked the car at the gate receiving a call just as Nolo walked out with her bag wearing a long maxi dress.

He jumped out of looking at the caller then he picked just as Nolo approached. He took her bag kissing her then threw it at the backseat of his Q7.

“Hello?”

Kano squeezed her butt making her smile.

“Yeah... ok... me too...”



He opened the door for her. Nolo looked at his phone suspiciously. Kano looked at her eyes then put the phone on loud speaker, his colleague talking.

“Ahh nna I am going back. This is a joke. Don’t these people know we have families? Gare masole kana.”

“TK wee, say hi to my girl.”

“Nolo? Hi Nolo.”

Nolo smiled then laughed a bit embarrassed getting in the car.

“Nolo, we met at the supermarket. Remember me? It could have been you and me if it wasn’t for Satan!”

Kamo laughed. “This is my girl laitaka, careful!”

“I am not talking to you.”

Nolo closed the door laughing. He got in and hung up.

“You look beautiful.”

She smiled. He started the car and took off.

## **Fires Of Desire**

#7

Somewhere in the South part of the country, Kano slowed down hours later at a campsite, the shaking of the car on the gravel road waking Nolo up.

She yawned looking around, Kano finally stopped at the thatched roof chalets that were side by side.

He looked at her. “We are here.”

“Where are we?”

He smiled kissed her. “Let’s go.”

They both stepped out. Kano took their bags out as an elderly man smiled at them.

“Mr. Marumo. Mrs. Marumo.”

Kano shook hands with him. "We are a bit early."

"It's ok. You can come through this way."

He led them to their chalet. He opened the door and led them in the spacious room. Inside was a beautiful hotel room set up though with wooden floors. The man walked out leaving them. She looked around.

"It's beautiful."

"I want us to go for a drive around the area, we will spot a few wild animals. Ke eta, let me ask him about that. Do you need anything?"

"No. I am fine."

Kano walked out. Nolo opened the door leading to the ensuite and looked inside with a smile. She took out her phone taking pictures. She took herself pictures. Kano walked in seconds later.

"There's another couple here. We are joining them. Are you good with that?"

Nolo opened her bag and took out her sun hat and her glasses.

"I am good now."

Kano led her out locking their door behind. They walked to the Hatch-top Safari Jeep where the other couple was already waiting.

They turned to them. Kano shook hands with the man then the woman. Nolo smiled stretching her hand to the man. She smiled as they shook hands.

"Hi, I am Trevor."

"Hi, Nolo." Nolo shook his companion's hand who introduced herself too. Nolo moved back then Kano put his arm around her.

The driver walked over smiling. "Dumelang. My name is Khutso. We can go."

They got in the car, Kano and Nolo sitting at the back. Nolo put on her sunglasses as the car drove off into the wilderness. Kano kissed her cheek. Nolo smiled excitedly as the van moved. In front of them, Trevor and his girlfriend chatted as she took out her phone taking a video, it looked more like Trevor was taking alone.

Nolo looked around trying to spot a wild animal, Trevor turned his head then paused.

“Look!”

Nolo turned. “Where?”

“There.” He pointed.

Nolo laughed looking at the Zebras a distant from them standing behind a big tree. Trevor’s girlfriend turned with her phone.

Trevor looked at Nolo. “Do you see behind...? There are giraffes.”

Nolo looked behind and smiled. “You have a good eye.”

Trevor laughed. “If you look too much you don’t see it.”

Nolo looked at the animals. The van slowly moved closer so they can take a better look.

Nolo took off her glasses so she could see properly.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Nicole looked at her to sister’s message about going somewhere with her new flame. She responded then a message came through from Thabiso.

Thabiso: You managed to wake up?

Nicole: 😂 you finally understand why I don’t drink

Thabiso: You are fun when drunk. You are free and you are not too conscious of your words 🙄

Nicole: When does me throwing myself at you feature? I am sorry.

Thabiso: You are a good kisser. I don’t complain.

Nicole laughed.

Nicole: I feel better.

Thabiso: Next time maybe we shouldn’t drink that much. Wine e masepa nyana.

Nicole: I stick to one glass usually.

Thabiso: We will stick to three. I will see you later. Went to attend a friend's wedding.

Nicole: Ntele dijo! (Bring me food.)

Thabiso: Noted!

She smiled typing.

Nicole: I have been hiding in the house thinking you are around.

Thabiso: 😂😂😂 why?

Nicole: 🙈 embarrassment

Thabiso: There's nothing to be embarrassed about. You did nothing embarrassing. I liked the kiss. If you want to do again, this time sober, I am game.

She smiled staring at his message. She started typing and paused at the sharp headache that abruptly came from nowhere. She looked around the house, her door was open and the TV was on.

She continued typing but something deep in her remained startled..

She sent him the message then thought of calling her mother. She usually felt like this when something was wrong.

Nicole dialed Nolo.

"This is a free-"

She cut the call and texted her sister.

Nicole: Call me when you get this.

\*\*\*

Somewhere in Southern parts of the country, the driver finally made his way back to their chalets. Trevor and his girlfriend stepped out followed by Kano and Nolo. Trevor smiled at them.

"We should do this together again."

Nolo smiled back. "I agree."

The game driver laughed. "So do I."

They walked to their rooms. Nolo took off her hat and looked at Kano who was unusually quiet.

"Are you sick?"

"No. I am going to take a shower."

He walked inside the ensuite. Nolo picked her phone then frowned realizing it was off. She opened her bag and took out the charger and plugged it to the wall.

Kano walked out of the bathroom minutes later. Nolo looked outside as it got dark then took a shower and walked out. Kano put down his phone and looked at her.

"Do you know Trevor from somewhere?"

"Rra?"

"Do you know Trevor from somewhere?"

Nolo took out her lotion from her bag. "No. I just met him with you."

"It looked like you guys have been knowing each other. O kare he's the one who brought you here. His girlfriend and I looked like third parties."

Nolo laughed. "No..."

"Did you hear her say a word since you and him started? She got silent mme they were chatting before. You even forgot I was there."

Nolo looked at him. "You are overthinking this. You were the one who was quiet."

"You wanted me to say what when you looked like you could take off with this man? I didn't have to overthink it, everyone could have seen what was going on. It's not like his girlfriend and I are stupid."

"His girlfriend was focused on her phone. They were not chatting even before. He was talking alone. You decided to remain quiet when he started talking to us, was I supposed to ignore him?"

"He never spoke to us, he spoke to you. He was looking directly at you. And you two were lost in your own bubble for the entire drive."

"This is stupid. You are being stupid. Are you jealous?"

“I am being what?”

“Stupid! You are being very stupid. I don’t even know what you are trying to say because you are the one who decided to be moody. Why didn’t you say so hela when we were there? You are going to bring rubbish and idiotic accusations to me when you are the one who clearly has a problem.”

“Ware I am being what Onolo?”

“Stupid! Your accusations are stupid! You-“

Silence fell in the room as he slapped her hard across the face with a backslap that she staggered back in shock.

“Say that to me again.”

### **Fires Of Desire**

#8

Kano looked at her.

“I am being what? Stupid?”

Nolo touched her cheek, blood filled her nose and dropped to the wooden floors as she got dizzy.

She held her nose moving back, blood dripping on the white towel she had around her body. Kano walked over and took her hand then led her to the bathroom as more blood dripped from her nose.

He tilted her head and held the bridge of her nose while she held on to him. The bleeding soon stopped. Kano took her face towel and wiped the blood from her face and her hands.

He took off her stained towel picked her up taking her to the bed. Kano laid her down and opened her bag taking out a night dress and dressed her up.

She blinked looking at him. He sighed.

“I am sorry. Please don’t talk to me like that. If you find nothing wrong with what happened today, I will gladly return you home tomorrow. I don’t want to catch a police case. I might as well save myself the

heartache if you are the type to entertain everyone. I am going to get us food.”

He walked out. Tears filled her eyes as she laid on the bed. She slowly got up seconds later and picked get phone that was charging. She switched it on and looked at the message from her sister.

She immediately called her back.

“Hello?”

“Hi.”

“Are you ok?”

Nolo rubbed her eyes. “Yes.”

“Ok.. where did you guys go?”

“I am not sure. I think ke di side tsa bo Tsabong or somewhere there. I was sleeping.”

“Are you ok? You sound... unusual.”

“I am ok.”

“Ok. Your phone was off. Like last night... I get worried. Do you switch off your phone when he’s around?”

“No. I switched it on yesterday for an hour or so then switched back on. I wanted to see something. Today the battery was dead. It didn’t charge last night.”

“Ok. How is it?”

“It’s fine. We are at a Safari camp. It’s nice.”

Nicole laughed. “Don’t forget to take pictures.”

“I won’t. I have to go. I will call you.”

“Ok.”

“His name is Kano Moremi. Just in case I go missing. Bye!”

Nolo hung up and sat on the bed hearing footsteps. He walked in holding two plates of food. He handed her one of the plates.

Nolo took it looking at him.

“Thank you.”

“There’s a bonfire outside. You can go if you want. Trevor and his girlfriend are there.”

“I am fine here.”

“Ok.”

He sat down on a chair and ate pressing his phone with the other hand. Nolo took a deep breath and started eating with the fork.

He walked out with plates after they were done eating. He walked back a glass of water and handed it to her before getting under the covers on the bed, his phone in his hands.

He now seemed unbothered. She watched him type then smiled typing more. She drank the water and got in bed next to him. He continued typing like she wasn’t there. An hour went by as she laid there while he continued on his phone.

“What are you doing?”

He looked at her. “What?”

“Are you talking to your real girlfriend? I am no longer worth being your cheating buddy?”

He looked at her then continued pressing his phone.

“Didn’t you bring your own phone? Gape Trevor is outside. You can go and discuss Zebras.”

Nolo got on top of him straddling him. Kano looked at her.

“Onolo-“

“I am sorry. You are right. I didn’t think it bothered you because you were quiet. I didn’t realize I was crossing the line. I am sorry for how I spoke to you. I could have explained myself better without insulting you. Is whatever that was starting between us ruined so much that already you want to be serious about your main relationship? Gongwe ga ke worth it. (Maybe I am not worth it.)”

Kano looked at her then sighed putting away his phone. He put his hands on her waist staring at her.

“I could have handled it differently too. I lost it because... I am sorry. I don’t like feeling like I am sharing you. I don’t mind you having male company but not like that. I wouldn’t want to do things that I know have a



potential to hurt you. If I had been entertaining Trevor's girlfriend like that, would you have liked it? I don't know, maybe you are ok with that-

"I am not. I am sorry. I was wrong."

His phone started ringing. "Ke mang? Main chick?"

Kano laughed and showed her. "It's my mother. You want to talk to her?"

She smiled shaking her head. Kano picked the call.

"Mma Moremi... I think in two days, I am not sure how long I am going to take here... ok, I will send it now. Ok, sharp."

He hung up then pressed his phone for a minute. He put it away then pulled her closer kissed her pulling up her night dress. She moved her waist on him humping on his dic. Kano pulled it out. Nolo raised her body up then slowly lowered herself down on it closing her eyes.

\*\*\*

Nicole read through her symptoms on the internet and sighed depressed. No matter how much she goggled it, the results always came back the same.

Schizophrenia.. it sounded like a painful disease, so painful just thinking about it brought tears in her eyes.

When had this started?

She couldn't remember past that memory... she actually could not recall anything past her sister's graduation. The car accident that happened after Nolo's graduation party. She couldn't remember anything before that... all she remembered was dreaming about something was sucking out her soul.. waking up she was in hospital. They went home after... that's when she started seeing things. Scary things in her parents house. The floors had things, things she only could see. The curtains looked like monsters. Everything had changed.

The memories in between were... questionable. Like they weren't hers. Like they belonged to someone else but that someone else being herself.

She could not still understand some things. Now that she was at this point, she couldn't understand most things and she couldn't even tell anyone. Not even her sister.

It was as if there were blurred lines.

A knock interrupted her train of thoughts. She turned her head then stood up and opened.

Thabiso looked at her holding a Tupperware.

"I managed to steal enough."

Nicole laughed opening for him and let him in. He put the Tupperware down and looked at her.

"I spoke to a doctor friend of mine. I told her about your dreams and she says you can come in for an evaluation."

Nicole swallowed. "I was joking."

Thabiso smiled. "No. You were not. She can help you. I am not forcing you to.. you can keep this." He handed her the business card. "Give her a call. I don't have to know about your personal issues. She's professional. Give it a try."

Nicole took the business card and stared at it then put it away. She picked the Tupperware smiling.

"I will dish for us."

## **Fires Of Desire**

#9

Later that evening, Thabiso walked inside his house and looked at the time. It was just after ten though it didn't feel like it.

He yearned going back to her house and listening to talk. She had a calm voice, so calm and quiet. He could listen to her talk forever but then he didn't want to push it. He had been eyeing since he moved in.

Thabiso's phone rang from his pocket as he walked to his bedroom. He picked his colleague's call.

“Eita...”

“Mister, you missed the game, wareng?”

“Ahh I got held up. Did we win?”

“Win ya eng when the referee was bought? Those guys were violent gape the referee le ene was full of it.”

Thabiso laughed. “I will watch the highlights.”

“What were you doing?”

“I had to run a few errands.”

“Waaka mister, waaka!”

Thabiso laughed. “What I was doing was important. I will watch the highlights.”

“What’s going on with you? Kana we could be leaving ke banyana ba ba dese.”

“No. I am good. I will watch the highlights.”

“Ware what’s going on with you?”

“Nothing.”

“I am coming over tomorrow. Ke ta le Vinny. There’s something there.”

Thabiso laughed then hung up. He checked the scores of the game and frowned disappointed. A smile started at the corner of his lips as he thought Nicole. He looked at the pictures he had taken of her unaware and smiled more. A message came through appearing on his screen then he opened it.

Amber: Hey stranger, want to come over tonight?

He quickly replied to his sex buddy.

Thabiso: Busy. Another time.

Amber: Found a girl?

He looked at her message then went back to Nicole’s pictures.

\*\*\*

The following morning, Nolo looked at her swollen cheek in the morning. She took out her foundation and quickly applied it on her face trying to cover up the bruise. She looked at herself deciding she'd put on her sunglasses and her hat. No one would see.

Kano knocked on the bathroom door then opened it walking in.

"Hey.."

She turned to him. "Can we leave earlier? We need to go to a pharmacy then go and test."

"Ok."

She picked her make-up and put it back in her bag.

He looked at her cheek then her eyes. "I am sorry."

She blinked. "My father was abusive towards my mother growing up. He'd beat my sister and I too on some days. I don't want to grow up like that. I don't want to grow up thinking I deserve to be beaten and suffer for the love I'd have for you. He still beats her till now. I don't want that."

He held her hands. "I am sorry. It won't happen again."

He hugged her. Nolo hugged him back. Kano bended his head kissing her softly then smiled.

"Should we go?"

"Yes."

He picked their bags and walked out with them. She followed behind, Trevor walked out of his chalet as Kano packed the bags in the car.

He smiled. "Hi."

Nolo politely smiled. "Hi."

His girlfriend walked out and looked at Nolo with annoyed expression.

Nolo walked away without another word going to the car. She got in then Kano jumped in starting the car

"What happened?"

She looked at him. "No. They were just greeting."

Kano nodded and drove off.

\*

In Gaborone later that day, Nolo stepped out of the taxi at her sister's gate. She looked at the Honda Fit parked by the gate then stepped out and walked through the gate.

She looked at the Nolo's neighbor washing his car outside. He looked over at her as if he wanted to say something but decided otherwise.

Nolo walked to the door then knocked opening. Nicole walked from her kitchen and smiled.

Nolo dropped her bag and walked over to her sister, her emotions choking her. She hugged her sister unable to control her tears.

Confused and concerned, Nicole hugged her tightly.

"It's alright... I am here. I am right here."

Nicole closed her eyes as they each other tightly in the middle of her sitting room. They both sniffed pulling away.

Nicole smiled. "What a nice surprise."

Nolo laughed wiping away her tears."

"I missed you."

Nicole smiled emotionally. "Me too."

"I have to be at work tomorrow in the morning."

Nicole laughed. "Ok. We will leave early in the morning."

Nolo looked around, it was beautiful. Almost everything was white from her carpet, her couches, her floors. That always had been her favorite color. White.

Nicole took off her apron walking to the kitchen. Nolo sat down putting down the TV remote. Her phone started ringing. She took it out and picked Kano's call.

"Hello?"

"Hello to you too stranger."

She smiled. "Hi."

“You should have told me you are going to your sister’s house. I would have driven you.”

“I caught a lift from my neighbor.”

“O ngaletsi? (Are you angry at me?)”

She smiled. “No. I just missed my sister.”

“Are you going to work tomorrow?”

“Yes. She will drive me back.”

“I am on my way to Gabs. I can always drop you off kamoso.”

“Aren’t you going to work? You said you are reporting for duty tomorrow.”

“I will be back at around ten if we leave at five.”

Nicole walked back with two glasses of juice smiling happily.

“Ok.”

“You can send me your location pin then.”

“Ok. Bye.”

“Nolo wee?”

“Rra?”

There was silence. “Nothing.. I will call you once I arrive.”

“Ok.”

Nicole looked at her sitting as she hung up. “What’s happening?”

“Ng Ng, is that your hot neighbor outside.”

Nicole smiled. “Yes.”

Nolo laughed. “He’s an eye candy.”

Nicole sat down reaching for her juice but it was now red. It looked like blood. She took a deep breath and briefly closed her eyes talking inwardly.

“It’s not real... it’s not...”

She opened her eyes and looked at the juice. It now looked normal. Nolo looked at her. “Are you ok?”

A voice called her softly in her head. She looked at Nolo and smiled.

“Yes.”

Nolo looked at her. Nicole smiled as the voice called her again... Nicole stood up

“I am coming. I have a slight headache.”

She walked to her room and took out the pills she had gotten at the pharmacy, her hands shaking. She took two, her heart racing.

“Help..” The voice whispered louder.

Nolo slowly walked in her sister’s room. “Nicky...”

Nicole jumped startled. Nolo moved back, her heart skipping.

“What?”

Nolo blinked..”It’s me.”

Nicole took a deep breath. “I know.. sorry.”

“Are you hearing things?”

Nicole put her hand over her mouth shaking, tears filling her eyes. “I am losing my mind..I am going crazy.”

Nolo shook her head. “You are not. You just need to get help Nicky...”

“I am not crazy...”

“No. You are not. You just need help. To help you shut the voices away.”

Nolo slowly walked over and hugged her. Nicole broke into tears crying.

“What happened to me?”

Tears filled Nolo’s eyes as she hugged her sister tightly.

\*\*\*

On his way to Gaborone, Kano spoke on his phone.

“I am on my way to Gabs.”

TK laughed. "I bumped into Amo at the mall. I don't know how you manage to cheat on that woman. Isn't she everything you need in a woman?"

"That's the thing. I know she can always leave. Gape Amor is cold sometimes. Unlike Nolo. Thru are two different women. I just need to play cards right."

"You think either will stay after finding out that you are cheating?"

"No. Unless they are both pregnant. Amor just lost her job. She won't leave. She's dependant on me. And she's my wife to put the cherry on top of it. She wouldn't think of divorce. We just got married two months back."

"Nolo ene?"

"Once she's pregnant she won't go anywhere. I want them both."

He looked at his phone as an incoming call came through.

"It's Amo. Bye."

He dropped his friend's call picking his wife's call.

"Mma Moremi."

Sje giggled. "How far are you baby?"

"I just left Jwaneng."

"Ok. I am starting with dinner."

"Ok."

"I can't wait to see you. I missed you."

"Me too. I will see you just now."

"I love you."

"I love you too."

He hung up and put on his ring.

**Fires Of Desire**

#10



Hours later, Kano parked his car next to his wife's Run X. He stepped out of the car and walked to the door as she opened.

A smile covered her pretty face as excitement and happiness took over. She rushed over throwing herself in his arms. Kano laughed picking her small body.

He smacked her ass walking inside the house with her then closed the door with his feet.

He inhaled the delicious aroma knowing she had cooked. He put her down kissing her. Amo stood on her toes kissing her husband back, her diamond ring glittering on her ring finger.

"I missed you."

He looked at her and smiled. "I missed you too. So much."

He kissed her again squeezing her body. Amo's hands went down his body to his dick and massaged him as he grew thick in her hand.

She pressed her legs together burning for him. An entire week without him already felt like an entire year. She took it out and stroked him just the way he liked it.

Kano groaned in her mouth and pushed her against the wall. He put his hand in her dress then looked at her. She smiled.

"I am ready.."

He took off the dress and picked her up. Amo wrapped her legs around him and kissed him as he brought her down on his weapon and...

.

Kano held her waist as he bended more, pleasure making her scream his name as she spasmed.

He gave her the last stroke and released. Not much after the quick session he had had with Nolo when he dropped her off at her house.

He kissed her back sliding out. "I missed you. The hand wasn't doing me justice."

Amo turned almost falling. Kano picked her up and placed her on the couch. He looked at her and kissed her.

"I missed you."

She smiled and touched his cheek. "I love you."

"I love you more. I love you so much more."

He laid with her on the couch. Amo kissed him happily.

"Did you give yourself a hand job today?"

"I had a wet dream so I did it in the morning."

She smiled. "Usually I'd be leaking. At least you are back home."

"I know. TK says he saw you at the mall today."

"Yes. I went to get a few things."

"Kana you know he's stubborn. He just came back. I know commander is going to grill up."

"He likes trouble. Let me dish for us."

Kano smiled watching her get up and put on her dress again. He fixed his pants and took out his phone from his pocket.

He unlocked the screen opening his messages. He responded to a few then opened Nolo's he status.

It was a picture of her and her to sister in matching tops. They looked alike, one could never deny they were sisters.

He looked at Nolo's happy face with a wider smiled. He smiled alone then put his phone down getting up. He joined his wife in the kitchen and hugged her from behind kissing her neck while she dished.

\*\*\*

That night, Nicole opened her eyes and turned to her side looking at Nolo who was breathing heavily sweating.

The nightmares from the abuse seemed to still be happening. She got up and walked to the bathroom. She walked back a warm wet cloth and gently wiped her.

Nicole watched her till she was breathing calmly. She got back in bed and laid down staring at her ceiling. She turned to her side ignoring the voices in her head and closed her eyes.

\*

In the early morning the following day, Nolo finished dressing then looked at her sister still sleeping. They slept a bit late but she didn't regret it. She looked around them took a pen and paper where she jotted down a small note before walking out.

He locked her in and threw her keys inside before rushing to Kano's car parked by the gate.

She looked at him. "Hi."

Kano kissed her. "Hey."

"Thank you for this."

"Anytime."

He started the car and drove off . Mma Moremi started calling, he looked at the call then picked his mother's call while driving.

"Hello?... Ok, I will make a plan. Ok. Bye."

He hung up. Nolo looked at him. "Is she ok?"

Kano looked at her. "Yes. Why?"

"It's five o'clock."

He laughed. "Get used to her. She calls at any hour."

Nolo smiled. "Ok."

Nolo watched as they left Gaborone behind.

\*\*\*

Over an hour later, Kano's wife finished preparing her husband's breakfast. She walked to her bedroom where she showered and dressed up smiling.

She went back to the kitchen where she packed his food in a lunchbox. She walked out picking her friend's call.

“Amo ...”

“Hi.”

“When are you getting stock? The people at work are already asking.”

Amo laughed getting in her car. “I want to do things differently this time around. I am taking orders before I go. So you pay then I will go and buy. I will post on my Facebook page today.”

“Ok. By the way, did you see those job ads in the Advertiser? They need people with your qualifications ko Jwaneng. You can apply for the job.”

“The one needing 10 years experience?”

“You have five. You can try your luck.”

“Kano would never agree. It’s far. We just got married. Being together at this stage is important.”

Tshiamo sighed. “You’d get it.”

“I don’t need to get a job kana Tshiamo. My husband manages us both with no problem. He’s never complained gore I am not working.”

“Ok. Well, announce the pre-orders thing then.”

“Ok. Thanks.”

She hung up then started her car and drove off calling him.

“Yeah?”

Amo laughed. “Yeah? Anyways, I am driving by to drop off your breakfast.”

“I stepped out of the office. I will call someone to meet you at the gate.”

“Ok.”

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng, over an hour later, Kano parked his car at the gate. Nolo quickly hurried inside. Kano waited patiently holding his phone as minutes went by.

Nolo's phone rang from the seat where she had forgotten it. He picked it up and looked at her sister calling.

He stepped out of the car as the call cut. He looked at her locked screen and walked to her room. He opened the door and walked in. Nolo put on her dress and zipped the side zip.

Kano looked at the dress that reached just above her knees. It was a formal dress but short. The vent behind it made it worse. She could never bend in it.

She looked at him fixing her bun. "What's wrong?"

"Your sister was calling."

"Oh..."

He watched her as she slipped her feet into her heels then sat down looking at her face on the mirror.

Her dress pulled up riding over her hips. She applied lipstick on her lips and stood up pulling the dress down.

"We can go."

"Isn't your dress too short?"

She looked down pulling it down. "No. It looks short when I am seating."

"I am going back to Gaborone. I will be back at the end of the week. You are taking combis home, you are going to seat akere? Won't it look short?"

"I always wear this dress."

She stood up and looked at herself on the longer mirror. The dress showed her slim waist going down her hips and ass.

"It won't. Let's go. I am late."

They walked out going to the car. Kano started the engine, his eyes on her thighs. He turned off the engine.

"I don't like that dress. It's too short. It's like you are advertising your thighs out there. In my car it's fine but you are also going to work then you will be going home. I am not comfortable with it. Can you please change?"

## Fires Of Desire

#11

Nolo looked at him. "Kano I am going to be late!"

"You are the one wasting time. This dress is too short babe. Look at your thighs. Maybe I am imagining things. You will be getting in the combi. You don't know who you are in the combi with. It's a beautiful dress. I just feel it's too short for work. Please change." He leaned over and kissed her. "Please.."

Nolo stared at him then stepped out and walked back to her house. Kano waited till she walked back in one that reached her knees though still body hugging.

He smiled. "Thank you."

He started the car and drove off. "How much do you get paid?"

"2.1k."

"P2100?"

"Yes."

"What do you do?"

"I am just a receptionist."

"For P2000? Only?"

"I need a job so I just have to put up with the exploitation."

"They are using you. I'd give you that amount o ntse kolapeng."

Nolo laughed. Kano looked at her.

"I'd do it. They are using you. You might as well sit at home and try something else. I will pay your rent and give you that 2.1."

Nolo looked at his serious face. "What?"

"I will pay your rentals and give you that 2k you get monthly. You will think of other things to do. Start your own business. You can make more money."

"Kano.."

“You will have more time on your hands to think of a hustle. These days a day job doesn’t pay babe. You need to get something of your own off the ground. I am going to give you that 2k starting month end and start paying your rent. Once you come up with a business plan, you tell me so I fund it.”

He parked his car at her workplace then kissed her.

“I am going to miss you.”

She blinked then nodded. “I will miss you too.”

“I will have your breakfast delivered. Bye.”

She slowly stepped out of the car and walked inside the company as he drove off.

Nolo took out her ringing phone walking to her desk and picked her sister’s call.

“Nicole...”

“Didn’t we agree I’d drop you off?”

“I didn’t want you missing work because of me.”

“Nolo...”

“I am now at work.. it’s ok. You were peacefully sleeping too.”

“You should have woken me up. At least to say bye.”

“I am sorry.”

Nicole sighed. “He dropped you off?”

“Yes.”

“How is he so far?”

“He’s fine. I really like him. I haven’t been in a relationship in a while now, I had forgotten how to compromise but it’s alright.”

Nicole laughed. “Don’t be hard headed.”

“I won’t. I am trying to behave.”

“Ok. I will call you. I am at work.”

“Ok, sharp.”

Nicole hung up as Nolo settled on her desk.

\*\*\*

Nicole smiled answering a call seated in her car.

“Hi.”

“Hey, are you at work?”

“Yes. My sister left with her boyfriend so I decided to go to work.”

“Are you working till the afternoon?”

“No. But now I am going to. I couldn’t stay at home, the silence was going to swallow me.”

Thabiso laughed. “I am coming to pick you up.”

“Where are you taking me?”

“You will see. I will be there in 15 minutes.”

Nicole laughed. “Ok.”

He hung up then she waited. Twenty minutes later he parked next to her car at the school’s parking lot. Nicole stepped out with her handbag and locked her car. She got in his car.

Thabiso smiled. “Hi.”

She smiled back. “Hey.”

He drove off. “Was that your sister?”

“Yes. Onolo.”

“You two look alike.”

Nicole laughed. “I know. I am three years older.”

“How old is she?”

“25. I am 28.”

Thabiso smiled. “You two look younger.”

“Genes. Where are we going?”

Thabiso grinned. “You will see.”



He drove for a while leaving Gaborone behind them. He took a turn into a gravel road and drove for a while before parking his car at a hill.

He stepped out of the car with her and led her up the hill. She sighed glad she was wearing flats and a jean as they walked up.

Thabiso looked at her. "Let me carry you."

"I-"

He squatted then she laughed jumping on his back. Thabiso got up and carried on walking carrying her as he went further up. He finally put her down then took her hand as they climbed on top of a rock. He turned her around so she could see the city.

"Gaborone..."

Nicole smiled in amazement. Thabiso wrapped his arms around her standing behind. Nicole smiled.

"It's.. wow!"

Thabiso smiled. "This is my little secret place. I found the easy way of going up the hill. I like coming here. Gives me peace of mind."

"Can it be my secret place too?"

He laughed and turned her around. "Yes. After this."

He leaned over and kissed her wrapping his arms around her. Nicole closed her eyes kissing him back.

Thabiso's phone rang in his pocket. He ignored it kissing her more. Nicole smiled then giggled burying her face on his neck.

"Answer."

He smiled kissing her neck then took out his phone. He looked at the hospital calling.

"It's the hospital."

"Answer."

He picked and listened. "I am coming. Thanks."

He hung up and baby kissed her. "We have to go."

Nicole smiled and nodded. He took her hand and led her back to the car.

\*\*\*

Just after work, Nolo walked out of the premises putting her phone in her handbag.

A colleague walked over and smiled. "Hi. I am passing through the mall. You stay those sides akere?"

Nolo nodded smiling. "Thanks."

They walked to his car then he drove off as they chatted about general stuff.

"I will drop you off at home since we are already close by. Are you coming to company party?"

"No. I didn't contribute anything. I don't want overcrowd those who paid."

"You should just come. I will pay for you."

"No. It's ok. I have already made plans for that night."

He looked at the rearview mirror noticing a car that had been behind his since they left work. Nolo directed him to her house. He parked at Nolo's gate but the car continued.

He smiled. "Ok bye."

"Thank you. Bye."

She walked through her gate picking Kano's call.

"Hey babe..."

Nolo smiled. "Hi."

"Have you knocked off?"

"Yes. I am already home."

"How was the combi?"

"A colleague gave me a lift."

"A colleague?"

"Yes. The company's Marketing director. O ndropile kolapeng. He's a nice guy."

"Should I hire you a cab that will pick you up and drop you off at work?"

Nolo laughed. "No.. that's just wasting money. I have been managing just fine."

"Does he want you? Kana some men babe don't just do things for you out of the goodness of their hearts. He'd want something. I can arrange a cab for you. Gape I don't want you walking that long distance from the mall to home. You have a man now. Some things have to change."

Nolo smiled. "You don't have to do all that have. He doesn't want anything. He's gay and has a boyfriend. I can walk .. I like it. Are you home already? I miss you."

"Me too. I can't wait for Friday. Which contraception method did you decide on?"

"I am getting on the pill."

She unlocked the door and walked in.

"Ok. Let me do something. I will call you back."

"Ok."

He hung up as she took off her shoes. She looked at her phone, she could sense the insecurities but maybe he had been hurt before. It happened and she was going to give it a chance.

TWO MONTHS LATER...

## **Fires Of Desire**

#12

Two Months Later...

Nicole walked around her class marking her student's books.

"Everyone who's book I have marked, you can go for your lunch. Those who are done but I haven't marked yet, you can put your books on the table and also go."

Everyone quickly stood up. Others walking out while others put their books on the table before walking out. She collected the books and her things before walking out.

She walked to her office and put the books on the table looking at the time. Minutes later she was walking over to her car.

She drove off putting on her sunglasses headed to the hospital.

She parked her car then stepped holding a gift bag. Nicole walked inside the hospital and smiled approaching the receptionist.

“Hi. I am here for Dr. Sefako.”

“Do you have an appointment?”

Nicole shook her head. “No. You can just tell him it’s Nicole Feni.”

The receptionist picked the phone and made a call. She smiled at Nicole dropping the call.

“You know where his office is?”

“Eemma.”

“Ok. You can go right through.”

Nicole smiled. “Thank you.”

She walked to the stairs and went up going to his department.

She knocked on his door then walked in hearing his voice. Thabiso looked up and smiled as she walked in.

“Hey...”

Nicole laughed singing to him. Thabiso stood up and hugged her. Nicole smiled.

“Happy Birthday..”

Thabiso picked her up and placed her on his desk kissing her. He got in-between her legs squeezing her waist.

“Thank you.”

“You are welcome. Are you busy?”

“I have a patient in ten minutes.”

“Then let me go. I wanted to drop this off.”

She handed him the gift bag. Thabiso took the gift bag and looked inside. He smiled taking out the small box and opened it too. He looked at her then took out the Hamilton watch.

“Babe...”

“I had it engraved your initials. At the back.”

He turned it and looked at his initials. “How much did this cost you? This is expensive.”

He looked at his watch speechless then at her.

“You bought it for me?”

“Yes.”

He put down the gift bag and put the watch on. He laughed.

“Baby, are you sure it’s mine?”

Nicole smiled. “Yes. Your patient is about to come through. I will see you at home.”

She kissed him and walked out. Thabiso looked at his watch still in shock that woman could actually gift him.

He opened the gift back then took out the box of cologne. Damnit babe!

He took it out and looked at the brand knowing it had cost her nothing below 1k.

He took out the last gift, the bottle of Hennessy. He laughed then smiled picking his phone and call her.

\*\*\*

At the parking lot, Nicole picked his call.

“Hi..”

“I love you!”

Nicole laughed as a nurse walked over to her. “I love you too.”

“I have never had a lady buy me anything. Let alone expensive things. I love them. I love everything you do and buy me. I see it in the house.”

The nurse looked at her. "Babe, let me call you back."

"Ok. I love you."

She hung up and looked at the nurse. "Hi."

"You are Thabiso's girlfriend?"

"Excuse me?"

The nurse smiled. "I feel sorry for you. You look like a good person. Woman to woman, he's not what you think he is. He's slept with everything that has a vagina.. I will be surprised if he's not HIV positive. Don't say I told you this but ene mma he's nothing but a cheat."

Nicole looked at her. "Well thank you for this information."

"If I were you I'd run as far as I can. He's not what he says he is."

"Thank you."

Nicole got in her car and drove off laughing.

\*\*\*

At Nolo's work place, Nolo printed a couple of documents for her boss's PA then walked to her desk and sat down sorting them out.

A male client walked over. "Dumelang, I am here for Mr. Mathews."

"Dumelang. He's waiting. Go down that passage, second door to your left."

"Thank you. O monte gore. (You are very pretty.)"

She laughed. "Thank you."

He smiled. "I am serious. You are beautiful. O nyetswi? (Are you married?)"

She laughed even more. "Nya rra."

"He needs to marry you before we take you."

"I will tell him."

He walked away. Nolo quickly finished up. An hour later she knocked off and walked out carrying her handbag.

She looked at the military green Legend 50 parked then smiled surprised. She walked over and opened the door.

“Hey!”

Kano looked at her and smiled. “Hi.”

Nolo giggled getting in the car and hugged him. Kano hugged her back then kissed her.

He moved back and started the car. “I thought I’d surprise you.”

“I am surprised. I didn’t think you were coming today.”

Kano reached for her food at the back and handed it to her. She smiled.

He drove to her house and parked by the window

“Where is your housemate?”

“She has traveled.”

They walked inside the house. Nolo put down her food and kicked off her shoes while Kano stared at her short flared dress.

He looked at her still in his uniform. “Isn’t your dress short?”

Nolo smiled. “No.. my hips make it look short but it’s just fine. If it were short, HR would have given me a warning by now.”

“Can you bend in that dress?”

“Kano.. baby can we not fight? Akere I am not cheating.”

“This dress is provoking. You can’t wear it and expect men to not want you especially going to work. Are you trying to sleep with your boss?”

Nolo started undressing ignoring him.

“I am talking to you. Why can’t you just dress appropriately when going to work? Do you always have to look like you are going to a club?”

She put on her shirts and vest remaining quiet.

“Onolo-“

“So I shouldn’t wear my clothes because you are insecure and jealous?”

Kano angrily slapped her that she fell landing on the floor.

“Who do you think you are talking to?”

Tears filled her eyes . He pulled her up with her hair that she screamed.

“What did I say about you dressing like a prostitute”

“You are hurting me Kano...”

He pointed at her forehead. “O seka wa thola o mpuisa yalo! I am not one of your friends. How many times do I have to talk about your dressing or are you advertising something?”

“You are hurting me! I am not dressed like a prostitute!”

He gave her a double slap, her ears rang.

“Kano-“

“Who was that man you were talking to?”

“It was a client.”

“So what were you talking about?”

“It was business-“

He slapped her again. “Don’t even try to lie to me?”

Nolo put her hands on her face bursting into a loud sob.

“It was business. You are hurting me... please stop.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#13

Kano looked at her as she cried then sighed.

“I am going out.”

He walked out. Nolo sat down on her bed trying to calm down, her cheeks burning. Minutes later, she wiped away her tears then crawled underneath her blankets.

Her phone vibrated, she took it and opened the message from FNB.



FNB □ M. KANO has sent you P 3000.00. Dial \*130\*392# to access FNB eWallet. No airtime? Dial \*103\*392#. Queries? 3959881.

She sat upright then her phone rang. She picked her landlord's call.

"Hello?"

"Hi Onolo. I just saw the rent. You have paid two months in advance."

"Uh..."

"You are doing well my girl. I like tenants like you."

"Eemma."

She hung up. Nolo looked at her phone. Minutes went by as she just stared.

\*

Over two hours later, Kano walked in. Nolo looked at him putting down her laptop. Kano undressed and got in bed. She could smell a shower gel on him. He laid on his side pressing his phone.

Nolo looked at him. "I saw the money. Thank you."

"Ok."

"My landlord called too. You paid two months advance."

"Yeah."

"Thank you."

"Sharp."

Nolo got off bed and dished for him. "Get up and eat."

"No. I am fine."

"You ate?"

"No. I will eat in Gabs tomorrow."

Tears filled her eyes. She put the plate down and got on the bed and knelt behind him. She turned him around then looked at him as a tear rolled down.

"It was business. He had an appointment with Mr. Mathews. I'd never get inappropriate with clients, I'd lose my job. My legs were under my

desk, he could barely see anything. I know the issue is not the client, it's the dress."

Kano sighed. "This is tiring Nolo. Everytime it's always the same thing. Sometimes I am scared to express how I feel because I get labeled jealous and stupid. You make me feel like I am insecure for expressing how I feel. The dress is short. If that's what you like wearing, it's also fine with me but you and I won't work. I have no problem with you wearing your short clothes but just not to work. You have other nice clothes which don't show your thighs."

She sniffed. "I am sorry. The dress to me just looked fine because I have worn it before. I am sorry. I will not wear it again."

Kano pulled her closer and hugged her. Tears burnt in her eyes then she started crying. Kano held her tightly as she cried.

He laid her down and kissed her getting on top of her. He squeezed her breast kissing her harder then pulled out her shorts together with her thong breathing heavily.

He took out his dic and pushed himself in with a grunt. He #removed.

.

Kano slid out and kissed her lying besides her.

"When is your period?"

"On Sunday."

He nodded. "Ok." He kissed her and smiled. "I missed you."

"I missed you too."

His phone started ringing. He reached for it and looked at 'Mma Moremi' calling.

\*\*\*

Amo waited patiently for him to pick.

"Hello?"

"Hi babe, o kae? The dinner is getting cold."

“Shii- I was assigned to Jwaneng, we are about to go to FNB and I have to be there. I thought I sent a message. It means it didn’t get delivered.”

“Ahh rra?”

“I am sorry.”

“So what now?”

“I am sorry.”

“You are not coming back?”

“It’s late. I am not sure what time we will be done.”

“Ok.”

“I am sorry.”

“You should have called me Kano. But it’s fine..let me sleep.”

“I am really sorry.”

“Bye.”

She hung up knowing he’d call back but he rather sent a message.

Kano: I am sorry babe. Forgive me. I should have called. Will be there tomorrow. I love you.

She stared at the message losing all her appetite. She took off her heels and the dress walking to the bedroom where she put on her tracksuit then sat down in front of the TV.

She stared at the TV for a while then called a friend.

“Amo...”

“I think Kano is cheating.”

“He has started?”

“I don’t know. Almost every weekend he’s not home. He either comes back Sunday in the evening or Monday. He can leave on Fridays or early morning Saturday.”

“And where does he say he’s going?”

“He says he’s been assigned to Jwaneng. O kare these days he’s always there. Or maybe it’s in my head?”

“Does he hide his phone? Password?”

“His phone has always had a password. We don’t go through each other’s phones. That was something that was always there since we met. Kano doesn’t touch my phone, I don’t touch his as well. He gets on his phone the same he’s always done. Picks calls in front of me. I just .. my instinct...”

“You think there’s someone in Jwaneng?”

“I’d be so broken if there was but whoever it is will regret it thamma. I will not lose my husband to a Jwaneng whore. I am not losing this man.”

“But if he is, I don’t think he respects you. You two just got married.”

“But I was prepared for this. I know how I am supposed to deal with it. I just need to find who he’s cheating with then take it from there.”

“Waitse I don’t know what men want anymore. You are beautiful, sexy. You were once Miss Botswana. Koore you are everything a man wants and he chooses to still cheat. To still think you don’t even cheat.”

“He has his flaws. It’s nothing I can’t handle.”

“You are strong friend. I think this is the reason I don’t want to get married. You give him everything but he still cheats.”

“Marriage means you are ready to fight to make it work mma. Kano has cheated before but guess who has the ring and the last name? I can handle my husband. All I need is to find the woman he’s cheating with.”

Amo relaxed talking to her friend.

\*\*\*

At Nicole’s house, Nicole laid on Thabiso’s chest that night after the mini birthday celebration. She looked at him as he breathed heavily from the steamy session they had just had.

“Babe, tell me something...”

He looked at her. “What?”

“Before me, were you sleeping with someone from the hospital?”

“What?”

“Before you and I started, was there someone taking care of your sexual needs from the hospital?”

“Why do you ask that?”

She smiled. “I am just curious.”

He looked at her wondering if lying was the best option. Or maybe she was asking because of she already knew. He swallowed.

“Yes. A nurse. It was just sex. We both agreed that it would just be sex. It ended even before you and I. But she’s the only one from the hospital I slept with.”

She nodded. “Ok.”

“Why?”

Nicole laughed. “Nothing. Just curiosity.”

He kissed her. “I love you. I am not doing it anymore.”

“I know. Have you spoken to your baby mama regarding your son visiting you?”

“Yes. She wants to come with him.”

“It was never a problem in the past akere?”

“No. But I am in a serious relationship now so it would be an issue. Before us, you and I, she’d come and we will have sex or something. I explained to get that I am now in a relationship though she says he won’t come if she’s not coming.”

“Maybe it’s time you went to court?”

“You think so?”

“Each parent should have their fair custody of the child without the other parent hovering around.”

He nodded. “I will try approaching her through parents. If all has failed then I will go to court.”

Nicole smiled and kissed him before getting up.

“I am coming.”

She walked out going to her kitchen naked then took out her antipsychotic medications and drank before going back to him after hiding them.

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng later that evening, Nolo quietly slept besides Kano who reached for his phone and checked a couple of messages. Amo hadn't replied.

He opened her clone Whatsapp on his phone to see who she was talking to then went through every message and there was nothing.

He looked at the location app that he tracked her with and she was still at home.

He slowly took Nolo's phone from underneath her pillow and unlocked it then went through her messages and contacts.

He looked at the email notification at the top and opened it.

He opened the email from Debswana that she hadn't open as yet.

From: Debswana Mine, HR Senior Manager

Subject: Economist Manager

To: Ms Onolo Feni

Ms Onolo Feni,

This email serves to inform you that after a lot of deliberation, we are delighted to offer you the position of being our Economist Assistant Manager so you gain experience before taking on the big role. We were impressed with your résumé and also with you as an individual. Your confidence and go getter attitude drew us to you, you are exactly what we need. Do avail yourself tomorrow morning at 8a.m for an interview to complete things, please find attached your detailed offer letter below.

Thank you.

He swallowed then opened the offer letter. He read through it realizing this was how he was going to lose her. He took a deep breath and deleted the email leaving the ones alerting her that she didn't get the job.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#14

The following morning, Nolo breathed heavily as Kano got off her. He kissed her and smiled.

"I want us to go on a road trip today."

Nolo smiled. "I am going to work."

"Take a day off. I have to go back later on. I will come properly tomorrow but later in the evening."

"I can't. I just can't call asking for a day off. I have to say it days before, I need to apply for the day off before the day I actually want to be off."

"From here I probably won't see you. Please...I am sure they won't refuse."

"Can't we do the road trip tomorrow Kano?"

"Tomorrow I will only come later on. If I manage to. I am busy at work. This weekend I am busy. You have nothing to lose by asking. Gape didn't we agree you are handing over your resignation letter?"

"I need to get the business off the ground before I think of resigning. What if it doesn't work out?"

"And where will I be? Akere I am here. If it doesn't work out, I will still take care of you."

"Working makes me happy Kano. I love my job."

"You love the two cents you get paid?"

"Can we not fight?"

"Who's fighting with you?"

“I don’t want to quit my job without anything tangible in my hands.”

“Isn’t the money I give you enough?”

“It’s more than enough. I just love working.”

“You are wasting your time getting paid peanuts. A maid gets better than that. A toilet cleaner gets way better than that.”

“I applied at-“

“Babe, look at the economy, do you think any business will hire someone with no experience? To get a job you need connections. And why are you so invested in making money for someone else? Why don’t you want to start your own thing and make your own money?”

“I want to make my own money but at the same time I don’t want to leave where I am working till whatever I want to be start bears me fruits.”

“Is the money I am giving you not enough or you just happen to look down on me?”

“Kano...”

“I just said I will take care of you didn’t I? How many times do you want me to say it? I want a woman with a vision, a goal. Koteng going to that company half naked is enough for you but you are like someone without purpose in life. You wear heels and short things yet you go home with only P2000. You don’t even compare to the woman you pretend to be. You need to be better babe and I want to fund that. I want you to be the woman you pretend to be.” He kissed her. “Call them and ask for a day off. I came here to spend the day with you. I want to do that. I already made reservations ko Lobatse.”

He handed her the phone. She looked at him and blinked.

“Ok.”

She got up. He looked at her confused. “Where are you going?”

“To the toilet.”

“You are going with your phone?”

Nolo sighed. “I don’t want to lose my job. I don’t enjoy 2k wa salary but I have accepted it. I know you can take care of me. I know that babe but I don’t want to be dependent on a man. I want to afford myself. I am more than grateful that you want to fund my business but till it’s producing



results, I want to keep my job. I love you but you are raising your voice. You are getting upset and I am getting my scared.”

He looked at her tearful eyes. “Scaring you?” He sighed. “I am sorry. I just...” He pulled her back go the bed.

“I am sorry babe. I am not getting upset. Sometimes I forget I am not a work, I talk like this ko tirong. I am sorry. I hear your point and it’s ok. Whatever makes you happy.” He kissed her. “I am sorry.”

“It’s fine.”

“Will you take a day off or should I go back to work?”

“I will call them and try.”

“Ok. Thank you. Call them now..after this we are switching our phones off and focusing on us.”

She nodded then wrapped a towel around her body and walked to the bathroom. She caught reflection of herself on the mirror in the bathroom and touched her swollen cheeks.

She took a deep breath and peed.

\*

Meanwhile in the room, Kano swapped Nolo’s prevention pills. He popped out some so it could looks just like hers to then put her original pills in one of the pockets of his work trouser.

Nolo’s phone rang, he took it and it answered.

“Hello?”

“Good morning, you are speaking to Samantha from Debswana, can I please talk to Miss Onolo Feni.”

“This is Derrick, wrong number.”

“This is not Ms Feni’s phone?”

“Uh ok. Thank you.”

Kano hung up then deleted the number. Nolo walked in.

“I heard my phone ringing.”

He looked at. "Ringing? It wasn't ringing."

"It wasn't ringing?"

"No."

She took her phone and checked but there was nothing. Kano kissed her cheek.

"Call your company."

\*\*\*

An hour later that same morning, Nicole sorted out the test papers for the class she was going to be invigilating.

She looked at the time and drank her medication before anyone could walk in then carried on sorting through the papers.

Her phone rang, she looked at the landline then picked.

"Ms. Feni, hello?"

"Uh Onolo? Thank God! Where are you? It's Sam from Debswana. Remember me? We met lady time you came for your interview."

"Hi Sam. It's Nicole, Onolo's sister."

"Oh?"

"Yes. Uh... is everything ok?"

"Your sister applied ko Debswana and came for an interview two months back."

"Yes..."

"She got the job."

Nicole gasped then screamed jumping. "Yes! Yes! "

"That was exactly how I felt yesterday. We sent her an email. She was supposed to come back today for a second interview that would discuss her contract and everything else. She's not here and... there is someone they were considering, if she doesn't come, she may lose the job before she even officially gets it."

“Did you try calling her?”

“I called her other number but a man answered... he says ke Derrick, it was a wrong number. I think she made a mistake typing it.”

“Please say the number.”

Samantha said out the number. Nicole frowned. “That’s her number. Ware a man answered?”

“Yes. He says ke ene Derrick.”

“I last spoke to her yesterday. That’s her last seen. Maybe her phone got stolen... or something. Let me try calling her.”

Nicole hung up and called Nolo.

“This is a free announcement from-“

She cut the call her heart pounding then called her housemate instead.

“Hello?”

“Hi... it’s Nicole. Nolo’s sister.”

“Oh, hi, how are you?”

“I am fine. Yourself?”

“Not so good. I am trying to call Nolo but her number is not going through. Are you home?”

“No..I have traveled.”

“Oh... thank you.”

“Ok. Is everything ok?”

“Once I talk to her, yes.”

Nicole’s hands shook as she called Nolo’s workplace.

“Hello?”

“Hi... hello, can I please talk to Onolo Feni.”

“Onolo is not in today, who’s this?”

“Not in? I am her sister.”

“Uhu! The sister who was involved in a car accident this morning? Are you Nicole? Waitse it’s a problem? I thought you are in coma?”

“And who told you I am Nicole? I am her other sister, Nicole just died! Nola.”

She cut the call and called the principal’s office already formulating her lie.

Minutes Later she was speeding out of the school premises calling Samantha back.

“Nicole..”

“Sam, there’s an issue here. I am not sure where my sister is, her phone is off.”

“No...”

“I think she’s with her dodgy boyfriend who I know I don’t like but can’t express it because my sister is very defensive when it comes to that man.”

“They are going to give the job someone else.”

“No. Please no. I am begging you.”

“I am sorry. I also liked her... her spirit... her character. I am so sad.”

“What is the interview about?”

“It’s the proper interview. They are going to discuss the job. Then she will get the contract.”

“Damnit Nola!”

“This is sad.”

“Look, Samantha I look a bit like Nola. If you don’t look at me carefully, you may think it’s her. We just happen to look alike just that she’s lighter in complexion. I am on my way. I am going to attend the interview and play Nola. We could get away with it at school, I am sure I can try and pull it off now. I am going to come dressed as Nola, put on one of her wigs and show up. What do I need to know? Can they not discuss those things today?”

“I don’t know.”

“Tell them Nola’s sister was involved in a car accident, she’s currently in coma but Nola is on her way. I can put up a great show. Matter of fact,

tell them she's dead. I am sure they wouldn't ask me hard things after I cry. I am coming from Gaborone. Can you help me?"

"Yes."

"I will try and get hold of my sister in the meantime."

"Ok."

Nicole hung stepping on the accelerator and inwardly spoke to herself.

"My sister where are you?"

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng, Kano stopped at the filling station before they could drive out of town. The fuel attendant walked over.

Kano looked at him. "Full tank." He turned to Nolo. "Should I get you something babe?"

"Fanta."

"Ok."

Kano stepped out of the car as the fuel attendant filled the tank.

Feeling a bit uneasy, Nolo took off her seatbelt and reached for her phone on the his door's pockets.

She switched it on then frowned at a 'call.me.now.' message from her sister.

She called her back. It rang once then she picked.

"Hi."

"Where are you?"

"I am about to go on a road trip with Kano."

"What road trip when you have an interview ko Debswana? You got the job."

"What?"

"They need you for an interview. I am driving there. I was going to pretend to be you. Please go there, I just spoke to Sam from Debswana."

She said she tried calling you but a man called Derrick picked saying it's a wrong number."

"Who?"

"Yes. Look, go to Debswana. I told Sam to say your sister is dead that's why you are running late. Please go."

"Ok. Ok. Thank you. I am going. God I am shaking. I got the job?"

"Go before you lose it!"

She hung up.

Kano walked over and got in the car. He frowned looking at the job in her hands.

"I got the job at Debswana! We need to go back!"

"You what?"

"The job I applied for ko Debswana! I got it! Let's go back."

"Can't you just go on Monday? Like a normal person. Why would they just call fir an interview out if nowhere?"

"They have been trying to call!"

"You will go on Monday.. I already paid where we are going. They can't possibly expect your life to just stop.. what if you were at work in a meeting? Where you just going to walk out going for an interview? I already paid. I can't cancel. Call them and tell them you will go on Monday."

"I finally got the job that pays well! What are you saying?"

"You will go on Monday like a normal person. If they really want you, they will wait."

"I want to go."

"I said you will go on Monday. Here is your fanta. Call those people and tell them you are coming on Monday."

He walked away walking over to the fuel attendant taking out money from his wallet. Nolo's heart pounded as she looked at the keys on the ignition. She swallowed then jumped to the driver's seat. She turned the key starting the car and drove off leaving him behind. Kano looked at her in shock as Nolo joined the road driving back.

A blue Golf stopped all of a sudden in front of her. She stepped on the breaks stopping an inch away. The golf driver slowly drove away, Nolo overtook rolling down the window pissed. The Golf driver looked at her apologetically.

“Sorry my sister, I-“

“O kgwetsa masepa o marete! Tswa mo tseleng jou shit!”

She drove off just as the traffic light turned red, the legend 50 speeding off.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#15

At Debswana, Nolo took a deep breath sited in the car. She took out her compact mirror and looked at her face. She closed it and stepped out.

Nolo pulled down her formal skirt. She took her handbag and walked inside the premises.

She smiled approaching the reception.

“Good morning, Ms. Onolo Feni, I was called for an interview.”

\*

Samantha smiled as Onolo walked over. She smiled getting up from her desk.

“Ms. Feni, we are so sorry about your sister, how is she doing?”

Nolo smiled. “She will pull through. My sister is a very strong woman.”

Samantha gave her a thumbs up. “She’s ready for you.”

Nolo nodded taking a deep breath. Sam led her to a door and knocked before opening. Nolo walked in behind her.

The woman behind the desk raised her head from her laptop and looked at Nolo.

“Ms. Feni.”

“Good morning.”

“Thank you Sam.”

Samantha walked out. The HR Senior Manager looked at Nolo.

“We are sorry about your..uh sister.”

“Thank you. I have left everything in the hands of God.”

“You can take a sit. I am actually impressed you could come after that.”

“My sister would have wanted that.”

She sat down and looked at her taking a deep breath in.

\*

Thirty minutes later, Nolo walked out of her office. Sam looked at her as Nolo closed the door.

She walked over to Sam then hugged her tightly. “I got it!”

Sam let out a muffled scream as they jumped like teenagers in their heels and formal wears.

Nolo laughed. “I signed the contract. You are looking at Ms. Feni, Economist Assistant Manager.”

Sam smiled. “You will be the official manager. The current Economist is close to retiring. She should be going in six months or so. She’s going to show you the ropes, if you impress, the big office is yours.”

“I have never seen so many zeros as my salary. I never thought I could ever earn more than...” Nolo tearfully looked at her. “Thank you!”

“I liked you.”

Nolo smiled. “Let me go. I will see you on Monday.”

“See you Ms. Feni.”



They quickly exchanged numbers then Nolo walked out. She jumped in the Legend 50 be and called her sister.

“Nolo...”

“I got it!”

“Oh yes!”

Nolo laughed. “I signed the contract!”

“Good. Oh I am so happy. My heart was in my mouth the whole time. I have never seen myself speed so much in my life.”

“I got it Nicky... I got it. I got it...”

“I am stopping the car.”

“I got the job. Can you believe my salary. A whole 15k monthly! With benefits of uh.. accommodation. I want to cry.”

Nicole sniffed. “I am so happy. I am so happy.”

Tears rolled down Nolo’s cheeks. “I got it.”

“You did. We need to celebrate this one.”

“Yes. I am starting on Monday.”

“Good. Go and type your resignation letter. You are resigning with immediate effect.”

“Yes. Good bye to P2000!”

Nicole laughed. “I can slow down now. Let me drive. I will call you.”

“Ok.”

Nolo hung up and started the car then drove off. Her phone rang, she looked at Kano calling. He had been calling since she drove off. She swiped her screen cutting the call driving to the internet Café.

Her phone started ringing again, she looked at the unsaved number calling and picked.

“Hello?”

“Is it Onolo Feni?”

Nolo frowned at the firm scary voice. “Yes.”

“Onolo, we are at a police station. I am commander office ya maSSG, don't forget the car you are driving when you come. Get your story straight of why you would take koloi ya tiro and use it for your own personal things.”

Her heart skipped. “Eerra.”

The call cut. She worriedly bit her lower lip and called her sister.

\*\*\*

At the police station, Nicole parked her Honda Fit next to the Legend 50. Nolo stepped out of the Legend 50 as Nicole got out of her Honda Fit.

Nicole walked over to her sister and took her hand as they walked inside the police station.

Nicole looked at the police officer on the front desk. “Dumelang, we are here to see Commander officer, we are bringing the BDF car.”

\*

Nolo and Nicole walked inside an office where two men were laughing.

They turned to them.

“Ladies..”

“Dumelang. My name is Onolo Feni. I have brought the car.”

The commander looked at her “Ehe! Why are you driving koloi ya sechaba?”

“My boyfriend borrowed it to me.”

“What boyfriend?”

“Kano Moremi.”

“So you two use this car for your personal things, do you know you are committing an offence? That car ke ya BDF kana wena o bona e le ya boyfriend ya gago? (This is BDF's car or yiu think it's your boyfriend's? Wena o mang? (Who are you?” He pointed at Nicole.

“Nicole Feni. Her lawyer, I am getting my facts right before ke ya go bula case ya harassment. (before I open a harassment case.)”

“Did you tell her that driving koloi ya sechaba is an offense?”

“It’s not because she was given this car by her boyfriend, if there’s anything you should be doing, it’s to put your people in order. Kano is the one who doesn’t respect that car. My client is just a civilian, o adimilwe koloi (she was borrowed the car) I actually want you to take this further so we go to court.”

The door opened then Kano walked in. He looked at Nolo and smiled.

“Hi.”

Nicole glared at him holding her sister’s hand protectively.

The commander took out his cigarette. “Tswa mo basading Kano o bereke! (Stay away from ladies Kano and work.)”

Kano laughed. “Yes sir!”

“Take your people and go.”

Kano opened the door for them. Nicole walked out with Nolo. They walked to the parking lot. Nolo sighed.

“Let me give him his car keys.”

“Ok.”

Nicole got in her car as Nolo walked over to Kano. He smiled staring at her. “You look beautiful. You got it?”

“Yes. Here are your car keys.”

Kano smiled. “I was messing with you. You think I’d actually block you from getting a better paying job? You know I hate that place that pays you peanuts. I was messing with you. I was going to drop you off.”

She looked at him. “You didn’t sound like you were messing with me.”

“Come on babe... I know how much you have been applying. I know how much you have been suffering at the old job. If I didn’t want you to get a better paying job I wouldn’t have been applying for you in Gaborone. I was just messing with you. I would never take a big opportunity like that away from you. Come on babe.... I am proud of you.”

Nicole hooted. Kano smiled. "She doesn't like me."

"No. I don't know if I still want this relationship. What happened in the morning scared me so much I am finding it hard to believe you were just messing with me. I don't know what happened with your previous relationships but you need to heal from it. You are too controlling and overbearing. Wa boulela and I don't think I can do it anymore. I think it's best we go our separate ways. I love you but I am already scared of you. I don't think that's how a relationship is supposed to be." She put the keys in his hands and walk to her sister's car.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#16

Nicole looked at her sister smiling. Nolo smiled back.

"What?"

"I don't even know what I was going to stay in the interview. I was going to cry kere my sister is dead."

They burst into laughter.

"You would have gotten away with it."

Nicole smiled. "You think?"

"Definitely."

Nicole drove inside Nolo's yard. They walked inside, Nolo took off her heels and sat on the bed.

"Do you love him?"

Nolo looked at her. "Yes. But I don't think it will work out."

"Why?"

"Wa boulela. Gape he's too insecure."

"What does he do?"

"He's just... o jealous thata. Every make I talk to, he gets jealous."

Nicole nodded. "And you can't handle it? Did you tell him that?"

"I have. More than once. How is Thabiso?"

Nicole smiled. "We are fine.. he's fine. So far. Unless he has his true colors hidden behind. I wouldn't know yet. What I know is that there's a jealous nurse he was sleeping with at the hospital. He says they were fuck buddies and that it ended. I am choosing to trust him-"

Nicole paused as Nolo tied her hair into a bun.

"What happened to your face?"

Nolo shook her head. "Allergic reaction. I don't know what I ate. I took Allergex."

Nicole nodded. Nolo's phone started ringing. She took it out and look at Kano calling. She put her phone on silent then joined her sister on the bed chatting.

\*\*\*

Kano tried calling her again but she still wasn't picking. His wife started calling.

"Amo."

"Hi, how far are you?"

"I am still in Jwaneng."

"What time are you coming?"

"Not now. I will tell you."

"Kano what's going on? You are different lately."

"What are you talking about?"

"You know what I am talking about. Is there someone else? If there is, just tell me. I am not going to shout at you. I think I'd rather know that you are with her than trying to crack my head stressed."

"O bua ka eng? (What are you talking about?)"

"I know there is someone else. I can tell you are trying to keep us both happy. Please use a condom.. the worst thing would be you bringing

diseases to me when I am faithful to you. Or bring it a child in that mixture.”

“There is no one else. I am just busy at work. If I could tell my supervisors no, I would. I am not cheating, there’s no one else.”

“Ok.”

He sighed. “Isn’t it too early for accusation?”

“I feel neglected. That’s why.”

“I can’t always be with you Amogelang. I have a job, if I didn’t have one then I’d stay home and fuck you the entire day but bills need to get paid akere?”

“You were not like this before.”

“And I won’t be like that forever. I have to go. I will call you when I leave. Sharp.”

He hung up parked a distant from Nolo’s house and it seemed her sister was still around, she probably wouldn’t leave tonight.

He took a deep breath and sent her a message.

Kano: Hey babe, I know you are upset, I wish you knew just how much I love you. I wouldn’t have sabotaged you like that. Can we talk?

He waited for a reply but as more minutes passed he figured she wouldn’t talk to him.

He tried calling again but she still didn’t pick. He typed another message.

Kano: Please talk to me. I love you.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Amo looked at her phone over two hours later. He still hadn’t called.

Her aunts had advised her on what to do in a situation like that but the fact that she knew he was with another woman broke her heart.

Tears filled her eyes. She couldn't understand what she could possibly be doing wrong. She swallowed a painful lump trying to resist calling him again.

She picked her phone and called her aunt.

"Momo..."

Amo smiled. "Aunty, how are you?"

"I am fine my girl. How are you?"

"I am fine." She sighed. "I have an issue in my house."

"What is it?"

"Kano is cheating."

"You caught him?"

"No..I just know. I know him."

"Do you have evidence?"

"No. But I know he is."

"Amo, you need take heart my child. You are suspecting he is cheating. You have no evidence that he is cheating. Just assumptions. You need to start trusting your man. You can't always be suspecting him like that. But even if he's cheating, men are made to cheat. They cheat all day, everyday. There's nothing you can do about it. You give him sex every night, he will still cheat. You cook and iron, he will still cheat, you do everything right, he will still cheat. Men are like kids... whether he eats or not, a child will still say yes to the neighbors food. They are like that. You need to accept it. Crying over it won't make him stop. You just need to be strong. Marriage needs strength my girl. You need to kneel down and pray for your husband. Pray for your marriage. Pray for God's guidance. I will pray you. Close your eyes and let's pray."

A tear rolled down Amo's cheek as her aunty prayed. She couldn't understand why she thought that ring on his finger would change him.

\*\*\*

Later on at a bar in Mogoditshane, Thabiso parked his car talking to Nicole.

“I miss you too.. I am happy for your sister.”

“Not more than me. I have prayed for her to get a better job for the longest time. This is her chance to shine.”

“You are a good person. I love that you are beautiful in and out.”

Nicole laughed. “I just love my sister.”

“I can tell. I just arrived at the bar. Let me drink two and go home.”

“Ok. I love you.”

“I love you too.”

Thabiso hung up and stepped out of his car. He locked the door looking at the packed bar then pulled down his t-shirt looking around.

He called his friend walking towards the braai steam

“Eita Mister!”

“I am here, le kae? (Where are you?)”

“By the braai side. Oh there, I see you!”

His friend waved in a red t-shirt. Thabiso hung up and walked over.

They bumped shoulders with both his friends. Thabiso looked at the ladies they had. One of the ladies smiled at him.

“Hi handsome...”

He looked at her. “Hi. I have a girlfriend.”

She laughed. “What she doesn’t know won’t kill her.”

“It will kill me. You don’t have to hit on me to continue drinking the free alcohol. We don’t have to do this.”

Thabiso moved from her and picked a can of beer from the coolerbox while she looked at him surprised but he seemed unbothered.

\*\*\*



Nicole got in her car the following morning while Nolo stood by.

“I will call you when I arrive.”

“Ok.”

Nicole started her car and drove off. Nolo walked back in room and got in bed reaching for her phone.

She looked at Kano’s messages and ignored them. She stopped pressing her phone as someone knocked on her door. She stood up and opened. Her neighbor smiled.

“Hi Nolo, I am going out but my girlfriend is supposed to come over. Can I leave the keys with you then she will come and collect or are you going somewhere?”

“No. I am home. You can leave them with me.”

“Thanks, was that your sister?”

Nolo smiled. “Yes.”

“You guys look alike.”

Nolo laughed then paused as Kano drove in. She took a deep breath watching him step out of his car.

Gary handed the keys to Nolo. “Sharp akere?”

“Yeah, later.”

Kano glared at him as he walked out. He walked over to Nolo holding flowers.

“Hi.”

“Hi.”

“Can I come in?”

Nolo sighed and walked inside her room. She took out his clothes from her wardrobe as he closed the door behind him.

“I have folded your clothes. I don’t have an extra bag, should I put them in a plastic?”

“Who was that?”

“My neighbor.”

“And what was he doing here? Did he sleep here?”

“No, Kano I am not doing this with you. I am not in the mood to argue with you. Gape this is getting boring now. Why do you always think I am cheating? If I wanted to cheat I’d do it and you would never suspect anything. This is another reason I am done with this relationship. It’s boring, I have had enough. Koore it’s always one thing after the other. There’s no break with you. I don’t want this relationship anymore, I told you yesterday. You and I are done so even if he slept here, it shouldn’t bother you because we broke up.”

“So you are admitting to sleeping with him?”

“Admitting to what? What did I admit to?”

“You think I am fool Onolo?”

“Can you leave my house?”

Kano angrily turned then turned back to her giving her a back slap that she fell.

He pulled her up. “O bata go ntwaela wena, o ntwaela masepa but ke tsile go go tsenya mo tseleng.”

“I am going to report-“

He slapped her again. Nolo screamed. Kano pulled her with her best punching her face.

“Its this face that makes you think you can behave like this. Kea go go tsenya mo tseleng gompieno.”

“Thusang! (Help)”

He punched her harder as if he were in a fist fight with another man.

Blood filled Nolo’s mouth as she fell, her head spinning in confusion. He sat on her punching her.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires of Desire

#17

Nolo screamed as he punched her even more, she put her arms on her face trying to protect herself from the blows. Kano got up and kicked her. She curled her body into a ball as he kicked her harder.

He pulled her up with her hair and threw.

“Kano-“

Kano pressed her against the wall strangling her. Nolo gasped as he cut off her airway completely. She scratched him fighting. Tears rolled down, Kano threw her on the bed.

He walked out and came back holding his gun. Nolo broke down crying.

“I am sorry Kano. I love you.”

“I will kill you do you hear me?”

She nodded crying. “Sorry. I love you. Please don’t kill me.”

He looked at her as she cried so much on the bed. Her blood staining the bed duvet.

“Please... I am sorry.”

Kano’s phone rang from his pocket. He took it out and cut the call. He put the gun down.

“What was he doing here?”

“He was dropping off his keys. His girlfriend is coming, she will pick them up.”

“If I find out that you are cheating on me, I will kill you and burry you where no one will ever find you. Do you hear me? And I will kill the both of you. Why are you opening the door in shorts? What do you want him to see?”

“I am sorry.”

“If I ever catch you wearing anything above your knees, ke tsile go go gata! O ntwaela marete wena! You think you can do as you please because of that big mouth of yours, o ta nyela.”

“I am sorry.”

“No one is walking out of this relationship do you hear me? No one is walking out, you will only walk out in a coffin.”

“I love you.”

“Get up.”

Nolo slowly got off bed still crying.

“You are making noise. O bata go utwa ke mang?”

Nolo pressed her lips together, her other eye swelling making it hard for her to see.

He pulled her to her bathroom where he opened the shower then undressed her.

“Bath.”

Nolo slowly stepped under the cold water. Water washed down the blood.

“Bath!”

Tears rolled down as she rubbed herself on her bed then her face, the cold so cold numbing her body.

He closed the water minutes later. He handed her a towel. Nolo wiped herself then wrapped the towel around her body.

Kano led her out taking her back to her bedroom. He took the towel off her body and pushed her on the bed taking off his t-shirt.

Tears fell to the corner of Nolo’s bed as he unzipped his pants and got on top of her getting between her legs, his dic already hard.

He pushed three fingers deep inside her that she flinched in pain.

“Akere you behave like a whore? I will treat you like one because that’s what you like. Don’t bore me with those crocodile tears. This is what you like, being treated like this. You like it.”

“Kano please, I-“

“Don’t talk. Your voice annoys me. I am going to fuck you like a worthless whore you are.”

He took out his fingers and pushed his dic in hurting her.

Kano held her waist fucking her hard. Nolo looked at him and put on her hands on her face crying moving back.

“Why are you crying?”

He slapped her hands off her face. "This is how you want to be treated akere?"

He put his hands on her throat while slamming into her. Nolo cried even more.

"Kano-"

He started chocking her grunting. Nolo tried to push of his hand, Kano slapped her. Nolo let go, pain making her cheek burn. She cried as he carried on f\*cking her, her body betraying her.

She got wet with each stroke. Kano carried on pounding into her. Her p\*ssy sucked squeezing him making him grunt.

Kano slid out and pulled her to the edge of the bed. He opened her legs and pushed inside her pussy with a groan. He squeezed her breast so hard it was painful while he moving his waist. He tapped a sweet sensitive spot.

Kano looked at her crying then looked at her juices as he slid out knowing she was enjoying it He leaned over and sucked her pussy before getting up closing her thighs then pushed her legs to her chest. He looked at her thick closed pussy lips, his dick throbbing oozing with pre-cum.

He pushes through and sank deep inside her, her entire pussy hugging him.

Kano started fucking her, he continuously tapped her sweet spot. Pleasure having her pussy narrowing on his dic as he fucked her more.

He went harder grunting. He let go of legs and laid on top of her breathing onto her neck flattening himself deep in her. He moved his waist drilling her pussy.

Kano closed his eyes at the intense pleasure her pussy was giving him, it felt so good, so good he wanted to continue enjoying her though he could feel his cum come rushing through.

Nolo closed her eyes defeated, tears rolling down as she convulsed letting it out.

Kano grunted pushing further into her and filled her with his fertile seeds.

He slid out a minute later and got off her.

Nolo closed her legs and turned to her side. Kano looked at her and sighed feeling way better.

He looked at her she remained still on the bed. She had bruises all over, some were darker than others.

He packed his dic then kissed her.

“Are you in pain? I never want to hurt you but you push me to this every single time. It’s like you enjoy it when we are fighting. All I want to do is love you and have you respecting me. That’s all babe. If you respect me as your man you and I won’t even have a reason to fight. I love you. I just wish you respected me enough as your man.”

Nolo remained quiet and still. Kano kissed her back caressing her soft skin.

“I love you so much. I’d do anything for you because I love you. All you have to do is say the word. I understand you didn’t like my joke but you know me by now to understand I only want nothing but the best for you. I want you to be happy. I love you. Do you want painkillers?”

He looked at her as kept her silence, her head buried under her arms.

He turned her and looked at her. Nolo looked at her, tears in her eyes. Her left eye was swollen and completely closed. Her lips were in swollen and cut. Her entire face was so swollen and bruised, he could barely recognize her.

He kissed her swollen lips

“I hate seeing you like this. I love you. And I am sorry. Can we never fight like this please? I will make it all up to you. Ok?”

Tears fell. Kano kissed her neck, her naked body having his dic getting hard all over again. He took out his dic and turned her so she could lie flat on her stomach then proceeded to having his way with her while she remained still.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#18

In Gaborone, hours later, Nicole drove through her gate and parked her car. She looked over at Thabiso's house but his car was not there.

She stepped out of her car calling him.

"Hello?"

"Hi, are you home?"

There was movement as she unlocked her door.

"Ma?"

"Are you home?"

"No. I was too drunk to drive. I am at a friend's house."

"Oh..."

"Yeah, but I am on my way home now."

"Ng Ng, don't feel pressured. I was just asking because I didn't see your car."

"You are back?"

"Yes."

"I will be there just now."

"Don't cut down your fun. You can chill there. I just thought you slept home because that's what you said when I last called you."

"I was going to sleep home. But then I had another beer. I couldn't drive."

"Ok."

"Ke eta."

"Ok."

She hung up walking inside her house unable to shake off how uneasy she was feeling. She thoughtfully called her sister.

Her phone rang unanswered till the call cut. She called again.

"Hello?"

Nicole frowned at the male voice. "Who's this?"

"It's Kano. We didn't officially get introduced yesterday."

“Where is my sister?”

“She’s sleeping.”

“Sleeping?”

“Yes. But I will tell her you called.”

“Wake her up. I want to talk to my sister.”

“She just slept, I don’t want to disturb her but I promise, when she wakes up, I will tell her you called.”

“Nolo doesn’t sleep in the afternoons. She’s ...please wake her up. Is she not feeling well?”

“She said her head was aching. That’s all. I gave her some painkillers, after that she slept. Can I please just let her sleep, I will tell her you called.”

Nicole took a deep breath. “She was fine when I left.”

“When I got there she said her head was aching. I am about to go and get her some food. Maybe when I come back, she would have woken up. I will tell her to call you back. I promise, I’d feel bad if I wake her up now and her head is still aching.”

Nicole took a deep breath and sighed. “Thank you.”

“You are welcome.”

Nicole hung up and stared at her phone.

“Nicole...”

Nicole jumped at the whisper in her ear. The hairs at the back of her neck all stood up. She quickly opened her hand bag and took out her pills. She threw two in her mouth.

The voice called her again fainter this time. She sat down with her fingers in her ears blocking it all out.

She snapped out of it minutes later as a car parked outside. She remained seated as Thabiso walked in.

He looked at her.

“Hey...”

Nicole looked at him not blinking. The voice calling her still.



“Babe... are you ok?”

She blinked the tears in her eyes. She looked at him wanting to tell him the voice was back and torturing it.

Thabiso guiltily looked at her. “I am sorry babe. But I swear I was at a friend’s house. I swear to you. I should have told you. I am sorry.”

He sat next to her holding her hand. “I am sorry.”

Nicole blinked away her tears as he hugged her

\*\*\*

Amo looked at the time then picked her phone and called him.

“Mma Moremi...”

“Where are you Kano? If this is how it was going to be, why did you let us get married?”

“I am sorry.”

“You have been saying you are coming, what is that girl giving you that you are not getting here at home?”

He laughed. “There’s no another girl babe.”

“There is! You and I both know there is! O bata divorce nerra? La pala lenyalo?”

“I am sorry. I am coming.”

“I am tired of the lies. I am really thought you’d change, the least you can do is just stop lying Kano.”

“I am coming. I am not cheating. I am sorry. Today I am coming, I promise. Don’t be mad mma Moremi... you are the only one. I love you. I am sorry. I am coming then I will be all yours.”

“Don’t call me Mma Moremi if you are lying to me. I don’t know why you keep lying to me. It’s like I can do anything to you.”

“There is no one. I promise. I love you. I am sorry. I am on my way.”

Amo hung up and looked at her phone, her heart aching.

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng, Kano looked at Nolo who was sleeping. He sighed and finished off applying the bruise cream on her body.

He kissed her. "Babe, what do you want to eat?"

He shook her gently. Nolo remained still, he shook her even more.

"Nolo!"

Nolo slowly opened her other eye just a bit while the other remained closed and swollen. They were both purplish and swollen now.

He kissed her nose. "Babe..."

Nolo tried to move then stopped. Kano kissed her cheek.

"I am going to the mall, what do you want at the mall?"

She tried to talk but her lips were too swollen she could hardly say anything.

"I can bring liquids too"

She made a sound, every part of her body in pain.

"I will lock you inside. Just sleep..I will be back."

"Ng..."

He kissed her cheek. "Stay here. We are fixing things akere? Can I not chase you around like a lost chicken? I don't want us fighting again. We are going to work on this. I am taking your phone too. I don't want you getting influenced by random people."

She looked at him and closed her eyes, a tear falling. He picked her phone and sighed.

"I love you so much. More than anything. I will be back quickly. You and I am are going to keep trying to make this work because I was serious, no one is walking away. If you try leaving me after everything I will kill you then kill myself. I promise you, I will kill us both. You and I are going to fix things and be happy."

She nodded. He smiled then walked out with her phone locking her inside the house. Nolo remained still as he drove off. Seconds later she gathered her strength and got off bed. She opened her wardrobe taking out of her old severely broken Samsung.

She took her old simcard and put it inside. She sat on the bed connecting it to the charger.

She switched it on and tried tapping the screen but the ruined screen refused to cooperate. Tears filled her eyes.

Nolo slapped the phone and tried swiping the screen to unlock it but it refused still.

She put her hands on her face crying for five seconds before getting up. She opened window and started yelling.

“Thusang! Help me! Thusang!”

She screamed louder but no one was coming.

She cried screaming. “Thusang! Help me! Help!”

The legend 50 drove back in speeding. Nolo’s heart skipped. She moved from the window, her heart pounding.

She looked at her wardrobe then moved over and pushed it to the door grunting.

Kano unlocked the door from outside as she pushed the bed against the wardrobe too.

Kano tried opening the door.

“Nolo!”

Nolo pushed her fridge too.

“Nolo! What’s on the door?”

She closed the window and her curtains and moved the rest of the furniture against the door, her heart racing.

She picked her knife and held it, shaking while he tried pushing the door pushing his weight on it..

“Onolo if you don’t open this door right now you and I are going to have a problem when I open it. Are you listening to me?! I am giving you a

chance to open it. If you don't, today will be your last day breathing. I am not bluffing!"

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#19

Nolo slowly sat down as he continued trying to push the door but with everything against it, the door barely budged. She slowly sat down on floor shaking.

"Onolo!"

She laid down and closed her eyes while he yelled outside.

"Onolo!"

Minutes went by then he stopped and knocked on the door.

"Babe.. can we talk? Please open up."

Onolo closed her eyes zooming out bit by bit till his yelling sounded so further away.

\*

Outside, Kano walked to the car and jumped in. He took her phone then unlocked the screen. He went through all her messages on every social media application.

She had loads of unopened messages on Facebook, most of them were from men asking her out.

He blocked everyone and sighed. His phone rang, he looked at Amo calling. He ignored her call and started to the car. He reversed out and drove off.

Kano parked his car far from her house then walked back using the back street. He jumped through her yard from the back.

There was no sounds or movement from inside the house. He sat down waiting.

\*\*\*

Later that day, Nicole called her sister but her phone just rang unanswered.

Nicole frowned worriedly and texted her.

Nicole: What's going on? Are you ok?

She sent the message and looked at her phone then tried calling her again.

"The number you have dialed is not available at the moment, please try again later. This is a free announcement from Mascom. The number-"

Nicole looked at her phone knowing that the phone had purposely been switched off. Nicole bit her lower lip thoughtfully. Thabiso opened the toilet and looked at her.

"Are you ok?"

"She switched off her phone. I am worried. She hasn't called me back the whole day."

"What if she's busy with her boyfriend? Didn't you say he's there? Maybe they are just celebrating."

"Why was he answering her calls?"

"Didn't he say she had a headache? Is it wrong for her man to answer her phone seeing it was you calling?"

Nicole stood up and pulled up her panty. "I am just worried."

"I am sure she is fine."

"I feel uneasy."

Thabiso cupped her face. "I am sure she's fine. You are just overthinking this. How many times have her phone gotten switched off and you ended up not getting hold of her? You worry too much. She's fine. She will call you back as soon as she gets the time."

Nicole sighed. "Ok."

He kissed her. "Come and eat."

He took her hand and led her to the sitting room.

\*\*\*

Hours passed as it got darker. Kano scratched his mosquito bites sitting outside on her veranda. It got even darker as he froze outside. His heart skipped as something from the house moved.

He listened carefully and he could tell she was awake.

\*

Inside the house, Nolo looked at the dried blood stains on her floor. She turned catching her reflection on the mirror. She slowly walked over and looked at herself. She didn't look like herself. The other eye was still closed and now dark purple. The other one too but it was not as bruised, she could still see with it.

Warm tears rolled down as a clear image of how her mother had looked like after receiving a beating from the man who claimed to love her displayed in her mind.

She couldn't quite remember if she had been nine or younger, but she remembered how her mother had looked in her mind... just like her.

Nolo looked away from the mirror, she could still smell him in her room... on her body. It was as if he was still there.

She slowly opened her curtain just slightly and the car was gone. He had long left but his presence lingered in the air.

Nolo opened her fridge and took out the plastic of her frozen veggies and gently pressed it into her skin looking at her furniture that was against the door.

She thought of moving it to go to the bathroom but what if he came back?

He'd finish her off. She crawled into the bed and sighed holding her pee..

\*

Kano listened as the movement stopped. It seemed she was sleeping now. He leaned against the wall, his body shaking as he froze.

\*\*\*

The following morning, in the early hours, Nicole laid on her bed looking up at the ceiling. She looked at Thabiso who was sleeping next to her and got off bed.

She walked to her sitting room holding her phone and tried calling her again but her phone was still off. She thought of driving there to see what was going on.

She sent another message.

Nicole: Nolo please reply me. I am so worried about you. Should I come there?

She looked at her phone sitting down waiting for response but nothing seemed to be happening.

\*\*\*

Amo scrolled on her Facebook timeline passing time. She laughed at a meme then continued scrolling.

It was just after four and he still hadn't called yet. As much as she tried not to think about it, her mind still took her back there.

Amo put down her phone and tried closing her eyes to sleep but she felt even more restless.

She picked her phone and called him but he didn't pick. A message came through from him as she typed.

Kano: Hey. I am at the police station. I was in an accident yesterday on my way there. They arrested me saying I was drunk. Just got my phone back.

He sent a picture of the damaged car. She swallowed looking at the damage.

She tried calling again. He cut the call and sent a message.

Kano: I can't answer the phone. I will call you back. I am fine. I thought I would die but I am fine.

She replied worried.

Amo: Are you hurt?

Kano: Just a scratch. I will call you.

Amo sighed feeling guilty.

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng that same morning, Nolo finished packing some of her clothes. She put on her tracksuit and put a scarf on her face then put on a cap.

She looked out through the window, it was still a bit dark. She shoved her money in her pocket then pushed the furniture off.

She moved the bed, the door knob moved then Kano started pushing the door.

Nolo's heart skipped as she ran to her door and pushed her wardrobe against the door.

"Babe... I am not going to do anything to you. I swear. Please... I am not going to do anything to you. I promise..I am begging you."

"Help! Help me! Thusang! Nthuseng!"

\*\*\*



Tanya paused cleaning hearing the house from her neighbor early in the morning. With her boss out on a trip, she feared stepping out of the house but the screaming continued. It sounded like the same screams she had been hearing yesterday, but this time louder.

She took a deep breath and walked out. She reached for a bucket and stepped on it to see above the walls.

Her heart skipped as she looked at the man trying to break her neighbor's door.

She ran inside the house and pressed the emergency button shaking. She swallowed thinking of going to help but what if the thief stole her boss's furniture too?

She swallowed and set off the alarm so the security system could come faster.

\*\*\*

Kano pushed into the door with so much force pushing the wardrobe and slightly opened the door.

Nolo tried to push back her wardrobe but Kano pushed even more as if he was breaking into a thieves house. The wardrobe shook.

Nolo screamed even louder. Kano continued banging into the door with his body overpowering her.

Nolo's heart pounded as she looked around, she let go of the wardrobe and picked her big knife.

Kano pushed the door with so much power, the wardrobe fell, the mirror on it shattering.

He pushed through the space he had created.

“Babe-“

Nolo looked at him and raised her hand and lodged the knife on his chest.

He staggered back, confused and in shock, the knife on his chest.

Nolo pulled it out gaining the upper hand and stabbed him again.  
She picked her bag from the floor as he staggered back.  
She pushed herself out through the door and ran off, her feet moving forward.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#20

Nolo breathed heavily running carrying her bag. She looked back and continued running. She slowed down running out of breath, her chest burning hot.

She coughed stopping, sweat trickling down her back as she breathed heavily dropping her bag. She looked around and sat on top of her bag feeling her legs weaken.

She got up minutes later and walked to the road where she stopped a combi fixing her scaff covering her face. She jumped in the combi pulling down her cap to hide her face even more.

Nolo looked at her shaking hands and took a deep breath.

\*

At the police station, Nolo walked inside going to the front desk. A male police officer looked at her.

Nolo took a deep breath. "I want to open a case of assault."

The police officer looked at her. "Assault?"

Nolo took off her cap and the scaff. The police officer looked at her face and frowned.

"Who assaulted you?"

"My boyfriend. I want to open a case."

“Your boyfriend beat you like that?”

“Yes.”

“What did you do?”

“What?”

“What did you do for him to beat you like that? No one would ever just beat you like that for no reason. What did you do?”

Nolo blinked. “I broke up with him the day before yesterday because he’s controlling and violent. Yesterday he came to my house early in the morning. My neighbor had been dropping off his house keys for his girlfriend. He was going out so his girlfriend had to collect the keys from me. That’s when Kano arrived. After my neighbor left, he started with his insecurities and that’s when he started beating me saying no one is leaving the relationship. He was...” Nolo’s voice shook as tears filled her eyes. “He was punching me. Then he started kicking me. After that he raped me. He took my phone and locked me inside the house. I pushed my furniture against the door to keep him out. In the morning, he pushed in. I stabbed him and ran off.”

“He just started beating you because your neighbor was dropping off the keys?”

“Yes.”

“That doesn’t make sense. Your story doesn’t make sense. No one can just beat you for that unless you and the neighbor were having an affair. You can’t come here to lie to us. We don’t deal with liars here. We are working and lying to us is a form of wasting our time.”

Tears rolled down. “I am not lying.”

“You are lying. No one can just beat you for something as innocent as that. You were cheating and he beat you for that.”

“I am not lying... ga ke bue maaka.”

“After he beat you, you found the strength to push your furniture against the door?”

“I had to or he was going to come back and continue hurting me.”

“Hurt you for cheating on him. Where is the evidence that he raped you? How does a person you are in a relationship rape you? You are full of

lies Iona. You are not the first one to come here to lie wasting our time. Where is the evidence?"

"He forced me to take a bath but-"

"Then there's no case ya rape. There's no evidence. Where do you stay? We need to go and find out if you didn't kill someone. If you did you should know you are going to get hung. If not, you are still going to jail for attempted murder. You can write a statement and we will do our investigations."

Nolo looked at him crying. "He is not dead. He threatened to kill me. Please help me."

"Write your statement. We will take it from there. We are going to do a thorough investigation. Write your statement. And cover yourself up. You look scary."

Nolo covered herself and wrote her statement, her hand shaking.

"I want a restraining order."

"Under what basis? You'd have to wait for us to do our investigations then we will grant it."

"I am scared for my life."

"We will grant it once we are through with the investigations. Just wait there."

He walked away with her statement. Nolo looked around, there was no one, just her or maybe it was just time.

She sniffed waiting. He walked back minutes later.

"We will call you. You can go."

She blinked and slowly walked out defeated. She slowly walked then stopped finding it hard to hold her cries.

A school girl walking past her slowed down looking at Nolo crying.

She turned to her. "Aunty, are you ok?"

Nolo looked at her sobbing. The school girl looked around and touched Nolo.

"Aunty..."

Nolo's scaff fell off her face. The school girl looked at her face, her heart skipping. She swallowed.

"Aunty..."

Nolo pulled herself together. "Do you have a phone?"

"Eemma. But I don't have much airtime."

"I just need to call my sister."

"Ok."

The school girl took out her phone from her pocket and handed it to her sadly.

Nolo quickly dialed Nicole's number and called her.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Nicole's phone rang in her hand waking her up.

She quickly picked seating upright on her couch.

"Hello?"

"Nicole.." Nolo started crying. Nicole quickly stood up.

"Nolo... what's wrong?"

"Kano is going to kill me. He beat me yesterday after you left. He is he going to kill me. Kano is going to kill me. He-"

The call cut. Nicole quickly called the number back.

"Nolo..."

"He came home and started beating me then he raped me. After that he took my phone and locked me inside the house. I pushed the furniture against the door so he wouldn't open. I think he never left, I thought he left because his car was gone. In the morning, I pushed the furniture off so I could run away but he was there and..."

Nicole swallowed listening to her sister crying.

"He pushed in and I stabbed him then ran away."

"Go to the police and stay there till I come."

“I went and the police said I am lying.. they said I am lying. He was punching me. He...”

Nicole’s tears rolled down as she listened.

“He said he is going to kill me.”

“Who’s phone is this?”

“A school child I bumped into. I have money. Can I come there? I took a few things.”

“Ok. Come. Borrow a phone once you get in a bus. I will wait for you ko renkeng. If they can’t open a case there, we will open one here in Gaborone.”

“Ok.”

“I am sorry. I knew something was wrong. I should have come there. I felt something was wrong but I thought I was just overthinking it.”

Nolo cried too. Nicole sniffed. “Go to the ran and get in a bus.”

“Ok.”

She cut the call. Nicole looked at her phone as Thabiso walked over.

“What’s going on?”

“It was Nolo. Kano beat her yesterday. I should have went there. I knew something was wrong. I should have went there.”

Thabiso hugged her as she cried.

\*\*\*

The nurse finished bandaging Kano then she said.

“You should be fine in a few weeks.”

Kano smiled getting off bed. “Your hands are gentle.”

The nurse laughed. “Thank you.”

“What’s your name again?”

She took off her gloves. “Go and get the medicine I prescribed for you. You can go so I take in another patient.”

Kano put on his t-shirt and looked at her badge.

He smiled. "Bye."

She looked at him and smiled as he walked out. Kano walked to TK's car and jumped in.

"What's going on?"

Kano sighed. "Nolo is cheating. We got into a fight yesterday because she wouldn't tell the truth and she kept calling me insecure though I had seen her neighbor leave her house early in the morning.. It was intense and I regret putting my hands on her but I lost it. We made up after that then I left, I took her phone because I wanted to find out when the cheating had started. When I came so we could talk she we wouldn't let me in. Today in the morning, I forced myself in and that's when she stabbed me and ran away Thuto called me saying she was at the police station trying to open a case. He brushed her off.'

"See? She's not worth it. You should leave that girl alone and focus on your wife."

"I love her. You don't understand. I love Nolo and this is something we can solve. I am not losing her to this. We will work things out. Right now she's upset and scared. I am going to get her the car."

TK frowned. "What car? The car you were going to get for Amo?"

"Amo doesn't need another car. Nolo doesn't have one."

TK looked at him and drove off more than just defeated.

"Let's go to Gaborone. I know where she went."

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#21

At Bus Rank later that morning, Nicole waited by the entrance of the bus that had just arrived from Jwaneng.

Her heart raced as people stepped down, she looked up. Nolo finally made her way down. Nicole tearfully looked at her opening her arms. Nolo hurried and hugged her crying.

Nicole held her tightly, her own tears filling her eyes. Some people looked as Nolo cried a heart wrenching cry.

Nicole sniffed silently crying. "It's ok Nolo.. "

Minutes went by as Nolo tried to keep quiet. Nicole finally let go and picked her bag. They walked to the car and got in. Nicole's heart skipped as Nolo removed the scarf and cap.

"God!"

Nolo blinked. Nicole gently touched her sister's face.

"He did this to you?"

Nolo nodded. Nicole took a deep breath, pain strangling her. Tears itched her eyes. She started the car and drove to the Central Police.

She parked and looked at Nolo.

"We are opening a case. He's not getting away with this. I don't care where this is going to get but he's not getting away with it nor is that police in Jwaneng. That animal deserves to get locked up and I will make sure he does."

Nolo held her sister's hand. "I stabbed him. What if I get arrested for attempted murder?"

"It was in self defense. I will hire a lawyer. He's going to pay for this. I knew there was something I hated about him. Come. Remove the scarf and cap..they need to see what he did to you."

Nicole stepped out with her. She held her hand and led her inside.

The people inside all turned looking at them. The police officers also turned and looked at Nolo, their mouths dropping.

Nicole walked to the female police officer by the front desk.

"Dumelang. My sister is here to open a case of assault."

The police officer looked at Nolo. "Bathong! What happened?"

"Her ex beat her yesterday."



“Modimo! To that extent?”

Nolo nodded. The police officer swallowed.

“Come this way.”

They followed after her to an office. She sat down and looked at them.

“Ware an ex beat you?”

Nolo took a deep breath. “Yes.”

The police officer stood up in shock. “What animal is he? Heelang! What is this?”

Nolo tearfully looked at her, tears burning her eyes.

“What animal does this? God!”

Nolo put her hand over her mouth crying.

The police officer looked at her swollen face. Anger and pain making it hard for her to imagine it. The pain from Nolo’s cries breaking her heart. She walked over and helped her stand.

“You have done the right thing coming here. You have done the rightful thing coming here do you hear me my girl?”

“I... I... I reported to the Jwaneng police but they said I was lying.”

“Lying? Did they not see this? Lying?”

“I think he knows them. He’ an SSG.”

“Well he doesn’t know us here! He certainly doesn’t know me! He doesn’t know me but he’s about to my girl.”

She hugged her. Nolo cried in her arms. Nicole sniffed wiping away her tears.

\*\*\*

Kano walked inside his house that same morning. He walked to his bedroom. Amo walked out of the bathroom and looked at him. She hurried to him and hugged him tightly.

“Hey...”

Kano took a deep breath holding her in his arms. "Hi... I missed you."

Amo moved back. "I am sorry."

"I will be fine."

Amo sighed. "So when are you going back to Jwaneng?"

"I am not. I am sorry I haven't been the best partner lately."

Amo looked at him. "You haven't been."

"I will change. I promise. I love you."

"I love you too."

He leaned over and kissed her. Amo kissed him back as he took off her dress then her bra. She helped him take off his t-shirt and paused looking at the bandage on his chest.

"What happened to you?"

He looked at her. "The accident wasn't just an accident. I said it so I don't stress you. We were chasing after thieves. I had to crush into them so they stop. When we stepped out, they attacked us and one stabbed me. But it's not intense. I will be fine."

Amo looked at him in shock.

Kano kissed her. "But I am fine. See? I am here. I am good."

"They could have killed you."

"They wouldn't. I am fine."

She touched the bandages. Kano kissed her again, this time pushing her on to the bed unzipping his pants. He pushed her panty to the side and pushed himself in then...

.

Kano slid out kissing her. "I am fine. I know you are worried but I am fine."

"What if you get killed?"

"I won't. Trust me."

"I don't want to lose you and become a single mother. I want my child to have both parents."

Kano looked at her. "Single mother?"

"I am pregnant."

He looked at her, a huge smile covering his face. "You are?"

She smiled. "Yes."

"Yes! Oh shit! We are expecting baby?"

Amo smiled looking at him. He hugged her.

"Thank you... oh God thank you."

"I love you. I don't want to lose you."

"I will be more careful. You are not losing me. Fuck I love you too. I love you so much. I love you baby."

She looked at the tears in his eyes, his emotions showing. She smiled knowing this baby was going to set things right in their marriage.

Kano rubbed his tearful eyes. "Thank you so much. I can't wait to see him."

Amo laughed. "Ok her."

"It's a him. I can feel it."

She laughed. "Ok."

"His name is Junior."

"I like it."

"God I love you."

\*\*\*

Later that day, Nicole gently bathed her sister. Nolo looked at her.

"Remember when you used to bath me?"

Nicole looked at her unable to remember it then smiled. "Yes..."

Nolo laughed. "It feels the same."

Nicole laughed too. "It does, doesn't it?"

Nicole helped her get out of the tub and wiped her. He covered her with a towel and led her to her bedroom and dressed her.

“You can lie down. I will bring you your food. We can watch something.”

“What am I going to say at work?”

“We will email them the police report and the pictures. That job is yours. The contract was signed.”

Nolo nodded. Nicole walked out and went to the kitchen where she drank her pills and sighed.

Her phone rang from her jean pocket. She looked at the unsaved number and picked.

“Hello?”

“Hi, it’s Kano. Has Nolo arrived?”

“What?”

“Has Nolo arrived?”

“You have the guts to call asking for my sister after everything you did Satan ke wena! Where do you get your confidence from?”

“Look-“

“You are going to rot in jail do you hear me? You are not going to get away with this!”

“If I were I’d stay away from my issues with Nolo.”

“If I were you I’d start watching videos on how to survive jail. You have messed with the wrong woman this time around you monster. You don’t know who you have messed with!”

“I don’t want to come there, let me speak to my girlfriend. Where have you seen a law enforcement officer going to jail?”

“Come here Kano Moremi. I will wait for you. Come to my house. You know where I stay. I can tell you sucked your father’s balls when you were young instead of your mother’s breast that’s why o tetsi marete yaana. Ke go emetsi. Come, wena I will gladly go to jail for you. Ke emetsi Satan ke wena! Come jou bastard!”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#22

Nicole took a deep breath then dished for her sister and walked to her bedroom. She looked at Nolo who had fallen asleep, the painkillers had knocked her down sooner than she expected.

She covered her and sighed staring at her face. Nicole walked back to the kitchen with the plate and sat in her sitting room looking at the TV though she wasn't watching.

She picked her phone and call her mother.

"Hello?"

"Mama.. Where is Papa?"

"He was admitted at the hospital because of his diabetes."

"Why didn't you tell me?"

"I didn't want to stress you unnecessarily."

"Stress me how? By telling me that your abuser is in hospital? I deserve to know. I hope he dies."

"Nicole..."

"Why do you stay?"

"Nicole-"

"Why do you stay? Please tell me... why?"

"I am too old, where can I-"

"You are too old for me what? To leave but you are not too old to continue getting beaten?"

"You don't understand."

"Then make me understand! I want to understand why! Please make me understand! Why did you stay with him?"

"I wasn't working. If I left you would have suffered with me. You -"

“We suffered still with him! We suffered still! Was it better for you to watch us get abused? Was it better?”

“You are angry. I understand why. I thought I was doing what was best. Yes, you are right. You suffered still but I feared what people would say about me... I feared leaving because I knew people would talk about me. They would call me all sorts of names. I thought he'd change. When I finally had the guts to leave, he almost killed you and Nolo. He said if I left then he'd kill you. I stayed because of fear. I also stayed because I love him. I can't even explain why but I do. I still do. I am sorry.”

“Nolo is in an abusive relationship.”

“She is what?”

“She is getting beaten. Just like you. She is suffering at the hands of a man. Just like you.. just like you taught us... akere that's the lesson you were trying are to teach us. That getting beaten is fine. And that you stay through it. You give him kids and let him beat them too. You traumatize your own kids because you love them. You should be happy. Your lessons are finally coming to life. You should be happy. Be proud of yourself.”

“What are you saying Nicole?”

“She has turned into a punching bag. Just like her mother. I guess the apple doesn't fall far from the tree does it mama?”

“That's not what I wanted. I just-“

“It is. Go and celebrate. Celebrate so much and dance. You must be happy. I know you are. Finally your children are following your footsteps. Be proud!”

“Nicole, I never wanted that.”

“You did. How do you let your children get abused because you love that abuser. You are most evil person I have ever met. I pray he kills you one of these days. I'd rather have you dead because you destroyed me and my sister. You destroyed us! I hope you die with him! I hate you.”

Nicole hung up trying to keep it together but emotions overwhelmed her she found herself crying. She cried so much till she couldn't.

\*\*\*

Amo finished preparing dinner an hour later. She looked at the time knowing her husband was almost home then went through her phone looking for a romantic song to play.

Her phone rang, she looked at the caller and ignored it scrolling through her songs. Her phone rang again.

She sighed and picked. "Hello?"

"You are pregnant?"

"Yes."

"Is it mine?"

"Teko please don't do this."

"Is it mine?"

"No."

"Stop lying Amo. You are not giving your husband my baby. You know that child is mine. You know it."

"This baby is Kano's. I slept with you only once."

"I wanted DNA tests."

"I will not do any DNA tests because this baby is Kano's. I slept with you only once. It was only once on that day before the wedding."

"I want DNA tests because Kano is not going to raise my child. I can promise you that. You are not going to give my child to him."

"I regret that night with everything in me."

"You are lying. You know you enjoyed every moment if it. You know you still think about it. You loved it. And you want it again. You should know you married your worst mistake. I am not saying it because I want you but I know him. He's my friend. You married your worst mistake and he's yet going to hurt you. You have harbored a dangerous snake in the house. It's not going to change, rather it will wrap itself around you slowly till it swallows you. Don't relax. Be careful."

"Stop calling me! What if he was home?"

“He is not. I always know where he is. I am going to do DNA tests. If that baby is mine I am going to take him. You are free to come with.”

Amo hung up and quickly deleted the call. She slowly sat down, her heart racing. Her hands were even shaking. She thought of the baby being my Teko's. Kano would lose it. She would lose him.

Her intestines twisted painfully in fear.

\*\*\*

Deep in her sleep, Nolo looked at her father beating her mother with a big fat stick. Her mother cried so much lying on the floor screaming but no one seemed to hear the screams.

Nicole pulled her hand leading her out.

“Hey!” Her father roared angrily. “Come back!”

Nicole looked at Nolo.

“Run! Run fast! Run!”

She started crying. “What about you?”

Nicole pushed her. “I am coming! Run!”

Nolo turned and begun running. Her feet hitting the ground as she ran so fast going further away. She looked back and saw her sister get back in the house. She slowed down wanting to come back but Nicole had said to run... she increased her speed running barefooted while crying.

\*

Nicole watched her sister sweating making faint sounds. She wiped her sweat with a wet towel and gently rubbed her back.

Someone knocked on the door. Nicole's heart skipped. She stood up and walked to the door holding pepper spray and a taser.

She looked through the curtain and looked at him, her anger rising. She opened the door already spraying her pepper spray.



He jumped back yelping, the spray burning his eyes. She walked closer and tasered him.

His body shook violently at the prolonged electric shock, she stepped back as he fell then she sprayed her pepper spray more..

Kano screamed rolling away, his gun falling off his pants. Nicole's heart skipped. She took off her cardigan then picked the gun and put it in her house. She walked outside with a whistle and started blowing as he grunted on the ground, his eyes still burning.

“Legodu! Help! Thief!”

She blew her whistle even more screaming like a man woman running to the road.

“Legodu!”

Her neighbors walked out.

“Legodu! Thusang!”

Kano got up staggering. The neighbors ran over, some holding sticks and brooms while others held bricks.

Kano blinked through the burning and staggered to the back as the neighbors came for him, the dogs already barking and some being set free.

He tried to jump through the fence but the trained pitbull in other yard jumped on him like a Lion would jump on it's prey taking down to the ground.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#23

The trained pitbull bit into his neck as the owner hurried out in his boxer shorts, his potbelly vibrating.

The people approached as the owner of the dog whistled. The pitbull jumped back into the fence, the people already beating him.

The neighborhood watch leader approached with a big shambok and raised it so high before he hit Kano with it. Kano screamed trying to talk but with everyone attacking him he could hardly get any word out.

Everyone else ran over holding their weapon.

“Legodu a le betswe!”

They beat him harder, everyone using their own weapon. Someone with a metal rod continuously beat Kano’s head with it while others beat his legs.

The police car drove in wailing. Some people moved back. The police ran over.

“Everybody step back!”

They whipped him harder, the neighborhood watch leader going harder than everyone, his shambok snapping off Kano’s skin.

The police pushed him back trying to control the mob.

“Bagolo, if this man dies, all of you are going to jail!”

“Re bankanya lefatshe because you fail to do it. Someone steals, a week later they are released. We are fixing the country! Legodu le bata go betswa!”

The police surrounded Kano to protect him.

“We are taking him with.”

They picked his heavy body up and took him to their van. They looked at him, he wasn’t moving and seemed to be bleeding everywhere.

“Bata go bolaa!”

The police closed him in and jumped in the car and drove off.

Nicole looked at her neighbors gratefully.

“Thank you so much. I just heard my door opening though I had locked it. I sprayed him with pepper spray and tasered him and that’s when the gun he brought with fell. I am going to the police right now. This man was going to kill my sister and I.”

The neighborhood watch leader shook his head. “You did very well. These thieves are getting out of hand. Next time we don’t call the police.

We deal with him, take off all his teeth and make sure he never walks again. A thief has to live to regret it!”

“Thank you everyone.”

“The neighborhood watch is going to divide itself tonight so we can watch over the community for the night. Everyone has their whistle akere? If there’s a thief, blow it.”

Everyone dispersed chatting amongst themselves. Nicole walked inside the house and looked at Nolo who was still sleeping. She picked the cardigan with the gun then walked out locking Nolo inside and jumped in her car calling Thabiso.

“Hey babe..”

“Hi, how’s your mother?”

“She’s fine. Her leg is still painful but she’s strong. I am glad I came, if I didn’t she wouldn’t have gone to the hospital. How’s Nolo?”

Nicole drove off telling him everything.

“He came there?”

“He did. With a gun. He was going to harass us or even kill Nolo. But I sprayed with pepper spray and tasered him. From there I blew the whistle and everyone came out. He was beaten.”

“I can’t believe this. He has the audacity! I wish I were there, ne a tsile go nyela.”

“I know but everyone came out. Ramdala had that shambok of his. I ended up calling the police because I feared they’d kill him in my yard.”

“Ramdala’s shambok is not for kids. Kana he used to beat people at the Kgotla couple years back. He beats to kill that one.”

Nicole laughed. “Ebile I fear him.”

“How is everything?”

“The police said they will call tomorrow morning. I am going to the police with his gun right now. Tomorrow morning we are getting a restraining order. I hope he loses his job!”

Nicole continued talking to him driving to the police station.

\*\*\*

Amo tried calling Kano again but his phone was not going through. She worriedly looked at her phone wondering if maybe something had happened.

Her phone rang, she quickly picked without looking at the caller ID.

“Hello?”

“Friend. I just sent you a video over Whatsapp. I may be crazy friend but that looks like Kano.”

“What video?”

“Of an alleged thief getting beaten. The thief looks like Kano.”

“My husband is not thief.”

“I know but open the video.”

She hung up and opened the video over Whatsapp. She carefully looked at the thief getting a severe beating.

Amo swallowed looking at Kano..it definitely was him. It was so clear. She swallowed picking her friend’s call.

“They gave misunderstood him. He’s not a thief. He’s not a thief.”

“I know. I just wanted to show you.”

“They have probably hurt him. I have to go and see him.”

“I hope he’s ok. They looked like they wanted to kill him.”

“They did, everyone on that video is going to jail. How do they just attack someone like that. A law enforcement le gone!”

“I am sorry Friend.”

Amo hung up and got up calling Teko.

“Amo...”

“What’s happening Teko?”

“With?”

“I just saw a video of Kano getting beaten. What is going on? Are you with him?”

“No..I am at home trying to sleep. He was getting beaten by who?”

“The mob. They keep saying he’s a thief. What do you mean you are not with him? He said you two are going.... You are not together?”

“Let me find out what’s going on, I will call you back.”

“What’s going on Teko?”

“Let me find-“

“Is that where the woman he’s sleeping with stays?”

“Amo-“

“She is around here akere?”

“Ask your husband such questions.”

“He was with her?”

“I don’t know.”

She blinked. “You know.”

“You will ask him.. let me find out where he is.”

\*\*\*

At the hospital, the doctor looked at Kano who was not moving while the police watched. The doctor looked at the blood on him and he seemed to be bleeding from his head.

He walked over looking at Kano as the police looked at him.

“Is he dead? He wasn’t moving when we took him.”

He put his two fingers on his neck trying to feel his pulse.

“Is he dead?”

“I can’t feel anything. I think so. There’s no pulse.”

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#24

The other police officer looked at the doctor.

“So you won’t check thoroughly if he’s dead or not? You being unable to feel his pulse means he’s dead? Are you a real doctor?”

Another doctor walked in and looked at the police.

“Gentlemen...”

“Gatwe our person is dead with this doctor. He just checked the pulse only.”

The doctor also felt for his pulse to then looked at the patient.

“His pulse is very faint. We are going to attend to him. Please forgive this young doctor here, he’s a student doctor. He’s still learning.”

They pushed Kano out on the bed as the police officers walked out watching.

\*\*\*

Amo opened the door and looked at Teko.

“Did you find him?”

“Yes. He was taken to princess Marina. I just called the hospital, he has severe injuries but the doctors are attending to him. We will have a full update tomorrow morning.”

“What was he doing at that house?”

“I am not sure. I don’t know who stays there.”

“He is cheating isn’t he?”

“Why are you asking what you already know?”

“Is she beautiful?”

“Don’t do this to yourself.”

“Is she more beautiful than me?”

He looked in her eyes. “What do you see in him?”

“Is she beautiful? More than me? Answer me.”

“You are beautiful. You are so beautiful.”

“Is she?”

He sighed. “Yes.”

Amo blinked. “More than me?”

“No.”

“You are lying. She’s more beautiful than me right? That’s why he won’t leave her alone.”

“You are beautiful, smart and intelligent. You deserve better.”

“She is more beautiful than me? Be honest.. please.”

He looked in her eyes. “You are both as beautiful. In my point of view you are more beautiful. She just happens to be very light in complexion and... o kare Mbali Sebapu nyana or a bit more prettier. But you are more beautiful than her. Ke complexion hela. I guess le body.”

Amo walked back inside her house and searched for Mbali. She looked at Teko.

“She is more prettier than this?”

Teko swallowed. “I am lying. You see how you could easily have your self confidence destroyed because of a mere opinion? She’s not beautiful. She just have a nice body and her complexion makes it better but ene o maswe. (She’s ugly.)”

“What’s her body like?”

“Just... the usual. I love yours more because you are portable and petite. There’s nothing to compare with her.”

He took her phone and put it down then held her waist.

“He doesn’t deserve you. If only he knew you are the best thing that’s ever happened to him.” He kissed her tearful eyes. “If only he knew how special you are. How amazing you are... he wouldn’t play you like that. You deserve way better.”

“Does he love her?”

Teko got even closer. “I don’t know. He says so.”

A tear fell. He kissed it away then kissed her lips.

Teko french kissed his friend's wife. Amo kissed him back, more tears rolling down.

They breathed heavily kissing one another. Teko took off the night dress and picked her up. He walked with her to her bedroom and laid her down getting on top of her.

His mouth moved to her jaw down to her neck as she closed her eyes. He kissed her further down to her breast and continued down till his head was between her legs sucking.

Amo looked at his head and threw her head back closing her eyes moving her waist. She closed her legs spasming. Teko raised his head then kissed her opening her legs even more while unzipping his pants.

His dropped his heavy weapon on top of her and moved his waist running himself on her. She desperately moved underneath him. He pushed down and slid through her opening and deep inside her stretching her wider than her husband did. Teko#removed.

\*\*\*

The following morning Nolo turned her head waking up. She looked around then sat upright. Nicole walked inside the bedroom already dressed for work, her heels clacking on the floor.

She smiled. "Hi..."

Nolo smiled. "You are going to work?"

"Yes. I will try and come back earlier. By the way Kano came here last night. The neighbors sorted him though."

"He came?"

"Yes. And we are getting restraining orders. He got a beating of his life."

"He didn't hurt you?"

"He would have never tried. Call me when the police calls. Your breakfast is in the microwave. Don't forget to drink your pills. I will get you a new phone today. You can use my old one till I come back."



“You don’t have to get me a new phone.”

“I am. You will pay me back if you want. Akere you are about to be a rich aunt. I am glad we managed to open your sim card and have the old one disconnected.”

Nolo laughed. “Thank you. I will not pay you back for your Godly acts..”

Nicole got her things and laughed. “Bye. Come and lock.”

Nolo walked with her and looked at the cab at the gate.

“You are not taking your car?”

“I don’t want anyone knowing you are alone. Better they think I am around. I sent an email to Debswana on your behalf. They are giving you two weeks off before you start while you deal with this.”

Nolo smiled. “Thank you.”

Nicole smiled. “I love you too.”

She sister walked out going to the cab. Nolo closed the door and locked then removed the keys from the door.

She walked to Nicole’s bedroom then looked at her face. She could now see with both eyes but they were still swollen but just not as bad. Even her lips were not as bad.

Nolo walked to the bathroom where she took a long shower thinking of Kano. The beating... the rape... the gun.

More tears filled her eyes as she tried to block out the memories.

\*\*\*

Thabiso parked his car in his yard and smiled looking at Nicole’s car. It was odd that she would still be at home but maybe she had taken a day off to attend to her sister.

He walked to her house then tried opening the door but it was locked. He unlocked with the extra key she had given him and walked in.

He looked around then made his way to her bedroom.

“Babe!”

He opened the door walking in. Nolo turned naked and screamed picking her towel.

Thabiso quickly walked out, his heart skipping like he would just have a heart attack.

“Shit! Fuck!”

He rubbed his face and quickly walked out of the house. His phone rang, he looked at Nicole calling and swallowed guiltily.

\*\*\*

In Nicole’s bedroom, Nolo took a deep breath sitting on the bed knowing that had been her sister’s boyfriend. She could only imagine how it awkward things would be.

Minutes passed then Nicole started calling.

“Hello?”

“Hi. Have you eaten?”

“Not yet. I thought I’d take a bath first.”

“Ok... has anytime happened after I left?”

“It was a mistake. I think he assumed you were home. I don’t know how he unlocked because I had locked the door. I am sorry. I will go back to Jwaneng today.”

Nicole chuckled. “Go back why? It’s ok. It was a mistake. Monna wame o tshogile koore. I am sorry he walked in on you.”

Nolo sighed. “Ok.”

“Eat and have your pills.”

“Ok.”

Nolo hung up and picked an incoming call.

“Hello?”

“Onolo?”

“Yes.”

“Onolo, you are speaking to Kano’s wife, Amogelang Moremi. The Mrs. Kano Moremi. Can we talk?”

Fires Of Desire

#25

Nolo took a deep breath.

“Hello?”

“I know you are sleeping with my husband.”

Nolo remained quiet.

“What makes you think you can just sleep with married men?”

“Who’s your husband?”

“Kano. Girlie, I will end you, do you hear me? I will end your life!”

“I don’t know what you are talking about, but even if I were, what makes you think you can call my phone? Who do you think you are calling?”

“I will sue you!”

“Go ahead! He will pay for it! Have you seen me? You can’t compare to me, sit your behind down!”

“You are going to regret it. I am telling you now.”

“From here I am going to look for your husband so I can really fuck him and have him divorce you. You are yet going to call me. Nxla!”

Nolo hung up. She put her hand over her mouth in pure shock. She had suspected there was someone else just not a wife.

\*\*\*

Amo looked at her phone burning with anger and tried calling her again but it didn’t go through.

She called her friend instead.

“Amo..”

“I found the girl he’s been sleeping with.”

“You did?”

“I want to go and talk to her.”

“Do you think it’s a good idea?”

“I want to warn this girl..o kare she doesn’t know me.”

“Don’t be that wife Amo. Imagine going to her house going to threaten her to stay away from your husband like your husband didn’t know he was married.”

“I am not going to threaten her. I am going to have a talk with her. I am not going to let another woman destroy my marriage Tshiamo. I am going to have a woman to woman talk with her. Nothing physical. Gape Teko said she’s ugly. I should be able to handle her. Can you please come with me?”

“Ok..have you seen Kano?”

“Ng Ng. I will go later on today.”

“Ok. What’s her name?”

“Gatwe Onolo Feni. Ebile let me search her on Facebook.”

“Ok. Have you thought about getting a job?”

“No. I want to focus on buying and selling.”

“Gosiamme mma. Let me get back to work.”

“Ok.”

Amo hung up and searched for Nolo on Facebook. She tapped an account and looked at the beautiful woman. She swallowed going through Nolo’s pictures, she paused coming across another where she was standing with another woman who looked like her.

She blinked looking at Nolo’s body then left her profile feeling something in her weaken.

\*\*\*

At Princess Marina later that day, Kano opened his eyes in a ward. He looked around and the last thing he remembered was the beating.

He tried to sit upright but his body ached so much, the little effort pained him so much.

Amo slowly walked in, she looked at him and folded her arms staring at him..

He tried to smile but it hurt even more. Amo stood besides his bed.

“They were going to kill you.”

He blinked looking at you.

“Is Nolo going to come?”

Kano stared at her. Amo tearfully looked at him.

“She stays here? In Gaborone?”

He remained quiet. She smiled. “You should call her. Maybe she doesn’t know. She can still come and see you.”

Tears filled her eyes as she smiled. “I knew you were cheating. I wasn’t crazy. What is it about her? Her beauty?”

A tear rolled down then she fixed her ring and moved back.

“Kea lapeng. Get well soon.”

She turned and walked out. She got in her car and drove off.

A while later she drove slowly in a street then stopped at Nicole’s house. She parked her Run X and stepped out of the car. She pulled down her dress and catwalked to the door then knocked.

A minute later, Nicole opened the door and looked at her

“Dumelang.”

“Hi, can I speak to Onolo. You must be her sister, Nicole.”

“I am. Who are you?”

“Mrs. Moremi. Kano’s wife.”

“It gets better, he has a wife too?”

“Where is your sister?”

“My sister is resting. What did you want?”

“I don’t want to sue anyone. Let me talk to her.”

“You can talk to me or leave. We will meet in court.”

“Onolo! Come out and face me! Come out!”

Nicole calmly looked at her. “Let me call the police mma because I am not doing this with you. Husband and wife both harassing us... it’s a problem.”

“So this is what you do? Sleep with married men and hide behind your sister? Onolo I am waiting for you!”

Nicole took out her phone and called the police.

“I am going to sue your sister. You think you can sleep with married men and get away with it? I am going to sue for home wreckage.”

“You look like a fool. I am surprised that on top of his abusive ways, he also has a wife. Does he beat you too? Is that the kind man you actually fight for. It’s embarrassing. You are embarrassing yourself. My sister doesn’t want that abusive shit of yours. Keep it to yourself and tell it next time it comes to my house, I will fry it. Out!”

“You are going to pay for this.”

“Out!”

Amo turned and walked away even more upset. Amo cut the call and sighed walking back into the house.

She looked at her furniture as if it would change into something else. She rubbed her eyes and walked to her kitchen muttering to herself.

Nolo walked from the bedroom and looked at her.

“Was that the wife?”

Nicole turned and looked at her taking a deep breath in.

“Yes. But she’s not a problem. You didn’t know he was married.”

“Debswana allocated a house for me. I think I should move my things there while he’s still in hospital. I don’t want him knowing where I am staying or coming close to me.”

Nicole nodded. “Ok.”

“I can go tomorrow then I will come when the police need me for the case.”

“But you are still not well. Who is going to take care of you?”

“I will take care of myself. Don’t worry.”

“Is this because of what happened in the morning?”

“No. It’s not. I think I should start picking up the pieces.”

Nicole hugged her tightly. “You don’t have to go.”

“I know but I need to start getting on the move.”

Nicole let go and wiped away her tears. “Ok. By the way, when he raped you, did he use a condom?”

“I am on contraceptives. I took my pills with. Carrying his child would be the worst thing to happen to me.”

“I know.”

Nicole moved back to her pot. Nolo jumped on the kitchen counters watching her.

Nicole sighed. “Mama says papa was admitted because of his diabetes.”

Nolo nodded. “I hope he dies.”

Nicole laughed. “I have my black dress that’s been waiting.”

They both laughed and continued making jokes.

\*\*\*

Amo walked inside her house calling her lawyer.

“Hi, I want to sue for home wreckage, what is the process?”

TWO MONTHS LATER...

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#26

Two Months Later...

In Jwaneng, Nolo walked in her office in the morning and sat down. She took out her laptop and opened it. She looked at the time then emailed a report she had been working on the previous night. She took the company files she was still working on then looked at her phone ringing.

She smiled picking. "Nicky..."

"Hey, what time are you coming?"

"After work. Sam is also coming to Gaborone. I am going to tag along with her. She said her sister is getting married soon so she's helping her plan."

"Ok. I can't wait to see him being sent to jail."

"Me too."

"The Voice called again."

"They call everyday."

"Today it was different, the lady who called said she'd give me P1500."

Nolo laughed. "I wonder when I am getting a money offer."

"Soon. Let me get to work, we will talk."

"Ok."

Nolo cut the call and picked her office phone.

"Onolo Feni, hello?"

"Hi. Please don't hang up."

Nolo's heart skipped.

"You don't have to say anything. I have been trying to get hold of you but I think you changed your number because your phone doesn't go through no matter which number I use. This was my last option. I... I am sorry for everything. I went too far that day, it should have never come to that and I now realize it. I messed up, so much I wish there was a way I could rewind the time and treat you the way you deserved to be treated.



I love you. I love you more than anything, I have never loved anyone the way I love you. With Amo it's different. I had no choice but to marry her, it was not for love but just settling. I fell in love with you, nothing that's ever happened with anyone. You have no reason to believe me, that's ok. But... I love you. I am not calling you so you can change your mind, I deserve to get punished for my actions. I just wanted to tell you that I love you and that after this I am filing for divorce. I hope you find it in your heart to forgive me one day for how I hurt you. You didn't deserve it."

Nolo held the tightly, tears itching her eyes. "You wanted to kill me."

"I was never going to. I said it to scare you. I knew you were going to leave me that day. And you did. I am sorry. I am so sorry."

"You were going to kill me."

"I was never going to kill you. I swear on my mother's grave. I was never going to kill you. I was never going to kill you. I love you. I love you so much. I love you more than anything Nolo. That's all I wanted to say. Bye."

He hung up. A tear fell off her cheek. She stood up wiping it away. Pain wrapped itself around her neck that breathing became painful. More tears filled her eyes.

She looked at her hands which were shaking then put the phone down trying to keep herself together.

She sat down and closed her eyes trying to block away the painful memories.

\*

Later that day, Sam drove in Gaborone and sighed.

"I hate this city."

Nolo laughed. "We hate it together. After UB I quickly left."

"I once thought I'd get married in this city. Waitse I will never forget what that man did to me. Nolo he broke me. Koore nna mma I would think I found the one kante there are multiple serious relationships in my

serious relationship. I thought if I gave him a child, he would realize I was the rightful one kante he has children everywhere.”

Nolo laughed. “I don’t trust Gab city men. Those will play you rough. Look at me... I almost died. I regret it ever saying gore nna I like a man who’s in control... God gave me a taste.”

Sam laughed too. “I hope he loses his job, satan.”

“All I want is freedom. I am living in fear. I want to be free. You can drop me off at Airport Junction. I want to get my sister a few things.”

“I can take you there and drop you off at home. It’s ok. I admire your relationship with your sister. You two are so close.”

Nolo smiled. “Growing up we had nothing but each other. Things were not good growing up... she was my protector. She’s everything to me.”

Sam smiled. “I wish I had that with my sisters.”

Sam drove to Airport Junction. “I will wait for you in the car. Let me make a call.”

“Ok.”

Nolo stepped out of the car and walked inside the mall passing a white Porsche Panamera parked..it had a South African number plate. She smiled staring at her dream car.

“One day Nolo. One day...”

Inside the mall, Nolo walked to a Jewellery shop. She looked past the rings going over to the watches. She looked carefully looking for something her sister would love.

Someone walked over and started looking standing next to her.

Realizing it was a man, Nolo held her handbag properly then looked at the shop assistant.

“Hi, can I please see this one.”

She pointed. The man besides her laughed.

“And that is the one I was looking at.”

Nolo started to laugh turning her head. “It’s..” She locked eyes with him. He smiled.

“Nolo...”

Nolo laughed. “Trevor.”

“I never... thought I could ever see you again. That was after months went by with my friend request on Facebook rotting in a little corner.”

“You sent me a friend request?”

“Yes. The day you left the campsite.”

“I didn’t see it.”

He smiled. “You still look beautiful.”

Nolo chuckled. “Where is your girlfriend?”

He shook his head. “I don’t know.”

“It ended?”

“Yes. Yours?”

“Yes.”

“I am happy..he almost punched me that day at the campsite gotwe what was I trying to do.”

“He was controlling. He slapped me that day.”

“What?”

Nolo looked at the watch and smiled.

“I will take it.”

The shop assistant nodded. Nolo turned to Trevor.

“Yes. He was abusive. I should have left him at that trip.”

“I am sorry.”

“We learn from our mistakes. I learnt mine. So you stay in Gaborone?”

“I want to move. Gaborone is not for me. But I work here and I fear unemployment. You?”

“Jwaneng.”

“At the Mine?”

She nodded. Trevor smiled. “The owners of the money.”

Nolo laughed. "What money Tereva!"

She walked to the till and paid then they walked out together.

"Jwaneng is always on fire on weekends. Ebile I was planning to find myself a sugar mama because wow!"

Nolo laughed. "My HR Senior Manager is quite a catch."

"Hook me up!"

They laughed walking. "Why did things end with your girlfriend?"

"We.. were incompatible."

"I sort of noticed but I thought I was being judgmental."

"No. You were not. She was married to her phone. It was tiring. Tota nna Nolo I am not a difficult person. I am not too clingy but I also need attention. Ahh with her it was always one fight after the other... and you?"

"He almost killed me. It was a wake up call. I thought he was going to kill me. Tomorrow the court case starts."

"You are brave. Other people are still trying to find the strength to leave. You look good. Waitse madi a mine must a le monate."

Nolo laughed. "Ija."

"I am serious. You look... beautiful. That guy was a problem. Look at how you are shining without him. You are glowing."

Nolo smiled. "You too. You are still at bank?"

Trevor smiled. "You remember?"

"I remember quite well that you work at a bank as a Financial Manager. Did you get the promotion?"

Trevor laughed. "Yes."

Nolo smiled even more. "You did?"

"I did and I got the Chief Financial Officer position."

She hugged him happily then moved back. "I am happy for you. You are the true owners of the money."

They laughed and continued walking. "I am still new ko tirong. If I impress them, I am going to be the Economist Manager. Right now I am

still an assistant. They gave me a chance. I didn't even think I'd get the job. I just went taking chances even though they needed someone with 10 years experience."

"Experience doesn't always get you the job."

"It doesn't."

Trevor pulled her closer creating space for family pushing a big trolley to walk past them.

"Do you have a place to stay while you are here?"

"Yes. My sister stays here."

"The one that looks like you?"

Nolo laughed. "Did we talk about everything that day?"

"Yes.. we should have gotten dumped then."

They both laughed. Nolo's phone rang, she took it out and picked Sam's call.

"Hi..."

"Any luck?"

"Yes. I am coming."

"Ok, I was getting worried. It's been thirty minutes now."

"What? I am coming."

"Ok."

Nolo hung up realizing they had been walking endlessly around the mall. She laughed.

"I need to go. People are about to think we are thieves. We have been going round in circles."

He laughed. "Time flies. Which court will you be at tomorrow?"

"High Court."

"Ok. Time?"

"In the morning. Half 8."

"I will be there."

He wrapped his arms around her. Nolo smiled hugging him too then stepped back.

“Bye.”

He waved as she quickly walked away. She got in Sam’s car.

“I am sorry I took so long.”

“It’s ok.”

Sam started the car and drove off. Nolo opened her Facebook then went through her friend request list. She smiled coming to across his account then she accepted.

\*\*\*

At Kano’s house, Amo dished for Kano then walked over to him with his plate. She handed it to him.

Kano took it and looked at the food. As usual, it well cooked and looked nice. Something Nolo never mastered when it came to cooking but he found himself missing it.

So many times he wondered how she survived but she always ate her food with no complaint. He smiled thinking of the one time she had cooked her rice with no salt. Her reaction to it, the way she had laughed.

She always looked more beautiful when laughing. Amo smiled..

“What?”

Kano looked at her. “The food looks good.”

She smiled. “Thank you. What’s going to happen tomorrow?”

“I am not sure but I may get sent to jail. Nothing more than a year though.”

She stopped smiling. “Can’t you say it was because she was cheating?”

“I put my hands on her. Nothing is going to change that. All I can do is show remorse in court that’s why you not are coming with. I am going to say things about our marriage to diffuse the issue ya gore I am married. I am just going to say it so I get a lesser sentencing.”

“If you go to jail, what am I going to do?”

“You will survive on madi ya rental.”

Amo blinked as tears filled her eyes. Kano’s phone rang. He picked.

“Eita...”

“I just saw Nolo with her new boyfriend. You can now stop hopping.”

Kano swallowed a painful lump listening. He stood up and walked out.

“What?”

“Yes. And you won’t believe who the boyfriend is.”

“Who?”

“Trevor Mbakiwe. The vice President’s son. I heard the vice also a chief.”

Kano swallowed.

“I just thought I’d tell you. You are going down laitaka.”

TK hung up. Kano walked inside his house going to his bedroom where he took his gun and tucked it into his waist band.

Amo walked inside their bedroom. “What’s going on?”

“There is something that needs my attention. I am coming.”

He walked out and jumped in his car then drove off.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#27

At Nicole’s house, Nicole tried calling Thabiso but his phone was still off. She looked out through her window watching Sam dropping off Nolo. She put her phone down and smiled as her sister walked in.

“Hey..”

Nolo smiled and hugged her. “Hi.”

Nicole moved back and looked at her. “You look beautiful.”

Nolo smiled. "I need to start going to the gym. As soon as the case is over."

Nicole smiled. "You look really beautiful. Gym or no gym."

Nolo laughed and hugged her again. "You too."

Nicole nervously sighed. "Please don't be mad."

"What?"

"Mama is coming."

Nolo's smile dropped. "What?"

"Listen to me. I wanted her to see. To see the fruits of her lessons. And I miss her. I can't really hate her...you know. You know you miss her. So I thought... we'd... be together. Even if it's just for a day."

"Why didn't you tell me you were going to invite her? I would have looked for accommodation elsewhere."

Nicole picked her car keys and phone. "I am coming. I know you are upset. I will give you time to cool down. Nothing I am going to say right now will justify anything to you. I love you."

She walked out. Nolo watched drive off then closed the door. Her phone pinged. She picked it and opened the messenger message from Trevor.

Trevor: At last 🧑

Nolo laughed then he sent another message.

Trevor: So if we didn't meet today, my friend request would still be rotting?

Nolo: 🙄 I guess

Trevor: After God, fear women!!

Nolo: 😂 you were the guy who I got beaten for, I couldn't be bothered to check. Can you blame me?

Trevor: 😏 Banyana!

Nolo: Laitaka 😊

Trevor: I forgive you. I am a forgiving person.

Nolo: There was nothing to forgive in the first place but ok 😂



Trevor: O ngwana wa ga Satan Onolo. How is your sister's house?

Nolo: Fine. She just left. I am not sure where she went, I couldn't be bothered anyways.

Trevor: Kante mme gone re batang mo feisibukung? Mphe numbara, kante o irang?

Nolo laughed and sent him her number. Trevor called her a minute later.

"Hi."

She smiled picking her bag and walked to her sister's bedroom. "Hi."

"This feels better. I should have taken your number that day."

"I would have gotten killed."

"Gongwe I would have been your saving grace."

Nolo laughed seating on the bed. "Maybe. Maybe not. He's an SSG."

"What's his name?"

"Kano Moremi. On top of it he is married. I wonder if he beats his wife sometimes."

"Probably. Abusive people are just abusive, regardless of who it is. Hers might not be physical but maybe emotionally. It really depends."

"The signs were there. I just thought he'd change."

"You are just like any other human being Nolo. We all believe in change at some point. And it's hard to come into terms with the fact that some people just can't change that's we stay even if we are getting the bare minimum."

"Mine was worse. He'd always slap me or control how I dressed or who I spoke to. I don't know what was wrong with me. Eventually it was going to get to that point."

"You left. That's what matters. Are you not bored alone?"

"I am used to being alone."

"Let's go for movies. Jurassic World is out. I will pay half your movie ticket."

Nolo laughed. "Are you not swimming in money?"

“What money? I am swimming in debts. I borrowed money to buy a car and a house. When the thousands hit my account, I felt untouchable, I bought a car instead then bought a plot and thought I’d just build a mansion. Don’t ask me how mme the house is far from getting done. My bedroom is the only done part of the house. I sold the car to help build but now I have to pay back the rent and try and do the little I can do for my house.”

“Experience is the best teacher.”

“I couldn’t agree more. So... I am a little broke. But I can come and pick you up from your sister’s house. I am currently using my big brother’s car. He felt sorry for me.”

“You can come. I will send you the pin location.”

“I don’t have internet data. Send directions.”

“Ok.”

\*\*\*

At the hospital, Nicole smiled at the receptionist.

“Dumelang. I am here to see Dr. Sefako.”

“Let me call and see if he’s not busy, what’s your name?”

“It’s a surprise. Telling him would ruin it.”

“Ok. You can go. But knock first.”

Nicole went up to his office, she knocked and gently opened the door. She peeked inside then looked at him as he walked out from his bathroom fixing his shirt.

Thabiso smiled looking at her walk in.

“Hey babe..”

“Hi.”

He smiled then hugged her. Nicole sneezed inhaling his fragrance, so strong like he had just sprayed it on. She sneezed again and moved back.

She looked at him, somehow a feeling in her gut telling her something was off with him.

“Were you busy?”

“Yes.”

“The whole day?”

“Yes. The whole day. Why?”

“I have been calling. Since last night.”

“I knocked off very late last night. I was tired when I got home.”

“You could have called in the morning.”

“I left in a hurry. Are you here to question me?”

“I just wanted to understand what’s going on. You are acting funny.”

“You are seeing things that are not there.”

She looked at him then he sighed. “I don’t mean it like that.”

“Let me go.”

“Babe-“

“I am sorry that I came with high expectations. You don’t have to call or anything. We don’t have to do anything. The flame has died down. I will accept that’s it’s over. Forgive me, I am a little slow when it comes to such things. We can go back to just being neighbors now. Bye.”

She walked out. Thabiso loosened his tie and went after her. She unlocked her car and opened the door.

“Babe... wait. I should have called. I am sorry. I was jus busy.”

“I understand. But I am not going to keep chasing after you like this. Please let’s just stop. I tend to love hard Thabiso. I go hard at this. And it’s painful that it now feels like you are doing me a favor by doing the things you were once doing for me. The flame has died.. let’s leave it before we hurt each other, soon you will be saying things like I am seeing things and it will look like you are using my personal issues that I told you in trust against me. I won’t even understand what you meant..”

She got in her car as he sadly looked at her. “Babe-“

“Bye.”

She closed her door and drove off.

\*\*\*

At Nicole's house, Nolo took a deep breath and jumped pulling up her jeans. She grunted pulling them up then tucked in her stomach pulling up the zip. She paused breathing heavily then sucked in her stomach again and buttoned the jeans.

She looked at her hips that had widened and her butt was big too. She really needed the gym. This body really had to get toned down.

She pulled down her top then put on a baggy shirt leaving it open. She laughed wiping her sweat with a tissue. She put on her flat sandals as he knocked on the door.

Nolo smiled picking her handbag and walked out putting on her sunglasses.

Her phone rang, she giggled picking. "I am coming. I heard your knock. I am opening."

She opened the door as Trevor spoke.

"I am not yet there."

Nolo's heart skipped as she looked at Kano standing by the door, her knees weakening.

"Kano.."

"He is there?"

Kano looked at her and took a deep breath. "Hi. Can I come in?"

Nolo's heart beat so fast, she felt a sharp pain on her chest. She pushed the door dropping her phone.

He pushed it back and pushed her inside walking in.

"You look beautiful."

"What are you doing here? Get out!"

"I am here to see you."

“No. You need to stay away from me. I am going to tell the police you were here.”

“I am not here to fight you or harass you.”

“Leave!”

“Nolo-“

“Thusang!” She screamed and ran to the kitchen where she grabbed a huge knife.

Kano looked at her. “I heard you moved on.”

“I am going to kill you today if you think you can try it.”

“With that same guy from that time. Have you been sleeping with him all this time?”

“Leave!”

“You were cheating weren’t you? And all you wanted was to use me.” He took out the gun and pointed it at her. “Today we are both dying. You are not going to play me and get away with it.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#28

“You were cheating weren’t you? And all you wanted was to use me.” He took out the gun and pointed it at her. “Today we are both dying. You are not going to play me and get away with it.”

Nolo’s heart dropped as she looked at the gun.

“I wish I had never gotten into the car that day. I should have let that boy take my phone. I should have gone home and sobbed over it. I don’t know why I thought you would actually love me. And treat me right. I was going to compromise. I thought you were just insecure because you had been hurt before. I told myself I would help you heal and show you that someone can love you. Love you genuinely. But deep down I knew... deep down I knew you were not the man for me. Kill me. If I am to die at

your hands then so be it. I'd rather be dead than have to live in fear and in agony. I am not going to beg you today Kano. Today you can kill me."

He looked at her sadly. "I love you."

"I don't . Not anymore. I feel nothing for you. Or maybe I just never loved you, maybe I was desperate for love. I don't know but I feel nothing now. I just want you out of my life. You can kill me."

He swallowed. "I don't want to hurt you. I love you. I don't want to see you in pain. But I don't think I will be able to watch another man take you. I want you and I want to change. I will do anything. I love you."

"This is not the love I want. It's painful. I don't want it. I don't want to end up like my mother. This is not the love I desire."

"Please... please..."

"If you really love me then you will let me go."

A car drove in outside. Kano's phone rang. He looked at her tearful eyes as she looked at him defeated.

The door opened then Trevor walked in. Kano looked at him.

"I have called security."

Kano looked at him, a painful lump getting stuck on his throat. He turned back to Nolo, tears filling his eyes.

He put down his hand and walked out. Nolo put her hand over her mouth shaking. She pressed her lips together leaning against the kitchen unit. Trevor walked over and hugged her tightly.

"It's ok. It's ok."

Nolo kept her lips pressed together as her tears fell, fear and heartache making it hard to let out a loud cry.

"I am sorry."

She silently cried in his arms.

"It's ok. You are safe.."

Trevor held her in his arms for minutes while she cried. A while later he slowly pulled away then looked at her face. He smiled wiping away her tears.

“Hi.”

She blinked sniffing. He rubbed her cheeks.

“You are ok.”

“Thank you for coming.”

Trevor smiled. “Anytime. Still want to go for movies?”

She sniffed wiping her nose still in his arms. “Will you pay the full bill?”

He laughed. “Ok.”

He picked her handbag and phone then took her hand and led her out. Nolo locked behind her then put the keys in the flower pot before walking with Trevor to his black Vits. He opened the door for her. Nolo got in then he closed the door for her and got in.

“Not bad. It’s nice and clean.”

Trevor smiled. “Well... I can move from one point to another.”

She smiled. He started the engine and drove to the cinema where he put on his cap and walked in with her. They sat down in the almost empty cinema and sat at the seats right at the back in the darkness.

A message came through Nolo’s phone. She opened her sister’s message.

Nicole: Are you that upset?

Nolo: Yes.

Nicole: Cool down and come back..I think Thabiso found new interests.

Nolo: Dog!

Nicole: See you later. Please don’t come back angry.

Nolo sighed then put her phone on silent and looked at the big cinema screen. She yawned trying to keep up. Trevor leaned over and whispered.

“Boring?”

She smiled. “No. Just tired.”

“Money makes people tired.”

She laughed then took off his cap and put it on. "Just like debts make people active in life. No rest."

They laughed.

"Ebile ke depressed, ewallet one thousand."

Nolo smiled. "Ng Ng, batswana la lapisa. I once borrowed a friend P200. It was my last P200.. till now she hadn't returned it.. I heard she's getting married."

"We should gate crush the wedding."

She laughed. "And give a speech about how she's owing me P200?"

"No. Pour sand into the cake and tell her she can keep the money."

Nolo laughed even more her ribs hurt.

"That's evil."

"P200 is a lot of money."

Two friends from the other role turned to them. Nolo laughed shushing him.

"Shhh..."

They kept quiet. Nolo looked at the screen just as someone got shot.

"That could have been me."

Trevor held her hand. "He will not try it again."

She leaned back and whispered back. "How do you know?"

"I just do. Tomorrow he's getting sentenced gape. You can breathe."

He put his arm around her pulling her closer. Nolo leaning on him then rested her head on his shoulder.

"What kind of a man do you want from here?"

Nolo sighed. "I want genuine love. I know not everyone is like my father and Kano.. I want real love. Love that makes me happy. I want a man who can give me that. Honest and faithful. He should know what he wants in life."

Trevor rubbed her shoulder. "That's all?"

"That's all." She turned her head and laughed.. "Is it too much?"



The screen light brightened enabling him to look right into her eyes.

“No. It’s not.”

She smiled then put her head back on his shoulder.

“You?”

“I want that too.. genuine love. I want someone who will love me for me. Not for what I have. Or for who I am. I want someone who makes me feel free. I don’t remember when last I felt this free and happy...”

“You will meet her one day.”

“Ng...”

Nolo looked at the TV screen watching. Almost two hours later they finally walked out. Trevor held her hand and led her back to the car. He drove her back to her sister’s house and smiled. It was already dark. He looked at her as she smiled beautifully.

“Thank you for going with me.”

“The movie was nice. You invited me and paid so thank you.”

“I will see you tomorrow.”

She smiled then hugged him. He wrapped his arms around her too as she laughed. “Bye laitaka.”

Trevor laughed too. “Sure ntwana!”

Nolo stepped out and walked to the house. He waited till she got in the house. His phone rang as he drove off.

He looked at his father calling and sighed. He let it ring till it stopped. It started again.

“Papa...”

“Where were you the whole day?”

“I went to work.”

“I know you were not there. What’s going on with you?”

“I feel suffocated. I just wanted a breather.”

“Where were you?”

“What did you want?”

“You are embarrassing me!”

“Papa do you remember what you said that time? That if I find someone then-“

“Trevor-“

“I found her.”

“Trevor, you knew you were ordained to marry Ranewa from young age.. promises were made. I gave you that chance but you didn't find that someone when there was still time. You can't wait till only five months left for the wedding to say you found someone.”

“She is special. She's... I don't want to marry someone I don't love.”

“You can't tell me that. You knew Ranny was the one all along. You never bothered to get to know her better and actually love her. That's not my problem. You are marrying her. She's a virgin, untouched and she's waited for you since birth. She's the mother of your children. Stop making people question me.”

He hung up. Trevor put his phone down still driving. He thoughtfully picked it and called his brother.

“T! Where were you?”

“Ken if I marry someone else, would I still have to marry Ranewa?”

“Trevor come on... Ranewa is a good girl. O monte gape o maitseo. Why don't you like her?”

“If you like her, take her.”

Ken laughed. “She is going to be your wife whether you like it or you don't.”

“This should have been you!”

“I am glad it's not. Is there someone else?”

Trevor smiled. “Remember that girl I told you I met at the campsite?”

“Bonolo?”

“No.. Onolo.”

“It's the same thing.”

“I met her again. Today. I didn't imagine what I felt that day.”

“The day her boyfriend almost killed you?”

“They broke up.. She’s... different. She’s very beautiful. She’s smart. She’s fun. She’s... she makes me feel... if I marry her, would I still have to marry Ranewa?”

“What are you smoking? I want it too.”

“Would I?”

“Yes. It means you will have two wives. You had that option to begin with. You heard what grandpa said that time akere? You can always marry the one you want but Ranewa has to be the first one. Just marry her then you can go for Bonolo.”

“She’d never agree... and nna I want her only.”

“You can rebel and take her first. That’s if she agrees. Ranewa will still join as second but papa is going to murder you when he finds out.”

“I don’t care.”

Ken laughed. “Golden boy doing the most.”

“Mxm, tsek o mae!”

Ken laughed even more. Trevor hung up driving to his house.

\*\*\*

At Nicole’s house, Nolo looked at her mother in silence. Her mother slowly stood up, tears filling his eyes. She held Nolo’s hands shaking.

“Nolo...”

Nolo looked at her, her throat tightening. Her mother hugged her. Emotions overwhelmed her that she hugged her back crying. Nicole tearfully joined the hug.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#29

Minutes went by as they hugged. Nolo finally moved back sniffing. Nicole smiled and wiped her away her tears.

“I am done cooking. I will dish.”

Nolo nodded. Her mother smiled looking at her. Nolo looked back, scars on her face made it hard to look at her and not see the memories flood in her head like it had happened yesterday.

She had a new one on her neck. It looked more defined and recent. Nolo sat down looking away.

Her mother sat next to her. “You look beautiful.”

“Thank you.”

“I am so happy that you finally got a paying job.”

Nolo smiled. “Me too. It’s nice seeing all that money at the end of the month coming in.”

Her mother laughed. “I remember my first salary. It felt unreal holding so much money in my hand.”

Nolo laughed. “That’s how I feel ever month... I can now afford taking you out of the house. You don’t have to stay. I can take care of you. And so can Nicole.”

“I don’t want to be a burden Nolo.”

“You are not..you can never be. You... you are my mother.”

“I want you to enjoy your life without having to sorry about me. I want you to be happy.”

Nicole walked through. “Food!”

“Nicole please tell mama we can now afford to take care of her. She doesn’t need to stay with him.”

“She will leave when she’s ready to Nolo and that may never happen. It didn’t when we started being part of the abuse. It won’t happen now that because we are working. She will leave when she’s ready to. Can we enjoy tonight without bringing him up. Please...”

Their mother rubbed her eyes and looked down. Nolo shrugged and looked at the TV. Nicole brought the rest of the plates. Nolo's phone vibrated.

She reached for it and smiled opening a message.

Trevor: How long are you in Gabs for?

Nolo: I am going back on Saturday morning. My furniture will be getting delivered from the furniture shop. I have to be there.

Trevor: Perfect.

Nolo: Perfect wa eng yaanong?

Trevor: 😊 more time for me to ask for money.

Nolo: 😊 ija.

Trevor: Times are tough.

Nicole looked as Nolo slowly ate while typing with the other hand smiling. Minutes went by as Nolo continued typing smiling.

"New fish?"

Nolo turned and looked at her. "Huh?"

"New fish in the lake?"

Nolo laughed. "New fish ke Samantha."

"Gongwe you are now playing for other team."

"No. She's just telling me about her sister's wedding plans."

Nolo's phone vibrated in her hand. She burst into laughter staring at her message. Nicole laughed too.

"I don't admire your behavior. I also want to know."

"Eat!"

Their mother watched with me a smile and slowly ate. Nicole stood up while Nolo typed then slowly went behind her and snatched the phone. Nolo put her plate down and ran after her. Nicole slipped falling laughing. Nolo laughed even more taking her phone.

"Shame on you!"

Nicole laughed that her ribs hurt. "I saw!"

“Saw eng?”

Nolo helped her stand.

“I saw.”

“What did you see?”

Nicole smiled. “Who’s he? From work?”

“No.. he’s just a friend.”

Nicole sat down and took her plate smiling. Nolo sat down.

“O kae Thabiso?”

“Moved on or something along those lines. I knew it was never going to last. Non of my relationships really survive..I expected it.”

Nolo’s phone started ringing. Nolo stood up with her plate.

“I am coming.”

“Tell Trevor Noah I say hi!”

“Eat!”

Nolo walked out. Her mother smiled.

“She looks happy.”

Nicole smiled. “She is handling everything well. I just can’t wait till that devil is thrown in jail.”

“And you?”

“I am fine.”

“Are you happy?”

“I am fine.”

“The voices?”

“The medication helps.”

“Does Nolo still sleep walk and...?”

Nicole took a deep breath. “I don’t think so. She seems fine.”

“Mmagwe Edwin was home the other day talking about the death of-“

“Her son deserved his death.”

“Yes but... I was thinking if Nolo doesn't remember such things... she-“

“Mama, can we not bring back the past? Let it stay there. She's fine now. If another form used to take over at night, it doesn't happen anymore, if it did, it would have killed Kano.”

Her mother nodded and kept quiet eating.

\*\*\*

At Kano's house that same night, Amo got in bed and looked at her husband. She touched his back.

“Babe..”

She kissed his neck then tried putting her hand inside his sweatpants. Kano moved away.

“Can I please sleep?”

“I am going to miss you if you go to jail.”

“Do you really want me to be able to have sex when I am this stressed?”

“I want you to feel better.”

“And you think sex is the solution?”

Amo looked at him. “She rejected you again didn't she? Why can't you leave that woman alone?”

Kano looked at her. Amo angrily looked at him.

“I am your wife! Gompiano I have to deal with the results of your actions because you couldn't keep it in your pants and just be a proper husband! She's going to bring up the fact that you went to harass her today!”

“And who told you I went there?”

“I know you went there. I can see it in your eyes. Why can't you leave her alone?”

“Because I love her. And she's carrying my child.”

Amo blinked staring at him. Kano turned to his side and closed her eyes while she just stared in shock. She turned away, his words still cutting deep into her heart.

\*\*\*

The following morning at the High Court, Nolo stepped out of the car with her mother and sister. She took a deep breath and pulled down her black dress.

Nicole looked at her properly seeing just how much her sister gotten more curvy. She sighed.

“Let’s get in.”

Mmagwe Nolo looked at Nolo as Nicole walked towards the court.

“You have gotten really thick. And curvy.”

Nolo smiled. “I don’t like my body. I feel fat. My clothes are becoming small.”

“Your body looks like that of a woman carrying another life in her.”

Nolo laughed. “I am not pregnant mama. I think I am eating too much.”

Mmagwe Nolo smiled. “Ok. Let’s go.”

Nolo smiled as Trevor’s Vits drove over and parked next to her sister’s Honda Fit. He got out of the car and smiled putting on his cap. She turned and walked inside the court room with her mother while he followed behind, a smile covering her face.

It disappeared as her eyes fell on Kano. He looked at her, almost standing up. Nolo sat at the other side with her family. The lawyer Nicole had hired walked in too and sat with them.

Kano looked at her beautiful face and looked away rubbing his hands together. Amo kept her eyes on her, a big lump sitting on her throat. She blinked and tears itched her eyes then she stood up and walked out.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#30



At the high court, Trevor watched as the court proceedings started, with his cap pulled down his face, no one could recognize him. He looked at Nolo as she looked forward at the judge.

His phone vibrated in his pocket. He took it out and looked at his brother calling. He cut the call and a second later his brother sent him a message.

Ken: Where are you?

Trevor: Busy.

Ken: you know I am on your side but come on..

Trevor: I will come in two hours. I am doing something.

Ken: People are already gathering.

Trevor: I will be there.

He put away his phone and looked up as Nolo's lawyer took the stand showing showing the court the pictures of the abuse. Trevor frowned looking at Nolo's face on the pictures. Everyone watched the slide of the gruesome pictures in horror and shock.

He looked over at Kano who was looking down. He looked back at the pictures of the bruises on her back and thighs.

His clenched his jaws in anger as more pictures appeared on the screen.

\*\*\*

Outside the court room, Amo sat in her car staring at nothing. People were already talking about her on social media. She had seen a couple of comments. After today she knew everyone was going to talk about her all because she had been crowned as Miss Botswana a couple of years back.

She looked at her phone then called her friend.

"Amo..."

"People are going to talk about me."

“You need to stop worrying about what people will say and think of the kind of life you want. I don’t know why you still stay.”

Amo blinked. “She’s pregnant too.”

“More reason to leave.”

“I can’t just give up.. it’s not even a year so ce we got married.”

“Its not but he has already cheated on you and made another woman pregnant.”

“Maybe jail will do him good. He will forget her.”

“You need to leave him. He doesn’t respect you. There’s no need to stay. Get a job. Start making your own money. You don’t need him.”

“You don’t understand.”

“Friend, you are so worried about what people will say as if people ever stop talking. People will always talk no matter what. You do good, they will talk. You do bad, they will still talk.”

Amo rubbed her eyes. “I have to go. I will call you.”

“Ok.”

She hung up and looked at Teko calling. She ignored the call and stayed put in her car.

Over an hour later people started walking out. Kano walked out with a colleague from work. Seconds later Nolo walked out with her sister and another woman together with her lawyer. Amo sat in her car wondering what would happen if she ran her over with the car. That baby would definitely die.

They got in the car while she watched. Or maybe they both would just die. But then that would need proper planning. The best time would be at night where no one would see her car.

Or maybe she needed to use a different car. She bit her lower lip looking at the Honda Fit.

She started her car and slowly drove off passing by the Honda Fit.

\*\*\*

At Thabiso's house, Thabiso took a deep breath and called her again.

He listened as it rang.

"Hello?"

He quickly stood up. "Hey babe... I have been trying to call."

"I was busy."

"I understand. I... I know I have been distant but I swear it's not because I don't love you anymore. I love you. Work has been keeping me more than just busy and the fact that I can't see my child has been stressing me also. My baby mama has been making things difficult. She was supposed to bring my child but changed her plans on the day they were supposed to come. I am sorry."

"I am sorry about your child. You can tell your baby mama that we broke up now. She'll let you see him."

"Babe-"

"And focus on work. You don't need me being an extra problem. You don't have to feel guilty about us. It's ok. I understand."

"I don't want to lose you."

"I am sorry but I can't keep doing what I was doing. I may not be the best thing to happen to you but I deserve better than what you were giving me. I have to go. Bye."

She hung up. Thabiso looked at his phone unable to believe she was actually breaking up with him. He had expected her call last night but it really seemed like she was done and it hurt so much.

\*\*\*

At the high court, Samantha parked her car next to Nicole's and stepped out. Nolo smiled getting out of her sister's car.

"Hi."

Sam hugged her. "Sorry. I got held up. There was a gathering at home."

“The wedding preparations?”

“Yes. I am already so tired.”

“How is it going?”

“Well. It’s ... stressful but things will fall into place. How did it go in the morning?”

“Ok. He doesn’t have a lawyer. It didn’t take too long with him. He admitted to beating me.”

“Why didn’t he get one?”

“I think he rejected the lawyer.”

Sam looked at her and tilted her chin. “What’s going on? Shouldn’t we be happy that it will be quick?”

“I am. I just.. I can’t help it but worry. Not that I love him but.... I just worry about him. He might lose his job.”

“Good if he does. He deserves it. He almost killed you.”

“I know. I just can’t help it. I am happy that I am getting justice and that I can finally live in peace. A part of me still worries though.”

Sam hugged her. She moved back as people started getting back in the court. They all walked back. Nolo looked around trying to spot Trevor but he wasn’t there. She sat down and texted him.

Nolo: You went to work?

He quickly replied.

Trevor: I am right here.

She turned and looked at him at the far back. She smiled and sent him a message.

Nolo: Thank you for coming.

Trevor: Any day.

The judge walked in then they all stood up.

“You can sit.”

They sat down. The judge looked at everyone and started talking while Kano’s heart pounded, his palms sweaty. The judge sighed.

“It is very sad that a law enforcement officer is the one who’s brought us here today. The person who is supposed to be protecting our fellow citizens is the same person who can do such horrifying acts. Such disturbing thing. Gender based violence is on the rise and it’s our duty to make good examples of some people so that every other abuser can see what we do to people like them. I don’t take such issues lightly and therefore this court finds Kano Moremi guilty of the assault, rape and threat to life charges and therefore is sentenced to five years in jail with non of the years suspended.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#31

Nicole shook her head as they walked out of the court room.

“Just five years? Five only for all he did? Raping you, beating you the way he did and... I can’t believe this!”

Nolo sighed. “I am happy I don’t have to look over my shoulder anymore. And that this didn’t take too long so I can go back to work.”

Nicole looked at the lawyer. “Can’t we do anything?”

“No. The judgement has already been given.”

“He deserved more than that.”

“I will call you about today’s payment.”

The lawyer walked away. Nicole clicked her tongue. “She should have put you on the stand..”

“It’s Nicky. It’s fine.”

Sam nodded. “Yes though I agree with Nicole. He got off easily. I have to go. My sister is waiting for me. Nolo, we will talk.”

“Ok. Bye. Thanks.”

Sam walked away. Nolo got in her sister’s car with her mother, Nicole jumped in at the front still shouting angrily.

\*\*\*

Amo sighed reading Kano's sentencing on Facebook. She put her hand over her mouth. Him being found guilty was something she had expected but five years was too much. Way too much.

She read through the rest of the article and clicked her tongue. It was funny how she now accused him of rape when she was willingly sleeping with him even though he was a married man.

A car hooted at the gate. Amo looked at Teko calling.

"What is it?"

"I am at the gate. Open."

Amo opened the gate then walked outside. Teko stepped out of his car and walked over to him.

"Hi."

"Hi."

"I am sorry. I know you were hoping he gets lesser than that."

"You know you are happy."

"Happy about what? That now you won't have to stick with a man that doesn't deserve you. Yes I am happy about that. But I am sad that my friend is going to jail. I care about him..I also care about you and our child. I love you. And I want to show you just his much I love."

"If you really cared about him you wouldn't be sleeping with me."

Teko put his hands on her waist. "I sleep with you because I love you. I care about him. Look at it however you want but this is where we are. I want you. And I want to take care of you."

"And if this baby is not yours?"

"That won't change how I feel. I want this. I want us. And we finally have our chance.. I am going to take it and love you hard."

\*\*\*

Later that day, Nicole drove Nolo to the rank. She looked at her and smiled.

“I am disappointed that he got five years when he could have gotten 10 but I am happy you are now free from that monster.”

Nolo smiled back. “Me too.”

“Mama will be staying for a few days. I was thinking maybe I can attend counseling. With her. There’s lady. A colleague told me about her at school. A coloured lady. She is a counselor. Also a psychologist. She also practices palm reading.”

Nolo frowned. “Palm reading?”

“Yes. And she doesn’t lie. She is a genuine palmist. I am taking mama there. And maybe she can... read my palm. I was hoping maybe she can read yours too.”

“That’s how scammers make money. She will probably say obvious things.”

“I will pay. Please let’s go together before I take mama.”

“We are wasting our time.”

“Please...”

Nolo sighed. “I hope I still catch my bus back home.”

Nicole smiled. “Thank you my sister. Kea go rata.”

She took a different direction. Nicole drove for a while and finally parked in front of a house.

Nolo looked at the house. “She’s really making money out of people.”

Nicole laughed at as they stepped out of the car. She rang the intercom then the gate opened. They walked past the beautiful garden with colorful colors going to the door then knocked.

A lady opened and smiled. Nolo looked at the beautiful elderly white woman with green eyes. She smelt like a flower.

“Hi, how are you?”

Nicole smiled. "Hello. My name is Nicole. This is my young sister, Onolo. I called you earlier on."

"Hi Nicole. And Onolo. Please come in. I hope you found the house just right."

"We did. The directions were straight forward."

"I am glad. Please come."

They walked inside the beautiful house. Nolo looked around, not what she was expecting. It was more friendly and also just nice.

They followed her to a room down the passage. Nolo took a deep breath as they walked inside. The lights in the room were off but they were enough candles to let them see every corner.

It was not creepy, just unusual. Nicole took off shoes as the lady took off here. Nolo followed suit then they stepped on the carpet on the floor where cushions were. The lady sat on one of the cushions then smiled motioning they sit too.

Nolo and Nicole sat down next to each other. The lady smiled.

"My name is Elizabeth. You can call me Lizzy. How can I help you today?"

Nicole took a deep breath. "I hear voices in my head sometimes and... I see things. I take medication to help but sometimes it's hard."

Lizzy nodded. "Ok..and you Onolo?"

"I... I am here with her."

"Ok.." Lizzy smiled. "I feel a strong bond between you two. It's beautiful." She stood up then opened a cardboard in the room. She took out a box then sat down.

She took out three red candles and placed them down and a box of matches. She lit the candles and smiled.

Lizzy stretched her hands towards Nicole. Nicole took a deep breath, her heart pounding and placed her hands in Lizzy's.

Lizzy closed her holding Nicole's hands. She opened them then looked. She ran her hands on the lines, her smile disappearing.

Nicole looked at her face. "What do you see?"



Lizzy continued looking at her palms, her breathing getting a little louder.

“Please..”

Lizzy started muttering alone.

“Lizzy!”

Lizzy dropped Nicole’s haves and gasped. Nolo looked at her.

“What is it?”

“I me going to use my cards for clarity.”

Lizzy’s hands shook then she took out a set of cards in the box with a book.

She opened a page muttering underneath her breath. Nolo’s heart started pounding in fear.

Lizzy put the book down and laid a few of her tarot cards down. She looked at them then looked at Nicole.

“What do you see in my future?”

“I see... a lost soul...”

“A what?”

“I saw pain in your palms. Confusion.... And...” She pointed at a black card. “Death.”

Nicole swallowed. “My death?”

Lizzy looked at the card. “Your death... it’s clear... I see it... in your hands too.. your death. And it’s not far. It’s looming...closer and closer...”

Nolo stood up. “Lets go Nicole.”

“What’s going to kill me?”

“Not what... but who.”

“Who? Who please tell me!”

Lizzy looked at a another card. “Your sister.”

**Fires Of Desire**

## Fires Of Desire

#32

Nolo looked at Lizzy in shock.

“What? I’d never hurt my sister!”

Nicole breathed heavily. “That’s not true.”

Lizzy looked at them. “I see it. Look at that card.... I thought I’d get a different reading..but.. I am seeing-“

Nicole stood up. “Thank you so much. Elizabeth.” Nicole put money on the cushion then grabbed her sister’s hand.

“Let’s go.”

“Wait. There’s more. I am not understanding what it means.. I just need-“

“We are fine. Thank you.”

Nicole put on her shoes and pulled Nolo out. They hurried to the car. Lizzy stood up and ran after them.

“There’s something else... wait!”

“Open the gate! Now!”

She looked at Nicole’s eyes then stepped back getting in her house and opened the gate. The sisters walked out and drove away. She closed her gate and went back to the room.

Lizzy sat down and put down the last card. She looked at it shaking....

“No...”

She collected all her cards and did another reading but it was the same every time. She picked her book and opened it looking for something, she stopped at a different page and read the Greek words fast, her finger going line by line.

She finally put away everything and walked out. She sat down calling her older daughter.

“Hey ma..”

“Hi sweetie. I did a reading today. And... I saw something unusual. It was two sisters. I did a reading on one. The older one. There was a couple of

things but as confusing as it is and it's unusual... but I saw that.. there are two in her body."

"Multiple personal disorder?"

"I thought that at first. But it's not a two in one. There are two souls in that body. Or it seems that way. She does have schizophrenia.. that was easy to see... but there's another soul. And it seems it tries to communicate with her but.. it all sounds the same to her. The voices that are not there and that other voice."

"Two souls?"

"Yes. I need help clarifying it. Maybe I'm not reading right."

"I am busy at work but... I can come there in some time."

"Ok. Thank you."

\*\*\*

Nicole looked at Nolo who was in total silence and sighed.

"I am sorry."

"It's ok."

Nicole laughed. "I thought I'd get an answer of either I am crazy or not. I am desperate."

"The voices are not going away?"

"Ng Ng. Sometimes it's.. different voices and sometimes there's one... that one.." She laughed. "Sounds familiar."

"Why don't you go to the hospital?"

"I did. And it is schizophrenia but... aren't the pills supposed to help me? It's like I am getting more crazy the more I drink them Nolo. Maybe Thabiso was right. I am seeing things and ga go monate. I am scared of being alone. Kea tshaba. I think I am overreacting with Thabiso. Maybe it's all in my head. I have never met anyone who understood like he does. It's hard to not think he doesn't think I am crazy or that he's not thinking of leaving me. I think I am the problem. I push him away."

“Nicky-“

“I just want the voices to stop. I am always in fear... fear of things that are not there. I needed Elizabeth to help me but I guess that’s just another nutcase, a smart one who is making money out of it.”

Nolo laughed. “I think I slept walking a couple of times before... before my new job.”

Nicole looked at her. “How do you know?”

“There’s a time... my housemate said she heard me walk out. I don’t even remember waking up. You know I used to drink sleeping pills right?”

“Yes. But .. did you... did anything happen?”

“No. Uh expect one time I heard that someone had been killed and.. I thought maybe it was me but the police found the murderer. So ...well nothing. Maybe I just walked like a witch and came back. Maybe it’s Multiple Personal Disorder but... I don’t think it happens anymore. I lock myself in the house and put away the keys.”

“Then you are fine.”

“I want you to be fine too.”

“I will continue with the medication. They should all varnish in time.”

Nolo smiled and held her hand. “I love you. I’d never hurt you.”

Nicole smiled back. “I know. I love you too.”

Nicole drove into bus rank. She walked with her to the bus and got in with her.

“Call me when you arrive.”

“I will.”

Nicole hugged her tightly then stepped out. Nolo took out her ringing phone and picked sitting by the window.

“Hi.”

“Hey. I just saw your message. I had to get into a meeting at work. Have you left already?”

“No. I am in the bus. It’s leaving in...” She looked at her watch. “fifteen minutes.”

“I am coming. I want to see you.”

“Uh.. ok.”

He hung up.

\*\*\*

Trevor walked to his car at his in-laws house. He unlocked his Benz and jumped in. His mother walked over and knocked on his window. He rolled it down and looked at her.

“Gorgeous...”

She sighed. “Trevor... I thought you were fine. Keng gape? You are stressing me. You are stressing your father. He says you say there’s someone else.”

“Yes. There is.”

“But she can just remain as someone else, can’t she? If she loves you she will have to understand who you are and what your duties are, you marrying Ranewa is important... for our family. Your father will be the next president. It’s important for you to marry Ranewa as his son. We need that family on our side and this marriage will ensure that. You can still love that someone else on the side. It’s normal for a man to have someone else... we will acknowledge her. She can still get your love. Just not as Mrs. Mbakiwe.”

Trevor swallowed. “I-“

“I understand. I do my boy. But please... I can talk to her for you. Make her understand.”

He started the car. “She doesn’t know who I am. I am just a regular guy for her. A regular guy who lives a regular life. She’s very beautiful. And she’s.. ke yellow bone. She’s... funny and sweet. I don’t want anyone scaring her off.”

“That’s ok.”

“Can’t I have two wives? Like-“

“No. That will be... Ranewa’s father won’t like that.”

“I have to go.”

“Trevor-“

“I love you. Bye.”

He reversed and drove off. Mmagwe Trevor watched as the white brand new Benz sped away then took out her phone and called a number.

“Mrs-“

“I need you to find who my son is seeing.”

“Which son?”

“Trevor. Find her. Now.”

“Yes mam.”

She hung up and fixed her designer dress then walked back to everyone, her red bottoms hitting the pavement.

\*\*\*

Trevor pulled up at Bus Rank. He ran towards the buses locking his car behind. His phone rang as he ran then he picked her call.

“Hey . I am here!”

“Uh... the bus is driving out... oh! I see you. Let me stop the bus. It’s the white one.”

He looked around and saw it. He hurried over as it stopped. Nolo stepped out and laughed looking at him.

“Hi..”

Trevor breathed heavily looking at her. “Hey.. there was a bit of traffic.”

“It’s the time.”

“I guess. Uh you are going back?”

She nodded. “Yes. The case is over. Time to move on now.”

“Yes. I wish he got more years.”

“It is what it is.”

He looked at her for a while then smiled nervously. “I just wanted to say bye.”

Nolo chuckled and whispered. “Ok. Bye.”

He nodded then hugged her and moved back. Nolo smiled.

“Bye.”

He waved as she got back in the bus and sighed as it drove off.

\*\*\*

Nolo sat in the bus and laughed alone before putting on her earphones and listened to music.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#33

Nicole parked her car in front of her house and took a deep breath staring at the house.

Thabiso knocked on her window startling her.

“Hey...”

Nicole took a deep breath. “You scared me.”

“Sorry. I came earlier and found your mom.”

She stepped out of her car and looked at him. “Did you forget something?”

“No. Can we talk?”

“I just want to sleep Thabiso. Tomorrow I have to go to work. And set tests. I have a lot to do tomorrow.”

“Please. Kea go kopa. I am sorry. I know I was wrong. I should have been better. I am sorry. I have been in your position and I know it’s not a nice feeling. I love you. Please give me one more chance, I swear I will do better babe. I will do way better. I am so sorry.”

“I have too much burden I come with. I-“

“I don’t care. You know I never cared about that. Please give me on last chance. I am begging you. I don’t want to lose you.”

He cupped her face. “Please.”

Nicole blinked as tears began to itch her eyes. He leaned over and kissed her. Nicole held his arms kissing him back. Thabiso kissed her more then hugged her. Nicole held on, her eyes tightly shut.

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng, hours later, Nolo walked inside her house. She walked to her bedroom and sat on the bed sending her sister a message.

Her phone vibrated ringing. She looked at the unsaved number then picked.

“Hello?”

“Hi.. it’s Sam’s sister. Ranewa. Is Sam with you? It’s Nolo akere?”

“Hi Ranewa, yes it’s Nolo. No, Sam is not here with me. I am back in Jwaneng now.”

“Oh... ok. She left a couple of hours back saying she’s going to see a friend. I thought the friend is you.”

Nolo smiled. “It’s not, clearly I am not the only one.”

She laughed. “Thank you.”

“It’s ok. By the way, congratulations, I heard you are getting married.”

“Thanks... I hope it happens.”

“It will. And I will be there ke tswere di skaftin.”

“Ah mma, the man I am marrying seems.. unsure.”



“Unsure how? How long have you guys been dating that he’s unsure now?”

“Its not your usual... we.. he was long ordained to marry me. When he was young. It’s an arranged marriage kind of set up but we had years to try and date but he was... I am talking a lot.”

“You can talk to me. It’s ok.”

“He was overseas.. that’s where he went go varsity. I tried to keep in touch but I was young then. He came back two years back.. he was forced to. I was 21 then. I tried to get us to be something but he was just distant. And I think he was seeing someone else. To think I have been keeping myself for him... and now the time has come for him and I to be husband and wife and... he is still.. the same.”

“I am sorry. I didn’t know such things could still happen. Wena do you want him?”

“He’s the only man that’s ever been in my head. Expect flings here and there but... I have kept myself intact for him.”

“Go thata. I am so sorry. But maybe you can try opening the cookie jar now to get his attention. New pussy drives them crazy.”

Ranewa laughed. “I wouldn’t know how to approach him. Gape I have never been naked for a man before.”

“You go to his house dressed up nice and sexy. Hit him with a visit nyana. Introduce your presence in his life. He needs to start understanding that you are there. Gape a surprise visit will render him weak. Go sune and watch him panic. Don’t let him have it then. Get in his bed and sleep. He should wonder what you are thinking.”

“He’s a bit scary.”

“So? That’s your man mma. You need to get used.”

“I like you better than my sister.”

Nolo laughed. “Get up. Do your makeup. Wear that dress that shows your body or your legs. It doesn’t have to be too short. Rock your heels and go.”

“Tonight?”

“Heela o emetsi eng?”

Ranewa laughed. "Ok. I will call you when I leave."

"Ok. I will try and locate Sam for you."

"Forget that one. O useless."

Nolo laughed and hung up. She sent Trevor a message then undressed and walked to her bathroom humming.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, later that evening, Trevor walked inside his house after a grilling session with his uncles.

He opened his fridge and took out a can of beer, his head aching. He switched on his phone just as a car hooted at his gate. He walked outside gulping down half of the beer down his throat.

He opened the gate then a red CHX drove in. He watched as Ranewa stepped out.

Trevor looked at her. She walked over pushing her long curled weave behind.

"Hi.."

He stared confused. "Hi."

"Can I come in?"

"Is everything ok?"

"Yes. Nka tsena?"

He moved letting her in. Ranewa looked around his house.

"This is nice."

"Thanks."

She smiled beautifully. "I just thought we'd spend some time together before the wedding. It will be embarrassing if we had to have something you are allergic to at our wedding because I didn't know my husband better."

"Do you really want to do this Ranewa? You are young. You can always find someone you love. Someone not too old and-"

“You are that person for me.” She got closer and touched his chest. “I don’t want anyone else. Just you.”

His screen flashed as his messages came through. He looked down unlocking his phone. He smiled opening a certain message then he looked at Ranewa.

“You can make yourself comfortable.. I will be in the study. The kitchen is that way.” He pointed then walked away calling Nolo.

“I am trying to sleep Tereva!”

Trevor laughed. “Ke tswa go adima airtime. (I just borrowed airtime.)”

She laughed too. “More debts?”

“I will pay this one back tomorrow.”

He got in his office and closed door.

“Aren’t you going to work tomorrow?”

“I am. I am late nighter.”

She giggled and whispered. “I am not.”

“I just saw your message. I am glad you arrived safely. I thought I’d call you before you sleep.”

“Thank you. I was already sleeping.”

“I am sorry for waking you up.”

She softly laughed. “It’s ok.”

\*

Outside the door, Ranewa listened to his faint voice. He laughed at something. She took a deep breath and moved away going upstairs, her heels and phone in her hands.

She opened the first door and walked in immediately knowing that was his room. She put her shoes don and called Nolo but her line was busy. She called her sister.

“Hello?”

“Hi.”

“O kae? I just got home.”

“I went to see Trevor.”

“Are you supposed to do that?”

“I am trying to get us to bond.”

“Isn't that a desperate move?”

“No..”

“I just think you look too desperate.”

“Can't you ever be positive Sam?”

“So I should lie to you? Motho o doesn't even love you. You should just save yourself the embarrassment.”

Ranewa hung up and walked to his ensuite barefooted. Minutes Later she walked out smelling his shower gel naked and got in under his blankets.

\*\*\*

The following morning, Nolo walked through the company doors and waved at the receptionist headed to her office.

She walked in and put her bag down sitting down then sipped her coffee from her flask. She opened her laptop then unlocked her phone. She opened Nicole's message.

Nicole: Don't judge me, I took Thabiso back and after work today we are going on a road trip.

Nolo: Why am I not surprised?

Nicole: Don't be. I am scared of being alone. Mama went back. Her husband got admitted again. Have to go. We will talk.

Nolo quickly replied to Ranewa's message of her to be husband not coming to bed the previous night. She put down her phone picking her office line.

“Ms. Feni, hello?”

“Hey, I-“

“Never ever call me in your life Kano Moremi, focus on not dropping the soap in prison. I heard it gets messy. Shift your energy.”

She hung up and took a deep breath staring at her laptop.

THREE MONTHS LATER...

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#34

Three Months Later...

Nolo parked the company car at the gym’s parking lot and walked inside carrying her gym bag and a bottle of water.

She put her things down and put on her earphones, her phone strapped by her arm. She got on the treadmill and started running, her music playing in her ear.

Twenty minutes later she slowed down more than just exhausted. She got off and say down taking a sip of her water, her chest burning hot.

“Need any help?”

Nolo turned and looked at one of the gym members. She had seen him a couple of times to know he was regular.

She smiled. “I am good. Thank you.”

“I am Khali.”

She stood up and shook his hand. “Nolo.”

“I have been meaning to say hi all along but by the time I gather myself to say, you’d have long left.”

Nolo laughed. “After doing two or three things, kea tsamaya. I get tired easily... but I am trying to get into shape. Gao rekisa do milkshake tsa

weight loss nerra, nna gym life ya pala. (Don't you sell weight loss milkshakes, gym life is too difficult.)"

Khali laughed. "I wish but no.. I don't. Gym life e bata commitment hela. I can help you. We can do it together."

She smiled looking at his tall muscled body. "I will slow you down."

He looked at her as she smiled. "You won't. Trust me..maybe we can plan your routine maybe over dinner? There's this nice restaurant we can go to. You can give me a call when you are free."

He handed her his business card. "Or we can just do a bit of planning over a phone call. Whatever works for you."

She took the business card then he walked away. She looked at his name then underneath was CEO.

She smiled alone then slipped the business card in her bag and did a couple more things before leaving feeling like she had been in the gym the whole day.

Nolo got in the car and drove off picking a call.

"Hey..."

"Hi. Are you still at the gym?"

"Ng Ng, I just left."

Trevor laughed. "40 minutes?"

Nolo laughed. "I tried. I did the treadmill for 20 minutes."

"Really? Impressive stuff."

She smiled. "Thanks. This workshop to Namibia has been stressing me. I thought I'd blow off some steam. My muscles are now aching."

"O bata massage wena."

"Time laitaka."

"You guys are flying right?"

"Yes."

"And what time are you driving this side?"

"I am not sure. I think I will leave at 10. The flight is for the evening. There's no hurry."

“Ok, then I can see you. I am not working tomorrow.”

“We are not going to a restaurant Trevor. Wena ga o nke o duela. (You never pay.)”

He laughed. “I helped you pay last time. Gape I am your chauffeur mo Gaborone.”

“I am coming with the company car. They borrowed it to me.”

“Fuck yes! I didn’t have petrol.”

Nolo laughed. “No wonder you are single Trevor.”

“I don’t mind being alone. Gape akere I have you.”

“Remember that gym guy I told you about? He spoke to me today and gave me his business card. He says we should go for dinner, he wants to help me at the gym.”

“And?”

“I am going to give him a call.”

“I don’t think it’s a good idea.”

“Why?”

“I don’t think I like him.”

Nolo laughed. “You don’t even know him.”

“Are you not healing from the past?”

“I am fine. You worry too much.”

“I am just looking out for you. I really care about you.”

Nolo smiled then parked the car in the yard. Something moved in her stomach, she stilled as it moved again.

“Nolo..?”

“I am here. I don’t feel too well.”

She stepped out of the car and unlocked her door walking inside the house.

“What’s wrong?”

Nolo pulled up her top and looked at her stomach. She swallowed and stepped back. Her knees shook as shock made it hard to keep it

together. The more she thought of it... the more she got even more confused. And scared.

“Nolo?”

“Hi.”

“What’s wrong?”

She blinked. “I have been having this weird feeling in my stomach. It started..” She closed her eyes sitting, her heart racing. She opened her eyes, a tear falling.

“I didn’t get my period... the last two months. I haven’t been doing anything and even when I was, I was on contraception. But... I look... I think... oh God please no..”

“You are pregnant?”

“I was on contraception! I swear I... I was on contraception. I was taking the pills. And I thought I had my period the other months. I saw blood. I was on pills. I can’t be..”

“If you are...it’s your ex's?”

“I am not going to give birth to that monsters child. I am going to a clinic. I am going to abort.”

“I know a doctor. A friend of mine who can help you. Free of charge. I can come and pick you up.”

“Can he do it tonight? I will drive there.”

“Yes. He can. We can meet at his clinic.”

“Ok. Kea emelela.”

\*\*\*

At Thabiso’s house, Nicole finished cooking and took their plates to the sitting room where Thabiso was watching a football game.

She sat down next to him. He smiled. “Thank you.”

“You are welcome.”

“How was work today?”



“I applied at the senior school in the morning. I hope I get it but even if I don’t, I want to do my PhD. I feel I have been doing the same thing for too long now.”

Thabiso smiled. “I need to tell you something.”

“What?”

“I got selected to further my qualifications in China. Well I had applied over a year back. I got the sponsorship. It’s a three year program. I will be a resident.”

Nicole smiled. “Really?”

“Yes. I qualified with a few other doctors but... it’s a great opportunity.”

Nicole hugged him tightly. “I am so happy for you.”

Thabiso laughed. “I had given up.”

“You did it baby.”

He nodded then sighed. “I haven’t responded yet.”

“Why?”

“What about us?”

Nicole smiled. “What about us?”

“What happens when I go?”

“We hold on. And try a long distance relationship. I am sure you’d get to visit or I will do the visiting. Either way, I am good with it. Or don’t you think it would work?”

He held her hands. “I love you. I feel like if I go away I will lose you. There’s nothing bounding you to me. You will get tired. I don’t want to lose you.”

“My love for you is there keeping me here with you.” She got on his lap and smiled.

“I love you. This is a great opportunity. One you shouldn’t miss out on.”

He hugged her. Nicole rubbed his head and chuckled. “We can have a baby.”

Thabiso moved his head on and looked at her

Nicole laughed. “Lets eat before the food turns cold.”

Thabiso squeezed her waist. "Let's have a baby."

Nicole laughed even more. "I was messing with you."

"Why can't we have a baby?"

She smiled. "Because I am not Mrs. Sefako."

He kissed her neck. "That can happen."

She giggled. "I am sure."

The door opened then a woman with a child walked in. They both turned and looked at her. The woman put down her bag.

"Thabiso, who's this one now? Mmaetsho, o mang and what are you doing in my man's house?"

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## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#35

Nicole got off Thabiso. He stood up and looked at her.

"Mpho.. what are you doing here?"

"Uhu! Who's this?"

Nicole looked at her knowing who exactly she was.

"This is my girlfriend, Nicole. Babe this is Mpho."

Thabiso's daughter walked over to him. He smiled as she hugged him.

"Hey... I missed you. I didn't know you were coming."

"Mama said we are coming today."

He picked her up and kissed her cheek. Mpho looked at Nicole.

"Ware this is your girlfriend or I didn't hear you properly."

"I am not in the mood for your drama today. She's my girlfriend."

"Didn't you say you broke up her?"

“Yes. So I can see my child.”

“Wa ntwaela wena Thabiso. So you thought you’d just lie to me? Tell this thing to go because I am here.”

“Can you not be like this?”

“It’s either I go with my daughter or she goes. You are going to choose between her and my daughter. You should know gore my daughter and I are a package.”

“You are not taking my child anywhere and Nicole is not going anywhere.”

“Thabiso you want me to show you who I am akere? You are not going to take me for fool! You said you broke up with this whore! If you want our daughter, know she comes with me. I told you this before. You will not get my daughter without me!”

Thabiso looked at Nicole. “I am coming.”

She nodded as he walked away. Mpho looked at Nicole.

“What are you still doing here?”

“I should be asking you that.”

Mpho laughed. “Ehe, you have an attitude?”

Nicole smiled and got closer to her. “I guess you are the reason he really never had a serious relationship. Because you are toxic and did nothing but cause problems in his relationships using his daughter. I can now understand what he meant when he said you were toxic. He forgot to tell me you were a little psycho.”

“Gatwe psyco! Haiyee! Banyana ba Gabs. Lala, nna gake chomi ya gago. O ta nyela. (Psycho? Gaborone girls. I am not your friend. I will fuck you up.) That man is the father of my child, I am here to stay.”

Nicole smiled remaining calm. “I bet he regrets having a child with such a ratchet. You don’t scare me with that loud voice of yours. You are forward, all talk and ugliness, that’s what you are good at. And also giving birth to ugly children. Your ugliness went all over that child it’s hard to believe ke wa ga Thabiso ka bo maswe ba mmagwe. Calm down babe, you are too ugly to be making so much noise. Your rotten teeth smells, you should see a dentist and minimize opening your mouth too much. You are embarrassing yourself. From here take your rubbish with

because I am about to give him a beautiful clean child who does not look like a street kid because her mother is for the streets.. he won't care about her and as time goes on , he won't even want her because she comes with a vile woman like you.. meanwhile him and I will be happy with our children who will be bathing.”

“Hey wena, who do you think you are talking to? Do you know who I am? Ke ta go nyedisa nna! Gao nkitsi. Who are you calling a rooten rat?”

Nicole looked at Thabiso walk over then stepped back as Mpho yelled angrily.

“Get out!”

“Thabiso, she just called our daughter an ugly street rat! O ta nyela kana!”

“Get out!”

“I am not going without my daughter!”

“Get out!” He picked her bag and threw it outside then started dragging her outside. Nicole waved at Mpho then sighed sitting while Mpho screamed. Minutes later a police car's siren went off. Nicole got off the couch and looked through the window. She watched as Mpho screamed being dragged inside the police van.

She quickly sat down as Thabiso walked back. He walked in.

He swallowed. “I am sorry.”

“It's ok..I will dish for her.”

She kissed him and walked to the kitchen.

\*\*\*

Nolo parked the car at the private clinic hours later. She stepped out of the car and walked inside the clinic. Trevor stood up by the waiting area looking at her.

“Hey...”

She pressed her lips together, her hands shaking. Trevor pulled her in his arms and held her tightly.

Nolo held on to him and broke down crying. Trevor held her even tighter.

“I am scared...”

“I am right here.”

They each for a while before he finally let her go. He rubbed her cheeks.

“I am right here.”

He led her to an office where a doctor was waiting. She looked at both of them.

“Hi... you must be Nolo?”

Nolo nodded.

“Ok. So I am going to do an ultrasound to see if really you are expecting. You can undress and put on this hospital gown . Lie on the bed after you are done”

She closed the curtain making a partition. Trevor rubbed her cheek.

“I can go and wait at-“

Nolo took off her top then her bra while he stared. His heart racing. She took off her shoes then the jean. He looked at her body and swallowed.

“I am not gay.”

She put on the gown and laid on the bed. Trevor held her hand.

“You will be ok.”

She looked at him and blinked. The doctor walked over and put on her gloves. She covered her with a towel then pulled up the gown exposing her stomach. Trevor held her hand. The doctor put the cold gel on her stomach then moved the prob around her stomach.

Nolo’s heart skipped as she listened to a heart beat through the monitor. The doctor looked at her.

“That’s her heartbeat.”

Nolo gasped squeezing Trevor’s hand.

“It’s a she. We can do a surgical surgery.”

Nolo looked at the screen. The doctor looked at the tears in her eyes. “I will give you space.”

She walked away. Nolo looked at Trevor.

“It’s a real baby...”

“It is. Do you want to keep her?”

“She’s his. She’s his..”

Trevor cupped her face. “Whatever you decide, I will stand with you.”

Nolo held on to him. “He will never leave me alone. I just want peace.”

“Should I tell him that you decided?”

She looked at him, her heart pounding.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#36

Trevor tilted her chin and looked into her tearful eyes.

“Nolo...”

“I scared. It’s a real baby. She’s a real baby.”

“She can be mine. If you want to keep her, I will be her father. She’s doesn’t have to be his. You can put me down as her father. She’s not him. She’s just a baby. I can step up as her father. You don’t have to be alone.”

“He will know. And-“

“He won’t know.” He wiped away her tears. “He won’t know. But you don’t have to feel pressured to keep her.”

She looked at him. “You are already in debts.”

He laughed. “I will re-budget. I can take care of her. With your help of cause.”

“I don’t want to ruin our friendship.”

“I was never applying to be your friend forever. Let’s not do anything today. You have a trip tomorrow. When you come back, you would have decided.”

Nolo blinked. “What were you applying to be? You are a great friend.”

Trevor smiled. “I am a great friend. And I can be that and more.”

He took a wiper and cleaned up the gel. He handed her clothes.

“I will talk to the doctor. Dress up.” He kissed her cheek and walked out.

Nolo put on her clothes and stepped down. She slowly walked to them. The doctor smiled.

“I will hear from you then.”

Trevor held Nolo’s hand. “Yes. Thank you.”

They walked out. Nolo looked at his sweatpants and t-shirt then smiled.

“What were you doing before I called?”

“I was about to eat. You want to go some place and eat? I will pay.”

She laughed. “Save it for petrol. I have never been to your house. We can go there.”

“There is nothing much. We can go to my brother’s house. He’s not there.”

“Let’s go to your house. I didn’t always have this job. I have slept on the floor before. There’s nothing I don’t know.”

“Its-“

“Let’s go.”

“Ok. You will follow after me.”

“Ok.”

He walked to his Vits while Nolo got in the company car. She drove off behind him. Trevor drove for a while and stopped in front of a big house which was just plastered. From the car she could see the floors were still undone though the house had windows and doors.

She stepped out of the car and walked over to him. He looked at her.

“It’s not yet finished.”

“It’s ok.”

He took her hand and led her inside. He switched on his phone torch and led her to the bedroom at the far corner. He unlocked the door and walked in switching on the light. Nolo smiled looking at the vast bedroom. It was so big and tiled. His king bed took some of the space. She looked at the sliding doors.

“Closet?”

He nodded. She looked at the other glass door.

“That’s the ensuite.”

Nolo walked over and pushed it open. She looked at his big bathing tub then the shower on the other side. She smiled looking at him.

“It’s nice.”

“Thank you. Are you hungry?”

“No. Tired.”

Trevor’s phone rang, he took it out and looked at her.

“Ke papa. I am coming.”

He walked out. Nolo looked around then took off her shoes and laid on the bed unlocking her phone. She opened a message from Nicole.

Nicole: Heela!

Nolo smiled and call her back.

“What happened?”

Nicole laughed. “Ke bua yaana ke robatsa ngwana. Baby mama ene e tsile ka kwano.”

“The one who’s bitter?”

“She is not bitter. She’s more than that. To her she believes that she and Trevor have to be together.”

“Uhu!”

“She came yelling and screaming. Akere she uses her daughter to get to him saying her daughter and herself are a package.”

“What?”



“From there she says it’s either Thabiso chooses the package or me. If he chooses me, she’s taking her daughter and leaving. From the way she was yelling I could tell that she probably used to physically abuse him. Ke ha ke mo tswara ka reverse psychology. From here going forward, she’s going to bring that baby thinking she’s sorting me out kante she’s helping my man bond with his daughter.”

“I yes you. Nna that’s why I don’t want a man with a child Nicole. I don’t want to be in a position where I have to deal with a baby mama.”

“Baby mama needs a skill. The dramatic ones because I know there are peaceful ones out there.”

“I don’t possess that skill.”

“Are you coming tomorrow?”

“Yes. I will see you in the morning.”

“Ok, did you check for my black jacket? The one you might have stolen last time.”

Nolo laughed. “I did not take your jacket. Please leave me alone.”

“Onolo, o legodu! (You are a thief Onolo.)

“Go and look for your jacket! Bye.”

She quickly hung up and waited but Trevor was taking too long. She yawned and got under his blankets.

\*

Outside Trevor sighed as his father spoke on the phone.

“Her father is excited about this. He was thinking maybe we’d have the wedding broadcasted on the TV.”

“That’s just unnecessary. I am sure we can just do a live on Facebook.”

“I can get the wedding on TV. It’s not an issue.”

“Papa, I think you and everyone else are making this wedding yours. Me and Ranewa will give the final say about that. Till then, can you let us plan our own wedding?”

“Ok. Tell me what you decide tomorrow. I am sure Ranewa would like to be on TV.”

“Do what you want.”

“Sorry. You will tell me tomorrow.”

“Ok.”

“Did you apply for that tender I told you?”

“Yes.”

“I will talk to someone tomorrow about it. Your mother is here. She wants to talk to you.”

Trevor sighed.

“Hello?”

“Ma..”

“How is your other person?”

“She’s fine.”

“Don’t you think you should introduce her to us before you get married? So she doesn’t feel left out. I am sure the aunts will need to have a talk with her about how to act and behave. We want to acknowledge her as a family.”

“I don’t want anyone knowing her. I know you are looking for her. You will not find her.”

“Trevor-“

“Goodnight.”

He hung up and walked back to the bedroom. He looked at her as she breathed softly lying on her side. Trevor walked over and sat next to her staring at her.

He knew she didn’t deserve the drama he was about to bring to her life, not after what she had been through. He held her soft hand and squeezed it..

Nolo slowly opened her eyes and looked at him. He smiled.

“Sleep. I will sleep on the couch.”

She smiled back. “Your bed is big enough for two.”

He looked at her then switched off the lights and laid next to her.

\*\*\*

Just after midnight, Nicole gasped waking up from a nightmare drenched in sweat. She turned and looked at her phone flashing while Thabiso snowed lightly next to her.

She got her phone and opened the message that had just reported.

Number: Hi Nicole. It's Elizabeth. I know it's late and I know you probably think I am crazy. I don't blame you and truly you have no reason to believe me. But I can't seem to sleep well since that day. I did another reading with my daughter and there's something you need to know. Please come by my house so I can explain everything to you. The other voice you hear is just not in your head. Something happened to you and your sister and you need to know the truth before it's too late.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#37

Nicole looked at the message. She re-read the message again and swallowed. She slowly got up and walked out of Thabiso's bedroom.

She sat down staring at her phone then call her. Elizabeth's phone rang twice before she picked.

"Nicole..."

"Hi. I saw your message. What do you mean the voice is just not in my head?"

"I will sound crazy over the phone."

"I want to know. Please."

"I called my daughter to come and help me. We looked into the past and you had an accident a couple years back?"

“Two years back. With my sister. On her graduation day. I was driving. I... they say I was a bit drunk and I crushed us into another vehicle. I almost lost my life. My sister recovered a bit more faster than me and I am glad it happened like that.”

“You almost died in that accident. You were in Intensive Care Unit.”

“Yes. The doctors said my brain was damaged. They still don’t understand how I made it. My mother believes it was anointing oil she got from a certain church.”

“What I am going to say is going to sound off but for more clarity, you can come over to my house. We saw childhood trauma, abuse that you tried to hide away. Through you I can see your sister did it well. She created a block between herself and the memories. You failed to do that and it triggered your schizophrenia.”

“I have schizophrenia?”

“Yes.”

Nicole closed her eyes.

“But your schizophrenia is manageable. When that accident happened, your soul was going to leave your body. You were dead Nicole. A portal was opened then so your soul can leave though it was still fighting to remain. And that’s when another soul entered your body. Yours never left but that soul was strong enough to bring you back to life.”

Nicole frowned. “Wareng?”

“Your soul then never left. It remained... but in the background because the new soul was stronger than yours.”

“Is it like a demon?”

“No. It’s not like a demon. It’s a soul with it’s own life. A lost soul that found your body.. your body is just a host.”

“So... I am that soul?”

“No. You recovered well and took control. But there are probably times where it’s in charge and where it’s you....”

“Do I know it when it’s in charge?”

“It will be like you two personalities. Your personalities wouldn’t know when the other personality takes over. But in this case it’s about souls.

Each soul carries its own personality. Sometimes you are aware of the actions taken but because you are unable to differentiate between that and your schizophrenia, you think it's you. Sometimes you see things through the eyes of that soul... like when you came here. It was not you. It was another soul."

"How do you know? I decided to come to you. I –"

"She decided to come to me. The other one. She feels different. I just don't know who belongs in that body between you and her. You have to come so I can... try and get which one is foreign."

"Does everything you just said sound normal to you?"

"No."

"And I am supposed to believe it?"

"No... you have no reason to. It's crazy. I know but deep down you know there's someone. Someone is trapped inside of you."

"Do I also have magic in me?"

"No. But your mother knows. She knows. She can tell. She's scared, but she knows."

Nicole turned her head, her eyes falling on a black shadow standing by the passage. She screamed so loud that the shadow jumped in panic.

Thabiso switched on the light. "Shh.. it's me... it's me babe."

"Oh God...I thought..."

"What are you doing sitting in the dark? Who are you talking to?"

Elizabeth spoke on the phone. "Nicole... the other soul is scared of the dark. She can't stand darkness... she can't sit in the dark. She fears monsters will come out of the dark. That's the one that had the idea of coming to see me. She's the one who came. I don't know how to properly explain it. Please find time and come. I can help you."

Nicole hung up. She looked at Thabiso.

"The psychic. I should have never went to see her. She's..."

Thabiso walked over and hugged her. "You should have never. It's a money making scheme so you go back."

\*\*\*

The following morning, Nolo woke lying on the bed alone. She sat upright looking around.

Trevor walked in and smiled. "Hey.."

"Hi. I have to go to my sister's house."

"Ok. I got you some breakfast."

He lifted the plastic he was holding. Nolo smiled getting off bed and took the plastic.

"It's just fat cakes and fresh chips."

She laughed. "My fav. Thank you."

"I will make you coffee."

"Ok. I will take a quick shower."

He nodded. "The water is cold though."

"Its ok."

She walked to his bathroom. Trevor quickly fixed the bed and switched on the kettle listening to the shower. His phone rang, he took it out and picked.

"Ken..."

"Did you tell her?"

"Not yet."

"What are you waiting for? She's soon going to find out."

"She won't want to see me ever again after I tell her. Worse knowing I am getting married. I am not going to pull her into my drama. I love her enough to actually want her to be happy. I don't deserve her."

"Can I see her?"

"Yeah. I will pass by collecting the suit."

"Ok."

Trevor hung up and made her coffee. Nolo walked out minutes later smiling.

“Can I steal your bathroom?”

“You can buy it.”

She laughed getting her coffee.

“Thank you. I used your things.”

“It’s ok.”

He looked at her and sighed. “I really think you should abort. Yes, it’s a real baby but do you want a reminder of what you went through in a form of a human being? Will you love her enough to give her everything? Will you not punish her for her father’s doings?”

He cupped her face. “I would father her if only you can love her. You know how it feels growing up in an unstable home. Will you give her the love you wish you had received?”

She blinked. “No...”

“Set her free then.”

She nodded fighting her tears. Trevor kissed her forehead and hugged her.

He let her go minutes later and smiled. “I will book an appointment for you when you come back.”

“Ok.”

Trevor looked in her eyes, his eyes moving to her lips. His heart pounded. He slowly leaned closer brushing his lips against hers. Her heart beat picked pace as she held his mug tightly.

Nolo closed her eyes as she received the soft gentle kiss, goosebumps erupting on her firearms as a tingly feeling started in her stomach.

He kissed her more, her knees weakening slowly. She kissed him back, her hand on his chest.

Fires Of Desire

#38

Trevor stepped back and smiled.

“Eat.”

Nolo looked at him and laughed. “You are not the type of friend I ordered wena.”

He laughed then smiled. “I am sorry to break it down to you that this is what you got.”

She looked up to his eyes and smiled. Trevor moved his hands to her waist.

“I want to tell you something but I am scared it will ruin our friendship.”

“What?”

He took her mug and put it down. Trevor put his hands on her waist pulling her closer. “That time we met at the campsite... I knew there was something. And I thought it ended there.. but seeing you again... I know it didn't end there and this few past...months I know I am definitely not imagining falling for you. I am not perfect. I am far from it. I am not a prince charming. I have my own burdens, some I wish I could actually control but I can't due to family and everything else. I want this... you and I as more than just friends but I don't want to put you through the drama I bring. I don't want to hurt you so I have been holding on to just friendship. Because at the end, I don't want to lose you and be left without you at all.”

Nolo smiled. “It didn't end there. And you are not imagining it. I want this too... as more than friends though I know once you are financially stable I don't be your type anymore.”

He laughed. “You are my type... there's no other type. If ever I get on with anyone not you... know it's not love. My heart is here.”

“I also have my own burdens. Why should it be anyone who's not me?”

Trevor leaned over and french kissed her, his hands all over. Nolo kissed him back sliding her hands under his shirt then touched his bare skin. He paused and took it off and kissed her again. Her hands went down to his pants. She touched feeling it grow in her hand.

Trevor grunted in her mouth as he took off her top. Nolo massaged it through his sweatpants weakening him further. He moved his lips to her neck.



Nolo closed her eyes letting out a faint moan. Trevor pushed her down on the bed and took off her pants realizing she didn't have any pants on.

He looked at her nakedness going down to her smooth pussy. Precum oozed from the tip of his dick as he stared, his little heart vibrating against his chest.

He got on top of her and between her legs kissing her. He gently massaged her breast. He took out his dick and curved his waist sliding through her wet slit. Nolo moaned as he rubbed it over her. She moved her waist underneath breathing heavily and getting even wetter.

"Trevor...condom..."

Trevor paused. "Fuck! I don't have any. I didn't think... well..."

She looked at him underneath him. He kissed her moving his waist.

"We will stop."

She rubbed his shoulders opening her legs even more. Their breathing got even heavier, unable to hold it anymore and wanting more, Trevor kissed her pushing himself in. Nolo closed her eyes feeling him sink deep inside her till he was lodged deep inside, her pussy stretched.

Trevor moved his lips to her neck. "I love you..."

He slid out and pushed back in again, Nolo curled her toes at the sweetness, the feeling of him being too deep getting overpowered by the pleasure. He gently delivered slow strokes watching her relax and adjust.

Her whole p\*ssy massaged his weapon as he pushed back in. Trevor pulled her down to him and put his hands on the bed on top of her head. He pounded into her pussy picking up pace. Nolo moved her waist underneath meeting him halfway.

Trevor's lips found hers, her hands on his back. He groaned he continued dipping in and out of her sweetness. Nolo bit his lower lip as he pushed her one leg on his shoulder and sank further inside. Nolo threw her head back moaning, the strokes coming harder and faster, her boobs bouncing up and down.

She moaned more as his dick tapped every corner, the pleasure immense. Every stroke pushed her closer. Trevor grunted going even faster and pushing deeper inside. Her pussy narrowed on him, her body

stiffened. Nolo grabbed the bed covers, his dick tapping just the right corner, her body vibrated as she convulsed spasming.

He f\*cked her more and groaned stilling deep into her filling her up, his lips on hers.

Trevor's phone started ringing. Nolo giggled breathing heavily, her legs wrapped around him.

"What time do you go to work?"

He kissed her sliding out his semi hard dick. "I am off today."

He looked at her and smiled. "You are very beautiful."

"I am falling for you too."

He laid besides her and pulled her closer and held her tightly, her head on his chest.

They listened to his phone ring until it stopped. He held her hand and kissed it savoring the moment. Nolo ran her hand on his chest. How he wished it would stay like that.

\*

Over an hour later, Nolo parked his car in front of a big house. She looked at Trevor.

"Your brother lives here?"

He nodded. "Yeah. He's got a really good job. And a woman who controls how money is spent. The best thing to ever happen to him."

She looked at him and laughed. "Good for him."

He kissed her. "I got you now. Oh there he is.."

Nolo looked at the man walking out of the house. Trevor stepped out of the car and walked over to him.

"Eita!"

Ken looked at the car and looked at her. He smiled and waved. She smiled back and waved.

"She is very beautiful."

Trevor turned and looked at her. Nolo shyly smiled looking away then he turned to his brother.

“She is.”

“If it wasn’t for your reality, I’d say you hit the jackpot.”

“I did.”

Ken laughed. “You did. You hit it?”

“What?”

His brother laughed even more. “You hit it. I can see it in your eyes. You are a gone man.”

Trevor smiled. “Give me my things, she has to go to her sister’s house.”

“Tell her the truth. Lying is what may make you lose her. Just lay it down to her.”

“Not now.”

“This is how you are going to lose her.”

“I love her. I will tell her. Just not now.”

Ken went back in the house and came back with his suit. Trevor took it and walked to the car and jumped in. Nolo smiled.

“Should we go?”

He nodded.”

She started the car and drove off. She dropped him off at his boss’s big mansion.

“I will call you.” He kissed her. “I love you.”

Nolo watched him as he stepped out of the car. He waved at her. She smiled and waved back then drove off.

She smiled alone headed to Nicole’s house.

\*\*\*

At Nicole’s house, Nicole sighed and Nolo walked in .

“Hey.. thank God!” She hugged her and immediately smelling a man off her.

“Trevor Noah?”

Nolo smiled. “Who?”

Nicole laughed. “You slept in Gabs with him?”

“No...”

Nolo put her bag down and laid on the couch. Nicole laughed.

“You can’t fool me. I like this one.”

“Why?”

“You love him. You genuinely love him and he makes you happy.”

Nolo smiled. “I am happy.”

“I spoke to Elizabeth.”

Nolo’s smiled disappeared.

Nicole continued. “I believe her. I need help. She can help me.”

“Nicole-“

“I hate the darkness... right?”

Nolo looked at her and got up the couch. “Yes... but not always.”

“There are two souls inside me.”

Nolo frowned. “Huh?”

“There’s another soul. She’s the one who hates the dark. I have no problem with the dark.”

“Elizabeth told you that?”

“Nolo-“

“Elizabeth said I am going to kill you.”

“She said she will clarify things.”

“Then maybe I should keep my distance from you. Before I hurt you.”

“Nolo I need you. I can’t do this alone. I need help...”

Nolo looked in her tearful eyes. “I-“

“Please... let’s go together.”

Someone knocked on the door. Nicole walked over and opened.

Her jaw dropped as she looked at the vice President’s wife by her door step, two black Fortuners were parked in her yard with another one outside.

“Uh...Mrs-“

“Can I come in?”

Nicole moved back letting her in. Her heels echoed on the floors as she walked in. Nolo looked at the woman cluelessly though she could tell it wasn’t just a regular person. Nicole walked over to Nolo more than just shocked.

“Onolo.... Feni.”

Nolo looked at her then looked at her sister.

“My name is Lorra... Lorra Mbakiwe. The wife to Mr. Mbakiwe.”

Nolo looked at her in shock.

“Mother to Trevor Mbakiwe. You are the girlfriend to my son. Don’t be scared... I am just here to.. have a little talk with you.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#39

Nolo blinked staring at her.

Mmagwe Trevor sighed. “Maybe we can go for a drive while we talk. This house is too small, I feel suffocated.”

Nolo nodded. “Eemma.”

Nicole looked at her sister. Nolo shrugged then picked her phone and handbag. Mmagwe Trevor turned and walked out. Nolo followed her to the car while Nicole just stared.

They got in one of the black Fortuners and drove off, the rest of them following after them. She picked her phone and searched for Trevor Mbakiwe. Nicole frowned sitting reading all about his company.

\*\*\*

In one of the Fortuners, mmagwe Trevor looked at Nolo.

“How old are you?”

“I am 25 years old.”

“And where do you work?”

“At a mining company in Jwaneng.”

“Mhmm... and you work as..?”

“An Economist manager.”

“I see, how much do you get paid per month?”

“Ma?”

“You heard me. Your salary.”

“P18500. Starting this month.”

“Do you know how much Trevor makes in a day?”

“I don't know his salary.”

“He makes nothing less of 10k per day. Every day. He makes your monthly salary within two days or sometimes within one day. But I am sure you had an idea. If not why would you be opening your legs for him? I know girls like you.”

“I had no idea. All I know is that he works at a bank.”

“Works at a what?”

“A bank.”

“Who told you that?”

“He told me that.”

“He probably knew your type. Look here ausi, my son is getting married. This is nationwide known information. He is not going to change his mind for you. You might as well stop hopping and stay away from him. I know your bosses bosses. I can make things happen. Trade carefully little girl. I want you far away from my son.” She took an envelope and handed it to her.

“That’s 250k. Hard cash. Trevor should never know about this encounter. Am I clear? If you think you can double play me, I will end you. I will end your life Onolo Feni. I have my people watching. Do we have a deal?”

Nolo looked at the big envelope then look at her.

“Trevor is getting married?”

“Yes. Trevor is royalty. And he’s getting married to a woman of his status.”

She blinked. Mmagwe Trevor looked at her sincere shock and hurt. She sighed.

“I... I am just doing what is right Onolo. I actually thought you were one of those other little girls who are gold diggers. I am sorry that I am the one breaking it to you. You are hurt and I understand but please understand my part as his mother. He lied, he doesn’t work at a bank. He has his own businesses and.. he’s not a regular person who’s in debts. All that was made up. His wedding is in two months. Please... let his wife enjoy her man... her husband. I will make 300k. Don’t tell him I spoke to you. Just end it. And stay away. Kea go kopa my girl.”

A tear fell then Nolo wiped it off. “I am sorry. I didn’t know. If I knew I would have never gotten close to him. I just thought I had found someone genuine. You can drop me off here. Thank you.”

“I can take you back to your sister’s house.”

“No. It’s ok. I will make my way home. Thank you.”

The car stopped. Nolo put the envelope down and stepped out leaving it behind. Mmagwe Trevor watched as she walked down the road.

She took a deep breath and called a number.

“Hello?”

“Do a payment to her account.”

\*\*\*

Nolo's heart thudded loudly as she walked. Tears blurred her vision, she blinked and wiped off another tear that had rolled down.

Her phone rang in her hands then she picked her sister's call.

"I think I lost you guys. I was behind but now –"

"I am walking headed to Game City. We were headed for Mmokolodi."

"Are you ok?"

"Yes."

"I am coming. Ke feta commerce park."

"Ok."

Nolo hung up and looked at the incoming call. She cut Trevor's call and continued walking. He called her again but she let it ring till it stopped.

Minutes later Nicole parked her car on the side of the road and stepped out of the car. She cupped her sister's face.

"What happened?"

Nolo looked at her and blinked. "She..." Tears filled her eyes, her hands shaking. "Trevor is getting married. And he lied... about everything."

"I am sorry."

Nolo nodded then laughed tearfully. "I guess I never learn."

"There's no way you would have known. That surname he told you is his grandmother's maiden surname. That's why when you search him with that... The account you knew comes up."

Nolo laughed so much till her laugh turned into a cry. Nicole hugged her tightly.

"I am sorry..."

\*\*\*



Later that day, Trevor walked out of his office calling Nolo again but this time her phone was not going through. He looked at the time hurrying to his car at the parking lot.

He called her again.

“The number you have dialed-“

He cut the call and drove off headed to her sister’s house. He parked his Benz by the gate and looked at the Honda Fit inside. He took a deep breath and stepped out of the car.

His phone rang, he quickly took it out then looked at his young sister calling.

“Hello?”

“Hi, I am flying in today. Will you pick me up at the airport?”

“Angela, am I the only one you know?”

She laughed. “Yes. Gape you are the lonely one who’s not happy in life.”

“What time is your flight?”

“Now. We are about to take off.”

“Ok.”

“Bye, love you!”

He hung up and walked through the gate headed to the door. He knocked and stepped back loosening his tie.

The door opened then Nicole looked at him. She took a deep breath staring at his looks

“Hello.”

“Hi. I am Trevor. I am here to see Nolo.”

“You missed her. She already left.”

“She already left?”

“Yes.”

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## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#40

“But her flight is at-“

“She got an early one.”

Trevor looked at the sister and smiled. “We both know that a plane is not a bus. Can I please see her?”

“She’s not here Trevor.”

“Where is she?”

“She left. My sister... when she loves, she really does. That’s why it’s hard for her to see the bad in someone she loves does. She’s just like that Trevor.”

“I love her too.”

“No you don’t. You don’t love her. That’s why it’s easy to lie to her and hurt her. You could have left her alone. But you just couldn’t wait to look like the saint one in her eyes. You knew what she was going through. You took advantage of that and got closer to her.”

Trevor looked at her confused. “I am lost.”

“I know about your coming wedding. She knows too.”

He looked at her, his heart sinking.

“She knows?”

“Yes. And that your real name is Trevor Mbakiwe.”

He swallowed. “I can explain. I know she’s here. I know she can hear me. I can explain everything. Nolo ... I know you are listening. I know you are hurt and angry. I can explain... babe please.”

Nicole looked at him. “It’s not true?”

“It’s arranged. I am being forced to do it. I have never been in a relationship with her.”

Nicole continued staring. "Is it because I hear you are royalty?"

"Partly."

She moved from the door and let him in then walked out. She got in her car and reversed headed to the gate calling her sister.

"Nolo, talk to him. I am going to pick up Thabiso.."

\*

Inside the house, Trevor walked to the room and opened the door. Nolo looked at him sited on the bed.

She put her phone down. Trevor sat next to her and held her hand.

"I am guilty about not telling you who I am. I didn't want to scare you. If you knew, I know we would have not gotten this far. I am sorry. I have been wanting to tell you but I was scared. But it's just my name and .. that I am not in money debts... just in lifetime kind of debts. The marriage is an arranged one. I don't know her. But her family is important to my parents. I don't want to get married to her I swear. It's hard being in my position right now. I wish I can just run away from it all. With you."

She looked into his eyes, tears filling hers.

Trevor touched her face. "I love you. That's not a lie. I am in love with you. I want you. I want us... I wish there was an easier way... it is there but you will refuse."

He wiped off a tear on her cheek. "We could get married. I can't escape the wedding but you will be my first wife."

"So I should share you?"

"Or we can run away together. And start afresh elsewhere."

"Are you listening to yourself?"

"Yes."

"Go and get married. I think we should end here. There's nothing-"

“There’s a lot. There’s everything. It’s not like you will be really sharing me. I love you only. With her it’s just duty.”

“Duty to sleep with her?”

He looked at her. “Duty to be with her. You won’t even be staying together. You won’t even feel it.”

“I can’t. It’s too much.”

He went on his knees and kissed her hands. “Then what should I do? Please tell me...”

“You can’t have it both ways.”

“If I don’t have you then I have nothing.”

“You should have never let us get this far Trevor. You knew....”

“Please babe...”

“You want me to share you! The other option clearly is invalid. If you were to run you would have long done it.”

“I will buy you a Porsche.”

“Voetsek jor murr!”

“And a house.”

“Get out!”

“I will do anything...”

“Leave. That’s what I want you to do. Leave!”

She stood up making him stand too.

“Nolo-“

“Leave! Go! Get out Trevor.”

“Babe-“

“Get out!” She angrily pushed him.

“You are cute angry.”

She slapped him. Trevor rubbed his cheek. “That hurt.”

“That’s why you have a small dick!”

He smiled and held her hands. "I think my dick is just fine. I use large size condoms. It's not too big. Just fine. And you love it. And I love you. I am sorry."

She pressed her lips together then looked down crying. He hugged her.

"I am sorry Mrs. Mbakiwe."

She cried on his chest. "Don't call me that."

Trevor kissed her neck rubbing her back. Nolo finally kept quiet. Trevor gently moved her head and kissed her.

The kiss quickly intensified as they breathed heavily. She grabbed his dick from his pants. He quickly took off his jacket and unbuckled his pants, his mouth on hers. Nolo pushed down his zip and took it out.

Trevor picked her up and held her against the wall. Nolo closed her eyes as he gently lowered her down on it. Trevor held her properly and...

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Nolo breathed heavily as he slowly put her down, his cum running down her inner thigh. He packed his dick in his pants and kissed her.

"I love you. That's not changing. I know you are scared but it can work. If I don't marry you and just make it official, I am going to cheat with you."

"I will move on."

He smiled. "I will not give you the space to."

"I hate you."

"I love you too. I love you so much. You are beautiful."

"Your mother gave me money. To stay away from you."

"Did she hurt you?"

"No. She just told me the truth."

"I am sorry. You know what's in my heart. Ke ta duela magadi. (I will pay bride price.) She will come in second."

"This is not how things happen. You just don't get married."

"We can. I have an uncle who can help me. My brother is there too. Magadi can be paid. I have connections ko molaodi. We can make a

plan there. We can get married. You will have your own house and... you will never feel you are sharing me. Please say yes... please..."

\*\*\*

At Elizabeth's house, Nicole sat in the room on the carpet with Elizabeth.

"I am going to call her out Nicole... you will be able to see and hear...through her."

Nicole nodded, her heart racing. "I am scared."

"Don't be... just hold on so that when I call you back... you come."

"Ok."

Elizabeth opened her book. She took for candles and put them around the book then held Nicole's hands. She read the Greek words that sounded like gibberish to Nicole. She closed her eyes then opened them. Nicole slowly weakened as Elizabeth continued reading out the words. Her breathing became shallow as she started losing touch with everything around her and herself. Elizabeth continued now shaking.

Nicole closed her eyes looking down. Elizabeth took a deep breath.

"Who are you?"

Nicole slowly raised her head. Her eyes had gotten darker. Lizzy looked at her knowing the other soul had taken over now. She breathed out then looked at her hands.

"Oh God... it's me..."

"What?"

"Its me..."

"What's your name and what are you doing in this body? This is not your body. You need to leave and let Nicole be."

"Noo.... She's not Nicole. I am Nicole. She's Onolo."

Elizabeth frowned. "You can't fool me. Onolo is her sister. She's not here today. You need to leave this body!"

She sighed. “The one who’s not here... is not my sister. Onolo is here with me. I don’t know how. My sister’s body has been invaded. I am Nicole, and she’s.. the other soul is Nolo. It happened when that accident happened. On her graduation day. I know mama can feel that something is wrong. Another soul invaded her body. The one inside Onolo’s body is an imposter.”

Elizabeth stood up. “Am I going crazy?”

“No. Nolo’s soul is confused. She can’t tell she’s lost. She can feel that something is off but she can’t tell her soul is lost. Something was done to her. So I sometimes take over so she won’t deal with my craziness. The craziness of this body I guess.”

“I don’t understand.”

“The accident Elizabeth... that’s when it happened... I remember the accident. I was driving. We were going to a club. Nolo had done so well. I was going to spoil her. But my phone fell. I was going to pick it and that’s when I crushed into another car. Nolo was on the passenger seat. We went into coma. Both of us. I was floating... and weak but I didn’t want to let go just that my body was weak... and that’s when the other soul came. I felt her. And she saw there was a chance I wouldn’t make it and so she left. And that’s when she got Nolo’s body. How I don’t know..but I remember Nolo’s soul when it came in. I have been pretending like I know nothing so I can get closer to her. But it’s like she knows I know. She thinks it’s Nolo. I don’t think she’s aware I am still around. It’s also hard to communicate with Nolo’s soul sometimes... she will tell the imposter. All this sounds unreal but it’s happening and you are going to help us.”

Elizabeth blinked. “What?”

“I am scared of the darkness. Nolo is not. I love Thabiso. Nolo... well... she’s the one by who broke up with him the other time. I need you to help us.’

Elizabeth shook her head. “I need some wine. This is bullshit kind of crazy.”

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#41

Nicole stood up and held her hands.

“Please help me. I am begging you. Help us.”

“I...I am going to need you to start from the beginning.”

“My sister and I grew up in an abusive home. It’s always been abusive. At first my father was fine. Then he lost his job. Mama had to be the breadwinner. It got to him so much that... that he turned to alcohol.. he’d take the money mama would have saved up and drink it all. He’d apologize but he then he never stopped drinking and he started cheating.”

Lizzy blinked.

“Soon after that he turned into a verbal abuser. He’d insult her when drunk then apologize the next day. It went on for a while till he just turned into animal. He’d beat her till she couldn’t cry anymore. She mastered the art of not crying then he came for us. The kids. I tried to shield Nolo but she was always... fierce... a fighter. She was...” Nicole smiled tearfully. “A fire head. You’d never win with Nolo. But as much as she fought... she got the abuse. Saw it. And she pretended it didn’t happen. See... Nolo would have never let Kano beat her. She’d bring down the house when it came to hands. She never needed me to protect her, I needed her.”

Lizzy smiled. “She does feel a bit more sterner.”

Nicole laughed. “Yeah... she is rebellious. Always said she lives only once... she gave me endless headaches back then. I more than twice had to bail her out of jail. Lizzy... my sister ain’t weak. She’s far from it. She’s a .. swim or drown... she doesn’t like my boyfriend. He annoys her. I have always been a lover.. she long lost hope. I fight to be in charge when it comes to Thabiso.. She thinks it’s her because I can only take control through her. I talk to her when she’s being stubborn so she thinks it’s the voices then she drinks the pills and they weaken her.”

Nicole sat down. “I love him. He’s not perfect but... he has my heart. She’s happy he’s going to China for his internship. She thinks the sex is boring but I keep him because he’s worth it. My memories... the ones



my body and I possess feels likes hers to her. I tried making her see herself through myself but ahh..."

Lizzy sat down too. "Doesn't she have her own memories?"

"She does... but because I am part of them, it's difficult for her to actually remember herself. Something was done to her..the confusion and... she's lost."

"Can't I tell her?"

"She won't believe you. And she will tell that imposter. I hate her. Spineless thing! It's not easy to make Nolo cry. "

"She already doesn't believe me."

"Yes."

"The accident.."

"I crushed into another car. To be honest I was also drunk and high. Being high was Onolo's idea. I was.. dead."

"I felt that."

"I felt the imposter soul then. It was... weird because I felt suppressed. She looked into all my memories and decided I was too much and left.. my body also didn't help. I was on the edge of death.'

"The memories..?"

"Yes. The body holds memories. It's just not... flesh. That's how the imposter carries on with Nolo's body.... She or he.." Nicole sighed. "It probably saw most of her life through her memories before kicking her soul to the cab. I just wonder how then Nolo's soul found my body."

"How do I know you are not the fake soul?"

Nicole got up and held Elizabeth's hand. "Look into me..."

Lizzy looked at her. "I am not witch unfortunately. I would love to help you. I just don't know how. I am only a psychic."

"She's going to kill me. You saw my death. If I meant to die it's ok. But my sister doesn't deserve it." Tears filled her eyes. "I want her to fall in love one day. I want her to see that not everyone is her father. I want her to experience real love. If not me.. please help my sister."

Lizzy took a deep breath. “I will have to include my daughter into it. She... has more knowledge than me. I will have to find out how souls trespass and how to bring them out.”

“Ok. Nolo shouldn’t know. I want her to carry on with the confusion. I think a part of me is glad Thabiso is leaving. That way he’s not in danger’s way.”

“Ok...”

“There’s a guy... Trevor. The imposter seems to love him. I know Nolo already doesn’t like him.”

Lizzy laughed. Nicole smiled. “Once Thabiso leaves... I will try to let her see. Hopefully you’d be finding something then.”

“Yes.”

Nicole smiled. “It feels really nice...”

“What?”

“Taking full control.”

“Can’t she hear us?”

“No. I have taken over. Just tell her you found nothing or something. She’s not going to care much.”

“Ok. Are you ready to go?”

Nicole nodded. They sat down. Lizzy held her hands, the candles between them and started reading her book, her words coming out faster and more intense.

She breathed out as Nicole’s sister slowly woke up and blinked.

Lizzy let go. “Nicole... are you there?”

Her eyes softened then sighed.

“Did you find something? Did the soul come out?”

“I am sorry. I really thought that there was something. It’s just schizophrenia. I am so sorry.”

She frowned. “What? All you said about the darkness and... and everything else? What about that?”

“Your schizophrenia makes it look like there are two of you. It’s all in your head.”

She stood up.. “You said-“

“I am sorry Nicole.”

“No! You said you can help me!”

“I am sorry.. please...”

“Can you help me then?”

“I can’t...”

She laughed then picked her bag and angrily walked out. She got in her car and drove off calling Nolo.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#42

Nolo held her phone at the airport.

“Hi..”

Nicole sighed. “I am coming. Are you ready?”

“I am already at the airport. Trevor dropped me off.”

Nicole frowned. “You took him back?”

“No.”

“Then why is he dropping you off?”

“He insisted.”

“I am driving over. I don’t think I like him.”

Nolo smiled. “Yet you are the one who let him in the house.”

“You needed closure. Honestly I just don’t think he’s right for you. He’s still going to get married. I have thought about it all. You need to realize that you being with him will just be you wasting your own time.”

Nolo sighed listening. “I wish I didn’t love him.”

“I am coming. I will be there just now.”

“Ok.”

She hung up. Nolo sighed putting her phone away as Trevor walked over holding her milkshake. He handed it to her. Nolo smiled.

“Thank you.”

Trevor touched her cheek. “You are welcome. Did you talk to your sister?”

“Yes. She’s on her way here.”

Trevor’s phone rang. Nolo looked at the caller ID and moved back. He cut his mother’s call and held her hand.

“I love you.”

She nodded silently. Trevor tilted her chin and kissed her.

“We will make it work.”

She touched his chest. “I don’t want to share you.”

“You won’t feel it. Nothing will change.”

Ten minutes later, Nolo smiled as her sister walked over. Nolo moved from Trevor and met Nicole halfway. She smiled hugging her. Nicole looked at Trevor.

“You need to break it off.”

Nolo smiled. “I am happy to see you.”

Nicole smiled back. “Good luck.”

“Thank you.”

Her flight got called out. Nicole hugged her again and moved back. Nolo picked her bag and walked away waving.

Nicole took a deep breath, her head aching. She turned and walked out of the airport. Trevor walked behind her.

“Hey... you dropped your car keys.”

Nicole looked at her hands then turned facing him. He stretched his hand and put them in her palm.

“Thank you.”

“You are welcome.”

Nicole turned to walk away but looked at him again.

“She loves you. She’s hurting. Please don’t make it more difficult for her. She deserves better than a man who will never just love her... her alone. She deserves way better. You know that.”

Nicole walked to her car and jumped in. She drove off while he stared. Her phone started ringing as she drove from the airport.

“Hello?”

“Hey babe... I am home. Where are you?”

“I am on my way.. Nolo was leaving.”

“Ok. Should I start with dinner.”

“Yes.”

“Ok, I love you.”

“I love you too.”

She dropped the call and massaged her temples. She slowed down as a voice whispered in her ear. She took a deep breath turning up the radio in her car. She stopped at a red traffic light and quickly drank her meds. She took a deep breath drinking water.

\*\*\*

At Elizabeth’s house, she waited till her daughter picked.

“Mom...”

“She came.”

“She did? And?”

“You are going to have to listen carefully. There’s two souls in her but it’s her sister and herself. Her sister, Onolo. And herself, Nicole. They are both in Nicole’s body.”

“I don’t understand. Her sister how when she first came with her sister?”

“The one in her sister’s body is an imposter soul. It’s not Onolo. Nicole says there was an accident, the one we saw when we did the reading into the past. That accident wherr she almost lost her life and that’s when the soul invaded her body. She looked into Nicole’s life and realized the demons Nicole was battling with and also realized that Nicole’s body was weak and that there was a chance she could die. Because both sisters were in coma, it was easy for it to invade Nolo’s body but while at it, it cast out Nolo’s soul from her body and that’s how Nolo got into her sister’s body.”

“So it’s two sisters in one body and an imposter in the young sister’s body?”

“Yes.”

“And...”

“And Nolo doesn’t know she’s in the wrong body. Something was done to her. And because in the memories she recalls, Nicole is in them it makes it difficult for her to see herself as Nolo. She’s confused. But understand this, Nolo is the dominant soul in this. She does actually feel different from Nicole. Nicole is the softer sister. The calmer one. Nolo is the opposite one.”

“This far more complicated than I thought.”

“It is.”

“So you spoke to Nicole?”

“Yes. I summoned her out but it seems she can take over. She only has to talk to Nolo, make her think she’s crazy then she will drink the medication which weakens her. For instance, there’s a man in Nicole’s life. She loves him but her sister not so much. Nicole is able to love him through Onolo. The love Nicole has for him makes Onolo-“

“Assume she loves him?”

“Yes and therefore tolerates him. She doesn’t understand how she can love him and not love him at the same time. So sometimes Nicole takes over and loves him.”

“Ok. I think I understand but how sure are you that Nicole is not the imposter soul?”

“She is not. I did a reading after she left. She’s not. She’s real. She needs our help.. if she doesn’t get help... I saw the imposter killing her.”

“How does a soul invade-“

“A portal was opened. The imposter soul knows all that. And she’s dangerous if she does. I am not sure but I need you down here.”

“And what will be the plan?”

“Nicole can’t remain in her body for long.”

“She said that?”

“No. It’s reality. She’s fading away. She’s suppressed. I am surprised she held on for this long. I guess it’s the bond she shares with her sister. The love between them may have kept her but it won’t keep her forever. If she fades away, there’s no way of getting her back. She knows it. She’s scared.”

“So what do we do?”

“Nicole is going to have to bring the imposter here. We need both bodies.”

“And we will draw her soul out and put the rightful soul in it’s body?”

“Yes. Then we capture the imposter.”

“Nolo’s soul may not respond to her body. She may die.”

“Yes. But it’s a risk we have to take. I need you.”

\*\*\*

Later that evening, Nicole sighed as Thabiso got off on top of her. She closed her eyes as he put his arms around her. She caressed his chest.

“When are you going?”

Thabiso looked at her. “In two weeks. It’s short notice. I know.”

She nodded and smiled fighting her tears. “I love you. I love you so much.”

Thabiso smiled. “I love you too.”

She put her head on his chest. She could feel her time coming and all she hoped was for Elizabeth to help her sister...

A tear fell on Thabiso's chest. He held her even tighter.

TWO WEEKS LATER...

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#43

Two Weeks Later

At Sir Seretse Khama International Airport, Nicole sat with Thabiso waiting for his flight to get called out. He rubbed her back and kissed her forehead. Nicole remained still in his arms allowing herself to enjoy the last moments. She had cried so much now her cheeks were dry.

His flight got called out. She moved from his arms and stood up. Thabiso smiled getting up too then kissed her.

"I am going to miss you."

"Me too. I love you."

He looked in her eyes. "I love you too."

They hugged one last time before he walked away. Nicole remained still till he totally disappeared from her sight. A tear rolled down her cheek. She finally turned and dragged herself out.

She got in her car and looked at the time. It was just after seven. Nicole took a deep breath and called Elizabeth.

"Nicole, hi..."

"Hi. Did your daughter arrive yesterday?"

"Yes. She did. Has he left?"

"He just left. Can we do it tonight?"



“Yes. Nicole... this is a risk.”

“I know but I want Nolo to... she needs to live her life.”

“Ok. Tonight is ok. Is she here?”

“No. I am calling her. I don't know how but this imposter pretends to love me so well. She will come.”

“Ok. My daughter and I will be ready for her.”

“Ok. Thank you so much.”

Nicole hung up and called Nolo's number. She quickly picked.

“Hello?”

“Hey... something is wrong Nolo. I feel I have completely lost it. The pills are not working anymore.”

“What happened? Do you want me there?”

“I need you...”

“Today I will be getting a half day. I will come immediately after. Where are you?”

“I am driving home. Thabiso...” She took a deep breath and sniffed. “He just left.”

“I am sorry Nicky...”

She sighed. “I will see you later.”

“Ok. Stay at home.”

“I took a day off at work.”

“I will come as soon as I knock off.”

Nicole hung up then drove off feeling the pills slowly begin to stop working. She took out two from her purse and drank. There was no better day to keep Nolo soul off but today.

\*\*\*

In Jwaneng, later that day, Sam walked inside Nolo's office while she packed up.

“Where to?”

“I am going to Gabs. Spend the weekend with Nicky.”

Sam smiled. “I love the relationship you have with your sister.”

Nolo smiled. “I love her. More than anything.”

“I wish it were like that with my sister.”

“You are too harsh.”

Sam sighed. “I have to be. Ranewa won’t hear anything if I am not harsh.”

Nolo laughed. “I will see you on Monday.”

“Ok.”

Nolo walked out with her bags headed to the parking lot. She unlocked the company car and jumped in. She drove off looking at the time headed to her house. Trevor called as she packed her overnight bag.

“Hi..”

“Hey, are you still at work?”

“I just knocked off. I am coming there to see my sister.”

“Do you think I can see you tonight?”

“I don’t know. Nicole is not well. She needs me.”

“Ok. I spoke to someone at the commissioner’s office.”

Nolo took a deep breath. “Trevor..”

“I can get us a date. If you say yes we can do this.”

She swallowed. “We will talk tomorrow.”

“Ok. I love you.”

“I love you too.”

“How are you feeling?”

“Like I was never pregnant.”

“I missed you.”

Nolo smiled. “Bye.”

She hung up then finished up packing and walked out to the car.

\*\*\*

Trevor stared at his phone, his office door opened then his brother walked in.

Ken closed the door and looked at him.

“You want to get everyone disowned with you?”

Trevor smiled. “So I should disowned alone?”

Ken sat down. “You want to pay magadi for her?”

Trevor nodded. “I want to do things the right way. Ke buile le malome P, he’s agreed.”

Ken rubbed his hands together. “I don’t know what to tell you. It’s a bad idea. Your parents won’t be happy. Ranewa will be humiliated. I wonder if her father will agree to her being a second wife. I wonder if it’s even possible to have a second wife after you get married ko molaodi. I know you love Nolo but her life is not going to be easy if she says yes. Is she ready for that? Will she handle it? Will you handle the consequences of your actions? I wish you can just be honest with everyone about your intentions.”

“Do you think they will agree?”

“No. But it’s worth a try. Or talk to Ranewa. Let her in. Let her understand. Maybe she will agree. If she agrees maybe you can marry them both at the same time. Let her meet Nolo..let them meet. You never know. They may love each other.”

\*\*\*

At Nicole’s house, Nolo parked the car next to Nolo’s as it got dark. She took her bag and walked inside the house.

Nicole smiled getting up. “Hey...”

Nolo put down her bag and hugged her. "Hi."

"You look nice. I like your hair."

Nolo touched her straight weave. "Thank you."

Nicole took her bag to the bedroom and put it on the bed. Nolo walked in.

"How are you feeling?"

"I drank sleeping pills so I wouldn't hear anything."

"I think you should see another doctor."

"Me too. I want you to go with me tomorrow."

"Ok."

"I spoke to mama."

Nolo blinked.

"She says you don't call anymore. I don't know what happened but... you used to love her so much. Of course you were angry that she remained but you loved her. Remember how you never wanted to go to UB because you didn't want to leave her alone? Nolo what happened? She's hurting."

"I have been busy at work. I will call her. I promise."

Nicole smiled. "Thank you. I cooked. Come."

They walked to the kitchen. Nicole poured some wine for Nolo then handed her a glass and started dishing. Nolo sipped drinking watching her sister dish. She finished the sweet tasting wine and put the glass down.

Nicole carried their plates to the sitting room. Nolo sat next to her and took her plate.

"Trevor wants us to get married."

Nicole looked at her. "He is not getting married anymore?"

"He is. But... he wants us to get married first."

"That's madness. He wants you to share him?"

"Yes."

“What did you say?”

“I love him.”

Nicole took a deep breath. “Let’s talk about it tomorrow.”

“I know you are not happy.”

Nicole looked at her. “Let’s talk about it tomorrow. How’s work?”

Nolo turned to the TV and frowned be feeling dizzy. She put the plate down.

“I need water. I feel...tipsy.”

Nicole laughed. “One glass?”

Nolo tried to stand but her knees felt too weak. Everything started spinning. She held Nicole’s hand closing her eyes. She opened them but everything was blurry.

Nicole pulled her head on to her chest and held her till she was completely still.

Nicole laid down and looked at her. She walked to her bedroom and packed a few things in her bag then walked out to get car. She put her bag inside and went back for Nolo. She took a deep breath and pulled her outside.

\*\*\*

At Elizabeth’s house, Elizabeth watched as Nicole’s car drove in standing by the window. She walked outside. Nicole stepped out of her car.

“I brought her.”

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#44

Elizabeth helped Nicole carry Nolo's body to the room she used. They put her down on the carpet just as Elizabeth's daughter walked in.

Nicole looked at her. She smiled stretching her hand over to Nicole.

"Hi, my name is May."

"Nicole."

"Nice to finally meet you."

"Thank you. For agreeing to help."

May looked at Nolo's body. "The imposter soul is in there?"

Nicole nodded.

May carefully looked at Nolo. "Your sister is beautiful."

Nicole smiled. "She is."

Elizabeth got her book out and her candles. May took a deep breath.

"I am scared. I have never done this before."

Nicole sighed. "If we don't do it, Nolo will be stuck in my body forever."

May held Nicole's hand and looked inside. She took a deep breath running her fingers over her lines. She nodded and looked at her mother.

"Let's do it."

Elizabeth set the candles down then they all sat next to Nolo's body.

Elizabeth looked at her daughter and handed her the book. May smiled.

"It feels like we are about to do some witchcraft activity."

Elizabeth chuckled. May opened the book and went to the page that had a book mark.

Nicole looked at her. "How are you going to do it?"

May looked at her. "I am going to have to get the imposter soul out of your sister's body. I will keep her in here.." She dragged a wooden box. "And the only way that can happen is when she's dead. It should only be for five seconds or less, her soul naturally will leave the body. Once that happens, I will summon out your sister's soul from your body. You need to understand that in both cases, you need to be dead so that a portal can be opened. I have this..."

She took out two syringes. “This is going to weaken the heart and eventually stop it. I am going to lodge it right into heart. Once that happens, a portal is opened because your spirit is getting ready to leave. I will draw out your sister’s soul then I will inject you with this. It’s an Adrenaline. I have two. For you and her. It should get your heart pumping, if not, I will use a defibrillator. Don’t worry. I am a qualified doctor but there’s a chance that your soul might not be able to support this body. Or it might take longer for you to wake up after all this. If you don’t wake up immediately, we are going to have to get you admitted at a hospital. Good thing is that non of the two medication can be found in your system so if it happens that you die... they will rule it out as a heart failure. It’s the same with your sister’s body. Do you understand?”

Nicole nodded.

Maya looked at her mother who nodded.

“Ok. Lie down. I will start with you.”

“Ok. I can feel her... she’s waking up.”

“Lets be fast then.”

Nicole took off her top and laid down. May’s hand shook so much, she found herself sweating. Nicole closed her eyes and exhaled relaxing. May held her hand chanting underneath her breath. She continued chanting as she were hypnotizing her till all of Nicole’s facial features relaxed.

Maya took the small holter monitor which had several wires attached to the monitor. She took the patches and placed them on Nicole’s chest.

She handed her mother the small monitor where Nicole’s heart activity was getting recorded.

“Do you see the reading there, that’s her heart beat now. When it starts dropping it means her heart is stopping and if it goes higher than that, her heart is beating way too fast.”

Her mother smiled. “You already explained it to me.”

May sighed. “I don’t want anyone dying. It’s an unsafe procedure to do..and if anything happens... no one will believe anything we say. It will sound gibberish to them. It will sound like pure made up bullshit.”

“I know. I am scared too.”

Maya took the syringe and lodged on Nicole's chest. She disposed the contents of the syringe and slid it out. Elizabeth sat back watching. The holter monitor showed Nicole's heart going fast then started going slow.

"The numbers are dropping."

May got the book and read the words loudly. Nolo opened her eyes on the floor where she was lying and frowned confused.

She looked over at Elizabeth feeling weak. Her eyes turned over to the other woman who was holding Nicole's body.

She frowned and whispered. "What are you doing?"

Elizabeth turned to her. "Hi... it's ok."

Nolo tried to get up but she felt too weak.

"What...-"

"It's ok."

"My sister.."

"She's ok."

Nolo's heart raced as she watched pull the wooden box close to her. She tried to drag herself over as realization of what was happening hit her. Tears filled her eyes.

"Stop..."

Elizabeth looked at her. "You can't stop it now.."

"No... no..."

"You need to go. You don't belong there."

"Please..."

"You don't belong in that body."

She looked over as the woman summoned out Onolo's soul out of Nicole's body.

"Stop! Stop! Please... what are you doing?"

Elizabeth touched her hand. "We know. We know everything and you are not going to live in this body anymore because this is not your life."

Tears fell from the corners of her eyes. "This is my body. This is my life."



“No. And we are taking you out.”

Elizabeth took the syringe with the sedative and injected her arms with it. Nolo looked at her then closed her eyes weakening. She breathed out one last time passing out.

The room fell into complete silence as May kept quiet, so quiet you could hear every breath. Elizabeth’s jumped startled as Nicole opened her eyes and gasped letting out a loud deep growl as if she were an wild animal, her heart pounded way to fast in shock, she dropped the heart monitor in her hands collapsing in fear.

May moved over to Nolo’s body and pulled her closer. She grabbed one of the cushions and pressed it on Nolo’s face suffocating her. She pressed on even more, Nolo’s body twitched multiple times till it stopped, pee wetting her dress then the carpet.

May took off the pillow looking at Nolo’s dead body. It would take the soul a couple of seconds to leave. She chanted her Greek words bringing the candle closer. Nolo’s body twitched, May’s heart skipped a beat as the imposter soul shone bright leaving Nolo’s body. She opened the wooden box chanting louder and watched as it got into a box as if it were crystal water being poured out. She closed the box and locked it containing the soul.

May stepped back waiting for Nicole to actually die so that Onolo’s soul can slid out and enter the vacant body.

The candles around the room all deemed, May touched her hand.

“Onolo.... Arise and leave...”

May took a deep breath watching as Nolo’s soul rose slowly, even more brighter. It lit up the entire room and moved to Nolo’s body and slid through her mouth. May took the adrenaline injection and stabbed it right on Nolo’s heart pushing the contents through.

She took the other one and injected Nicole with it. Seconds passed then Nolo gasped. May sighed in relief and moved to Nicole and started doing chest compressions. Elizabeth slowly woke up and looked at her daughter then at Nolo.

“Did it work?”

“Call the ambulance! We need to get them to the hospital!”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#45

At Gaborone Private Hospital, Elizabeth took a deep breath sitting next to her daughter.

“Did it work?”

May looked at her. “Yes. If they make it then yes.”

“And the soul in the box?”

May took a deep breath. “I have a friend. She’s hanging on the loose thread. Maybe...”

“May..”

“I am taking it with me.”

The doctor walked over. They both stood up.

“Good evening, I am Dr. Ndaba. You must be the two ladies who brought in the two sisters.”

“Yes. Uh we found their car parked near our house and when we looked over they were unconscious.”

The doctor smiled staring at Elizabeth.

“You two have good hearts. I am not sure what we could be saying if you didn’t bring them in when you did. I will update you because you brought them in. They both suffered I’d say cardiac arrest but it seems it was only for a couple of seconds because everything is ok.”

May sighed out of relief. “Thank you. Thank you so much. I was so scared.”

“I wonder what could have happened because whatever it is happened at the same time. Could have been one sister had a cardiac arrest then the other panicked.”

Elizabeth nodded. “Unexplainable. Uh... can we see them?”

“Yes. They are in one room.”

\*

At the room, Dr. Ndaba let them in. May walked over to Nolo's bed and held her hand as the doctor walked out.

"Hi..."

Elizabeth swallowed staring. May squeezed Nolo's hand.

"Onolo!"

Nolo's hand moved. May stepped back, her heart racing.

Nolo slowly opened her eyes. She blinked opening them more then breathed out. May smiled.

"Onolo?"

Nolo looked at her blankly. Moved to Nicole. Her mother looked at her.

"What's happening to her?"

"I will have to hypnotize her so she remembers. Let me see her.. Nicole!"

She shook her arm. Nicole opened her eyes. Elizabeth looked in her eyes.

"That's Nicole. I know her eyes. They... and her... that's her."

"Nicole. It's May. Do you remember me?"

Nicole blinked then moved her head. "Nolo? Where's my sister? Nolo!"

She sat upright then looked over at Nolo. She got off bed ripping the drip from her arm.

"Nolo... "

She hurried over and cupped her sister's face.

"Nolo... it's me... Nolo..." Tears filled her eyes.

Nolo blinked staring at her, bits and pieces of the memories coming together but...

Nicole turned to Elizabeth. "Tell her..."

"May has to hypnotize her first."

May held Nicole's hand. "She was...I am not sure what was done to her soul but it seemed the memories were washed away that's she wouldn't remember her real self when she was in your body. But not now she's in the body that holds the memories... I just have to walk her through it all... till now."

"Can you do it now?"

May nodded. "Yes."

May took a deep breath and held Nolo's hand. Elizabeth stepped back with Nicole.

"She's a psychologist. Like me. But... she's always been different. She could hear and tell the future. Better than me. But like my mother. She's good. Let her..."

Nicole nodded.

May took a deep breath.

"Nolo... take a deep breath in. I am not going to hurt you. You are confused. Let me help you. Take in another deep breath in..."

Nolo blinked and took a deep in.

"Then out... it's ok. You are ok. No one is going to hurt you. Listen to my voice Nolo... you are tired... you are so tired and you want to rest... it's alright..."

Nicole watched as May softly spoke to her till her eyes were closed and she looked like she was asleep.

May took a deep breath. "What is your name?"

There was silence as they stared. Nolo sighed breathing gently, her voice coming out thick but gentle in a way May had never heard before.

"Onolo Feni."

Nicole put her hand over her mouth hearing her sister's real voice. Emotions choked her that tears rolled down.

"Onolo... that's a beautiful name.."

Nolo spoke with her eyes closed. "It was my grandmother's."

Nicole nodded crying silently.

“It’s beautiful. Where were you born?”

“Orapa..”

“What is your mother’s name?”

“Ogaufi. Ogaufi Feni.”

“Your father?”

“Goitse Feni.”

“You are a little girl... you are five years old. What do you see?”

There was silence then she smiled, her eyes still closed.

“Nicole...”

“Who’s Nicole?”

“My big sister.”

“What does she look like?”

Nolo tilted her head. “She has long hair. I like it.”

“And your mom?”

Her smile widened. “I like her hair too.”

“Who is your friend?”

Nicole listened as Nolo spoke slowly answering most basic questions. Nicole moved closer and whispered to May.

May smiled. “Nolo... who is Ruby?”

She softly laughed. “Nicole’s doll.”

“What happened to her?”

She giggled. “Tshiamo stole her. I took it. And punched her. But she fell into the pit latrine.”

Nicole’s knees weakened. Elizabeth hugged her.

“Nolo... tell me about your father?”

Nolo’s smile disappeared. “He likes beating us.. and mama too. I beat him back.”

“You fight?”

“Yes. I... I stabbed him.”

May took a deep breath. “And your boyfriend?”

“I hate boys.”

“The scar on your chest... what happened?”

“Papa burnt me... I burnt him back.”

May swallowed listening to her voice coming out sharper though her face was still relaxed, her eyes still closed.

“You are in university... do you see it?”

Nolo nodded. “Yes.”

“What are studying?”

“Economics..”

“You are graduating...”

“Yes.”

“Do you see the accident?”

She started breathing heavily. A tear rolled down. “Nicole...”

“What’s happening?”

“She... she is not moving..”

May rubbed her hand. “She is fine.”

Her breathing calmed down.

“You are at the hospital... do you feel the invasion?”

It went silent as if she had stopped breathing...

“Nolo...”

“Something is inside me...I feel it...”

“And?”

There’s silence..

“It’s ok. Take in a deep breath... and out. You are ok... let it go... come back... it’s ok.”

Nicole pressed her lips together as May pulled her out. Nolo finally opened her eyes. She breathed out.

Nicole walked over, Nolo looked at her sister crying as the memories all came back together.

“Nicole.. you were not moving..”

May stepped back watching Nicole cried more, pain and happiness laced in her voice. Her own tears filled her eyes. They hugged each other now both of them crying.

“I am fine... Oh God thank you... you are back.”

Elizabeth held her daughter’s hand.

“She will remember it all. Even the new memories that were made in that body. She will remember.”

The door opened then the doctor walked in. He paused staring at the sisters holding each other crying.

Elizabeth looked at him. “They just woke up and...”

He nodded. “Ok. But visiting hour is over.”

Elizabeth smiled. “Thank you for letting us see them.”

“You are welcome.”

Elizabeth turned and walked out with her daughter.

\*

Later that evening, Nolo breathed heavily on the same bed with her sister, her head on Nicole’s chest as she listened.

“And that imposter soul was pretending to be you while you were in my body.”

Nolo looked at the white walls. “I remember seeing me as you. I was living it. And I was hearing things. I knew something was not right. It didn’t feel like me. I didn’t like Thabiso.”

Nicole chuckled. “I do. I love him.”

“His sex-“

Nicole laughed. "I love it."

"It felt like rape."

"It would. Can you see into the imposter's memories?"

"I see Trevor... I saw him when I was you. Do we tell people such things?"

"No.."

"I don't think like him."

"I know. She loved him."

Nolo yawned and closed her eyes exhausted. Nicole rubbed her back. Nicole wrapped her arms around her holding her tightly as she fell asleep. She took a deep breath not wanting to fall asleep scared it would all be a dream.

\*\*\*

The following morning, Trevor sat in his car calling Nolo.

He sat upright as it rang.

"Hello?"

"Hey babe, I tried calling you the whole of last night. Are you ok?"

"Yes."

"Can I see you?"

"I am with my sister."

Her voice sounded a bit more deeper. Different.

"Are you ok?"

"Yes."

"What are you doing?"

"I am spending time with my sister."

"Ok. I am coming there."

He hung up and drove off.



\*\*\*

Nolo hung up as Nicole parked her car at her house. Nicole smiled.

“It feels nice being alone in here.”

Nolo chuckled. “It feels nice not being tortured by the things that reside in your body.”

“Leave my schizophrenia alone.”

They walked inside the house. Nicole took off a painting that was on the wall.

“I hated that.”

“Like I hated being a teacher?”

Nicole laughed. “You are just a hater.”

Nolo walked to the bedroom and paused about to open the wardrobe she had opened everyday as hers. Everything felt hers. Nicole walked in.

“Will you cope?”

Nolo laughed then paused. “It feels... unreal. O kare go fake hela.”

Nicole took one of the dresses Nolo liked. “You can keep this.”

“I feel robbed of my life.”

“You got it back.”

“It doesn’t feel like it.”

Nicole hugged her. “You got it back..and you can finally be you...”

“I don’t even know how to.”

Someone knocked at the main door. Nolo turned and walked over. Nicole trailed behind her. Nolo opened the door and looked at Trevor.

Trevor smiled and hugged her. His warmth recurring the already existing feelings she could instantly feel. She took a deep breath and stepped back.

“Hey... I missed you.”

She looked at him. "Hi."

Trevor looked at Nicole and smiled. "Hi."

Nicole smiled. "Hello."

Trevor turned his attention to Nolo.

"Can we talk?"

He took her hand and led her to his car.

"Are you ok?"

Nolo nodded.

"Ok... then why are you looking at me like that?"

"I don't want to get married. Ever. I have no dream of getting married. Worse getting married to share you with another woman. There is no way you can say I won't feel it. I will feel it because I will be living that reality. You should have never lied to me in the first place. I hate liars. I hate them so much."

"Babe-"

"We have had sex only twice. I think we should end it. I have had enough time to think things through."

"Babe please.."

"Have a nice life. Bye."

She turned and walked away. She took a deep breath talking to herself.

"No need to feel sad Nolo. You don't know him."

She walked inside the house and closed the door.

\*\*\*

Trevor got in his car confused. He took his phone and call her.

"Trevor."

"You sound different. We have had sex only twice but it was more than just sex. You sound like it was just fucking... it was not. You know that. You sound emotionless. You don't sound like you babe."

“Trevor, you know there’s no future. You are not going to put me into a polygamous marriage. And yes I do sound different. I am brand new. I am reborn and I buried the naïve brainless Nolo who was influenced by love. This is the new me and I am not going anywhere. Make things easier for you and stop calling me.”

TWO MONTHS LATER...

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#46

Two Months Later

In Jwaneng, Nolo parked the company car at the parking lot then stepped out. She locked it and walked through the doors headed to her office, her long heels hitting the tiled floors hard. She briefly smiled at the receptionist and proceeded to her office.

Sam walked in behind her, the short blond that Nolo had always surprised her still though it was more than 4 weeks now, it looked like it was just made for her.

Nolo fixed her blazer and smiled.

“Hi.”

“Hey, you look good. Ready for the presentation.”

“As ever.” Nolo sat down and opened her laptop.

Sam smiled. “You have been working so hard, I am hearing a promotion in the talks.”

Nolo opened her emails and looked up at Sam.

“I deserve one. If my presentation is given thumbs up, this company will be going for the money.”

She read an email then quickly typed a response attaching a document and sent it. She looked over at Sam.

“We should go out tonight. Relax and .. set lose.”

Sam smiled. “I’d like that though tomorrow I am leaving early morning for the weddings. Are you coming?”

Nolo sighed about to say no but then this was... a good friend. She was still learning and familiarizing herself with it though she had always hated friends. This was a try after what had happened back in varsity with that other snake she had befriended.

“We can go together. I applied for a loan. It’s soon paying out. I want to buy a car so maybe I will start searching for my car.”

Sam smiled. “What car?”

“I have always wanted to buy a...-“ Nolo’s office phone rang. Sam smiled then walked out. Nolo picked opening another email.

“Ms. Feni, how may I help you?”

“Ms. Feni, it’s HR. Can you come by my office now? Before the meeting starts.”

“Eemma.”

Nolo hung up then quickly replied to the email and walked out. She knocked and walked in passing Sam’s desk.

The HR Senior Manager looked at her. She smiled.

“You can sit. It will be brief.”

Nolo sat down and looked her straight the eyes. The HR Senior Manager leaned back, Nolo’s strong gaze wavering her own confidence.

“When we hired you, we saw something in you. A spark that we thought we could nature and get it to burn. You had confidence.. you showed us you were capable, that you were ready to get the ball rolling. But we have realized it wasn’t a spark we saw in you Onolo. It was a fire. A fire ball. The last two months you proved to be something we could have not imagined. You have white men mesmerized by you. It’s like you realized your full potential and this is exactly what we need. We need you right at the main headquarters. We need to lead us and that’s why we are

promoting you to Senior Economist Specialist. We are moving you to Gabs. That fire you have is needed there.”

Nolo looked at her. “Is my salary increasing?”

She laughed. “Yes. Here is the contract.”

Nolo took the envelope and opened it. She took out the contract and quickly read through. She skimmed over down to the new figures.

“I think I deserve more than this. I know my full capabilities, I am happy you are giving me the platform to explore more but the fire I am bringing needs more than that. These figures are not motivating enough. I am no basic Economist.”

The HR Senior Manager smiled. “There was room for negotiation.”

“I am glad. Have it revised and I will sign it right away.”

Twenty minutes later Nolo walked out. Sam smiled looking at her. Nolo smiled back.

“Thank you for the surprise.”

Sam hugged her. “I am happy for you. Tonight is on you.”

Nolo walked away smiling. She walked in her office then put her hands on her face careful not to ruin her flawless make-up.

“Yes! God yes!”

She walked over to her desk and called her sister.

\*\*\*

Nolo marked her student’s exam papers writing short notes on the side with her red pen. Her phone rang, she smiled picking.

“Hey...”

“I got promoted to Gabs. To the headquarters.”

“You did? Oh I am so happy for you Nolo. You deserve this. I saw you in the newspaper.”

“You already texted me about that.”

Nicole laughed. "I am so happy for you. I can't contain it."

"Me too."

"At least you will be closer to me."

"I am coming tomorrow. With Sam for the wedding."

"Her sister is marrying Trevor."

"I know. But Trevor and I have been done. He shouldn't even remember me. Can you come with?"

"Of course. I am not doing anything." Nicole looked around and smiled. "I am pregnant."

"You are pregnant?"

Nicole giggled. "Yes. I know. I found out last night. I am so excited. I am going to be a mom."

"Did you tell him?"

"Not yet.."

"I am going to be an aunt?"

Nicole laughed. "A great one. And I a mom. I have always wanted a baby."

"I know. I am happy for you."

"How far the plot searching?"

"I found one. She says P250k. I am waiting to meet with her and negotiate. Her plot is big. Very big. I want flats. Bachelor pads. Maybe 12 of them. It will be townhouses. I don't want to owe the bank for long. I was also thinking getting a school bus. I saw on Facebook, they were charging P500 a month. If I can get e le combi, that's 18 or more students. I am looking at close to 9k a month. If I pay the bank then I will start with my own house."

Nicole smiled. "I love that."

Nolo laughed. "How is work?"

"It's fine. I can't stop thinking about my baby."

\*\*\*

Trevor sat in his office staring at her new Facebook profile picture. It was a mirror selfie and she looked beautiful, she had lost a bit of weight though she still had her curves. Her tinted hair made him smile, one could have expected that to mess up with her beauty but she still looked so beautiful.

He took a deep breath in saving the picture to his phone then sipped his whiskey.

He dialed her number and called her with his office phone.

“Ms. Feni, how can I help you?”

“You need a PA Ms. Feni. Something happened to your voice... it sounds... very sexy. Like you can get anything and anyone.”

“Why are you calling me?”

He finished off his drink and frowned getting up.

“I miss you.”

“I am hanging up. I am working.”

“I love you. I love you. I fell deeper than I should have, I made a blunder there but... I couldn't help it. You are so perfect. What sealed the deal was the sex. You are so-“

“You need to pull yourself together. You are getting married, I was never the girl for you.”

“I want to see you.”

“This is pathetic.”

“I am going to kill myself.”

“Good riddance. Some of us actually have to work for our money. We don't have tenders being thrown at us because we have powerful fathers. Make sure you die.”

“Thamma Onolo I love you.”

She hung up. He stared at his phone then walked out of his office going to the underground garage where he got in his car and drove off.

## Fires Of Desire

Fires Of Desire

#47

Nolo walked to the company car after knocking off and got inside. She sat still for a while as different thoughts made her head spin. Minutes later she started the car and drove off headed to her house.

She walked inside her house taking out her vibrating phone. She walked to her bedroom picking her mother's call.

"Mama.."

"Nolo, how are you?"

"I am fine. How are you?"

"I saw the money you sent. You didn't have to send so much my girl."

Nolo smiled undressing. "I saw the pictures you sent. I don't like your hair. Go and do something nice. Mmagwe Tshiamo still plaits akere? Tell her to wash your hair and plait you."

"I was thinking of cutting it."

"Don't cut it. Go and plait it. Then get some clothes. Akere papa can't see properly anymore? Get yourself some nice dresses and shoes."

Her mother laughed. "I have not done shopping in a while now."

Nolo smiled. "Should I come so that we do it together?"

"No. I will do it myself."

"Its for you. You only."

"Ok. Thank you my girl."

"If you need anything, call me."

"Ok. I love you."

"I love you too."

Nolo put her phone down and walked to her bathroom naked. Over an hour later she walked out of her house. She frowned staring at a white Benz drove through her open gate.



Trevor stepped out of his car still in his suit though with no tie. He looked at her body hugging dress that hugged her curves and butt. He walked over and stood before her. Nolo looked up at him.

“You look beautiful.”

“What do you want?”

Trevor smiled looking at the frown on her face.

“I wanted to see you.”

“See me for what? Shouldn't you be planning for your wedding?”

“I love you.”

“So? I don't.”

“That's a lie.”

“I don't love you.” She locked her door. “Does it look like the Nolo who loved you is here? I told you, she's not here and I feel absolutely nothing for you. Besides the fact that you are starting to piss me off.”

She unlocked the company car looking at his sad eyes.

“You are getting married. What am I supposed to do with your love? What are you hoping will happen? That we fuck then tomorrow you go off and get married while I sob for you. Is that what you are hoping for? That I'd be ridiculously in love with you much that you will keep fucking me behind your wife's back giving me the bare minimum. Is that it? It's not happening.”

“I love you. I love you so much. I just wanted to see you today. And tell you that I love you.” He held her hand.

“I love you. I wish things were different.”

“Sam is my friend. Your to be wife's sister. I am sorry about your life problems but don't make those problems mine. Close my gate on your way out.”

She got in the car and drove off headed to the bar where she was meeting Sam.

Sam smiled as Nolo walked over.

“Hi.”

“Hey.”

Nolo sat down, her eye falling on a tattooed man a distance from her. He turned and looked at her, Nolo twisted her lips staring. He smiled and looked away.

“He’s the owner of this bar. The one who stole the diamonds.”

Nolo smiled. “Risk taker.”

“Ng Ng, I don’t like him. He’s a terrorizer. He does money heists too.”

Nolo turned looking catching him staring. She smiled and turned away stopping the waiter. She ordered her drink and stole a glance at herself on her phone’s screen.

Sam watched as Nolo looked at herself.

“You look beautiful.”

Nolo looked at her and laughed. “You too. Where is your boyfriend?”

Sam smiled. “In Maun. You know he stays there.”

The waiter brought her drink. Nolo stood up taking it.

“I am coming.”

Sam watched as she confidently walked over to the tattooed man. She took a deep trying to crunch away the jealousy she was feeling. She watched as Nolo whispered something in his ear making him laugh. Nolo smiled looking at him. Sam sighed wondering if telling her how she really felt would ruin their friendship... it probably would. She took her phone and went to a certain Facebook page that posted people’s problems anonymously.

She took a deep breath and typed a message.

Sam: Evening admin, please post for me as anony. I am a female of 27 years old, months back I met this beautiful lady at work who had come for a job interview. She was so beautiful and everything and I after she left she was all I could think about. I am bisexual but this was the first time I felt so strongly for someone. She got the job and we became friends. I thought those feelings would just fade away but they have been growing since and I think it’s safe to say I am in love with her. Just seeing her makes me so happy. Whenever we talk I feel the happiest. Sometimes I imagine us being sexual so I get myself off. She’s beautiful,

she's a head turner and I can tell that she's straight. Everytime she gets with a man pelo ena bothoko nkare nka swa. I try to control it but it's painful. Ke kopa tthuso

She sent the message and sighed looking over at Nolo and she was still sitting with him sipping her drink.

Over thirty minutes later she finally stood up unable to take it anymore. She paid for her bill and walked over to Nolo. She smiled at her tattooed man and leaned over whispering to Nolo.

"Hi, I have to go. I will see you tomorrow."

"Already?"

"I am a bit tired. Gape tomorrow is a big day.. I think I need to sleep early."

Nolo smiled. "Ok. I will see you tomorrow."

Sam hugged her and walked away fixing her dress. She laughed getting in her car, tears stinging her eyes.

\*\*\*

At Nolo's house, Trevor sat in his car as hours went by. He slowly fell asleep, his phone off. Bright car lights bounced on his car waking him up. He looked as Nolo drove in then looked at the time, it was just one. She staggered out of her car and looked over at his.

Trevor stepped out of his car. She took off her shoes.

"What are you still doing here? What? Shouldn't you be trying our suits?"

A shoe fell from her hand. Trevor picked it.

"Let me help you in."

"I don't need your help damnit!" She yelled unable to stand upright. He took her bag from her. She tried to snatch it back. Trevor hugged her and took out her key then picked her up throwing her over his shoulder.

She yelped kicking her legs dropping another shoe. Trevor unlocked the door and walked with her inside her house.

“Put me down Tereva!”

Trevor walked with her to her bedroom and laid her down smelling the men’s cologne on her. He looked at her neck noticing the hickey.

“You had sex?”

“Yes. And it was very good! Jesus what a man, he knew his shit and that dic... God that dic. It was so good...” She laughed. “I wouldn’t have minded having him the whole night.”

His heart sank as he listened, his throat tightening. He walked to her bathroom where he came with a wet towel then wiped off her makeup. He untied the strings of her dress and took it off. He took her nightdress from the dressing table and put it on her trying to look elsewhere from her panty which had a wet stain.

Nolo slowly opened her eyes and looked into his tearful eyes, his pain was hard to miss.

“I am not her...”

He blinked looking at her. “Sleep.”

“I am not her Trevor. Uh... I am going to tell you something but I am not crazy.”

She tried to sit upright but her head was spinning. “I am going to tell you. She .. your Nolo is gone. And this is the real me. You met that other thing... not me.”

Trevor tucked her in. “Sleep. You are tired.”

Nolo blinked as he moved away then yawned exhausted. Trevor picked her shoe outside and locked the door and laid on her couch.

\*

Hours later, Trevor snapped his eyes open at the sound of a glass breaking. He sat upright and looked at Nolo walking out of the kitchen holding a glass of water. She looked at him.

“It was.. a plate.”

He stood up. “Are you ok?”

“Yes.”

He looked at her, she smelt like she had just taken a shower and the strong smell she had was gone.

Nolo handed him the glass of water. He smiled.

“Thank you.”

He drank it all and put the glass down.

“You need to go. I am planning to use your mother’s money.”

He smiled more. “I know.”

He moved closer and kissed her. “I am sorry. For lying and for everything else. You deserve better. I know. I guess it’s hard to come into terms with it when I love you this much. I don’t even have the right words to say.”

“You will be fine.”

He nodded then picked the car keys. “Bye.”

“Don’t call me ever again. I’d appreciate it.”

He laughed. “I can’t promise that.”

He walked out. Nolo sighed and laid down on the couch where he had been sleeping.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#48

Over two hours later, Trevor drove through his open gate at his house and looked at the fleet of cars parked. He took a deep breath trying to pull himself together then breathed out. Ken walked over already dressed. Trevor stepped out of his car.

Ken sighed. “We had already sent out a search party.”

Trevor rubbed his hands together. “I am not feeling well.”

“Areng Nolo?”

“Nothing.”

“I know you were with her. Don’t you think it would be best if you left her alone?”

“I want her only. I love her.”

Ken hugged him. “I am sorry. If I could take your place I would. You have no choice.”

“I should have never agreed in the first place.”

“You can’t stop it. She will be humiliated.. she won’t recover from that kind of humiliation.”

Ragwe Trevor walked over. Ken held his young brother’s hand.

“He wasn’t well. Diarrhea.”

Ragwe Trevor looked at his son. “Ok. I will help you dress. Come.”

Trevor walked inside his house with his father. He greeted some of his relatives headed to his bedroom where his suit was on the bed. He walked to his bathroom and took out his phone. He opened a message from Ranewa.

Ranewa: Hi.. you don’t have to reply. I just wanted to tell you how excited and nervous I am about today. I have always imagined how my wedding day would be like and how I would feel. It’s shocking that instead of excitement I am so scared. I am scared, I keep wondering if something will go wrong today. I am also scared of my future.. our future. I know you are not happy about the wedding. I heard the elders talking. I may be young, way younger than you but I promise you I want nothing but to make you happy. I don’t know much but I am willing to learn. All I need is a chance from you.

Yours, wifey.

Trevor frowned then checked his other messages but there was nothing from Nolo, not that she would send anything. He put his phone down and undressed going under the shower.

Minutes later he walked out and dressed while his father watched.

“Trevor... I know this is hard for you. I know you are backed against the wall. But please understand me and where I am coming from. There was no way we could just pull out last minute. If you told me that you had

changed your mind years back about this arrangement I would have made a plan. You just can't wait till the last moment to say there is someone else. But no one will deny you that someone else. If you want to keep her, you can. Just be careful."

Trevor picked his tie. "Did mama tell you she threatened her? And offered her money? Kana you gave her that money?"

"No."

"Stay away from Onolo. I won't say it again. Am I not doing what you want? What else do you want from me? To control everything?"

"I didn't know-"

"I don't care! Stay away from her!"

Trevor put on his tie and fixed it. "I saw the TV crew setting up. I want them out. I am not filming this joke of a wedding."

He finished dressing and brushed his head. Ken walked in as Trevor sprayed his cologne.

"Everyone is ready."

Trevor picked his phone and walked out.

\*\*\*

Ranewa stepped back in her white gown. She had never seen herself look so beautiful before, it was as if she was staring at someone else. The white mermaid gown hugged her petite body just perfectly, the backless back showing just how small her waist was.

She fixed the sheer long sleeves and moved back touching the pearl embroidery on her chest.

Her mother walked in and smiled staring at her.

"You look beautiful."

Ranewa watched her as she fixed with overskirt with the long trail before pickup the veil. She pinned it to her hair and covered Ranewa's face.

"We have to go."

Ranewa nervously looked at her mother. "I am scared."

"It's ok to be scared."

"What if he says no? He's being forced into this."

"No one I'd forcing him..he agreed."

"He was just a child. What if there is someone else?"

"That man is your husband. You are going to have to put your all into making this marriage work.. This marriage means everything."

Her mother handed her the bouquet.

"It should mean everything to you Ranny. You are marrying into a well off family. To a good man. He's childless. You are going go give him his first. I know you are scared but you are going to have to have a backbone because marriage is no joke."

Sam walked in and looked at her sister holding her own bouquet in her maid of honor dress.

"People are waiting. We should go."

\*\*\*

At Nicole's house, Nicole sat on her couch, her phone on her ear. She listened as Thabiso's phone rang unanswered. Her heart sank as the call finally cut without getting answered.

She sent him another message over WhatsApp.

Nicole: Hey babe, are you ok? It's been two days. I am getting worried.

The message ticked twice together with every other message she had sent in the last two days. She called him again and listed to it ring till it stopped.

Nolo walked from the bedroom, her heels clicking on the floor. Nicole turned to her. She smiled looking at Nolo in a bright red bondage dress.

"You look beautiful."

Nolo looked at the time. "Do you think they are done with the wedding ceremony?"



“Apparently the wedding is being broadcasted on social media.”

“Good for them.”

“Do you really want to go?”

“I promised Sam that I was going to come.”

Nolo’s phone vibrated in her hand. She looked at the unsaved number calling.

“Onolo, hello?”

“Hey.”

Nolo took a deep breath in. “Where do you get all this time?”

“Thamma let’s run away together.”

“No.”

“I am serious. Let’s go.. I can come and pick you up right now.”

“Are you mentally ok?”

“No. Can I come and see you? Just for a minute. I won’t even say anything.”

“You are losing it..”

“I wish I didn’t meet you. I wouldn’t be going crazy right now.”

“Me too. You are the worst thing to ever happen to me ebile was mbora.”

“Why do you hate me?”

Nolo walked outside and frowned staring at his car by the gate.

“Bathong what evilness is this?!”

“I just wanted to see you.”

Nolo hung up and angrily walked over. He stepped out of his car and looked at her as she angrily marched her, her frown deep as she glared at him.

He looked at her defeated, Nolo looked at his face, he looked like he was carrying the entire world on his shoulders.. “I just wanted to see you. I am weak I know. A coward and everything else. I really don’t know how I thought I’d be fine marrying a stranger two years back.. I had plenty of time to say no. And I was ok with it. I had seen her before and

she wasn't bad. I thought I could do it. I'd learn to love her. Till you happened. Till I fell in love with you."

"Trevor, she's-

"I love you! Whoever that it is! I love you. Fuck I love you. Can I hug you? For a second only. I will never bother you from there on."

He moved closer and hugged her. Nolo took a deep breath as he pressed her head on his chest. He breathed on her neck squeezing her body, his hands on her back. Minutes went by then she moved. He held her waist.

"I love your dress."

Nolo moved back. "Good luck."

She walked to the house then walked in and closed the door. Nicole looked at her.

"What did he say?"

Nolo took off her shoes. "I don't think I should go. Trevor is too much. And I can't deal with it."

She walked to the bathroom and took a deep breath standing against the door.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#49

At the wedding, Sam sat at the front row staring at Trevor. He looked handsome but lost, like something was bothering him.

She turned back trying to spot Nolo but she wasn't there. Instead her eyes fell on her father and her sister. People took off their phones taking videos as she slowly walked over.

\*\*\*

Nicole sat in her bathroom calling Thabiso again. His phone rang for a while.

“Hello?”

Nicole’s heart skipped as a female voice picked.

“Uh... who’s this? Can I please speak to Thabiso.”

“Hi, you are talking to Theo.”

Nicole took a deep breath in. “Hi. You are a colleague of Thabiso’s?”

“Yes. And his girlfriend. You are Nicole.”

Nicole laughed. “Hi. Please give Thabiso his phone.”

“Nicole, I am Thabiso’s girlfriend, I know about you mme mma he doesn’t want you anymore. He’s moved on and I think you should know so that you stop hoping. You now look too desperate. I will send you our pictures mme it’s over. If I were you I’d just stop calling. He even blocked you on WhatsApp. I am sure you have seen it.”

She hung up. Nicole slowly took her phone off her ear then her the pictures came through with another number.

Nicole’s knees weakened as he opened the pictures. One by one, she swiped her skin looking at each of them. Tears blurred her vision. She took a deep breath and called Thabiso’s number again.

\*\*\*

In Beijing, Thabiso walked out of the bathroom and looked at his phone still ringing. Theo looked at him.

“When are you breaking up with her?”

Thabiso looked at her. “Why am I breaking up with my girlfriend?”

Theo got off bed only in his shirt. “You want us both?”

“I never said I was going to break up with my girlfriend. I told you I gad someone. This is only sex. I am not breaking up with her.”

Theo sat down and nodded. She reached for her phone and sent more pictures to Nicole just as Thabiso picked his phone.

\*\*\*

Nicole stood up as he picked..

“Babe...”

Nicole blinked. “Thabiso.”

“Are you ok?”

“O mbloketsing?”

“I didn’t block you.”

“Is it hard to say so when you don’t want someone anymore. All this negative behavior from you is unnecessary. Only two months and already so much. O bata ke goreng?”

“I didn’t block you but I am having trouble with my WhatsApp.”

“What trouble? That same trouble is what’s also making you not answer my calls?” She took a deep breath as a tear fell. “Just break up with me.. Why do you have to hurt me to dump me?”

“What are you talking about?”

“Now you give your new girlfriend the phone to answer me?” She took a deep breath. “Go sharp rra. I won’t bother you from here going forward.”

She hung up and put her hand over her mouth crying silently. Her heart ached so much as she cried in the bathroom. She slowly laid on the floor crying.

\*

Nolo read a certain trending post about a woman crushing on another woman. She relaxed moving to the comments of people with the same situations as hers. She scrolled further and laughed at some of the comments. Her phone rang. She took a deep breath and answered.

“Sam..”

“Hey, are you here?”

“Nicole wasn’t well. I had to stay behind with her.”

“What’s wrong with her?”

“We suspect good poisoning. She’s been vomiting all morning.”

“Should I come by?”

“No.. it’s ok. How’s the wedding? Everything went... well?”

“I guess. Though there was a bit of drama. I feel sorry for Trevor.”

“Why?”

“He was cornered into this marriage.”

“He could have said no.”

“His father is... that man would have made his son’s life difficult. And to think of how humble Trevor is.”

“Your sister is in good hands then.”

“Ahh, he couldn’t even kiss her when the pastor said he could kiss the bride. People are going to talk about this. I don’t agree with this set up.. That’s how people end up being unhappy for the rest of their lives. This is no fairy tell. Right now gatwe he left, they are saying he’s not well but what if he went to hang himself?”

“Does he look depressed to you?”

“He looks like he can kill himself. You never know with such things. He’s unhappy.”

“And you want to come over? Stay with your sister. She needs you now more than ever.”

“There is going to be an after party. Please come... please.”

“I will see.”

“Ok. Bye.”

“Bye.”

Sam hung up. Nolo turned to the TV fighting with her subconscious. Nicole walked from the bathroom.

“My head is aching Nolo. I am going to sleep.”

Nolo looked at her. “Are you ok?”

“My head.”

“Your eyes, have you been crying?”

“My hormones are messing with me.”

“Thabiso is still not answering?”

“He did. I miss him. I am going to sleep.”

Nolo stood up and hugged her. Nicole held her tightly.

“I need to lie down.”

Nolo led her to the bedroom and helped her lie down. She smiled rubbing her cheek.

“You are going to be a beautiful mother.”

Nicole chuckled. “Thank you.”

She closed her eyes. Nolo rubbed her back as she slowly fell asleep. Nolo finally walked out and sat down picking her phone.

She unblocked him and called his number. His heart skipped as it rang.

“Babe...”

“Gatwe you look like you can kill yourself, when you write your suicidal note, don’t put me in.”

He laughed softly. “Mme kana you are the first subject of this letter.”

“Cancel me or else I will tell people you were crying for two rounds of sex.”

“Those rounds were the best rounds of my life.. I wrote that. Skin to skin.”

“Congratulations.”

“You see? You love me too. You called me because you are worried about me.”

“No. I pity you. Don’t confuse it. I feel sorry for you. It’s not love.”

“I will take anything.”

“You are going to have a problem dear. But suit yourself.”

He laughed. “Don’t call me dear.”

Nolo smiled. "Bye dear."

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#50

Later that day at Trevor's house, Ranewa sat in a room full with her married aunt's listening to the them as they gave her advice. She kept her hands underneath her tsâle fiddling them, her head down. She could hardly hear anything, all she could think of was how Trevor hadn't looked at her in the eyes. It was as if he wasn't seeing her. The way he had kissed her cheek, it wasn't even a kiss, she hadn't be felt his lips on her cheek.

She twisted her diamond ring around her finger wondering what was going to happen once her relatives and his relatives left.

The aunts laughed at something, she remained silent still till they were in all done. Her mother held her hand.

"We are leaving you now in your new home. This is your family now. You will treat them like you treated us. You will love and respect them like you respected us. You have heard all you need to know about married my girl. It's not easy but as a woman you will have to straighten up. Mosadi o tshwara thipa ka bogaleng. (A woman holds the knife on the sharp side of the blade.)"

Ranewa held her mother's hand tightly. Her mother hugged her then stood up together with the rest of her aunts. The urge to follow them made it hard to hold her tears back.

Trevor's aunt wiped it off. "Don't cry for them my girl. This is home now. We are here with you. We are your family. If you need anything, whatever it may be, we are here. This is your house. All of this is yours. Come..."

\*

Later in the evening, Ranewa sat on Trevor's bed. She had only slept there once. She fixed her silky gown. The door opened then Trevor walked in. He looked at her as she stood up.

"Hi."

"Hi. Are you not going for the party?"

"You want us to go? I didn't know we were going. I thought... you'd be tired."

"Are you tired?"

"Yes. My feet hurt. But we can go."

He sighed. "You are tired. Rest. You were wearing heels the whole day. You don't have to attend. But I am going. At least one of us should be present."

He took off his jacket walking to the ensuite. Minutes later he walked out with a towel around his waist. She looked at his bare chest and took a deep breath as he opened the wardrobe.

Ranewa took off her gown remaining with her white lingerie then walked over and touched his back.

"I thought tonight would be our night."

Trevor turned to her. "You want to have sex?"

Ranewa smiled. "I am your wife. I think you should have sex before you go."

"I thought you were a virgin. Shouldn't you be shy?"

She laughed. "I am. But I want you happy."

"I am happy without sex... right now. Ga ke motho le sex. (I don't like sex that much.) I can hold myself. You don't have to feel pressured. We will do it when you are ready. You should soak your feet in water."

She took off everything.

"I am ready."

Trevor took a t-shirt from his wardrobe then put it on her.

He held her hands. "I am not ready. I don't think the fact that now I am married has sunk in yet. You are pretty. But I am not ready. Let's slow



down. Can I please take it slow? I know you were told how to behave... don't change who you are to make me happy. I can only be happy when you are. Ok?"

She smiled. "Ok."

"Get some rest."

She walked to the bed and sat down as he dressed. She swallowed and looked away. He put on his shoes and sprayed a bit of his fragrance then looked at her.

"Get some sleep."

\*\*\*

Nolo took a sip of her drink at the party. Sam smiled.

"I am happy you are finally here."

Nolo looked at her smiling. "Me too. This is nice."

"You will be surprised on what money can do."

"I am just happy the married couple is not here."

A Nigerian song came on. Sam danced happily moved her waist. She twerked on Nolo who laughed spanking her butt.

Nolo loosened finishing her drink and danced with her. Four more drinks later, Sam hugged Nolo.

"I love you."

Nolo smiled. "Me too.. you are drunk..kana wena you are a light weight."

Sam laughed. "I really love you."

"Me too. Do you want to sit?"

"Ng Ng.. I want to dance." Sam turned rubbing her butt on Nolo.

The hairs at the back of Nolo's neck stood up as someone held her from behind. His presence so overwhelming she didn't need to turn to see him. The lights inside the hotels conference room that had now turned into a club deemed.

Trevor whispered in her ear touching her bare back.

“Hey..”

Sam turned and smiled. “Hi!”

Trevor innocently looked at her. “Hey, you are still here?”

Sam laughed. “Where there is free alcohol I am there. Where is my sister?”

“Too tired to come.”

“Uh Trevor this is my best friend, Nolo. Nolo this is my brother in-law... Trevor.”

Nolo looked at him holding her glass of wine. Trevor smiled. “Hi. Nice meeting you.”

Nolo nodded and looked at her friend. Another song came on. Sam screamed singing with everyone else disappearing in the crowd.

Trevor fixed his cap. “I didn’t know you were coming.”

“Don’t start. I will leave if you try it. You willingly got married, you could have just said no like it a real man but because you love tenders and status, you couldn’t.. You couldn’t even stand up for what you say you love and now you after me like I forced you into this. You had a choice and you chose it. You married it. You don’t love me, you thought I was going to say yes to your nonsense. Your ego was hurt when that didn’t happen and now-“ She paused looking at the smile on his face.

“O smiler eng?”

He shook his head smiling. “Nothing.”

“Wa mbora.”

The lights got deemed even more. He grabbed her glass and finish off the wind and put the glass on the table.

“Let’s dance.”

Nolo turned and walked away texting Sam. She walked to the parking lot.

Trevor closed the driver’s door as she opened it pushing her against the car, his lips on hers, his hands groping her butt.

Her brain turned mush as he kissed her harder, her body reacting to his touch instantly in way she couldn't remember it doing. His mouth explored hers, the strong feelings she was trying by all means to do away with surfacing. She breathed heavily backed against that car and moved her head burying it on his neck... if only she could explain what she felt. Her body could remember his touch... his lips and everything else, it could remember the feelings that been developed I bet absence. No amount of counseling was helping.

She closed her eyes whispering. "Why couldn't you say no? Don't lie to me."

He moved his head and looked in her eyes. "Can I tell you something? You should never tell it to anyone. Not even your sister."

"Tell me."

He took a deep breath looking in her eyes.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#51

Trevor took her car keys from her and locked the car. He took her hand and led her to his car. He opened the door for her.

"Get in."

"Can't you just tell me?"

"Not here. Get in. Please get in."

She looked at him then got in, Trevor closed the door for her and walked round the car. He jumped in and drove off.

She silently next to him as he drove. He parked at the unfinished house and stepped out. He helped her out and took her to the finished room.

Nolo looked at the familiar room then turned to him.

"Did your father kill someone and now this wedding is a cover up?"

"Not him. You are going to have to listen to me. Carefully."

He held her hands talking while she listened, her heart picking pace.

“You killed someone?”

“You can’t scream such things.”

“You killed someone?”

“I was young. It was after high school. I am not making excuses.”

“So you... you...”

“It was late. I was drunk..I didn’t see him and all I remember was hitting someone. When I stepped out there was blood all over. Ranewa’s father was general head at the army, now he’s a DIS. He made sure I got away. With it. I could have went to jail. I could be in jail.”

“So you marrying his daughter is-“

“It was his son I killed. His first born. Ranewa’s brother. Everyone else knows it was a hit and run. Her father is the one who knows the entire truth. There were things he too had done, if I went to jail, my father would have made sure he lost everything. It was an accident, one that had dire consequences. This wedding is a give back. He can’t have his son back but at least...” He took a deep breath..

“At least he has the murderer as his son in-law?”

“He is a good man. We are still paying the price of his son’s death.”

“If you say no, you will go to jail.”

“A lot of people would.”

“Ok. I also need to tell you something.”

She took a deep breath and told him everything.

“So the one you fell in love with was not me.”

Trevor frowned. “Did you make that up?”

“I wish. I wish I was making it up. You don’t have to believe it.”

“I.. it’s just that... ware souls did what?”

She looked at him and smiled. “I am not the Nolo you fell in love with. I just felt you needed to know that. Even if you don’t believe me.”

He smiled back. “I still love you.”

“The love will fade away. Not now but eventually you won’t love me anymore. And you will slowly fall in love with Ranny. I heard the kind of love you learn always last the longest. You won’t even remember what you saw in me when that happens. You are a good guy. Expect from the murder you committed. You deserve women like-“

“I-“

“Shhh..” She put her finger on his lips. “You don’t see it now because of what you feel for me. But as soon as you don’t anymore... you will love her and want her only. I don’t want to get married. I never did. I always feared I’d get married to a man who abuses me like mama gets abused. I built this wall to protect my heart. My past relationships apart from the imposters, they were all about sex. I don’t know how to love a man without thinking he can be like my father. I am violent sometimes.. or used to be. I can get physical if I feel cornered or use words to destroy you. I am not the perfect girl you met and fell in love with. I am broken, I know it and I embrace it. Focus on that marriage. Love her the way she deserves to be loved. You know how. Right now whatever I feel is what she was feeling and to me it’s not real. I feel it but... it’s not love. It feels like those moments when you hurt yourself and you don’t realize till later when you see blood. And then you can’t help but feel the pain. But eventually when you forget that you got hurt, you don’t feel the pain anymore.”

Trevor let go of her hands and held her waist. “I am am in love with you. It’s not something I am going to forget.”

“You can’t have me. I am not-“

Trevor kissed her. She put her hands on his chest kissing him back. His hands went down her hips and then to her bare back. He gently caressed her skin.

Trevor took the dress off and took a deep breath realizing she wasn’t wearing anything under.

He kissed her neck. Nolo closed her eyes getting weaker. He massaged her breast that could barely fill his palm. She held on to him taking off her heels then he went down crouching underneath her.

Nolo open her mouth as his tongue rubbed against her pussy. Trevor lifted her other leg and placed it on his shoulder muffing her. She

moaned as he moved his mouth on her kissing her pussy as if a gun was held on to his head. She got even more sensitive.

“Ohhh..”

His phone rang as he got up kissing her. He took it out and cut the call. He dropped the phone as Nolo moved her head.

“Trevor.. what if that’s your wife?”

Trevor lifted her leg hooking it on his arm. His phone started ringing again.

“Trevor, maybe that is.. awww..”

He pushed himself in and #removed.

\*\*\*

At Trevor’s double storey, Ranewa tossed and turned then looked at the time. It was getting even later. She had already called twice, calling again would be too much. She got off his big bed and walked around the house.

She switched on the TV in his sitting room as minutes went by. She played a movie to distract herself.

Over two hours later she called him again.

“The number you have dialed is not available at the moment. Please try again later.”

She swallowed and put her phone down unsure of what to think.

\*\*\*

At the unfinished house, Nolo kissed Trevor lying underneath him, his dick deep inside her. He moved his waist thrusting into her while she whined her waist like an erotic dancer underneath him meeting him halfway.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#52

Hours later in the early morning, Nolo slowly woke up sweating in Trevor's arms. She looked at him and took a deep breath.

She slowly moved from his arms and got down. She picked his briefs and wiped herself before picking her dress.

Nolo picked her heels and her purse. She slowly opened the door and walked out then closed it. She hurried out of the house and out of the gate passing his car. She put on her heels and took out her phone. It was just after five.

She walked down the street calling her sister.

"Hello?"

"Hi. I am stranded. Can you please come and pick me up?"

"Stranded how? Your car is not moving?"

"I left it at the hotel I was at."

"You are back at your usual self?"

"My usual self? I am not sure if I like your tone."

Nicole laughed. "You know what I am talking about. Send pin location."

Nolo hung up and sent her a live location pin. Twenty minutes later Nicole stopped the car next to her. Nolo smiled and got in.

"Thank you."

Nicole drove off. "What's his name?"

"Who?"

"Your one night stand."

Nolo looked at her and laughed. "I don't know..I forgot."

"I don't know how you do it."

"It's just sex. It ends there. Your eyes are swollen. You were crying, what's wrong?"

Nicole looked at her and smiled. "I will be fine. It's from last night."

"You know there's still a lot left till he comes back. Did you tell him?"

She shook her head de "No.. I will in time. I just couldn't find the rightful words yesterday. Sam called me looking for you. She said you just disappeared."

"She was having fun."

"I have never seen a more caring friend than her."

"She is lovely. I have never had a friend that really cares like she does."

"She is for keeps. Which hotel am I taking you to?"

\*

At Avani Hotel, Nicole slowed down driving through the gate. She parked next to Nolo's car.

"I am not going home. Here are the car keys." She handed them over to Nicole.

"Ok. Where are you going?"

"To the hospital."

"I can go with you."

"No. You smell of alcohol and other things I can't pint point. Go and take a shower."

Nolo laughed then kissed her cheek and got out. Nicole drove off, her phone ringing. She looked at the caller ID and let it ring till it stopped.

He started calling again. She took a deep breath and picked.

"Hello?"

"I just saw your message. You are pregnant?"

"Yes."

"How far are you?"

"Three months."



He laughed happily. "I can't believe this... we are having a baby."

"What did you want?"

"I... I am excited. I am very happy. Thank you."

"I didn't do it for you. I wanted a child. You can always make another one with Theo."

"I messed up."

"Please don't apologize. Don't apologize. Kea go kopa."

"I love you. It was just sex."

"Don't explain yourself to me. We are past that. I am driving. Whatever communication between us going forward will be about the baby."

She hung up slowing down at the traffic light. Tears filled her eyes, her lips shook as she tried to keep it in but pain overwhelmed her. She put her hand over her mouth, tears rolling down.

A car stopped next to hers. The driver look at her and smiled.

"Don't give them the power of making you cry like that."

Nicole turned. He smiled and drove closer to her car and leaned over handing her a box of tissue papers. Nicole took them embarrassed.

"I just... I-"

"Ke mjolo? What did he do?"

"He went overseas and he's cheating."

The driver smiled. "I just found out my two kids are actually not mine. I got the call early in the morning. I am going to the hospital to confirm because..." He laughed emotionally. "The other one is 6 and the other is 4. I don't know what to think."

"I am sorry."

"I stay with her. When she got pregnant we moved in together."

"I am so sorry."

"And she's pregnant right now."

"Is that one yours?"

"I don't know anymore. It's not easy."

Nicole sniffed. A car hooted behind him. He smiled.

“Bye.”

“Thank you.”

He stepped on the accelerator and drove off. Nicole drove off too. She took a turn into Gaborone Private Hospital with him and laughed tearfully.

She parked her car then stepped out. She walked inside the hospital as he followed behind her.

“You looked short in your car.”

Nicole turned to him and laughed. “I am not so short.”

“MJ...”

He stretched his hand. Nicole smiled. “Nicole.”

“Nice to meet you.”

She nodded. “Likewise.”

“Bye..”

She waved as he walked away while she walked to the reception.

\*\*\*

Trevor parked his car at his house that same morning trying to call Nolo but it wasn't going through. He walked in his house. Ranewa walked from his kitchen and smiled.

“Hi.”

“Hi. I saw your missed calls.”

“Sorry for calling a lot. I figured the music was too loud.”

“My phone was in the car.”

She nodded. “Breakfast is almost ready.”

“Ok. Thank you.”

He walked to the bedroom. Ranewa walked to the kitchen and finished off cooking then dished for him. She put it on the dining table.

Trevor walked back smelling fresh and dressed up. He looked at her food.

“You cooked this?”

She nodded. Trevor sat down looking at the food that looked like it had gotten cooked at a fancy restaurant.

\*\*\*

At Nicole’s house, Nicole walked inside the house from the check up over two hours later. She frowned sniffing the smell of something burning and walked to the kitchen. She looked at Nolo.

“Hey...”

Nolo smiled. “Hey. You are back! I made breakfast.”

Nicole took a deep breath as Nicole took out her muffins from the oven.

“I will dish.”

Nicole watched as she dished everything she had cooked.

“Ok. You can eat..”

Nicole looked at her plate. The rock looking muffins inside together with what almost looked like pizza but only burnt.

Nicole picked the pizza look alike and took a bite. She took a deep breath tasting the salt in her mouth. Nolo smiled.

“Do you like it? It got a bit burnt.”

“Feed this to Trevor and I promise you, he will never want to see your face again. I can taste baking powder in this shit. You literal cooked that and salt. On top you have the audacity to burn it like this! Are you trying to kill me?”

Nolo took a slice and took a bite. She frowned spitting. Nicole laughed.

“I worry about you. This is not right.”

Nolo laughed. “I tried.”

Nicole picked the muffin. "I am not sure if... a muffin is supposed to be like this. What is this?"

They both laughed. Nicole sighed.

"I will cook something."

"You are jealous!"

Nolo sat on the kitchen counters as Nicole took over her kitchen.

Nicole looked at her wondering if she had to tell her what the doctor said but then that would just worry her and.. she took a deep breath and silently cooked.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#53

Ranewa smiled as Trevor's finished his food. He smiled.

"This was nice. Thank you."

She smiled taking the plate. He stood up.

"I am stepping out. I will see you later."

She looked at him. "Ok."

She watched him walk away then seconds later heard the car drive off. She took the plates to the kitchen then took out her ringing phone from her pocket. She smiled picking her young aunt's call.

"Aunty.."

"Ranny. How is it going?"

"Ok."

"Just ok? Even after having sex?"

"We didn't do anything. He didn't sleep at home. He came back in the morning from our after party."

"Ok. So there's someone else?"

“I don’t know if she’s still there or not.”

“Was he apologetic for sleeping out?”

“No. I don’t expect him to be. We are more of strangers staying in the same house. Last night before he left I tried to initiate sex but he said ga moth le sex.”

The aunt laughed. “He said what?”

“Yes.”

“Let me tell you something. I couldn’t tell you yesterday because I am not a married woman but sex sometimes never really does anything much especially when someone doesn’t love you. When someone loves you, the sex feels different. It’s just not having sex to have sex. It’s far deeper than that. In your case the vagina probably won’t help that much. It’s just a vagina to him.. one that happens to be untouched. Don’t throw yourself at him. Stop trying too hard. Let him be. Be his friend instead. Let him be your buddy. Discuss things like friends would. Call him laitaka... call him ntwana. Leave trying to get him to like you. Get him to see you as a friend. Be friends, let him feel free around you. He shouldn’t feel caged. Give him his space. Use the guest bedroom. You are still a guest in that house. Slowly work yourself closer to him. Be a friend who does wifely duties. At the end you are Mrs. Mbakiwe. Don’t call him unless it’s really necessary.”

Ranewa took a deep breath. “Ok.”

“You are a working woman. Be sexy. Be beautiful. On Monday go to work. Don’t question yourself. You are beautiful. You are smart. Let him be. Let yourself be.”

“Ok.”

“That way you won’t carry around expectations. It won’t hurt. Trust me.”

Ranewa smiled. “Eemma.”

“Where is he right now?”

“He left.”

“That’s fine. Start arranging your room. Let his room remain his.”

Ranewa went up the stairs talking to her aunt.

\*\*\*

Trevor parked his car at Nicole's gate then looked at the sisters sitting by the veranda chatting. They both looked over as he stepped out of his car.

He got a big bouquet of roses from the backseat then walked through the gate going over to them. Nolo looked at the flowers, big and fresh.

"Hi Nicole. These are for you."

Nicole looked at him surprised then stood up as he handed them over.

"Congratulations on the baby. She couldn't keep it much longer."

Nicole laughed. "She's a loud mouth. Thank you."

Nicole looked at Nolo then walked inside the house holding her flowers.

Trevor pulled Nolo up with her hand and smiled.

"Hi."

"Didn't we agree you'd stop this?"

"When did we agree to that? This morning when you left?"

"I can't keep doing this. I really don't care about the circumstances of your situation because it doesn't change the fact that you are married. Last night was just sex. And it was the last time you slept with me. You are married. Focus on that."

"Can we talk in the car?"

"No. We cannot. I am serious. This is tiring Trevor. Didn't you say you were going to kill yourself? I don't want to do this anymore. Go home and face the consequences of your actions. I am sorry but I am not going to allow you to make my life miserable and complicated like yours. I am not the one who said you should get married. Don't make me part of your drama. You should have never lied in the first place!"

"Ok. You are right. It's unfair to pull you into this. I should have been honest from the get go. You are right. Can we go for a drive?"

Nolo laughed. "No. We cannot. You chose sex instead of a drive yesterday. Can you please go home?"

He hugged her tightly and whispered in her ear, his hot breath hitting her neck. "I love you."

\*

From inside the house, Nicole watched as they hugged from the window, she moved back and walked to her bedroom calling the obstetrician.

"Hello?"

"Hi. It's Nicole. I just wanted to ask if... the results are back?"

"Hi Nicole. I was going to call you. They did."

"And?"

"I am so sorry Nicole.. but it's the same. Your heart muscles are diseased therefore enlarging causing the heart to not pump blood effectively. You can't keep that baby. Chances of you having pre-eclampsia are high, it will kill you. You and the baby. We need to get your condition under control and... hope you get a donor."

"What do you mean I can't keep my baby? If I... if I abort and don't get a transplant, what happens?"

"Nicole-"

"I am not killing my child."

She hung up then turned as Nolo walked in.

"Hey... where's he?"

"Gone. Are you ok?"

"Yes. Yes."

Nolo smiled. "I should... get going."

"I am sorry. One day you will meet a man who's just yours."

"Or not. And it's ok."

Nicole smiled. "You will meet someone."

Nolo touched her stomach. "I will meet this one."

Nicole held her hand. "I am grateful for you. I am not scared of... having a baby. If anything has to happen to me.. you are here. I love you."

Nolo hugged her. "I love you too. I got you. And nothing will happen to you."

Nicole closed her holding on to her sister.

"Thabiso is cheating."

Nolo stepped back. "I knew he was just a piece of shit!"

"I guess."

"I am sorry. You deserve way better than that. I just knew he was off.. oh when is he coming back so I can just punch his ugly face!"

"Hopefully never. He had his girlfriend pick my calls. He had blocked me on WhatsApp."

"What a whimp..Sala ke bone!"

Nicole laughed. "It's ok. We don't always win. Yesterday I read something from that page mma about that girl with a crush on her friend. And you know I didn't think anything of it but... then I thought of Sam."

"Samantha?"

"Yes! I mean-"

Nolo laughed. "She is not lesbian. She had a boyfriend."

"What if she's bi?"

Nolo laughed even more. "She is not."

Nicole smiled. "If you say so."

Nicole walked to the bathroom while Nolo looked at the walls thoughtfully.

She took out her phone but then.. there was no way Sam could actually post it even if she were.

A MONTH LATER....

**Fires Of Desire**



## Fires Of Desire

#54

A MONTH LATER...

Nolo looked at the directions on her phone driving to the house she had been directed to. She slowly looked at the house numbers driving slowly. She smiled getting to the house she was looking for.

She parked the car at the gate and stepped out of the car, her heels sinking into the sand. She locked the car and walked through the gate going over to the door.

Nolo gently knocked and stepped back. Seconds later a man opened. Nolo took another step back as he stared at her.

“Dumelang. I was talking to Maureen Mogotsi about the house. My name is Onolo.”

He blinked then smiled. “Hi Onolo. I am Thuo. You can come in. You were speaking to my wife.”

Onolo smiled then walked in the big house. He led her to the sitting room and smiled.

“My wife is not here, she sent to the hospital for a check up. But it’s fine. I will handle it. She had told you the rent right?”

“Yes. P2400.”

“Yes plus equivalent security. But you are not required to pay it today. It’s something that a payment plan can be worked out.”

“Its ok. I had told your wife that I’d pay the security with the rent.”

“Oh, you can come and see the house.”

He led her out through the back door as Nolo’s heels clicked all the way out. She smiled looking at the bachelor pad. It was big and beautiful from outside. Also enough parking space.

He opened the door and moved so she could walk in. Nolo took a deep breath making her way inside. She smiled looking at the clean walls, her eyes moving around the spacious sitting room then going over to the

open plan kitchen with white kitchen units and granite kitchen counters. The Air-conditioner in the sitting made her happy, even the fire place at the other corner.

“That’s the sitting room. Over there is the kitchen. It comes with the fitted stove. Uh... this way is the bedroom that’s put together with the ensuite.”

Nolo walked inside. She smiled looking at the sliding door leading to the ensuite and walked over. She smiled even more looking at the shower then the bathtub. At the other side was the toilet. She walked out as he opened the walk in closet door.

“Then the walk in closet. There are two Air conditioners, the one in the sitting room and this one. You have your electricity and water.”

Nolo smiled. “I love it. I want it. How soon can I move in?”

“As soon as you want. I will give you the lease agreement then you can pay.”

“Good. I have to go to work. Let me have the lease agreement, I will be here once I knock off with the money and my things.”

“My wife will be here if I am not.”

“Perfect.”

He smiled. “Are you a lawyer?”

“Why?”

“Your firmness.”

She laughed. “No..I am not. I did want to be one but I hate being limited.”

He laughed. “You could have made one good lawyer.”

They both walked out of the house. He quickly got the lease agreement and handed it to her.

She smiled. “Thank you Mr. Mogotsi.”

He looked at her. “Call me Thuo.”

“Sharp Thuo.”

Nolo walked to the car. She jumped in and drove off glad she had gotten that out of the way. She drove to work and hurried inside the premises looking at the time.

The receptionist smirk at her.

“The PA candidates that were chosen are already here waiting for you.”

“Thanks. Send the first one through in two minutes. Any messages?”

“Not yet.”

Nolo went to her office and settled down.

Her office phone rang as she turned up her laptop.

“Ms Feni, hello?”

“The first one is coming through.”

“Thank you.”

She put the phone down and waited. Nolo looked up as the first candidate walked in. She froze at the door as they locked eyes.

Nolo leaned back on her chair calmly staring at her.

“You can sit. Mrs?”

Amo swallowed. “Mrs. Moremi. Thank you.”

She sat down. Nolo looked at her putting her leg on top of the other one.

Amo took a deep breath. “I didn’t know it’s you.”

“So what if you knew? You wouldn’t have come for the last round of interview?”

“I would have prepared myself more.”

“So you are not prepared?”

“I was not prepared to see you.”

Nolo stood up then took of her blazer remaining with her slacks and her shirt tucked in. She opened her blinds more as Amo stared at her.

“I don’t know you. Do you know me?”

“You were the other woman in my marriage.”

“And? You don’t know me. I don’t know you. I don’t have to know you. This is a job. I could have been anything, I could have fucked your father, it wouldn’t have changed that this is a job just like any other. If you can not separate your emotions from work then I suggest you stay

at home and continue being a house wife.” Nolo got closer and tilted her chin. “You can go. Call in the next person through.”

“But you didn’t interview me.”

“I did. You don’t have what I am looking for.”

“I have. I.. I... seeing you shocked me.”

“I want someone who’s ready for anything. Someone who-“

Nolo’s phone rang. She picked it up staring at Amo.

“Either way, I don’t think you’d want to work for the other woman that in your marriage. It was a pleasure meeting you again Mrs... Moremi.”

“I am sorry. I really need this job. Please... ke kopa interview. I have what it takes to be your assistant. My name is Amogelang Moremi. I have a degree in Business Administration, a diploma in Economics. I have he requirements needed.. please... give me a chance..”

Nolo’s phone continued ringing. She picked sitting down.

“Hello?”

“Hello, am I speaking to Onolo Feni?”

“Yes. This is she. Who is this?”

“This is Dr. Mish from GPH. I am your sister’s obstetrician. Can I talk to you? It’s an emergency.”

“Is my sister ok?”

“Yes. But not for long.. can you come down here at the hospital but please don’t tell her.”

“Ok.”

Nolo hung up and looked at Amo. “We will get back at you. Thank you for coming.”

Amo looked at her, her dismissive tone sending out of the office. Tears stung her eyes as she thought of the debts that she had to pay.. this job would be her saving grace. She put her hand over her belly and walked away.

\*\*\*

At Trevor's house, Ranewa packed Trevor's lunch then watched him as he walked over.

"Hi."

"Hi. I packed you lunch."

"You don't have to."

"You are not eating well. You need to eat."

Trevor looked at her. "Thank you."

He took his lunch box and walked out, whatever it is had been stressing him for a while now and she wasn't sure what to do for him. She slowly walked behind him.

"Is it your girlfriend?"

Trevor turned to her. "What?"

"What's stressing you. Is it your girlfriend?"

He stared wordlessly. Ranewa fixed his tie.

"I am sorry."

"It's work."

She smiled. "You don't have to lie to me. I see it in your eyes... it's the woman you love. I can call her and tell her it's not a real marriage. I will tell her we are related. And the wedding was a show."

Trevor laughed. "She's... not the type you do that to. She will kill you with words."

Ranewa smiled. "I will take it. Is she beautiful?"

"She's... more than that."

"Go and beg her then. And stop coming home sad every day. Bye!"

She turned and walked inside the house leaving him a bit confused.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#55

Ranewa closed the door listening to his car drive off. As much as she tried not to have it bother her, it still did. Very much. Sometimes she wondered who it was. Though she knew enough to know whoever it was beautiful.

She had heard his brother say it one weekend. She looked at her reflection on the glass counters wondering if she came close to whoever it was that kept him stressed out most of the time.

She had once caught him staring at a picture, only that she had been too far to see who it was but with the way he had been staring at it, she knew it was her.

She cleaned up the kitchen then took the bag and walked out locking behind her. Ranewa thoughtfully called her sister driving out in the black Range Rover, one that this marriage came with was riches. Lots of money. And nice cars.

“Hi.”

“Hey, are you coming to Gabs today?”

“No. I have a conference tomorrow. What did you want?”

“I thought we would have dinner.”

“I would have come to help Nolo out but work happened.”

“To help Nolo?”

“Yes. She just moved there, got promoted..”

“I can help her.”

“I am not sure if she will need an extra hand. Her sister will probably be there to help her out.”

“I will see.”

She hung up and scrolled through her contacts. She smiled tapping Nolo’s contact and sighed as it rang.

“Hello?”

“Hi. It’s Ranny.”

“Oh hey, what’s up?”

“I heard you got a promotion. Congratulations to more money.”

Nolo laughed. “Thank you.”

“You found a house already?”

“Yes. In the morning..I will be moving after work.”

“Need an extra hand? I will bring us some wines.”

Nolo laughed. “You don’t have to. What will your husband say? Fridays are for couples.”

“Let me help out..I have nothing much going on. I will bring six pack ya savannah.”

“Uh... ok. That’s fine.”

“Perfect. Send me the directions, I will be there later.”

“Ok.”

\*\*\*

Later that day at the Airport, Thabiso walked out pulling his bag. His friend smiled as he walked out.

“Mister!”

They bumped shoulders laughing.

“Feels good to be back.”

“Waaka, you missed seeing much of ass. We know you.”

Thabiso laughed. “Still dirty minded!”

“Who would I possibly change for?”

They got in his friend’s car. The friend smiled. “You look fresh.”

Thabiso smiled. “Thanks.”

“Ware what happened? Why are you here?”

“Theo messed big time. I don’t even know how I am going to fix things. Mmabo o ngadile. And the thing about a calm woman is that they are

peaceful when they leave you. At least if she yelled or insulted me it would be better but she's just not even angry anymore. She's just done."

"Le wena mister how dies a side cheek touch your phone?"

"I was bathing. I messed up.. a lot. I just want to see her. She's pregnant. I can't lose her. She's the type you marry. The type you write back home about."

\*\*\*

That same day, Nicole drank two pills then took a deep breath looking at the books she was marking. Unable to focus, she smiled calling her sister.

"Nicole..."

"Hey, got the house?"

"Yes. I forgot to call. Sorry."

"Is it nice?"

"Yes. Is everything ok Nicole?"

Nicole frowned. "Yes. Why?"

"Ng Ng..."

"Ok."

"Bye."

"Are you ok?"

"Why wouldn't I be ok?"

"You sound.. off."

"I am fine Nicole. Maybe the only thing bothering me is how you are carrying two babies and didn't bother to tell me."

Nicole laughed. "I was going to tell you tonight."

"And that you have high blood pressure. I spoke to your doctor. She is worried about you. She says you need to get admitted. And something



about your heart not pumping blood out nicely. I think you need to take your maternity leave and... stay alive."

"We will talk when we meet."

"I am worried. And scared."

"I am fine. The doctor just... I guess she's worried too."

"You need to be under close supervision."

"And I will."

"Not when you are working."

"We will talk about it when we meet."

"I am on my way there with a truck to get my furniture. By the way, the loan is out!"

Nicole screamed. "Yes!"

"I am getting my car! I am going to SA."

"I am so happy for you. You make me a proud mother."

Nolo laughed. "I am coming."

Nicole hung up as someone knocked on her door. She put her red pen down and stood. She paused feeling a bit dizzy but the feeling soon went away. She walked to the door and opened it.

Her heart sank as she looked at him. He slightly smiled.

"Hi."

"Hi."

"You look .. pretty."

"You are back?"

"I had been planning to surprise you for a while."

"Surprise me for what?"

"I missed you."

"We broke up."

"What happened between Theo and I was a mistake. I regret it. A lot. And I am sorry. I still love you."

“

Outside Nolo parked next to an unfamiliar car and stepped out looking over just as the truck for her furniture drove in.

Thabiso’s friend smiled staring at her. She walked inside the house and frowned staring at him.

“What are you doing here?”

Nicole sighed. “He just came. Please leave.”

Thabiso looked over at Nolo. She looked a bit more different especially with the blond short hair going on. She looked more fierce and... he turned back to Nicole.

“Can we please talk?”

“No. You need to leave.”

“Babe-“

“She said no. You need to leave.”

He sighed then turned and walked out. Nolo walked over to her and hugged her.

“I am sorry.”

Nicole smiled. “I am fine.”

“You are going to have twins?”

“Yes. I will be fine. Let’s get your things out.”

“Let me pee.”

She walked to the bathroom. Nicole walked to the door and watched Thabiso’s friend’s car drive off. She turned back inside the house as Nolo’s phone vibrated ringing. She walked to the small table and picked it up looking at Trevor calling. It rang till it stopped then a message came through.

Nicole curiously unlocked his phone and opened the message from Trevor just as Nolo walked from the bathroom.

Nicole looked at her. “I thought you cut ties with him. Why are you still talking to him? He’s a married man for Goodness sake Nolo! Can’t you just stay away from married men or you find joy in causing other women pain? Can’t you just find your own man?”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#56

Nolo walked over and took her phone. She looked at the screen reading his message.

“I am not talking to him. Even if I block him, he will find other means to get to me. I just don’t pick or respond to his messages. You see? The rest of his other messages are just here.”

“Maybe you should change your number.”

“All for Trevor? I am not changing my number.”

She walked outside and called the movers inside. She pointed them to her furniture inside Nicole’s house then finally got her bag full of clothes and some on hangers.

Nicole helped her to the car.

“I can put some in my car.”

Nolo shook her head. “No. They will all fit in my car. You don’t have to come and help me. I will be fine.”

“Are you angry because I am looking out for you?”

“No. I am not angry that you are looking out for me, I hate the way you spoke to me. Put that energy of trying to care for me into caring for yourself. Your doctor would really be appreciate it. I would appreciate it. I am old enough to make my own decisions Nicole. You don’t have to look after me.”

“I said nothing wrong to you. It was just the truth. I just want you to find your own man.”

Nolo her belongings from her sister and put them in the boot.

“Thank you. I will. Bye.”

She got in the car and drove off, the truck with her furniture behind her. Nicole took a deep breath looking around. She blinked trying to shut all the thoughts in her head.

Nicole turned and walked inside her house then picked her phone and called her mother.

“Nicole..”

Nicole smiled. “Mama, how are you?”

“I am fine. Your father’s is not very well. He can’t eat properly anymore. He’s always in pain. I took him to the doctor yesterday.”

“He will be fine.”

“He is going to die if I don’t take him to see a good doctor.”

“If it was serious they would have referred him go Marina.”

“It is serious Nicole! My husband is dying.”

“So? Let him die.”

“Don’t talk like that, what’s wrong with you?”

“I hate him. Let him die. I hope he dies in pain. He deserves it. I will not waste my money on him.”

“I love him. I love him so much. I am scared. I know you hate him but please..”

“Ask Onolo because you are not getting a cent from me to help that monster.”

\*\*\*

At Nolo’s new house, Nolo smiled as the movers finished putting her things inside her house. She took out her wallet and paid them then they drove off.

She walked inside the house smiling. Now she could get more furniture. She had sold the old furniture the imposter had bought and bought a few

things of her own before moving. She started moving her furniture around barefooted, her blazer on her bed.

Someone knocked on her door. Nolo smiled opening.

“Maureen?”

The landlord’s wife looked at her. “Hi. Onolo?”

“Eemma. The house is beautiful. I love it.”

“I hope so.. It’s still new.”

“Yes. And perfect.”

Maureen looked at Nolo and sighed. “Ok. I will leave you to settle.”

A black Range Rover drove through and parked next to the company car while Maureen watched. Ranewa stepped out still in her formal wear and heels holding two bottles of vintage wine and a box of pizza.

“Hi!”

Nolo smiled. “Hey. Indeed you brought the wines!”

Ranewa laughed as they walked in the house. Maureen watched the two ladies that definitely looked like they worked office jobs walk in the house. She went to the main house fixing her long dress, she caught a reflection of herself on the mirror in the sitting room, after giving birth to this one last child, she’d get back in shape.

\*

At the bachelor pad, Nolo smiled taking a sip of the wine.

“This tastes divine.”

“It was in the house.”

Nolo looked at her ring. “Your ring is beautiful.”

“And it’s for decoration. I have been following every advice ebile I am tired. This man is in love with someone else. This is the true definition of loveless marriage.” She kicked off her heels holding her own glass of wine.

“I am sorry.”

Ranewa shook her head. "I saw it coming. This woman he loves won't leave his mind. He calls her every morning. Sometimes he talks to her through VNs. It's crazy but you should hear him. He sounds so sexy while at it gotwe hey babe, I just wanted to tell you that I saw you today. I passed by your house and you were wearing red dress. It took me back to that night and I miss you."

Nolo laughed. "One day he will have no choice but to love you."

"We are not even having sex."

Nolo frowned. "What?"

"Nothing mma. He's not getting turned on by the fact that I waited all these years for him."

"I am sorry."

Ranewa laughed. "It's ok. Your house is nice. What are we doing?"

Nolo put down her glass. "I just wanted to arrange the sitting room then move to the bedroom and unpack."

"Ok."

They moved her furniture around while drinking. Two hours later Nolo finished up while Ranewa finished the second bottle of wine completely wasted. She staggered looking around the entire house.

"Perfect."

Nolo smiled. "We need to get you home."

"What home? I hate that big ugly house!"

She took her phone and call him barely able to stand upright.

"Hello?"

"Hey wena! Let me tell you something you piece of shit! I hate you and your entirely family. Especially your bitch mother who can't leave me alone. Asking if I am pregnant as if we are fucking. Mosono was lona lothe ka family! Le marete a bo ntate mogolo ba lona!"

Nolo's heart skipped as she snatched the phone from her. She quickly hung up.

"Ranewa!"

“I hate him. You are pretty. I wonder if he sees you he will change his mind about his other girlfriend.”

Nolo laid her down on the couch as Ranewa’s phone rang.

She took a deep breath and picked.

“Hello?”

“Ranewa are..” His voice trailed off then he called out her name softly.

“Nolo?”

“Hi. Ranewa’s sister is... you know all that. Ranewa was going to help me settle in at my new house so she brought some wine. She’s drunk. She doesn’t mean it. I can drop her off.”

“Or I can pick her. I am not at home.”

“Waaka, you want to find out where I stay do you can stalk me. I know you are already stalking me.”

He laughed. “You know if I really wanted to find you, it wouldn’t take me the whole day to. Better I just know now but you can drop her off at home. I will meet you there.”

“I hate you.”

He chuckled. “Send the pin location. Ke eta.”

\*\*\*

Trevor parked his car behind Nolo’s and stepped out. She walked out in her pyjamas.

“She’s inside.”

He smiled looking at her. “You look cute.”

Nolo walked back inside her house. He followed and looked at Ranewa who had passed out. He picked her up and walked out with her. He put her at the backseat and looked at Nolo.

“She will pick her car tomorrow.”

“Ok.”

Trevor smiled. “I missed you.”

“Go.”

He took a step forward making her move back.

“Please go.”

He tried to hold her waist but she slapped his hands.

“Don’t!”

He laughed. “That was a violent slap.”

Nolo laughed. “Go.”

“Are you still having sex in bars?”

Nolo walked inside her house and tried to close the door but he pushed it walking in.

“Yes Trevor, I am still sleeping around.”

“HIV is real. E ta go phamola.”

Nolo looked at him and laughed. “Mxm, she’s waiting. Go.”

“You look really cute.”

“You are starting.”

Trevor smiled and tried to touch her but she stepped back then turned to run to her bedroom but he picked her up making her laugh.

“Stop!”

He put her down and smiled. “You make me so happy.” He took her hand and placed it on his chest. “You make me feel alive. Seeing you laugh and smile makes me happy.”

“You need to go home with your wife. You are a married man. You should be making a baby.”

“Can I make one with you?”

She smiled unable to keep a serious look, not with the way he was smiling at her.

“Please go home.”

He leaned over and kissed her, every part of her wakening as his kids drained out her energy making her lean on him holding on. He kissed



her more and more till she couldn't breathe anymore then he released her lips.

"I love you."

"Trevor please.."

"I am going out of country next week. Come with me."

"I am going to SA. To get my car. I can't."

"The Porsche?"

She smiled excitedly. "Yes."

"We will go together then."

"No. Ija!"

"I will help you. You need someone by your side."

"You want to sleep with me because you haven't been sleeping with her."

She turned around. He laughed holding her from behind.

"At least you know it's only you. And it's been a while."

He kissed her neck then her shoulder while rubbing himself on her butt.

"I miss you."

He put his hand inside the pyjama top and squeezed her breast. He turned her around and kissed her hard now squeezing both breast. His dick jerking him his pants.

"Nolo!" Ranewa yelled from the car. Nolo pushed Trevor away, her heart racing.

"Go."

"I am coming back. I will bring more wine."

"I am not opening for you!"

"Thirty minutes tops. I love you."

He kissed her and dashed out. Nolo's hand shook as she rubbed her lips listening to his car drive off. She took a deep breath but her knees felt too weak she sat down trying to gather herself.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#57

Trevor carried Ranewa inside the house and laid her on her bed. She slowly opened her eyes and held his hand.

“Hi.”

“Hi. Sleep.”

She smiled. “Lie down with me.”

“You need some sleep. Close your eyes.”

She giggled. “You are handsome.”

“Thanks.”

“Are you ever going to sleep with me?”

“Ranewa, sleep.”

She smiled. “Are you? Will you ever try to make this work? Our marriage.”

“Tomorrow we have a family event. You need to sleep.”

“Lie down with me. Please.”

Trevor sighed and got on her bed. She snuggled closer and held his hand. Minutes passed till she fell asleep. He slipped out of bed then walked out.

\*

At Nolo’s house, Trevor parked his car and stepped out. He walked to the door and knocked gently. Minutes passed, he smiled and took out his phone then called her instead. Her phone just rang as usual.

He knocked and spoke loudly. “Babe, I heard a baby crying in the main house. Maybe I should start making noise. Let your landlord think you are bad news already. Please open.”

His phone vibrated as soon as the call cut.

Nolo: Go away!

Trevor sighed. "Ok. But I got you something. Come and take it then I leave."

She responded through text.

Nolo: I don't want it.

He walked round the house to the bedroom's window.

"You are going to love it. Please. Then I leave. Ebile majita a nkemetsi. Take so I can go."

She opened her curtain and looked at him. He smiled as she opened the window.

"What?"

"Hi. It's at the door."

"Ok. Leave it there. I will take it."

"I am not going to do anything. Come this side, let me give it to you and go. It's late. Bo Ken ba nkemetsi."

"Stay here. I need to give you something too. Stay, let me get it."

She closed the window then walked backwards. He walked back to the front door knowing her trick. She unlocked the door and peaked. Trevor pushed the door open laughing.

"Hi."

She looked at him standing behind the door.

"So you were lying?"

"No." He closed the door and locked it. "The gift is me."

She folded her arms. "I don't want it then."

He tilted her chin smiling and pressed his lips against hers. She closed her eyes as he kissed her slow and good.

He pulled open her gown and smiled taking it off. He looked at her silky nightdress, black and so short he could almost see everything.

"I like this."

She blinked then he caressed her body on top of the nightdress, his hands going down to thighs, slipping underneath the dress. Nolo let out a faint moan as he slipped his finger between her p\*ssy lips.

He leaned over kissing her neck as he slipped another finger through those thick lips and slowly rubbed her clit.

Nolo rubbed his arms breathing heavily. Trevor moved his head and kissed on top of the nightdress. She closed her eyes as he sucked her nipple through the silky fabric while gently rubbing his head.

Her pussy got even wetter and sensitive as he continued rubbing her clit. He sucked the other nipple making her moan out his name.

Trevor paused then picked her up and placed her on her couch. He got on top of her kissing her. She pulled him closer kissing him more. She pulled his t-shirt and helped him take it off. Nolo touched his skin, her body hot all over

He moved his mouth between her legs and kissed her there licking her juices.

Nolo closed her eyes. "Trevor..."

Trevor continued, slowly torturing her. She moved her waist then he got up.

"I think we should stop before you think I only love you for sex."

She looked at him. "I do."

"You do what?"

"I like you for the sex."

He smiled and kissed her lips. "That's a lie. We both know it."

She breathed heavily, he put his weight on her then lifted herself letting her whimper softly with relief and also gasp as he pushed himself deep inside her.

Nolo closed her eyes at the pleasure of having him inside.

"Oh..."

"Look at me.. you know you love me."

She slowly opened her eyes feeling that thickness inside her. He slowly begun moving his waist digging into her while she moaned touching him.

\*\*\*

From the main house, Maureen looked at the big car outside behind Onolo's car. She turned back to her husband.

"Where does she work?"

"I think Debswana. The car she's using kea Debswana. I think she's one of those with serious positions there."

"If she had a serious position she'd be driving her own car. I wouldn't be surprised if she gets money from her boyfriend if not a sugar daddy. Did you see the car that's parked behind hers? And it has no number plate."

Her husband sighed. "She's beautiful, why wouldn't she have a rich boyfriend but why does it matter to us again?"

Maureen sighed. "I don't want drama in my yard. Soon enough there will be fights and all sorts."

"Maybe you should mind your own business and leave people's issues alone. I am not going to allow you to harass her. Leave her alone!"

\*\*\*

The following morning, Nicole opened her door and looked at Thabiso.

"I am tired."

"I wanted us to talk about the baby."

She moved from the door and sat down. He looked at her showing belly.

"Do you know the gender?"

"No. I want it to be a surprise."

He smiled. "I can't wait to meet him. I have a feeling it's a boy."

She chuckled. "You just want a boy because you already have a girl."

"Yes but I can feel it. It's a boy."

“Boys... I want it to be both. A boy and a girl. I heard twins are easier to handle if it's fraternal twins.”

Thabiso looked at her in shock. “They are two?”

Nicole smiled. “I thought I told you.”

“No... we are having twins?”

She nodded. He walked over and hugged her. Nicole took a deep breath smiling.

“Seems you don't shoot blanks.”

He laughed. “I definitely don't. I wish I wasn't in China. I wish I was here.”

“Theo is waiting for you. She's there's to make your stay nicer.”

He looked at her. “I have no excuse for my actions. I am sorry. I hurt you. I regret every second of it.”

“You don't. You regret getting caught. It wasn't just a one night sex situation. You have been having sex with her for a while. Besides sex you do things that couples do. I saw the pictures. You guys actually make a beautiful match than you and I and I am not mad. I am happy for you.”

She smiled standing up. “I need to go and see my sister. Thank you for coming.”

“How much do you need a month?”

“Whatever you can afford. The babies are not yet here so even if you don't give me anything, it's still fine.”

He looked at her. Her calm demeanor made it hard for him to plead his case. She was not upset, it was like she had accepted her defeat and just didn't care anymore.

“I love you.”

“Save that love for your children. They will need that and more. A lot more. I hope you are able to at least love them enough to be there for them.”

She opened the door. He sadly walked out. She closed her door and sighed picking her phone calling Nolo.

“Hi...”

Nolo let out a muffled sound as a male voice spoke.

“Who’s there with you?”

“Hi, what?”

“I heard a man.”

Nolo laughed. “Oh, TV.”

“That wasn’t TV. That voice sounded.. like a man who is there with you.”

“But there’s no man here with me. It’s me and my TV.”

“Ok. Send me the directions to your house.”

“Ok.”

Nicole laughed. “You now bring them home?”

Nolo laughed. “You are crazy.”

She hung up laughing. Nicole smiled knowing she wasn’t the one making her laugh that loud and that she was with someone.

\*\*\*

At Trevor’s house, Ranewa walked out to the cab parked at the gate and called Nolo but her phone just rang.

She jumped in the cab and gave him the direction to Nolo’s house.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#58

At Nolo’s house, Nolo walked out with Trevor from the bathroom holding her phone.

“My sister is on her way. You should go.”

He walked behind her and kissed her shoulder.

“We are going to South Africa together right?”

She walked to her bedroom and turned to him. “Trevor-“

He kissed her lips. “We will fly. I will sort that and accommodation out. Don’t shut me out.”

“I don’t want to complicate my life further.”

He smiled. “Don’t you think we are past that fear?”

“You are still married.”

“On paper. Let’s go together. We will drive back this side.”

“Waitse you are really trying to make me your side chick.”

“We can make it official. If you want...”

“Officially make me your side chick? I’d be rather be a well known prostitute.”

“No. I can marry you.”

“And make me your second wife. You must think your dic is all that don’t you?”

“I don’t want to make you angry. I don’t want to go knowing you are annoyed. I know it doesn’t take much for you to be annoyed by me but can I leave knowing we are ok to a certain level?”

“We are not ok.. nothing is ok. Your wife is trying to be my friend on the other side. Just imagine the position this puts me in. The fact that I am sleeping with her husband who she is trying so hard to be a wife to.. You trying to make me a glorified side chick is the worst thing you could come up with. I might not be close to perfect but I won’t settle for being your second option. It’s disturbing you’d think I’d fall for that idea.”

“You were always my first option. You knew that before I got married and you still are. You still are my only option. I love you and you only. As crazy as it sounds, I am also faithful. I understand why you’d fight what you and I share but... it’s you. I swear it’s only you in my heart. I will never make you a glorified side chick. You are my soul mate and nothing can change that.” He cupped her face. “But if you are ready to lose your job, be black listed with me, I will do anything you want right this moment.”



“Can’t you just suffer alone?”

He smiled brushing his lips over hers. “I am sorry but in this case... no.”

Someone knocked on her door followed by Ranewa’s voice. “Nolo!”

Nolo’s heart skipped. “Shit! Your car is outside!”

\*

Outside Ranewa tried opening the door but it was locked.

“Nolo!”

She stepped back and looked at Trevor’s car parked with Nolo’s. She tried opening the car doors but it was locked. She took out her phone and called her.

Ranewa put her phone in her ear listening to Nolo’s phone ringing unanswered till it stopped. She tried again.

Nicole walked over wearing a long dress.

“Hi..”

Ranewa looked at her and smiled. “Hi..”

Nicole smiled. “I am at the rightful house. It was difficult to get here.”

Ranewa chuckled. “I thought was the only one.”

“Is she in? Is this big machine yours?”

“I don’t know. But this is my husband’s car. Mine is the one parked outside. The Range Rover. This is my husband’s other car.”

Nicole stared then forced a laugh. “Your husband’s car doesn’t have a number plate?”

“No. This one doesn’t. He mostly uses it with his father. I wonder what it’s doing here. I don’t remember most from last night but I was here with Nolo. Got too drunk. I remember her talking to him but I don’t remember what they were saying. I think that’s when I passed out. I woke up at home so I think he came here to pick me up.”

“Yes. Maybe used a cab to go home. And left his car here.”

“I was thinking that but-“

Ranewa paused taking out her phone then picked Trevor’s call.

“Hi..”

“Where are you?”

“I went to take my car.”

“But I told you someone was going to do that and take mine too.”

“I don’t remember.”

“I had to leave my car at your friend’s house, I was drunk myself. Ken had to drop us off.”

“Oh... I am sorry about yesterday. The things I said.. I didn’t mean them. I like your mom.”

“Ok. Did you get your car?”

“No. She’s not opening. I don’t think she’s home.”

“I will have someone bring both cars home..”

“Thank you.”

He hung up. Ranewa smiled. “He had to leave his car here.”

Nicole smiled back. “I think Nolo went for her usual morning run. I will come back later. You should too.”

“I sent my cab away. Can you please drop me off at home.”

“Yah, sure. Let’s go.”

They walked outside to Nicole’s Honda Fit.

\*\*\*

Nolo sighed with relief.

“You need to go.. my sister is upset. I am sticking to your story. I am more scared of her than your wife.”

“When do you want to go so I sort out our flight tickets.”

“I can’t think Trevor. That was a close one!”

“Maybe next weekend?”

“Or not!”

“Ok. Friday evening then. I love you.”

He kissed her and walked out. He unlocked his car and drove out as Nolo’s landlord’s wife walked out of the house though with the tinted windows she couldn’t see anything. He drove off while she stared curiously.

\*\*\*

After dropping Ranewa off at her house, Nicole drove off calling her sister.

“Hey...”

“Where are you?”

“I am at home.”

“Where were you? I was there just thirty minutes back.”

“Oh, I had walked to the nearby tuckshop ke bata airtime.”

“Nolo, what are you doing with Trevor? I don’t understand you. What’s going on? And you befriend his wife on top of that.”

“I am not doing anything with Trevor. And Ranewa is Sam’s sister.”

“Trevor’s car was... he’s the one who was making you laugh so much in the morning akere?”

“Trevor and his wife left their cars at my house last night. Ranewa helped me last night, she got drunk and drunk called him. I spoke to him after she passed out. He came with his brother then left in his brother’s car. Le ene he was drunk. Trevor is not in my interests anymore. And yes there was a man, it just wasn’t Trevor. It was the gym guy from Jwaneng. Can you have faith in me?”

Nicole smiled. “So you found your own guy?”

“Yes. I really don’t want to be friends with Ranewa but o kare she has no friends and what not.”

“Ok. I am sorry. I just thought you were still having sex with him.”

“No.”

“I am on my way there. If I ever find out you are lying to me to right now because you have always been a good liar, I am going to punch you so hard.”

\*\*\*

Ranewa looked at Trevor as he walked inside the house.

He looked at her. “Hi.”

She looked at him embarrassed. “I am sorry.”

“It’s ok..I don’t always like my mother.”

“I should have never said that.”

“Its ok. Don’t stress yourself.”

“They want a grandchild.”

“That’s nonsense. We got married just yesterday. Don’t feel pressured.”

“I do because... the woman is always the first one to be shamed. If they think I can’t give you children, they will bring you someone else.”

“I will talk to them.”

“When are we having sex?”

Trevor smiled. “As soon as I know we are both ready for that step.” He kissed her cheek. “I have a workshop next weekend. I won’t be in. Your car is on the way.”

“I want you. I am ready.” She put her hands on his chest. “Can’t you compromise? She knows about me doesn’t she? Everyone knows about me.”

“Ok... I think I need to be honest with you. Can I?”

She nodded.

“I love her. I have been in love with her. I am trying to keep me and her on track. It’s hard because there’s... us. And the marriage. I would like to

give us a try but only when she's comfortable enough for it. I know I sound like a jerk but that's the truth. I need her because I love her. I know what's required of me in this marriage, I am just not ready to give into that requirement yet when it threatens my sanity because she's everything to me. I am trying to find a way to balance you both. Can I please try and balance it...? please."

He walked away. Ranewa looked at him wordlessly.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#59

She followed after him and found him taking off his t-shirt.

"And I supposed to be ok with that?"

"You said I could be honest with you and that's the truth."

"We should be trying to make this work."

"Didn't you say you were ok with us just being friends?"

"I was trying to give you enough time to be end whatever nonsense you have going on! You can't just say I have to wait till your side chick is ok with my presence. She has no other choice but to be. I am your wife and that's not changing anytime soon."

Trevor walked to the bathroom and closed the door. She looked at his phone on his bed then picked it up and paused at his screensaver.

It was a blown out picture of a woman, it was so blown out and blurred she couldn't even make out her face.

She swiped the screen but it needed a password. Her hands shook as she tried his name. Then his sister's name.

She put his phone down after the fourth try and sat down waiting.

Trevor walked out minutes later dripping wet with a towel around his waist.

Ranewa sadly looked at him. "So what am I supposed to do in the meantime?"

"Be patient with me. I don't want to fight with you. You and I have no reason to be fighting over anything. We were both forced into this marriage. I had my life before you, my life won't just stop and start revolving around you because you are carrying around my surname. There's someone I love."

"Would you be ok with it if I had to start an affair?"

"Whatever makes you happy. I don't mind."

She blinked as tears filled her eyes. "I just want you to give us a chance. That's all. You are not giving me a chance. Why can't we share you? I don't mind her being part of the picture. It's ok. I just want a fair shot too."

"Once she's in terms with everything, we will try. I just need you to be patient with me. But you are free to do whatever you want."

"I just want you. You only."

"Then be patient."

\*\*\*

At Nolo's house later that morning, Nicole sat by Nolo's kitchen stools watching her move around the kitchen cooking.

"I don't understand why you bother with cooking."

Nolo smiled. "I like cooking. I am just not the best at it but I try."

Nicole smiled. "I was thinking... I have a feeling they are girls. I want to call them Yaone and Yame. If it's boys then Yame and Bame. Then if it's girl and boy then it's Yame and Lame."

Nolo smiled flipping her pancake. "I live it."

Nolo's phone, Nicole looked over as 'Kgokgontsho' (Torturer) called.

"Kgokgontsho is calling. Is that someone's real name?"

Nolo nodded reaching for her phone. Nicole laughed putting her hand over her mouth.

Nolo walked to her sitting room picking.

“Hello?”

“Hey, is your sister still there?”

“Yes.”

“Ok. I want us to go out tonight. I will pick you up later.”

“No..I can’t.”

“Bye.”

“Tre- no..I can’t.”

“Is she there?”

“Bye.”

He laughed. “I will see you later.”

Nolo hung up and sighed walking back to the kitchen.

“Who’s Kgokgontsho?”

“Some guy ko tirong who thinks he can talk to me beyond office hours.”

“I can’t believe that’s a real name.”

“You will be surprised.”

Nolo’s phone rang again. She took a deep breath watching Ranewa call.

“Hi...”

“Hey. I came by in the morning but you were not home.”

“I had stepped out. Has your car arrived?”

“Yes. I am sorry about yesterday.”

“It’s ok.”

“Are you doing something? Can I come over? I was supposed to go to a Mbakiwe family event but I don’t want stress today.”

Nolo took a deep breath. “Ok.. but I am with my sister.”

“It’s ok. I met her in the morning.”

Nolo hung up. Nicole shook her head.

“I don’t like this forced friendship. What will happen when she finds out that you and Trevor had a thing?”

“I will deny it till I die.”

Nicole laughed. “I don’t think you should be friends with her to begin with.”

“She’s persistent.”

“I know. But it will end in tears.”

Kgokgontsho sent a message. Nolo opened it and turned looking out through the window.

Kgokgontsho: Sexy, gorgeous and beautiful in the kitchen, what could be better?

She smiled as a car drove by then started typing.

Nolo: Go away, stalker!

Kgokgontsho: I will never get tired of stalking you. I am your biggest fan.

Nolo: You are an idiot!

Kgokgontsho: Your idiot. I was thinking a drive into an outskirt lodge. Bush surrounding us.. soft music and good loving while we sip nice staff

Nolo: No!

Kgokgontsho: I knew you’d love it.

Nicole smiled staring at Nolo’s big smile. “Who are you talking to?”

“The gym guy.”

Her phone vibrated again.

Kgokgontsho: I love you.

Nolo’s smile widened.

Kgokgontsho: Come and get a kiss. Ke ha tuckshopong. Ke ta go rekela di biscuits. (I am by the tuckshop. I will buy you biscuits.)

Nolo laughed.

Nolo: Ke sharp. (I am fine.)



Kgokgontsho: Ke ta go rekela di Toppers thamma (I will but you Toppers Biscuits.)

She blushed then laughed. Nicole smiled.

“This guy wa go nhlanyisa.”

Nolo laughed and put her phone in her pocket.

“The pancakes are done. Taste.”

She dished and pushed a plate to Nicole.

“I need to go and pay the lady at the tuckshop before I forget.”

“I can do with a walk too.”

Nolo smiled. “Its too hot. Stay and eat. I am coming.”

She rushed out headed to the tuckshop.

\*

At the tuckshop, Trevor stepped out of his car fixing his cap as she walked over in her sweatpants and t-shirt. He smiled wrapping his arms around her waist and kissed her. He squeezed her thick round butt then bit her lower lip and let her go.

“Hey..”

She smiled. “Please go. Nicole is around.”

He took the Toppers biscuits from his car and handed it to her together with a sweet.

She smiled. “Thanks.”

He kissed her neck. “You smell good.”

“Bye.”

She turned and walked away. She turned looking at him and smiled catching smiling at her. Nolo quickened her pace headed home.

**Fires Of Desire**

## Fires Of Desire

#60

Nolo walked inside her house as her phone rang. She picked Ranewa's call with a sigh.

"Hello?"

"Hi, eish I won't be able to come. The aunts are onto me."

"Sorry."

"It's ok. Maybe I can come later."

"I am not around later."

"Ok then. I will call you then."

"Ok bye."

Nicole walked from the bedroom holding a Rolex watch.

Nolo looked at her then the watch.

"He forgot this."

Nolo laughed. "Why are you snooping?"

She put the biscuits down then took the watch.

"I wanted to use the bathroom. Are you using condoms?"

Nolo laughed even more. "Stop!"

Nicole chuckled. "I may have checked the bin. Just to be sure."

"I threw the used condoms away."

"Remember when you were still at varsity and you blocked that lady's toilet because you flushed a condom?"

Nolo laughed. "It wasn't me."

Nicole sighed. "Please be careful."

"I am. But you know where the danger is?! You know where the danger-"  
She stopped as they both laughed. Nicole started coughing. Nolo looked at her as she coughed more, blood filling her mouth.

"Nicole..."

“I am fine... I..”

Nolo put down the watch as Nicole rushed to the bathroom locking the door by behind. Nolo tried opening the door.

“Nicole!”

“I am fine.”

“Open the door!”

Nolo banged on the door panicking. “Nicole!”

“I am fine Nolo. I am fine.”

“Then open.”

“Give me a minute.”

“I am calling your doctor.”

She took out her phone, her hands shaking and called the doctor.

“Onolo, hi.”

“Hi. It’s Nicole. She was coughing and there was blood in her mouth.”

“Please bring her to the hospital.”

Nicole opened the door and at her as she hung up.

“I am fine.”

“The doctor said we should go to the hospital.”

“For what? I told you I am fine.”

“No. You are not. We are going.”

“You need to calm down.” Nicole looked in her sister’s tearful eyes and took her hand. She put it over her belly. “The doctor wants me to abort. I am not killing my children.”

“She said you need to be under medical observation. It’s like you don’t care. I care about you. About those kids. You are not going to set yourself for death to leave me with your children. I have no kids because I am not ready for that responsibility.”

Nicole took a deep breath letting go of Nolo’s hand. “Let me go before we say things we are going to regret.”

“I have nothing to regret from telling you the truth. You are acting so irresponsible. You know that pregnancy is a risk. The least you could be doing is following the doctor’s orders so you and the children make it. You don’t even have an excuse for taking not taking maternity leave, how do you prioritize your job when you can die and go on to say you are fine? You are not leaving those children with me nor will you burden my mother with your selfishness! Take it however you want to take it.”

Nicole blinked and nodded. “Ok.”

She walked to the sitting room. Nolo followed her and held her hand.

“I don’t want to lose you. Please.. kea go kopa. I love you. What will I do without you? What will I do with the kids? I am so scared.”

Nicole hugged her. “No one is dying. I promise you... I am taking leave. I am just waiting for my students to finish their exams. From the holidays I will be on leave till I give birth. I care but I don’t want to worry you. I don’t want you to constantly be stressed.”

“I am already worried.”

Nicole moved back smiling. “I know. You are not going to abandon my children.”

Nolo sighed. “Can we go on to the doctor?”

“I will go there. You don’t have to come. I will call you with an update. Your pancakes are nice.”

“I am not doing anything. I can come with you.”

Nicole kissed her cheek. “I know. But it’s ok. I am going to the hospital. I will see the doctor. Send you what she says. She will get me back in good health. You eat your Toppers from the new flame. How rich is he by the way?”

Nolo sighed. “He is ok rich.”

Nicole laughed. “I am happy it’s not Trevor. Let me go.”

Nolo watched her as she walked out then slowly sat down.

\*\*\*

Nicole called her doctor driving off.

“Hello?”

“Hello, I am on my way there. I am not happy about how you easily disclose my health information to my sister. If I am right, I think there’s a doctor and patient confidentiality policy”

“I am trying to just make sure there is someone looking after you.”

“My sister is trying to find her feet. She’s been through so much already I just wish you wouldn’t stress her so much. I understand my situation. You making her worry so much is... unfair.”

“Nicole... you are going to die if-“

“I will be fine. I read a case study about a certain woman who had the same condition.”

“She didn’t have an enlarging heart like yours. I am glad you are on your way here. I will see you when you arrive.”

“Stop discussing my issues with my sister. If it happens again I will have to involve the hospital’s management.”

She hung up and picked an incoming call.

“Thabiso, what is it?”

“Hi. Wrong time?”

“Wrong time eh! O batlang?”

“I just wanted to check if you don’t want something to eat.”

“Ga ke bate sepe. Ke sharp.”

“Are you ok?”

“Motho wa modimo, I am driving. When are you going back? I want nothing to eat. Ke siame. You don’t have to do anything for me. Wait till your children are born then take it from there. Right now I couldn’t care less of what you do. Stop calling my phone as if you bought it, gomo ke abuse. Focus on Theo or whatever her name is o lese go mbora.”

She hung slowing down at the traffic of Gaborone.

\*\*\*

Later that day, mmagwe Trevor walked inside her son's house holding her handbag. Ranewa walked from upstairs and smiled at her mother-in-law.

"Ma.."

"Hi. You left early."

"I wasn't feeling too well.\*"

"I see. You feel better now?"

Ranewa smiled. "Eemma."

"Where is your husband?"

"I think he's with his friends."

"You think? Shouldn't you know?"

"I-"

"What's going on in this marriage? You two travel in separate cars. Arrive at separate times. People are watching. What's wrong?"

Ranewa swallowed. "Trevor has someone else. It's hard to make our marriage work because he's attention is on the other woman. He won't do anything. He says he loves her and till she finally accepts me only then will he at least give us a try."

"Someone else? He is having an affair?"

"He says he loves her. He won't touch me. He doesn't be sleep at home sometimes. He doesn't care. He only wants her."

Mmagwe Trevor shook her head. "I will sort it out. Don't worry."

She turned and walked out then got in her car scrolling through her contacts till she approached her number. She called her reversing out with two motorcades behind her and two more in front.

"Onolo Feni, hello?"

"Onolo, didn't I tell you to stay away from my son? You think this is a game huh?"

"Did you tell your son to stay away from me?"

"Little girl-"

“I have been waiting for you to call me. Just a friendly warning, if you think you can ruin my job, just know I will tell the entire world how your son murdered someone and your family covered it up. I have a video of him confessing.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#61

Later that day, Nolo looked at Trevor as he walked inside her house.

“So now you just come into my house like you want?”

“Calm down.”

“O seka wa mpoela bo calm down Trevor! Your mother called me threatening me! Threatening to ruin my job that I worked so hard for! And you tell me I should calm down! Calm down?”

“I am sorry. I will sort it out. She won't ever call you again. I promise. You are not losing your job. I will make sure of it. Hey..” He held her hands.

“Trust me on this... I promise you. Nothing is going to happen to your job or to you. I got you. I am sorry that call happened in the first place but it will never happen again.”

“I don't want to live my life in fear.”

“You won't. As long as I am here you won't. You are my number one priority. Your safety comes first to me.” He kissed her lips. “I am sorry. Please don't let it ruin our night.”

She took a deep breath. “I am not happy. I told you I didn't want such complications in my life. You won't listen. If you listened I wouldn't be here today dealing with your mother. You are making my life difficult.”

“Today was the last time you deal with my mother. I am sorry baby. I am sorry. Can we forget everything else tonight. Let me make you happy tonight.”

He picked her. Nolo wrapped her legs around him.

“You smell good.”

She smiled. "We need to stop this."

"Tell that to my heart. Kiss me."

Nolo looked at him failing to stop the butterflies in her stomach.. it was as if her body and her heart acted to their own accord and nothing could stop it. The feelings always overwhelmed her no matter how she fought it.

She leaned over and kissed him then smiled. He walked out with her then put her on the passenger seat.

Nolo laughed. "Let me change into something."

"You are perfect like that."

He closed the door then walked to her house and grabbed her phone then walked out locking behind him.

Trevor's phone rang, he took it out picked his mother's call.

"Hello?"

"Trevor I want to see you."

"I am busy."

"Busy where? Because I know you are not home with your wife. I want to see you."

"I am busy. I will see you tomorrow."

"You are with that girl aren't you? Why can't you just focus on your marriage? Trevor don't push my hand. Stay away from Onolo!"

"I should be asking you why you can't focus on your marriage because if you were focusing on your marriage you would have never be sleeping with the garden boy. I saw him yesterday. His life is going so well. He now owns a company and drives big cars. He quit his job to officially be your toy boy. I have all the evidence in the world. Stay away from Onolo. If you call her or do anything to jeopardize her job anyhow I promise you, papa will know your doings."

There was silence.

"I am glad we are on the same page."



He hung up and walked to the car. He smiled kissing Nolo then reversed out. Nolo relaxed next to him as drove with one hand, the other holding her hand.

His phone rang again. He took it out and looked at Ken calling.

“Eita!”

“Where are you? We have arrived at the bar.”

His friend yelled from the background. “O kae o marete!”

Trevor laughed. “I am not coming, ke isa mosadi for an outing.”

Ken laughed. “Finally decided to be a husband?”

Bakang laughed. “Husband? He’s with Onolo. Ba mo loud ke bue le ene.”

Trevor put the phone on loud speaker.

“Hi Onolo. I am Bakang. Trevor’s friend from... from childhood. How are you?”

Nolo laughed. “I am fine, thanks.”

“You are driving this one crazy. But in a good way. I approve. My boy loves you.”

Ken laughed too. “Hi Nolo. I am Kennedy. His big brother.”

“Hi.”

Trevor took the phone off loud speaker. “I am driving. We will talk.”

“Trevor wee, imisa motho o! (Impregnate her.) After she gives birth then another one. That woman is your wife. After two kids ebe o re one with Ranny. She’s also a good beautiful woman. You need to balance this shit.”

Trevor laughed listening to Bakang. “Go sharp monna!”

He hung up. Nolo laughed. “Your friend sounds unstable.”

“He is the worst. We met when we were babies. BK has been there my whole life, I think he fell when he was a baby and hit his head. Then we met Kago in high school.. More sensible. Married and his wife doesn’t let him hang around too much. You are going to like him when you meet him. We were actually planning a get away... all of us but BK’s unstable

relationship has been a pain in everyone's ass. You are going to love them when we go."

"You know I am not your wife right?"

"You are not. But you are my everything and I love you more than anything. You don't need that tittle to own my heart. You already do." He kissed her hand.

\*\*\*

Ranewa finished making dinner and smiled looking at her pots. She got the mixture she had gotten from her cousin and added it into the food then mixed it nicely.

She took her phone and called her cousin.

"Ranny.."

"Hi, how much is he supposed to eat?"

"Even one spoon is fine. My baby daddy didn't eat much and the following morning, he couldn't stay away from me. I was all he wanted."

Raany nodded. "I hope it works.\*"

"It will."

She hung up then dished for him.. she smiled as a car drove in outside. She quickly took her apron remaining with her short dress then out the plates on the dining table.

The door opened then rragwe Trevor walked in.

"Ngwetsi yame..."

Ranewa smiled putting her hands together respectfully.

"Papa.."

"How are you my girl?"

"I am fine yourself? I didn't know you were coming."

"I thought I'd surprise you and your husband. That smells delicious."

She smiled. "I cooked. But he's not yet here. I thought it was him driving in."

"I came at the rightful time then because I am hungry."

Her heart skipped as he looked at the delicious food.

"I... I.."

"I will eat his while we wait. Where is he?"

"He said he's going out with his friends."

"Ok. Then we can eat while we wait."

He sat down in front of Trevor's plate, his mouth watering then picked the fork and knife and started eating the food with the love portion.

## **Fires Of Desir**

Fires Of Desire

#62

Ragwe Trevor licked his fingers finishing the plate.

"I have never eaten something so delicious like this."

Ranewa nervously smiled. "Thank you."

"Thank you so much my girl. Uh... what time does Trevor usually come?"

"I thought by now he would have arrived."

"Let me call this boy."

He stood up and held on to the table feeling dizzy. Ranewa quickly stood up pushing away her own plate.

He smiled. "I am fine. I just..." He shook his head and tried to walk but his knees felt too weak. Ranewa rushed over and helped him walk go the couch. He sat down and rubbed his eyes.

Ranewa's heart pounded. "Should I call Mmagwe Trevor?"

"Ng Ng .. it's probably just.." He looked around and everything around him was blurry.

“Who should I call?”

“No one. I don’t want lies being spread... I-“

Ranewa watched him as he slowly slipped into unconsciousness. Her hands shook so much as she stared at him.

Her mind raced as her heart pounded. She took her phone, her hands shaking even more.

She called her cousin.

“Ranny..”

“Is someone getting dizzy and passing out part of it?”

“Yes. If I were you I’d sleep with him. Tomorrow morning he will believe whatever you tell him.”

“I can’t. I am still a virgin. But... what happens if the wrong person eats the food?”

“You have to be careful. Akere I told you. When you put that muti in that food, it’s meant to make someone love you. Did you eat too?”

“A bit. But is there a way to reverse it?”

“No. He’s bound to you till his last breath.”

Tears filled Ranewa’s eyes. “Khumo...”

“What is it Ranny?”

“I am scared.”

“Don’t be. It’s done.”

Ranewa put her head over her mouth hanging and burst into a loud cry.

\*\*\*

Over 100 kilometers outside Gaborone, Trevor slowed down taking a turn into the gravel road. He looked over at Nolo who had fallen asleep and smiled. At some point she had stopped asking where they were going.

Trevor drove for a while, he slowed down at a gate. The security guard hurried over and opened. Trevor drove over to the thatched roof lodge.

He parked his car and leaned over kissing Nolo. She moved her head waking up. Trevor smiled.

“We are here.”

“Where are we?”

“Secret location.”

He stepped out of the car and walked round to her door then opened. He picked her and threw her over his shoulder making her laugh.

“If you drop me Trevor..”

Trevor closed the door and walked towards the lodge with her.

A lady walked over. “Mr. Mbakiwe... welcome.”

“Is the suite ready?”

“Yes sir.”

Nolo raised his head and looked at the woman as Trevor walked with her inside the lodge and took her to the main suite. He walked inside and put her down.

“I thought we’d spend what’s left of the weekend here. Far from everything and everyone.”

Nolo turned and smiled staring at their suite. The room was lit with scented candles. She walked further in passing the beautiful couches going towards the big bed. She turned to him

“It’s beautiful. What is it called?”

He smiled. “It’s a secret location. Disclosing the name would ruin it.”

“This is where people bring their side chicks to chest in peace?”

Trevor walked over and wrapped his arms around her.

“No. I was thinking it could be our secret location.”

“You own it?”

“Yes. I had a vision for it. I am not just sure if it will sell.”

Nolo moved and walk towards the balcony that overlooked a lake.

“Is that a lake?”

“Yes. Man made.”

She smiled. “It’s beautiful. What was your vision?”

He walked over and hugged her from behind as the cool wind brushed their skins. He kissed her neck and spoke gently.

Nolo smiled then turned to him.

“I think you were thinking out of the box. And I like it. But it won’t sell the way you want it to, if you don’t mind you can let me work on a new plan. Let me have the initial plan then I can remix it. The good thing is that you have the property already, what you need is a slightly different direction. How many... chalets are there?”

“12.” He chuckled. “I forgot I am talking to a professional economist. Am I not just lucky?”

He turned her around. She smiled. “I charge for my services.. so this also belongs to your wife?”

Trevor cupped her face. “Say no more. And no. We are married out of community of property.”

He kissed her. Nolo stood on her toes kissing him back. Trevor’s hands went down to her butt then he picked her up and walked with her inside the suite. He placed her on the table taking off her top. Nolo’s phone rang from Trevor’s pocket.

She giggled. “I think it’s Nicole. Let me pick.”

He took it out and looked at the unsaved number calling.

“It’s not her.”

She smiled taking it and picked.

“Hello?”

“Hey, it’s Khali. Remember me?”

“Who?”

“Khali. At the gym in Jwaneng. I have been waiting for your call. I think you forgot so I went to gym and hunted for your number.”

Trevor looked at her listening to the male voice.

“Who is it?”

“Shhh... I remember. I forgot.”

“I thought so. Is it possible for us to go out for dinner? Maybe tomorrow?”

Trevor took the phone. “Eita Mister, motho o ke mosadi wame. I will take it you didn’t know but now you do. Let’s respect each other.”

“She is not married and re ka mo tsaahela, ga gore sepe. You don’t own her. Give her back her phone. Wa phadimoga, kea go mo tsaahela ke go bontse gore gao motho wa sepe. Already I can tell you are insecure, you are still going to cry. Give her back her phone.”

Trevor chuckled not a friendly chuckle. “Mister wee, ke bua le wena sente akere. You don’t know me or what I am capable of. I will end you. Never call my woman again because if I find out you are still calling her after this, wa go nyela blind and I will make sure to make an example out of you.”

He handed the phone to Nolo. “Don’t do this. At least don’t do it in front of me. I am going to take a shower.”

He walked away. Nolo watched him close the door to the ensuite then sighed.

“Hello?”

“Is that your boyfriend?”

She blinked. “I don’t know. But I didn’t forget to call you. I didn’t because I don’t want you as anything to me. That’s why it was easy to forget you. Try not calling me again, I’d get annoyed if you do. Bye.”

She hung up and texted her sister.

Nolo: Hey, went out for fresh. Will be back tomorrow, not sure of the time. Please take care of yourself.

She put the phone down and got off the table. She looked around the room unsure of what to do with herself.

Nolo finally undressed then walked to the ensuite barefooted. She walked inside and looked at him under the shower.

She stepped inside letting the hot water hit her body.

“O ngadile? (Are you upset?)”

Trevor turned to her. “Why would I be upset?”

“I don’t know. You tell me. I don’t like what you did, you just can’t take my phone like that. That’s my phone. It’s not ours.”

“Ok. I am so sorry.”

“And I can talk to whoever I want to talk to! You can’t block my potential relationships like that when you know what we have is nothing but an affair! You don’t have that right in my life. I will be with whoever I want to be with! What we have is nothing but sex.”

“Ok.”

Emotions choked her. “I hate you.”

She turned to walk away but Trevor pulled her back.

“I don’t want to fight with you. This is not an affair. It’s a lot more than that. It’s not just sex. I love you. I love you so much. I love you more than anything. I am sorry, I know my marital status is an issue but to me it means nothing and that is the truth. You are the only one. She’s just there carrying around the Mbakiwe last name but you are the only one. I want to give you everything... I don’t want us... I don’t want this to be a secret because I am not ashamed of our love. I don’t care what people will say. I love you. I hate everyone who wants you. And I take back my apology, I am not sorry that I took your phone and marked my territory. And I will not stop.”

He tilted her chin and kissed her as water ran down their bodies. Trevor moved his mouth down her neck to her nipples. Nolo closed her eyes weakly, her head on his head as her clit throbbed for attention.

Trevor sucked her nipple harder, the sought pain shooting right down to her p\*ssy. He kissed her lips picked her up and lowered her down on his dic then...

\*\*\*



The following morning, Ranewa finished dressing for church in her black skirt and a white shirt tucked in. She put on her beret then walked to the sitting room holding her bag and her bible.

She looked at her father in-law and took a deep breath. She shook him then stepped back as he woke up.

He slowly sat upright and looked at Ranewa.

“Good morning, you fell asleep there. Should I call Mrs. Mbakiwe?”

He blinked looking at her. He had never seen a church uniform look so good like that. Her skirt hugged her body, she had on a pair of leggings but it didn't look tacky. She moved back, her heels hitting the floors.

He rubbed his eyes. “No.. I am fine. I think it was my blood pressure. I am fine.”

He slowly stood looking at her beautiful face. “Did Trevor come home?”

She shook her head. “No.”

“This boy... I will talk to him. Don't worry.”

“Eerra.”

His eyes moved to her lips. He looked away ashamed. That was his daughter in-law.

“Let me get going.”

“Ok.”

He looked at her again noticing everything he had never noticed before. She was beautiful that he was failing to look away. He swallowed then turned staggering.

Ranewa took a deep breath as he walked out.

\*\*\*\*

At Rragwe Trevor's huge mansion, rragwe Trevor walked in his bedroom taking off his jacket. He looked at his wife as she walked out of the bathroom lotioning her hands. He took a deep breath inhaling her sweet scents in the air but surprisingly they made him sneeze.

“Where did you sleep?”

“I was waiting for Trevor to come back home so I could talk to him. But he didn’t come.”

“Trevor is having an affair with that tramp I told you about. You need to sort this out.”

“He loves that tramp. I am not going to take away that from him. That girl makes your son happy. He just needs to be taught how to keep both happy. Maybe marry her so that he doesn’t feel the need to sneak around.”

“Marry her? What will people say? Trevor should be focusing on making that marriage work!”

“We can’t deny that he doesn’t love her! What do you want to do? Force her down his throat?”

“I can’t believe you!”

“We are just going to wait. Give it six months. If he’s still with what’s her name? Bonolo?”

“Onolo!”

“Yes, her.. if he’s still with her then we are just going to have to accept her presence.”

“This is not right! That girl needs to be eliminated. He will cry and get over her.”

“You will not do such a thing. I have spoken and that’s that!”

Mmagwe Trevor blinked in shock at the way he had raised his voice. He walked away leaving her standing there with her hand over her chest.

Fires Of Desire

#63

Later that day, Ranewa walked out of church after attending all the services. She got in her car and sat still for a while.

She took a deep breath and called Trevor. She sat upright as his rang.

“Hello?”

“Hi... uh are you home?”

“No what is it?”

“You didn’t sleep home last night.”

“Did something happen?”

She blinked as tears filled her eyes. “I was worried. Your father also came. He thought he’d find you home. He waited for you the whole night and...” She stopped talking as a tear rolled down. “I thought you’d come home after drinking with bo Ken.”

“I will talk to him.”

“Are you coming home tonight?”

“No.”

“Are you with her? You were with her last night akere?”

“I am not answering that.”

“I am trying. Can’t you see my efforts?”

“I told you to stop trying and putting yourself under pressure.”

“I want to love you. I want you to give me a chance. Please..”

“I already told you where I stand. You knew what you were getting yourself into when you decided to marry me. Give me time. In a case of emergency, press the emergency button. Security will arrive in less than a minute.”

He hung up. Ranewa looked at her phone, her vision blurry as pain deflated her. She put her hand over her mouth crying.

She cried so much till she couldn’t breathe properly, she hit her chest trying to loosen it up. Over twenty minutes later she started her car and drove off calling Nolo.

Her phone just rang till it stopped. Ranewa put her phone away headed to a bar.

\*\*\*

Nicole folded the little clothes she had bought packing everything in a bag. She paused at a knock on the door then walked over and opened.

Nicole took a deep breath looking at Thabiso.

“Hi.”

“Hey. Can I come in?”

“No.”

He nodded then handed her three shopping bags. “I bought a few things for the babies.”

She opened them and looked inside then smiled.

“They are nice. Thank you.”

“I am going back today.”

“Ok.”

“I know you are hurt. I hurt you and I wish I had been better. I am sorry. I hope one day you find it in your heart to forgive me.”

“I already did. I just don’t want you.”

He blinked. “I understand.”

“I appreciate it.”

“I will send you some money monthly. If you don’t want to use it, save it for them.”

“Ok.”

“I love you. It’s hard to believe, I know but I love you. So much.”

He turned and walked to the car waiting for him at the gate. She walked back inside her house and picked her ringing phone.

“Hello?”

“Hi, is this Nicole Feni?”

“Yes. Who’s this?”

“Hi Nicole, we met in traffic when you were crying.”

Nicole laughed. “The guy who’s raising children who are not his children.”

He laughed. "That one. I went to the hospital today. Gatwe I have high blood pressure due to stress. I have been feeling suffocated lately. I can't breathe properly so I thought I would see a doctor."

"I am sorry."

"Thank you. So as I was leaving I thought I'd Bruce someone to get your number at the hospital to check on you."

Nicole smiled. "I am... fine. He came to try and convince me otherwise but I think I am done. I am happy for the twins though, I think that's been my reason for waking up. Times keeps moving and I just wish I can be pregnant forever."

"They are twins?"

"Yes. I checked yesterday. It's two girls. I am going to call them Yaone Yame."

"Kids are wonderful."

"So what did your baby mama say?"

"She's denying it. I have moved out though. I couldn't stand being in the same house with her."

Nicole walked back to her bedroom and continued packing while talking to him.

\*\*\*

At the lodge at sunset, Nolo stood by the balcony wearing only Trevor's t-shirt looking over at Trevor talking to a man near the lake shirtless. He had a fresh haircut, she could never admit just how he looked even more handsome with that cut though she had noticed how other ladies could notice.

She sipped her wine watching as his veined arm, her eyes went down his faint abs down to the V-line then the dick print that showed.

He laughed at something making her smile unaware. Her phone rang, she turned and walked back inside the suite. She looked at Samantha calling.

“Hi..”

“Hey, I tried calling you last night but founu ene e sa tsene. I am on my way to Gabs. I thought we could go out.”

“Waai, I am not around. I went out for some fresh air.”

“Where?”

“I am not sure but it’s far from Gabs.”

“Alone?”

“No.. I have company.”

“Oh? Who’s the new guy?”

“I am with a friend.”

Samantha laughed. “You know that’s a lie. Tell me..”

Nolo laughed. “It’s a friend. When are you going back?”

“Tomorrow morning . I missed you. Kana mma since you left I am alone.”

The door opened then Trevor walked in. He wrapped his arms around her kissing her neck.

“I will find out what time I am coming back. Maybe I can catch you before you leave.”

Trevor whispered something in her ear making her smile. He moved his lips to her mouth kissing her.

“Ok. Call me.”

Nolo moved her head. “Ok.”

She hung up then Trevor smiled. “They are bringing our dinner in thirty minutes.”

“Ok. What time are we going back?”

Trevor put his hands inside the t-shirt touching her body. “Tomorrow morning.”

“Last night you said we are leaving tonight.”

He kissed her, his hand going between her legs then he touched her wetness.

“I thought you said you want to stay here forever.”

Nolo laughed moving her head. "I said it in the spur of the moment."

"We will go tomorrow early morning."

He kissed her again, Nolo moved her hand to his already hard dick making him grunt. He picked her up and placed her on the table getting between her legs while taking out his weapon.

She closed her eyes as he pushed himself inside groaning in her ear and...

\*

A while later Nolo laid on the bed with Trevor, one leg between his with the other one on top while he kissed her randomly fondling her breast.

"How did you get this scar?" He caressed the scar between her breast.

"A fight with my father. I came back from school and found him punching my mother. So I joined in... then he did this and I did worse on him."

"I saw one just above your butt."

"It was a shambok. He hit me with it. I tried using creams but the scars won't go away. It's like they never want me to forget. So every time I see them... I remember why I hate him. Sometimes I wish I had killed him. But now that he's suffering I am happy I didn't. I want him to die a painful death."

Trevor kissed the scar between her breast. Nolo smiled running her fingers in his head.

\*\*\*

At the bar later that evening, Ranewa smiled as the bar tender refilled her glass. A man walked over to her holding his own drink then looked at her.

"Hi gorgeous."

Ranewa looked at him holding on to the bar counters for balance. She tried to move but her knees were so weak that she kept bumping into people trying to sip her drink. The man wrapped his arms around her.

“I think you have had enough. Let’s go outside.”

“Noo! My husband is cheating on me!”

He took her glass from her then walked out with her. He looked at her outside, she was beautiful, more beautiful than the other girl that had been brought for him. He picked her up and walked with her to his car where he put her at the backseat. He took out his phone and made a phone call.

“Hello?”

“I am on my way. I bringing a girl. She’s beautiful.”

“My brother, you said you go bring me three girls!”

“She’s enough. Akere it’s just you and your brother? She can handle it.”

“My friend also wanted a girl.”

“She will handle it. It’s for the whole night akere? She’d fine and beautiful.”

“Ok, bring her.”

The man got in the car as Ranewa breathed heavily at the backseat.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#64

Ranewa turned her head looking at the driver.

“Stop...”

He looked at her then continued driving. She slowly sat upright.

“O nkisa kae? Stop the car!”

He ignored her picking his ringing phone.



“Hello? I am coming.... I can't get you another girl, this is the only one I am bringing... ok. Bye.”

Ranewa swallowed looking at him.

“Stop the car! Do you know who I am? Stop the car!”

She got up as her intestines twisted. She pulled his dreadlocks and scratched his face vomiting on him. He hit her head hard with his elbow that she fell at the backseat temporarily losing consciousness. He looked at her and locked all the doors then took a deep breath speeding off.

\*

At a hotel in Block 6, the man parked the car and stepped out then picked Ranewa from the backseat as she grunted slowly waking up.

One of the hotel worker walked over.

“This way...”

They both got in the hotel through the backdoor and went down a long passage.

“Fast...”

They went up the stairs avoiding the corners with the working camera's. The hotel worker opened a certain door then the dreadlock man walked inside carrying Ranewa. Two tall Nigerian man who where smoking cigars looked at him as he put Ranewa down.

“This is the girl.”

Ranewa moved slightly, her head aching.

The other Nigerian man looked at her then reached for a syringe and injected her arm that she soon stopped moving.

He silently undressed her till she was naked. The dreadlock man watched silently as the Nigerian man looked at her naked body.

He opened her legs and parted her pussy lips before forcefully pushing a finger inside her. He paused.

“She's s virgin?”

The dreadlock man quickly nodded though unsure. "Yes. That's why I said she's enough."

The Nigerian man smiled. "You should have said that my brother. Ok... then how much am I paying you?"

"15k."

He took out a roll of money from his pocket and handed it to him.

"That should be enough. We are going tomorrow. I will talk to you when I come back."

"Ok.."

He walked out happily leaving Ranewa with two men though he knew the third one was going to join in..he almost felt sorry for her but then why would a normal woman be that drunk? She had been calling for it.

\*\*\*

Back at the hotel room, one of the Nigerian man took out his big dic while the other spoke on the phone smoking still.

He stroked his thick long dic with a lube staring at Ranewa's tiny p\*ssy, it had been a while since he had slept with a virgin and he was going to make it worth his while.

He opened her legs more and pushed at her entrance using all his strength till the tip pooped in immediately tearing her.

He pushed himself further inside widening the tear, his veins popping out and started thrusting into her with no care whatsoever.

He breathed heavily fucking hard as if she weren't a virgin, her tightness hugging his meat. The other one walked over unzipping his pants then took his monster. He opened her mouth and slid his meat inside.

\*\*\*

Just after seven the following day, Trevor parked behind Nolo's car in front of her house. He pulled her closer and kissed her.

"When do you want us to go to SA?"

"I was thinking on Wednesday.."

"Ok. I will sort out our flight arrangements."

She smiled. "Ok."

He laughed. "You are welcome."

"No one asked you."

Trevor pinched her cheek. "I already miss you. I will call you. I can cook for you tonight. I am very good at it by the way."

"Why do I think you are lying?"

He laughed. "I will show you tonight. I love you so much." He kissed her hard then moved back. Nolo stepped out of the car and walked to her door. She unlocked her door and walked in picking her sister's call.

"Hey..."

"Are you back?"

"Yes. Just arrived."

"When am I meeting him?"

Nolo smiled. "You won't. Not now."

"Why?"

"It's too soon. How are you? How's your blood pressure?"

"It's fine. I feel great this morning. I slept well while you were fucking. How's the sex?"

Nolo laughed. "It's... great. He knows my body better than I do.. knows my needs better than I do. He..." She sighed. "He is good."

"I am coming. Are you home? What time are you going to work?"

"In an hour."

"I am coming."

Nolo laughed as Nicole hung up.

\*\*\*

Trevor drove home calling his lawyer.

“Trevor, o batlang?”

He laughed. “I need your help.”

“Its seven in the morning! O mpatlang?”

Trevor sighed. “I want to annul my marriage.”

“You what?”

“I want to nullify my marriage. But I don’t want people to know.”

“Are you on drugs?”

“No.. I am serious.”

“You... on what ground do you want to dissolve this marriage?”

“You know I am in a tight spot. There’s someone. She’s been there. I don’t want to lose her to someone I don’t love. I can’t do divorce because I understand I can’t do it till we have been married for two years right?”

“Yes. You need a ground to be able to nullify marriage. These are court things so there’s no way you can say you don’t want people to know.”

“I am willing to bribe someone make this happen silently and fast. I hear there’s a recently appointed judge.”

“What’s on the table?”

“A million.”

“Fuck!”

“We are not having sex. Can’t you use that? Also that this marriage was forced.”

“Do you think she’s going to agree to that?”

“I don’t want her knowing. Tell me what is needed.”

“Trevor... can’t you just take the other woman as a second wife?”

“No. If she were the other wan I would, she’s the only woman. And she won’t agree to it.”

“You are asking for heaven on earth laitaka and I don’t know if you can win on this one.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#65

Trevor took a turn headed to his house.

“I know it’s a lot. Can’t we try?”

“So you want... fuck Trevor! You want people to still think you are married when you are not?”

“Yes. I want to marry Nolo. If that can be kept under the wraps too.. I don’t want her name being dragged.”

“I hope you have enough money for this shit!”

“Money is not an issue.”

“Let me see what I can gather.”

“Thanks.”

His gate opened as he approached then he drove in. He frowned looking at his father’s motorcade outside. He parked his car and walked inside his house where his father was waiting.

“Who let you in my house?”

“O tswa kae boy?”

“I was with Bakang at his house. What are you doing in my house? That’s why I am selling it. This behavior of you thinking you can just get in everyone’s house without knocking should end in Parliament!”

“So you wanted your father to wait outside?”

“Did Ranny let you inside?”

“No. She didn’t sleep home. Your maid let me in.”

“Ok.”

“Your wife slept out and your response is ok?”

“Because she’s my wife, not yours and that is my response as her husband.”

Rragwe Trevor sighed. “Trevor, I know you are angry. But... at least pretend to care. Her family is watching. Batswana are watching. Everyone’s eyes are on you and that girl. Your mother tells me you are still seeing Onolo. I found time to just... find out more about her. Economist at Debswana. She’s doing very well for herself. The white men are impressed, called her a firecracker. She’s beautiful too. Gape o di hips le marago. I understand you love her. I will not stand in your way but you need to balance your life. Onolo knows you are married akere? She needs to understand that you are someone’s husband. At the end she’s sharing you.”

Trevor took off his cap looking at his father.

“So I have spoken to your uncles. We are ready to go to the Feni’s and ask for their daughter’s hand in marriage mme it will be under customary law.”

“Ke bata gontsa magadi hela. The rest can wait for now.”

“O bata go ntsa magadi hela?”

“Yes. The rest can wait but le one magadi it’s not a now thing.”

“Ok. In return I ask you to please try to be a husband.”

“Ok.”

Rragwe Trevor smiled. “Thank you. You want to sell this house?”

“Yes. Because I have no privacy here.”

“Nyaa, now that you discussed that with me, I will wait outside if there’s no one. Please find out where your wife is... you are trying to be a husband akere?”

He walked out. Trevor walked to his bedroom calling Ranewa but the call didn’t go through.

\*\*\*

At Nolo's house, Nolo's heels echoed on her tiles as she walked fixing her blazer. Nicole looked at how her heels and butt filled her black formal pants. Nolo smiled.

"How do I look?"

"Like the girl who had a peaceful and happy weekend away."

Nolo laughed. "Ija..."

"You look beautiful my sister. And smell amazing. And I thought you returned that Rolex."

Nolo looked at the Rolex on her wrist and smiled.

"No."

Nicole handed her a mug of coffee.

"They are both girls."

Nolo gasped and hugged her. "Oh yes!"

Nicole laughed. "Yaone Yame."

Nolo moved back sipping her coffee. "I love it. Did you tell mama?"

"Not yet. She's still dealing with her dying husband."

"How I wish he can just die."

"So do I."

Someone knocked on the door. Nolo put her coffee down and walked to the door.

The landlord's wife looked at her. "Onolo."

Nolo smiled. "Hi."

"I realized you were not home this weekend."

"Eemma."

"Ehh... next time you should inform us because my husband and I wanted to go out but we couldn't just leave because there was no one in the yard. Next time re bulele so that we plan our things nicely."

“I will not do that. I am not a bodyguard, I will go out whenever I want, I am not compelled to inform you. That’s my private business. Should I involve a lawyer here?”

Maureen laughed. “That attitude is unnecessary little girl, this is how things are done here, our house, our rules.”

“I don’t care, that information has nothing to do with you. I signed a lease agreement, you should have put that into the agreement. You didn’t and I may be forced to involve my lawyer. I think your daughter is crying.”

Nolo closed the door and laughed.

“This unemployed b\*tch is a problem.”

Nicole laughed. “Inform her next time before you take a shit.”

Nolo laughed. “I signed lease agreement ya 10 months, she’s going to see.”

Nolo took her handbag and laptop bag.

“Did I tell you Kano’s wife came to my office for an interview.”

“Serious?”

“Yes. And she’s good but I don’t trust her. I asked the guy wa ko finance department to consider her. She’s heavily pregnant, o kare things didn’t go according to plan.”

The sister’s walked out chatting.

“I am sure they didn’t. I will talk to you later.”

Nolo smiled getting in her car. Nicole got in hers behind and drove to out. Nolo took out her vibrating phone reversing out. She looked at Trevor’s message.

Kgokgontsho: You forgot your thong in my car. I have been holding it in my pocket since I got to work. I can’t stop smelling it.

Nolo laughed.

Nolo: Pervert!

Kgokgontsho: I miss you.

Nolo: I don’t, bye.



Kgokgontsho: The fact that I know you miss me too makes me happy. I love you.

Nolo smiled then put her phone down headed to work.

\*

Nolo walked through the company doors carrying her handbag and laptop bag.

The receptionist smiled. "Ms Feni..."

Nolo smiled politely walking over to her. "Hey..."

"These just came in for you." She took a bouquet of red and white roses. Nolo held her handbag and laptop bag with one hand and took the flowers smiling.

"Thanks."

Nolo walked to the elevator and went up to her floor. She walked out of the elevator and walked inside her office. She put everything on the table and took out the note in the flowers.

'Yours, with love so much love...'

She smiled looking at his awful handwriting. She took her phone and texted him.

Nolo: Awful handwriting.

Her phone started ringing. She smiled picking taking a seat.

"How can I help you?"

"There's a million ways you can help me."

She laughed. "Thank you."

"You are welcome. Do you love them?"

She looked at them smiling. "They are nice."

She rocked her chair and turned looking out through the window listening to him, a smile on her face.

\*\*\*

A group of primary school students walked through a small bush headed to school that morning chatting loudly laughing.

Two that were in front slowed down noticing a naked body feet from them. As they got closer, it became even clear that it was a woman with blood all over legs. They screamed running off headed to school to report.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#66

That same morning, a group of people gathered around the naked woman, some with their phones out while they waited for the police. A lady walked past by and looked over curiously. She frowned looking at the woman as people just stared.

Her heart sank as she looked at the woman taking pictures.

“How dare you take pictures?!” She yelled from a distance, her Zimbabwean accent having everyone turn. She walked over pushing the crowd out of her way with her big body.

“How dare you take pictures of a fellow woman? Shame on you! What kind of people are you? How dare you just watch? Is this movie? Huh?”

She took off her jacket and covered the woman.

Everyone put away their phones.

“Shame on you! Shame on you! What are you hoping to do with those pictures? Instead of helping her you have gathered around like brainless fools!”

The other man looked at her. “O bua le mang mokwerekwere ke wena! (Who are you talking to you foreigner?)”

The woman looked at him. “Tsek, who are you calling mokwerekwere, I will punch you, ndokundinda, ku jaidzwa! Mokwerekwere ndi Mai vako,

damnit! (I will best you, Mokwerekwere is your mother.) I am very learned and I can tell just by looking at you that your head is full of water, I will drain that water away if you think you can talk to me like how you speak to your mother. I am not her, I will beat you very hard.”

Her firm voice had everyone move back. She took off her doek and covered the naked woman more then took out her phone and dialed the police.

\*

Over ten minutes later, the police walked over and found people standing a distant away while the Zimbabwean lady stood by the woman.

“Dumelang Mme..”

“Good morning, my name is Rosemary Mafuro. I found people gathered around this woman. She was still naked then and no one seemed to care, I covered her up and checked her pulse, I am a qualified medical Doctor. She is still alive so I called the ambulance. Here are my documents.”

She took her valid passport with a worker’s permit from her bra.

The police smiled. “Thank you Rosemary for deciding to take control of the situation and covering her up. You don’t have to show us your papers. You did it well.”

She moved away letting the police take control of the situation though watching closely.

The ambulance arrived in minutes, the paramedics jumped out with a stretcher and hurried over.

\*

At the hospital, Rosemary waited at the waiting area as the woman got pushed further inside. From the looks of it, it seemed the woman had been raped and dumped.

She took a deep breath thinking of her sister who had been killed few years back. Tears filled her eyes as pain choked her.

The police officer from the scene walked over to her and sat next to her.

“She will be fine.. she will get her justice.”

Rosemary nodded and remained quiet waiting.

\*\*\*

Later that day, Trevor’s work place, Trevor walked out of a meeting headed to his office. He walked inside, his PA right behind him.

“A call came in from the hospital. It’s about Mrs. Mbakiwe. The nurse I spoke to said you need to go there.”

Trevor looked at her. “What’s wrong?”

“She didn’t say only that it was an emergency.”

“Ok. Did you sort out my traveling plans for Wednesday?”

“Yes sir. I have also booked you into the presidential suit you requested.”

“I want a particular set up in the room.” He grabbed his phone and car keys. “Have my things delivered at home. The helper will be there. I will discuss what I want tomorrow morning.”

“Yes sir.”

“And list down motor centers where I can get a Porsche Panamera.”

“Yes sir.”

“Which hospital am I going to?”

\*\*\*

At the hospital, Trevor walked behind the nurse, she opened a door and walked in. Trevor walked in behind her and looked at Ranewa on the hospital bed. She slowly turned to him, tears filling her eyes immediately.

He walked over. "What's going on?"

She broke down sobbing. She cried so much that he got even more worried.

"Ranny, what's wrong?"

The nurse sighed. "She was found naked and raped at a bush in block 6. The doctor managed to track a rape drug in her system."

Trevor's heart skipped. "Where did they attack you?"

Ranewa cried more. Trevor sat on her bed and pulled her in his arms hugging her.

The nurse looked at him. "I will give you two space."

"Did the police come?"

"Yes."

"She can identify them?"

"No. She said she was drunk at a bar and a man helped her. She could describe him to the police. He kidnapped her from the bar, she tried fighting but he overpowered her then took her to a lodge where there was a man that sounded Nigerian. That's all she remembers."

Trevor nodded. "Which bar? It doesn't have cameras?"

"No. It's just a local bar."

Trevor nodded then the nurse walked out. Trevor held her in his arms till her cries finally died down.

He laid her down gently and got up, his hands in his head. She looked at him, tears falling from the corner of her eyes.

"I... I... I went to church. I thought I'd pray for us.. I... then you called and... the pain was too much. I was raised to love you.. I don't know how not to. All I know is you. I am trying... everything... I thought I'd destruct myself with alcohol.." She put her hand over mouth crying.

"They took away innocence... I have nothing left..."

The pain in her voice made his heart ache.

"I am sorry..."

"They have killed me."

“You are still here. We will find them. I promise... we will find them.”

“I have nothing now.. I have nothing...”

“You have a lot.” He hugged her again. Ranewa held on to him crying like she had never done before wetting his jacket.

The door opened and her sister walked in. She stood by the door watching them hugging then stepped out giving them room.

Trevor took a deep breath rubbed her back. She held on to him a while later now silent but just breathing heavily.

The doctor walked in. Trevor slowly let go but she held his hand.

“Your results are back. Everything else is ok. We are going to give you the Pep drug, in case of HIV.”

Ranewa remained silent, the word HIV ringing in her head.

“You are going to... be fine.”

Trevor looked at her. “Let me talk to the doctor.”

He walked out with the doctor. Sam walked in with her cousin and walked over then hugged her.

\*

Outside, Trevor’s phone rang before he could ask the doctor what he wanted to ask.

“Where is your office?”

“Third floor. Ask for Dr. Timo.”

Trevor nodded then picked the call.

“Hey babe...”

“Hey. I have started cooking. I am not very good at it, I have to warn you before you come that you are about to eat what your chef does not cook.”

Trevor smiled. “I can’t wait.” He looked at his watch. “I will be there in twenty minutes.”

“Ok.”

“I love you.”

She hung up. Trevor chuckled then put his phone away and walked back in the room. Ranewa looked at him while her sister held her hand, her cousin next to her.

“I will go and talk to the doctor in his office. Do you need anything?”

She shook her head.

“Ok. I will give you all some space. I will see you in the morning.”

“They are not staying. You don’t have to go.”

“I think you need your sister with you than me. I will call someone who can help solve this case. Goodnight.”

He walked out taking a glance at the time again. He passed by the front desk taking the doctor’s number and hurried to his car.

\*\*\*

In the room, Ranny cried.

“He is going to his girlfriend.”

Her cousin took a deep breath. “Who is she?”

“I don’t know.”

“We need to find her. This can’t go on.”

Sam sighed. “Harassing her won’t make Trevor stop seeing her.”

“We will beat her. Nna tlhamma no woman will ever make me cry every night. Not me, motho aka nyela botlogo! Not on my man. Ranny has a whole marriage certificate. She’s a wife, not a girlfriend. That whore needs to be taught a lesson. We are going to find her. Wa go nyela!”

\*\*\*

Trevor parked a different car behind Nolo's and stepped out. He walked to her door and knocked before walking in.

Nolo looked at him while in the kitchen. He smiled looking at her wearing an apron while holding a wooden spoon. He closed the door and walk over to her. She smiled making him forget everything else but just her.

"Twenty five minutes later..."

He smiled and hugged her kissing her neck. "I am late. I am sorry." He took a deep breath breathing in her scent. "I missed you."

She smiled, her arms around him. They held each other for minutes.

"My pot will burn."

He released her from just arms and kissed her. Nolo bit his lower lip giggling.

"My pot."

She turned and stirred her chicken stew while he hugged her from behind.

"The chicken is a bit overcooked. But it's nice. I tasted it."

Trevor whispered in her ear kissing her neck. "It smells divine."

Nolo smiled and switched off the stove. She moved around her kitchen while he followed behind touching and kissing her.

Nolo dished the rice and chicken stew.

"I didn't want to cook complicated things. They never turn out the way they are supposed to."

Trevor laughed then tasted the food.

"It's nice."

"I know it's salty."

Trevor kissed her cheek. "I love my food salty."

She laughed and pulled him to the sitting room. She turned on the TV as he sat down taking out his ringing phone.

"Matty..."

"I know someone who knows someone. We can apply under the reason of it was a forced marriage and also that you have never touched her."



But before that, you need to have the judge in your corner. And also we will need Ranewa to sign a few documents. The court case will have to happen but we can get a date where they will be no one but you two in court and the judge will have to not be straight on the reason you are there for.”

“Ok. How soon can this happen?”

“We need to bribe a high court judge. And pay my person who knows a person and also that person that my person knows.”

“Ok.”

“We will talk tomorrow.”

Trevor hung up and pulled Nolo closer as they ate.

\*\*\*

Later that evening, Sam looked at her sister sleeping after the doctor gave her a sedative. She walked out and got in her car at the parking lot. She called Nolo starting the car but Nolo’s phone just rang. She called Nicole instead.

“Hello?”

“Hi Nicky, it’s Sam. Can I please have directions to Nolo’s house. I am in Gabs, she’s not picking.”

“Oh ok.”

“Thanks.”

Minutes later, the direction came through. She drove off.

\*

At Nolo’s house, Sam parked her car behind a black double cab. She stepped out of her car and walked to the door and knocked.

“Nolo!”

Sam took her phone and called her.

“Hello?”

“Hi. I am at the door.”

“I have company.”

“I can see.”

Nolo laughed. “I will see you tomorrow.”

“Ok.”

Sam look at the twin cab number plate then took a picture of it and walked to her car making a call.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#67

Nolo sat on the bed watching Trevor dress the following morning. He picked his tie and put it around her neck then pulled her closer kissing her.

“I love you.”

Nolo smiled silently.

“What are your plans tonight?”

“I don’t know. My sister is lonely. I think I will go over there.”

“Are you sleeping there? Our flight is for 7 in the morning. I was thinking maybe we can sleep closer.”

“Ok.”

“I will call you then you can tell me what time to pick you up.”

“Who’s car is outside?”

“My cousin.”

He kissed her again and picked his car keys. “I love you so much.”

Nolo smiled and laid down as he walked out. She touched his tie, her phone rang, Nolo turned reaching for it and picked.

“Hello?”

“Hey, have you already left for work?”

“No. I am preparing. What’s up?”

“Ranny was raped.”

“What?”

“On Sunday. She went to a bar and got too drunk and that’s when a man kidnapped her and I think sold her off to Nigerians who raped her.”

Nolo sat upright. “Was she alone at the bar?”

“Yes.”

“But your sister knows she can’t handle alcohol.”

“She’s stressed. Things are not working out between her and her husband. She thought by now there would be progress but he just doesn’t care.”

“I am sorry. It can’t be easy for her.”

“Its not. She’s... devastated. It doesn’t make it better that the husband still doesn’t care. Somehow I thought he’d... care a bit now but o kare he’s not affected at all. Whoever he’s in love with fed him live portion I am telling you.”

Nolo got off bed. “Fed him? Maybe no one fed him anything and he’s just... I don’t know Sam. People just love who they love. I used to think my father fed my mother something for her to be stay with such a man but she just loved him. I don’t know much but I don’t think anyone fed him.”

“This is not normal Nolo. He’s just heartless and I hate him everyday for at least not trying. He’s the reason she got raped. If he acted right my sister would have never felt the need to go to a bar. I blame him for this. He should be taking responsibility instead of running after a whore. Whoever it is should be ashamed to be sleeping with a married man! One that got married publicly like that.”

“He didn’t send your sister out drinking did he? He never promised to love her did he? I am sorry that your sister got raped. No one deserves it

but blaming Trevor for your sister getting too drunk at bars is insane. This is trying to pin the blame on him, make him feel guilty for something he had no control over and hope what? That he will suddenly love her? Friend I have to go. Someone is calling. Send my love to Ranny.”

She hung up and walked to the bathroom shaking her head.

Over an hour later Nolo walked out holding her flask. She looked at her Maureen who was holding on her phone outside. Nolo got in the car and drove out playing her music.

\*\*\*

At the hospital, Trevor looked at Ranny as the doctor finished his checkup. Trevor walked closer as the doctor walked out.

“How are you feeling?”

Ranewa sniffed. “I want to take it back. Going to the bar. I wish I just went home.”

“You can’t change what’s happened now. I am sorry you went through that. You didn’t deserve it. I am so sorry.”

A tear rolled down her cheek. “Where did you sleep last night? Where you with her?”

Trevor looked at her. “I don’t want to hurt you. You are already hurting.”

More tears filled her eyes. “What does she have that I don’t have?”

“I am not answering that.”

“Is there something wrong with me?”

“Nothing is wrong with you. It’s not you. I told you it’s not you.. you knew this before we got married. I never hid it from you. I am sorry you are hurting but I don’t love you, I can’t promise I will. I can’t and won’t promise you things I may not be able to fulfill in the future.”

“Because you are not giving me a chance. Give me a chance... please give me a chance.” She held his hands crying. “Please give me a chance. Let me show I can also love you as much as she does. I can accept her. Can’t we make it work?”

“I am not promising you anything. Whether you stay or not, she’s not going anywhere.”

“I am ready to accept her into our marriage. She can join as a second wife. What do you need from me to make it happen?”

“Let me think about it.”

She sniffed. “Are we telling people?”

“You are free to.”

“I don’t want to be labeled.”

“Then don’t tell them. Do you want anything?”

She wiped away her tears. “Stay with me.”

“I have to go to work.”

“Please come and see me after work.”

“Ok. Tomorrow I am traveling out of the country.”

“Work? You are taking her?”

“I need a few things so I am going to look for them. I will be back on Saturday.”

“You didn’t answer me.”

“Don’t ask questions knowing you can’t handle the answers. I will ask my brother the keep an eye over things.”

“I thought you were going to try and find out who raped me.”

“I can only do much. I have someone working with the police.” His phone rang.

She blinked. “Please hug me.”

Trevor sighed and briefly hugged her then walked out picking the call.

\*\*\*

At Debswana, Sam walked inside Nolo’s office while Nolo spoke on her phone.

“I will call you back.”

She hung up and looked at Sam. “Hi?”

“So you have now resorted to fucking married men?”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#68

Nolo put down her phone down looking at her.

“Why are you yelling in my office?”

“Why are you sleeping with married men?”

“Did I fuck your father?”

“I thought you were better than this. Trevor’s cousin is married. He has two kids. I saw his car yesterday, he is a married man who loves his wife!”

“And I told you I was better than this?”

Sam sighed. “I can’t believe you.”

“The door is open.”

“You are destroying a family. A happy family! He has kids. Small kids!”

“And he doesn’t know that?”

“I can’t believe you.”

“I said leave my office.. you come here screaming as if this is a bar. This is my office! My work place! If you can’t respect these walls then you and I have no reason to still be friends.” Nolo stood up and pull down her black pencil skirt. “I will sleep with whoever I want, be glad it’s not your father. Never come here again and think you can talk to me like we are at a bar, you just disturbed a very important call.” Nolo walked to the door and opened it. “Don’t forget to take your disrespect with. I will not be disrespected in my own territory, I will floor your ass.”

“Do you want me to lie to you? Is that what you-“

“I want you to get out! Did you see Trevor’s cousins in my house? What makes you think he’s the one I am sleeping with? I am not going to waste my time with you Samantha, leave.”

“It’s not right. And you wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for me. I gave you this territory.”

“And who asked you? I bagged this job myself! Yes you did get me to the interview but I worked my ass to be where I am. Sweetie... don’t embarrass yourself. I am hard worker. Out!”

Sam walked out then turned to say something.

“Go and attend to your sister love. And protect your dad, he might be next on the line.”

She closed the door and walked to her chair. She took a deep breath and sat down. She picked her phone and called Trevor.

“Mr. Mbakiwe’s phone, hello?”

Nolo paused. “Uh..”

“This is Botho, Mr. Mbakiwe’s PA. uh is this Nolo?”

“Yes. If he’s busy it’s ok.”

“It’s ok. He asked to be alerted if you called.”

“Is he busy?”

“He’s in a meeting. Let me tell him you have called.”

“No. It’s ok. I-“

She cut the call then seconds later he called back.

“Babe...”

Nolo sighed. “It’s ok..we will talk later.”

“We are already talking. It’s ok. Are you ok?”

“I... maybe you should stop coming to my house. Someone will find out. Already it seems I am the problem in your marriage. Sam was just here talking about how I am sleeping with your cousin and-“

“Babe please. I am not having the best day. I just lost a deal worth millions, I am trying to find a way to get it back. I am so stressed, there’s a lot on my plate, it’s family demands and a lot more. Can I just have

you in my corner today... can I have you stand for us today. You know I love you and if anything I will stand with you till my last breath. Please stand with me today..”

Nolo blinked, her anger deflating.

“Please... Thank you. Was there anything else?”

“No.”

He sighed. “Ok. I love you.”

“Ok.”

There was slight chuckle. “I will be see you later.”

“Yes.”

She hung up and sat down slowly. She called Nicole.

“Nolo, hey ..”

“About the movies tonight, I am sorry. I am going to have to work late tonight and if I come there, I will just be a bore. I am sorry.”

“No. It’s ok. You are the worst movie watcher anyways, I will sleep in early so I can relax and give birth to healthy babies.”

“Thank you. I am sorry.”

“It’s ok. I am getting in class. Bye!”

“Bye.”

Nolo hung up then looked at her laptop finishing off the report.

Just after lunch time, she knocked off after submitting an important document to her boss. She walked to the company car and drove headed to the mall.

\*\*\*

At the hospital, Ranewa laid on her side in silence staring into nothing. The door opened then her rragwe Trevor walked in carrying a plastic.

He looked at her and smiled..

“I heard what happened. We are going to find everyone who was part of it. They have touched the wrong people.”



She sniffed and tried to seat. He walked over and held her hand. "I am here. Don't cry my girl."

He hugged her as she cried. His heart raced as she wrapped her arms around her. He hadn't had his heart race so fast like that in ages at a woman's touch.

Her soft sniffs didn't make things any easy or her warm skin.

He slowly let go and wiped away her tears.

"Daddy is here... I will make things alright."

"Trevor is never going to love me now."

"He will love you so much, just not now. I will love you, your mother in law and everyone else. Don't cry... I will take care of it. I will take care of you my girl."

She sniffed. "He won't stay with me."

"Which is why I think it's best you move into our big house so you don't feel alone."

"What about-"

"Don't think about Trevor ok. He doesn't matter anymore. I am here." He hugged her and rubbed her back trying to keep his dick under control though he could his dick getting hard on it's own without the usual assistant.

He took a deep breath as dirty thoughts filled his head making his dick get even harder.

He put his one head in his pocket to hide it while hugging her with the other one.

\*\*\*

After knocking off, Trevor walked out to his car and jumped in.

He picked his brother's call driving out.

"Eita!"

Ken sighed. "Hey what's up?"

“Sharp. Keng?”

“Ranewa’s sister just called saying you are not treating her sister right. Ranny was raped?”

“Yes “

“And you are still going to South Africa?”

“Yes. I promised Nolo I will go with her.”

“Your wife just got raped!”

“And I can undo it? Ranewa and I understand each other. I sympathize with her. This is something I don’t wish on anyone. She doesn’t deserve it but I am not going to stop my life because of that.”

“I don’t think you should leave her.”

“I am and that’s it. If you feel she can’t be alone, feel free to be with her. But my priorities are straight, I have never lied about those and I won’t start now.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#69

Ragwe Trevor called Trevor getting in one of his motorcades. It took off followed more escort cars with two more in front

“Hello?”

“Why didn’t you tell me what happened to your wife?”

“She didn’t want anyone to know.”

“This is a serious issue Trevor. I hope you are on top of it.”

“I got someone to look into it.”

“I will get more people to look into it. I went to see her. I am moving her to a more private hospital. That woman is not just any woman. She’s a Mbakiwe wife.”

“Ok.”

“You should have done that.”

“The public doesn’t know she’s there. As soon as I found out I put security there. I can’t do it all at the same time. I have a lot in my plate.”

“I heard about the deal. I am proud of you for getting it back on the table. There’s something I want to discuss with you in person. A potential business investment.”

“I am traveling out. We will talk when I come back.”

“Ok, I am taking Ranewa to the house. She will stay with your mother and I till she’s well. I think she needs to know that we are here family and that we love her.”

“That’s ok.”

“You will have to see her at home.”

“Ok.”

Trevor hung up. He sighed then called his wife.

“Mbakiwe..”

“I trust you saw my message. She’s moving in with us. I think it’s for the best till she’s well again.”

“I still don’t understand what a married woman was doing in bars. Was she really raped? Or she’s trying to make my son feel guilty?”

“Jane!”

“These days you are always yelling at me as if I am child.”

“Maybe if you didn’t behave like one I wouldn’t have to. Have the maids get a room ready.”

\*\*\*

Later that evening, Nolo took out the lasagna from the oven and frowned looking at it. A car parked outside then he walked in seconds later taking off his cap.

He walked over to her and looked at her lasagna. “That smells nice.”

“I did everything right today. I don’t know how it got burnt.”

“It’s not that burnt.” He wrapped his arms around her smiling.

“I thought I’d cook us something... a little nicer.”

“It’s nicer. Thank you.” He pulled her closer hugging her. Nolo held on to him taking a deep breath in.

“Did you get the deal back?”

He sighed. “Yes. Are you still upset about Sam?”

She shook her head. “No.. she sent me screenshots of your cousin. He seems like a nice guy and now I am ruining his family sleeping with him.”

Trevor chuckled. “He’s a pastor. He doesn’t cheat “

Nolo laughed. “You’d be surprised.”

Trevor tilted her chin and kissed her. “I will start parking at the back. Or maybe we should get you a house where you are alone and-“

“Hidden?”

“No. And free. Where I can fuck you outside on the car.”

Nolo laughed. “I would like that. I heard about Ranny.”

“Yeah. The police are on it.”

“Do you feel guilty? I heard she was stressed about your marriage.”

“Should I feel guilty? I am sad something tragic happened to her. Should I feel guilty? We both know.. it’s not working. I didn’t force her to go out drinking. She’s free to do what she wants. I made that clear to her.”

“I don’t think you should feel guilty.”

“I don’t.”

“Let me dish the burnt food.”

She turned around and took the knife. Trevor unzipped his pants behind her and took out his weapon. He kissed her neck pulling her dress up then pulled her panty to the side.

“Don’t you want to... uhhh...” She closed her eyes as he pushed himself inside. He bended her more to have more access and fucked her hard and fast. Every thrust coming harder the previous. He wrapped his hand around her neck pounding into mercilessly.

She got even more wetter ad the pleasure increased. Nolo moaned even more holding on to the kitchen counters. Her legs started to shake as

she got closer and closer. She squeezed her thighs together trying to hold it in but whenever he thrust into her, he tapped that sweet nerve and the pleasure got even more intense till she screamed, her orgasm taking her straight to heaven as she convulsed shaking.

He fucked her harder grunting then stilled deep inside filling her up with his warm seeds. He slowly slid out and fixed her panty kissing her shoulder.

“I love you...”

Nolo leaned her weight on him, her knees weak.

“I love you so much.”

She blinked. “But you don’t even know me. You know the previous me... not me me... you didn’t fall love with me... but with what was there before me. I am just in the same body... I am different from her. You were in love with her... not me. You loved her.”

He turned her around. “I know you Onolo. You are different from the you that was there before. I know, I clicked with her... and I did like her but I fell in love with you. Harder than I ever imagined. Sometimes it shocks me that I can actually live this hard. You are more sharper than her, firmer.. you have no filter, always say the first thing in your mind. You have OCD but you don’t know it... the way you arrange your things or even mine when I am here. You arrange according to color and size. I know your favorite color is white, she didn’t have that. She always thought hers was blue but yours is white but you don’t realize it actually is. You claim to have a temper but you are just someone who prefers things in a certain way. You have built walls around yourself to protect your heart from hurt. You fear to meet a man like your father or to be your mother. You hide your fears behind this strong wall that you have masked with confidence and an unwavering character but deep down you are just scared. You are fragile and you are a lover. I know you... I fell in love with you... your character got me first. The sternness. Bold, and fearless. Then the real you. I know you are not what was there previously. I love Onolo, the one who has scars all over, some I can physically and some are in your heart. I love the Onolo that remembers what happened with every scar. I love Onolo, the one who’s left eye twitch when you she is lying. The Onolo that hates sleeping on the right side of the bed because someone she always rolls to the edge and falls. The one who sometimes cries when no one is looking because

sometimes she does get tired of being strong. I love Onolo, the one who isn't scared of anyone but fears love more because she's a sucker for it. The one that sometimes talks in her sleep. Your neck is a weak spot for you, it wasn't previously. If I suck your breast just right, you cum. You love to be loved... to be wanted yet you fear it the most. I love you and I am still learning you."

She blinked as a tear fell. Trevor cupped her face.

"I love you. I fear losing you because I know I will never find another you again and you are the only one I want."

Emotions overwhelmed as she let her guard down. "I am so scared. You are here but you are not mine. You will never be mine. I am scared because I love you and I know I am going to be at the receiving end at the end while you go on to be a husband to your wife.

"I want you. I am nullifying the marriage and when that's done, I am going to marry you. It will be low-key till then because I stand against my family and everyone else, I want you by my side as my wife. I am processing everything to have the marriage ended. I know people are going to be hurt. I will take responsibility for that but I am choosing you. And I will continue doing it."

More tears rolled her cheeks. He leaned over kissing her then he hugged her tightly.

\*\*\*

Hours later that same evening, Nicole looked at Sam.

"I didn't know. She said it was the guy from Jwaneng."

"No. It's Trevor's cousin. Please talk to her. He's married. He has kids. He's just using her."

"I will. Thank you for telling me."

"I tried to talk to her but she told me a lot."

"She gets defensive when she feels attacked so she attacks back. You are lucky she didn't emotionally damage you. She has a sharp tongue."

"I learnt today."

Nicole smiled. "I am sorry about your sister by the way."

"Thank you."

Sam walked out then Nicole closed her door and called Nolo.

"Hi..."

"Sam was here."

"Botswana is small. Everyone knows everyone. I didn't know he's related to Trevor's family. Trevor's cousin is his brother. Sam didn't give me a chance to explain."

Nicole took a deep breath. "Nolo... I know it's Trevor. I know he's been the one. I know you feel the need to lie to me because I am judgmental when it comes to him but I am just trying to protect you. He's married. Yes, he's not happy but... it doesn't change that he has a wife. I am going to let you be because you are a grown woman. I will let you learn from your mistakes. When you need me, I will be right here."

"Thank you."

"Be careful."

"Ok."

Nicole hung up and sat down picking a call already smiling.

\*\*\*

The following morning, Rragwe Trevor walked with Ranewa in the house and led her to her bedroom. He smiled as she sat down.

"Your things will be here just now. Someone will help you."

She nodded. "Thank you. Did you talk to Trevor?"

"Yes but he's already left the country, he will be back next week."

"He left with his girlfriend."

"No. I made sure of it. It's a work trip."

Ranewa sighed. "Thank you."

“You are welcome my girl.” He smiled staring at her. Just being in her presence made him happy.

THEEW MONTHS LATER

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#70

Three Months Later...

At Trevor’s grandfather’s house, relatives gathered around, some chatting between themselves waiting. Ranewa looked at her family and looked at the door wondering where he was.

Trevor’s grandfather finally walked in with rragwe Trevor and Trevor’s uncle though Trevor still hadn’t arrived. She took a deep breath quietly sitting next to her aunt dressed in her German print skirt and a white long sleeved shirt. She fixed her tsâle and put her hands on her lap looking at her big diamond ring sparkling. She fixed it and took a deep breath, a dork in her head like a proper wife.

The room went silent as they sat down. Ranewa looked at mmagwe Trevor seated with her in-laws unbothered that her son still hadn’t arrived.

By now Ranewa knew she wasn’t her mother in-laws most favorite person.

Trevor’s grandfather cleared his throat about to talk. The door opened then Ken walked in with Trevor, both in suits. Ranewa took a deep breath staring at him, suits always looked good on him, made him look like a sexy business tycoon.

Before marrying him, she had always imagined how it would feel to fix his tie in the mornings before he would go to work.



She took a deep breath as he sat down his brother, he had no tie on and the first two buttons of his shirt were unbuttoned.

His fresh haircut made him look even more handsome.

His grandfather spoke. "Le tswa kae Trevor? This meeting was scheduled for 7 on the dot. Is it seven?"

Ken looked at him. "The car had a breakdown me. Re kopa maitswarelo bagolo." He looked at Trevor's father-in-law. "It won't happen again."

Trevor's uncle stood up and looked at everyone..

"Bagolo, re kopa maitswarelo from the Mbakiwe's to you. We could have long started this meeting, please forgive us. We are here to help our children. Most of you were here when we united them. We know the circumstances that made his marriage happen but we have been hearing about the issues going on in this marriage. Our daughter here came to us with a few issues that she felt we could assist her with as we are her family. Uh ... after hearing the issues we just knew we needed to address them together as a family because bana ba ke barona. That is why we are all here this morning. I will quickly summarize the issues. Mma Mbakiwe alerted us that since the day of the marriage, there's never been a husband and wife relationship between herself and Trevor. She made us aware that Trevor hasn't been putting any effort into this marriage and that it's been hard trying to show him she is there as his wife. We therefore sat down with Trevor concerning his wife's concerns and that is when he let us in on what was going on."

The uncle rubbed his hands together looking at Ranewa.

"What I am about to say will shock most of us, Trevor was at least honest and he told us about the other woman that Mma Mbakiwe knows about. He also told us that his wife had given consent to take her as his second wife."

Ranewa's aunt clapped her hands. "Second wife? How long have they been married? Five months and already second wife when he hasn't even slept with her? He doesn't sleep home. Doesn't care about her and he wants to take lebelele la gagwe gore... hey! Lareng!?"

Ranewa's uncle look at her. "Let him finish."

"He is finished. They brought us here to convince us into agreeing to that nonsense. No sane woman would agree to that nonsense. I thought we

were here to help them but it seems not. You want your son to freely cheat now under her nose?”

“Mogogi!” The eldest uncle looked at her silencing her immediately.

Trevor’s uncle continued. “We know it’s upsetting and disappointing. That’s exactly how we felt when he told us but he said marrying the other woman would bring balance to his life. He said he has been struggling with Ranewa but with the other one around it will make things much easier for him and everyone else.”

He sat down. Ranewa’s older uncle stood up.

“Re utule. But to say we are disappointed will be putting it lightly. This is not what we expected. We expected to hear what your thoughts are on helping them consent this marriage. We were hoping you tell us what you have done so far so that we can help on the other side but it seems you all think we are fools here. You took our daughter promising to love and cherish her, to be respect her and this is what she gets?”

Ranewa’s other aunt shook her head. “What they are saying is unheard of. Isn’t Ranewa a woman enough? Why do you need another wife when she’s there?”

The other uncle also spoke. “Gomo ke lenyatso! Such won’t happen!”

The older uncle looked at Rragwe Trevor. “I am very disappointed. I thought you were a respectable man. How could you allow this?”

Rragwe Ranewa also looked at him. “Is this what you took my daughter for? To embarrass her and her family?”

Trevor’s aunt stood up. “Bagolo... ke kopa sebaka ke bue. Tanki. I am one of the people who’s been involved in the issues of this marriage right from day one. I know we are upset. Very upset and disappointed. So are we. We did not expect this at all. But shouting and yelling will not get us anywhere. This is the issue we have at hand. It’s left to Mma Mbakiwe to give us her final say. If she says no then that’s it. We are here to request not to demand.. re tsile ka botho le maitseo. Ranewa, talk to us.”

Ranewa took a deep breath, her hands shaking.

“He can take her as his second wife under customary law.”

Ranewa's aunt laughed. "This is witchcraft. Ranny, you are not forced to say yes. This is nonsense you are agreeing to."

"He can take her as his second wife. If that's what will make things easier for him, he can take her but before he does, I want to carry his child. I want a baby. That's my only request. I want him to get me pregnant then he can go ahead and marry her."

Trevor's aunt nodded. "And that's all that was needed. We are not going to shame them on the things they want. We don't condone it but who are we? Bagolo, that was the point of this meeting, Trevor will do what's expected-"

"I am infertile."

There was more silence as everyone looked at him. Ranewa's aunt clapped.

"Re bereka shock hela."

Rragwe Trevor looked at him. "You are what?"

"I can't get a woman pregnant."

Ranewa looked at him, shocked. "I don't understand?"

"I can't have children. And I have erectile dysfunction. To get it up is a struggle. I have been going to the clinic but they can't help me."

Trevor's father looked at him. "You are infertile?"

"Yes. That's why I had asked my brother that when the time comes, he will help me."

Ranewa chuckled. "How are you sleeping with her if you have erectile dysfunction?"

"Well nothing much happens. She just makes me feel like a man."

Ranewa's uncle frowned. "What is this boy saying?"

His wife looked at him. "Impotence."

Ranewa sighed. "And I can't make you feel like a man?"

"You were going to be disappointed."

"I love you. I would have accepted it. I will accept it!"

Ranewa's uncle looked at him. "Why didn't you tell us all along?"

“I didn’t want to get judged and belittled. But it’s fine if Ranewa can’t stay with an infertile man. I am ready to accept it.”

Ranewa stood up then went and sat down by his legs.

“That was never going to be a reason for me to walk away. I love you. I am not going anywhere.”

\*

Thirty minutes later, they all walked out. Ranewa walked besides Trevor holding his hand, she smiled right by his side.

It made sense why he had said sex was not his thing. And now she knew exactly how the other woman was making him feel like he needed her. She was obviously stroking his ego, making him feel worshiped and now that she knew, she was going to do it better.

He looked at her then she smiled. “I am moving back to our house.”

“Ok. Should I arrange with Ken so we start trying for a baby?”

“What did the doctor say?”

“That I have low sperm count.”

“Has she started trying to get pregnant? With Ken?”

Trevor looked at her and nodded. She smiled.

“Ok. Uh I want you to make love to me before I try anything with your brother.”

“Ok..but I want us to sign a court order at court to make sure Ken knows what’s required of him, where the boundaries are and also that you agree.”

“That’s ok with me.”

“Perfect. It’s after lunch. We don’t need anyone there. Maybe you can bring a friend? Or your cousin.”

“Ok.”

He smiled and hugged her. Ranewa smiled wrapping her arms around him. He held her tightly for minutes then moved and french kissed her.

From a distance, relatives watched as they kissed each other near Trevor's car. He smiled releasing her lips.

"I feel relieved now that you know."

She smiled more than happy. "I love you. I will stand with you.

He smiled. "Can we pass by my office and discuss it with my lawyer."

"Ok. Let me talk to my cousin."

Ranewa walked over to her cousin. "Couzie, are you busy later?"

"No I am going home."

"Ok. I will come and pick you up at lunch. Bye."

"He's going to try and make you guys work?"

"Yes. There won't be a second wife now that I know. That girl thinks she's smart. I will outsmart her. Apparently she's already sleeping with the neither to get pregnant. I am going to talk to a doctor. There must be a way we can have a child. One of our own. She will not step a foot into my house. I am the only Mrs. Trevor Mbakiwe!"

"That's my girl."

Ranewa walked back to Trevor and got in his car with him. He held her hand as he drove off headed to his offices.

\*

At Trevor's company, Trevor held Ranewa's hand as they went up to his office using the elevator in the underground garage. They walked to his office passing his PA and found his lawyer ready.

Trevor smiled. "This is my wife, Ranny. Ranny, that's my lawyer. He will be handling our issues. We will meet Ken in Court. He just needs our signatures on a few documents. Do you want a lawyer too or we can use him?"

"We can use him."

They both sat down as the lawyer handed them multiple documents. Trevor kissed her cheek.

“Do you want to read them again? I have already read them.

“No. I trust you.”

She took a pen and signed them. He signed his too then he handed all of them to his lawyer.

“Thank you.”

“You are welcome. See you in court.”

He walked out. Trevor smiled. “Are you in a rush or should I get us lunch?”

“We can have lunch.”

He smiled and walked out. Ranewa laughed unable to contain her happiness.

\*\*\*

At TN Global Holdings Offices, Nolo walked out of the building holding a few documents in her hand and her phone.

She unlocked her Porsche and got in just as her phone started ringing.

She started the engine and connected her phone to the car and picked driving off.

“Hi..”

His voice filled the entire car making her smile immediately.

“Hey babe, where are you?”

“I got those documents from the offices. I am going to drop them off. I hope we get that tender. It’s what we need to get TN off the ground.”

“We are getting it. Don’t stress. But will you manage your job and the companies? The tender needs a lot of attention.”

“I know. I am working on my resignation letter. I got an email from the lodge. It’s done. The renovation, you should see it. It’s beautiful ..”

“Maybe we can go this coming weekend?”

“Yes. How did it go?”

“Well.”

“Well?”

“Yes.”

She smiled. “Ok. Uh Nicole and I are going out later. She says she’s tired being indoors.”

“Where?”

“You are not invited.”

“Hey wena!”

Nolo turned to the voice and looked at the SSG open Van. All of them looked at her including the ones at the back. The driver smiled.

“You are beautiful, what’s your name?”

“My name is Trevor’s girlfriend.”

He laughed. “Trevor’s girlfriend, why are you this beautiful?”

“I don’t know. Ask my mother.”

“Trevor’s girlfriend, can I take you out?”

“No.”

She rolled up her window driving off as the traffic light that had stopped her turned green.

“Trevor’s girlfriend, who were you talking to?”

Nolo smiled. “An SSG.”

“Nxla, ba twaela batho dilo tse! What does he think? That a woman like you can just be single?”

She laughed. “Bye!”

His voice softened. “I love you.”

Nolo smiled. “See you later...”

She hung up taking a turn.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#71

After lunch at High Court, Ranewa sat with Trevor and their lawyer while Ken and her cousin sat behind them.

They were the only people in court expect court security.

The judge looked at them. "The documents..."

Trevor's lawyer quickly stood up and gave them to him. The judge looked through them and sighed.

"Do you Mrs. Ranewa Mbakiwe understand and consent without fear to this agreement?"

Ranewa stood up. "I do your honor."

The judge looked at Trevor and asked the same question.

Trevor stood up. "I do."

"This court rules in the favor of both Trevor Mbakiwe and Ranewa Mbakiwe. Court Adjourned!"

Minutes later they all walked out. Ranewa looked at Trevor's lawyer.

"Thank you."

The lawyer smiled. "You are welcome."

He walked away. Trevor looked at Ranewa.

"I am going back to work, where should I take you?"

"You can drop my cousin off at her house. You will take to your father's house from there on."

"I am not going home Ranny. I am going to a friend's house in Tlokweng."

Trevor nodded. "Then I will drop you off at home then your cousin right?"

"Ok. But isn't Tlokweng far? You have to go back to work."

"It's ok. I will drop her off."

They all got in the car then he drove off. He dropped off Ranewa at his parents house. Ranewa walked to his window and kissed him.

"From here I am going to our house . I will see you later."



“Ok.”

He drove off as she walked to the door. Trevor slowed down at a T-junction then Ranewa’s cousin quickly jumped to the front seat and laughed.

“Sorry... it just looks weird being at the backseat.”

He looked at her. “Ok.”

“My cousin is so lucky to have you for a husband.”

Trevor stepped on the accelerator speeding off.

“Thanks.”

She put her hand on his thigh laughing. “I have never believed in erectile dysfunctions before. I believe a man needs the rightful woman to have that inner beast out. When last did anyone suck your dick like they could die on it?”

Trevor looked at her in shock. She put her hand on his dick. He quickly pushed off her hand

“What the fuck are you doing?”

She smiled. “I am trying to help you. No one has to know. I promise you. I am doing this for my cousin. You need a real woman.”

Trevor dropped the car on the side of the road.

“I don’t need you to do anything for me. Get out of my car.”

“Trevor-“

“Do I look like I fuck prostitutes?”

She stopped smiling. “I am going to tell her you tried to touch me inappropriately.. who do you think she will believe? Already you are cheating.”

“Get out of my car! And tell her whatever, I don’t give two fucks, whore!”

She slowly got out. Trevor reached for her handbag and threw it at her then drove off.

Ranewa’s cousin looked around embarrassed and walked away wondering if he will tell her. She’d lose all the benefits she was getting from Ranewa.

She took a deep breath in and called her.

“Hello?”

She started crying. “Couzie..”

“What’s wrong?”

“Trevor tried to harass me. I jumped out of his car.”

“What?”

“He was touching inappropriately saying he needs a real woman by his side. I feel violated.” She cried even more.

\*\*\*

With only a white towel wrapped around her naked wet body, Ranewa held her phone listening to her cousin crying. She swallowed guiltily.

“I am sorry. I... I don’t know what to say.”

“I jumped out of the car. I should have just gotten a combi.”

“I am so.. please don’t tell anyone.”

“Ok.”

Ranewa hung up and called him.

“Hi.”

“I thought we were trying to make this work! Now you are trying to fuck my cousin?”

“Your cousin who doesn’t bath? Do I look that desperate to you?”

“You were sexually harassing her! I know everything, she told me! How could you? Now you want to cheat with my family, with someone I consider a sister?”

“I don’t have time for this. You are starting to look shabby by the way, you are starting to look like her because you are always around her. How do you not see that girl is bad news?”

“You are sick!”

Trevor hung up. Rragwe Trevor walked inside her room as she looked at her phone. She turned and looked at him.

“Are you ok?”

Tears filled her eyes. “Trevor wants to sleep with my cousin now. He was going to drop her off and now he was sexually harassing her.” She dropped her phone and put her hands on her face crying. Rragwe Trevor hugged her..

“It’s ok. I am here.”

He rubbed her back then sat down and pulled her to his lap. He put his hand on her thigh while she cried on his chest.

He rubbed her thigh.

“I can make it all better.”

“I just want him to act right.”

“And he will. Once you are carrying his child. I am his father. He doesn’t have to know I helped him. He will never look at you the same if he knows you slept with his brother. He said he has low sperm count. That doesn’t make him 100% infertile. He just needs assistance. Even if he does DNA tests, he will never know the truth and either way, chances are that the child will look exactly like him. He will leave that woman because you would have given him what he’s been craving for. He will love you.”

Ranewa stopped crying looking at him in shock of what he was suggesting. He laid her down.

“This is the only way.. no one should ever know. You will carry a Mbakiwe seed. A strong one and you will give him a son. I am just helping him be a father.”

He slowly took off the towel around her body and looked at her nakedness, his dick getting hard. He leaned over and kissed her, Ranewa remained still trying to comprehend what was happening.

He sucked her little guava sized breast, his mouth around the entire breast then opened her legs. His heart pounded as he looked at her pinkish flesh. Clean and beautiful. He leaned over and sucked.

Ranewa's body reacted as she just watched. He sucked her even more. She closed her eyes at the pleasure, her mouth open. He sucked her till

her legs shook, she opened her mouth but nothing came out as she spasmed, her toes curling.

He looked at her tiny hole, it looked untouched. He took out his dick, and stroked himself his dick then pushed her entrance. Her pussy stretched as he lowered himself inside. He grunted shaking at the pleasure. Ranewa pressed her lips together as he started thrusting into her breathing heavily. He went even faster, his butt clenching in his pants. The bed shook as he went even faster grunting louder. Ranewa breathed out at the pleasure. He screamed giving her the final thrust and offloaded inside her. He got off her breathing heavily, his legs shaking. Ranewa opened her eyes and looked at him as his short thick dick shrunk. He put it back in his pants and kissed her.

“We will keep trying. You don’t have to move out till you are pregnant.”

She silently looked at him as he hurried out lesbian her with her legs still open, confusion keeping her still.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#72

Just after dusk, Nolo finished up her light make-up listening to Brandy and Monica while moving her head singing along. She squeezed curl activator gel in her hands and applied it to her short afro that had now dyed back to black. She carefully did her baby hairs singing loudly.

“You need to give it up.. had about enough, it’s not hard to see the boy is mine..”

She finished up then got up and looked at herself. She looked at Trevor through the mirror as he walked in. Nolo locked eyes with him and smiled blushing at just the way he was looking at her.

He folded the sleeves of his shirt walking over. Trevor wrapped his arms around her and kissed her neck.

“Hey...”

Nolo smiled. “Hi.”

He turned her around and kissed her hard pushing her against the wall. Trevor put his hand inside her dress and inside her panty.

She breath heavily as he slid his fingers between her pussy lips. Nolo touched his shoulders surprised at his intensity. He left her pussy then put his hands on the side of her thong ripping it releasing swollen lips.

He unzipped his pants and got closer curving his back and slid through parting her pussy lips and through her flaps sinking into her wet warmness grunting. He pushed his entire dick , Nolo closed her eyes feeling stuffed. He pushed her thick thighs together and slid out before pushing back in harder. She screamed into his neck pulling his shirt.

Trevor groaned in her ear ravishing her. She closed her eyes, her face on his shoulder. Her pussy got even wetter as she moaned, the pleasure making her skin itch. He drilled her undisturbed for minutes till she started shaking, her moans getting even louder.

“Awww Trevooor ahh...”

He grunted as her pussy twitched narrowing on him sucking him back in whenever he slid out. He continuously tapped all her sweet corners moving his waist like he was dancing to rumba.

She closed her eyes unable to take the pleasure anymore, tears filling her eyes.

“Awww please...”

He whispered in her ear giving it all to her. “It’s all yours... just yours... you are so beautiful, I fucking love you, cum for me baby..”

She looked at him unable to breathe, her nails pushing through his shirt as he continued fucking her.

Her body stiffened, each stroke threatening to snatch her soul out of her body. He slid out letting her gasp in some air and pushed through her thick thighs back into her honeypot.

She burst into loud cry squatting, pleasure freezing and unfreezing her brain leaving mash and disoriented as her pussy continued letting it out.

Trevor sank his teeth into her neck going harder and froze lodged deep in her pussy. His dick pulsated offloading inside her.

He moved his mouth and kissed her muffling her cries.

He hugged her and closed his eyes. "I love you more than anything Onolo."

She held him tightly sobbing. He slid out and picked her up and laid on the bed with her. Her sobs soon died down till she was all silent breathing calmly. He looked at her realizing she had slipped into a deep sleep. Trevor took a deep breath and kissed her forehead.

His phone rang minutes later waking her up. He took it out from his pocket and picked.

"Bakang..."

"Are you coming? Ya tsameka Barcelona."

"I am coming."

"Sure! By the way, if I were you I would have had my cake and eaten it too. I mean, two woman! Ahh wena Tereva monna! Ga re go batle ko Men's Conference!"

"O bua masepa!"

Trevor hung up and looked at Nolo. She buried her face on his chest smiling.

"Hey..."

He moved her head, she smiled embarrassed. "It was painful."

He laughed and caressed her face. "Where was it painful?"

She giggled. "I don't know. You are trying to initiate me. Gomo ke bo satanism."

He laughed even more. "I thought it was the other way around."

"It was never the other way round."

His phone rang again. She got off bed and kicked off her heels. She walked to the bathroom while he picked his father's call.

"Papa.."

"Since when are you impotent?"

"I have been. You just don't know it."

"There's a traditional doctor I know."

"No. I am fine the way I am."

“Onolo is fine with it?”

“Yes.”

“If you need help, tell me. You don’t have to be ashamed.”

“Thanks.”

“I don’t think Ranewa’s family will agree to what you want.

Nolo walked out of the bathroom naked. Trevor watched as she walked inside her walk in her closet and walked out with another dress. She put on her thong, the string disappearing in-between her thick butt.

“It’s fine. I told you I am not in a rush to. We can give them time to adjust. Did you talk to G concerning what I told you yesterday?”

“Yes. Don’t worry about it.”

“Thank you.”

Nolo put on the dress then her heels. She sat down touching her face.

“I am glad you agreed to making it work with Ranny. She’s a good girl.”

“Yeah. I have to go. We will talk tomorrow.”

“Ok my boy.”

He hung up and got off bed. Nolo sprayed her fragrance then stood up. Trevor hugged her.

“Do you want me to pick you up later?”

She smiled. “No. I am going with my car. But thank you.”

He kissed her cheek just as Nicole knocked.

“Nolo!”

Nolo picked her handbag and walked out with him behind her. Nicole looked at them walking in wearing a sparkling black maternity dress.

Trevor smiled. “Hi Nicky...”

Nicole smiled back. “Trevor.”

Trevor kissed Nolo. “We will talk.”

She nodded. He walked out. Nicole looked at her sister and laughed looking at the smile on her face.

“He fed you something I swear.”

Nolo laughed. “Let’s go!”

\*\*\*

At Trevor’s house, Ranewa sat still after finishing cooking. Minutes passed as she sat still.

Trevor walked inside the house a while later and paused looking at her. She turned to him and stood.

She blinked as tears started rolling down. She finally put her hands and cried. Trevor looked at her confused.

He slowly walked over. “What’s going on?”

She walked into his arms crying more.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#73

At Trevor’s house, Trevor rubbed her back till she was silent. He moved back and sighed.

“What’s wrong?”

“I want to move back in. Can you please arrange for my bags to get brought here?”

He nodded. “Yes. Did something happen?”

She looked at him and shook her head tearfully. “No...”

“What happened? Was it my mother? My dad?”

She shook her head wiping a tear that had rolled down. Trevor took a deep breath.

“I didn’t touch your cousin. She tried to touch me saying she doesn’t believe in erectile dysfunctions and that she believes I need a real



woman's touch. She touched me and I kicked her out of my car. Your cousin is nothing of what I would ever want. She thought I was going to tell you so what better way to protect herself than tell you her version of the story first. Believe me or not."

She looked at him. "She would never hurt me like that."

"You can believe anything you want. Just be careful, you may be keeping a snake as a pet. In the future you might cry."

She sniffed. "I cooked."

"I am going to watch the game with Bakang and Ken. It's about to start."

"I don't want to eat alone. Trevor please..."

"I will be late if I sit to eat."

Ranewa moved closer and touched his white shirt.

"There's makeup on your shirt..."

He looked and sighed. "Let me change."

"And you smell like her. You were with her before you came here. You said you are going to try. Why can't you give me attention like you were giving her attention. You won't even eat with me."

"You can dish."

He went up to his bedroom unbuttoning his shirt.

\*

Ranewa walked to the kitchen and heated everything then dished. She looked at his plate and quickly took out the small sachet from her bra and opened it. She poured the powdered contents in his food and mixed it nicely.

She poured him juice and took another sachet with more powder and poured it inside. She mixed his juice with a spoon and put everything on the dining table.

She sat down with her plate and juice. Trevor walked over minutes later. He looked at his plate then sat down.

Ranewa smiled. "Thank you."

He nodded and picked his fork. She smiled even more.

"I wanted to tell you that my job was temporary, the person I was holding for came back so I am bring let go. I was thinking maybe I can join you at your company. Maybe you can find me something."

Trevor put the food in his mouth. Ranewa watched as he swallowed. He paused at the bitter after taste of the food then picked the glass of juice and took a sip.

"Are you ok?"

He coughed. "You cooked this?"

"Yes. What's wrong?"

He shook his head. "There's just a... bitter after taste."

"The spices? I got new spices."

"Maybe ..."

His phone rang. He stood up taking out his phone.

Ranewa looked at him. "I am sorry. Uh... wash it down with juice." She stood up and handed him the juice.

Trevor shook his head feeling a bit funny.

"It's ok. But thanks."

He walked out picking.

"Babe..."

Nolo giggled. "Hi. Are you coming home tonight?"

"Yes."

"Ok. I miss you."

Trevor blinked. "Me too... I feel funny."

"What is it?"

"I don't know. Dizzy. But just a bit."

"Are you with Bakang?"

“No. I thought I’d go home and change. I found Ranewa and she wanted us to eat together. The food had a weird aftertaste. I think it’s her new spices, maybe I am allergic.”

Ranewa walked over holding water.

“Here is water. Drink this. I am sorry.”

“It’s ok. I feel fine now.”

“You don’t. Just drink water.”

He took the glass and drank a bit then handed it back. She looked at him as he struggled to fight off the dizziness.

She walked back in the house smiling. Trevor took a deep breath.

“How do you feel now?”

“Something is wrong.”

\*\*\*

At the bar, Nolo looked around outside holding her phone.

“Still dizzy?”

“Yeah.. fuck!”

“Did... do you think she put something in your food?”

There was silence.

“Hello? Hello? Trevor?!”

Her heart pounded. She hung up scrolled through her contact list. Nicole walked over.

“Hey, everything ok?”

“Yes. Can I attend to something real quick... I will be back I promise. I am sorry.”

She kissed her cheek then hurried to her car calling Ranewa.

She unlocked her car and jumped in just as Ranewa answered.

“Hey Nolo...”

“Hey, where are you?”

“Home with my husband.”

Nolo started her car and drove off.

“Nice. Finally he came around?”

“Sort of. We had a family meeting today. I think things will work out.”

“That’s good. Hey, remember those set of heels you had that day? Can you please borrow me.. I have an event I am supposed to attend and those heels are what’s missing from my outfit.”

“The silver ones?”

“Yes.”

“You are do lucky, I decided to wear those today, I have been staying with my in-laws so today I thought Trevor and I would just spend the evening together do I wore them. I can have them delivered to you.”

“I am already driving. How about I just pass by?”

“Ok.”

“I will be there just now.”

Nolo hung up stepping on the accelerator.

\*\*\*

At Trevor’s house, Ranewa bit her lower lip dragging Trevor’s heavy body in the house. She stopped for a second breathing heavily and continued dragging him inside till he was inside. She took him to the sitting room and left him on the carpet. The sedative had worked faster than she expected.

Her phone rang.

“Nolo...”

“Open the gate.”

She picked the gate remote and opened. She picked the heels from the floor and walked outside as Nolo parked her near the door.

She stepped out of her car looking at Trevor's Benz. Ranewa smiled.

"Hi."

Nolo looked at her. "Hey, can I please use your toilet? I am pressed."

Ranewa frowned. "Uh... there's one the security guard's office. He's not in today so you can use it."

"Girl come on..."

"I don't want to turn Trevor off. He doesn't really like you especially after that incident when I got drunk at your house. He doesn't like you."

"I just want to pee then I am gone."

"I just want to have a wonderful night with him. He doesn't like you. He hates you. Thinks you are a ratchet. I am sorry but you can use the one there. It's clean and nice."

Nolo looked at her breathing heavily.

"He hates me? Is he inside right now?"

"Yes and-"

Nolo pushed to the walking inside the house. She stopped looking at him lying on the carpet unconscious.

"What's wrong with him?"

Ranewa looked at her. "You need to leave!"

Nolo walked over to him and knelt before him.

"What did you do to him?"

"He is fine. He's ok."

"What did you do to him?!"

"It's just a sedative. He will wake up in an hour. I have to make my marriage work. I need a child."

Nolo looked at her. "So you want to rape him?"

"There's no rape between married people. Please leave."

Nolo stood up. "I am not going anywhere till he wakes up."

"I don't want to call security!"

“You don’t! Trust me you don’t!”

“Leave my house!”

“This is not your house. It’s never been and it will never be. He’s never going to love you. You are a pathetic desperate fool. Now I am starting to wonder if really you got raped or you were trying to get him to love you by making him feel guilty.”

“I would never lie about something like that. And yes I am desperate. You don’t understand my position, you have no stand to judge me while you fuck married men! The bigger fool here is you who get used by men who don’t love you. No wonder you were getting abused. It makes sense because you are very stupid and gullible or maybe you just got it from your mother.”

Nolo laughed. “I pity you. If indeed you were raped you deserved it. Now you want to rape him with your infested vagina. They didn’t rape you enough because if they did you wouldn’t be trying to rape another person. You are such a joke. After this, say goodbye to him even trying to at least care or pretend to. This was the last nail to the coffin sweetie... you might as well just leave because there’s no coming back from this..”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#74

Over an hour later, Nolo looked at Trevor still unconscious. She looked at Ranewa.

“It’s been an hour.”

“The doctor I got the pills from said they... work for an hour and...” She sighed tearfully. “He should be waking up.”

“Why are you still trying?”

Ranewa blinked. “Because I am scared of failing this one thing. Because ever since I was teenager, he’s all I was told. Because I am hopeful. I love him.”

“Do you? Or you are in love with the dreams you were sold. The fantasy you dreamt of.”

Ranewa shook her head. “No. I love him. I swear I am not a bad person. I am not bad person.”

“I don’t think he loves you or even wants to try. I wish you’d stop trying and...” Nolo smiled. “Reflect and regroup. There is nothing for you in this relationship. The aunts and everyone else will talk about how marriage is supposed to be.. worked for. How love is not easy. I heard all that when I was young. My mother would always get told it will get better... it never did. Sometimes I wish she had given herself time to reflect. I wish you can do that. Love is nice. It’s .. I don’t know how to explain it but I know it’s not supposed to be like this.”

“I just want a baby.”

“Will a baby... solve things?”

“Its worth a try.”

“I don’t think so. How many men still abandon their children? That’s just setting that child for a painful life. A baby doesn’t solve anything.”

“We are married. He won’t have a choice but to stay.”

Nolo stood up and walked over to the kitchen and came back with a bottle of cold water.

Ranewa stood up. “You don’t understand the amount of pressure I am under. I am at the verge, I am scared of what lies ahead. I am just trying to hold on to my own. He wants to marry the other woman. I need that baby to help me fight for this marriage.”

“No... he wants nothing of this. You are the other woman in this equation. You are the other one... I am sorry. I know it must be painful but I will not let you do what you want to do to him.”

“Please don’t tell him.”

Nolo opened the bottle of water and poured it on his face. He gasped swallowing some and started coughing turning to his side. Ranewa quickly knelt before him.

“Hey... baby, are you ok?”

He coughed more waking up. Nolo watched as Ranewa cupped his face.

“Hey..” She kissed him. Nolo dropped the bottle watching him blink. He slowly sat upright. Ranewa smiled.

“I was so scared. I called my friend to help me. I found you unconscious in the car. Are you ok?”

Trevor looked at Nolo as she looked at him in silence.

“I am fine.”

He slid got up and staggered backwards dizzy.

“What was in .. the food?”

“Uh... some spices and a few things. It’s a new recipe.”

He rubbed his eyes and looked at Nolo. Ranewa smiled.

“That’s my friend.”

Trevor smiled. “Hi.”

Nolo smiled back. “Hi. I think you need... to see a doctor. Incase it was an allergic reaction.”

Ranewa nodded. “Yeah but I think it will wear off. He just needs to sleep it off.”

Trevor took a deep breath. “I think Nolo is right. I need to see a doctor. Where are you going Nolo? Maybe you can drop me off. I don’t think I can drive. I will ask my friend to pick me from the hospital.”

“I can drop you off baby. It’s ok. I don’t mind.”

Trevor looked at Ranewa. “Its ok. I am sure Nolo doesn’t mind or you mind?”

“No. I will wait outside in the car.”

Nolo walked out. Ranewa sighed.

“I can drop you off. Nolo has an event she has to attend.”

“She doesn’t mind. I am calling someone to bring your things.”

“I am not comfortable with the set up. Can I just do it?”

“And your things?”

“They can wait.”



“Something was in my food. It’s not just a spice. You did something. I am trying to let this go but you are pushing me. I don’t want to get that food tested. Can you just give me space? You are starting to annoy me. I don’t even understand why you would choose to drug me, I don’t want to push that. Get out of my face, o bata go ntena.”

She stepped back. “Tre-“

“You are pushing me.”

He walked out going to his car. Ranewa walked over to Nolo.

“I am not comfortable. Please say no. Tell him you can’t. Kea go kopa.”

“I am dropping him at the hospital. That’s all.”

“He tried hitting on my cousin today. He was going to drop her off and that’s when he touched her. Forgive me if I am insecure.”

“Your jobless cousin who doesn’t bath?”

“She is self employed. And she’s just dark in complexion.”

“She is not self employed. She’s a leech. And she smells. We will talk tomorrow. I think you need to see someone. You need help Ranny.”

She started her car as Trevor walked over holding his phone. He got in the car. Ranewa moved back as Nolo reversed out.

Ranewa took a deep breath and walk back in the house. She sat down, her hands shaking. She reached for her phone and called her sister.

\*\*\*

Nolo looked at him driving.

“How are you feeling?”

“Sleepy and tired.”

“She said it was sedatives. She wants a baby.”

“I know. I am planning to move to the other house.. Thank you for coming.”

“I wonder what could have happened if...” She took a deep breath. “If you...” She sighed rolling down her window. “I don’t want to deal with

that. If you get anyone out there pregnant, don't think I am going to stick around for that Trevor."

"The only pregnancy you are going to deal with is ours. I promise." He touched her thigh.

She smiled. "Where am I taking you?"

"At Bakang's house."

\*\*\*

At Bakang's house, Nolo parked her car inside the yard. She looked over at the braii going on and a couple of ladies wearing short dresses, the other in shirts.

"Who are those ladies?"

"I am not sure. Bakang's people I think."

"Ok."

He kissed her. "I love you."

"Be careful."

"Eemma."

He stepped out of the car and walked over to the guys. They bumped shoulders greeting him. Bakang and Ken looked over to her car and waved. She smiled and waved back. She looked at one of the ladies walking over to Trevor smiling.

Nolo took off a deep breath watching. She said something to Trevor who nodded and turned walking away with Ken. Nolo sighed and drove off. Her phone rang then she picked her sister's call.

"I am coming."

"Ok. By the way I have company now. I invited a friend after you just left. Be nice when you get here "

"I will be. Is it a he?"

"Yes. But he's a friend."

Nolo smiled. "I hear you."

“Is everything ok?”

“Yes. Ranewa had drugged him to rape him. I stopped her then.. I just dropped him off at his other friend’s house where... I feel like I have left my man with vultures. There are these women who look like.. mxm. I am coming.”

\*

At the bar, Nicole smiled as Nolo walked over.

Nolo smiled looking at the man her sister was with.

“Hello...”

“Hi, how are you?”

Nolo stretched her hand and shook his once. “I am good thank you.”

Nicole smiled. “Uh Nolo, this is MJ, a friend, I met him months back after finding out about Thabiso’s cheating shenanigans. Uh MJ this is my beautiful lovely sister. My only sister and best friend.”

MJ smiled. “Nice meeting you Nolo... I have heard amazing things about you.”

“I gave never heard of you unfortunately.”

Nicole laughed. “There was nothing to tell yet.”

“I am going to get a drink.”

Nolo walked to the bartender. She looked back and looked at her sister laughing really loud with MJ. She smiled knowing she was about to be a third wheel.

Nolo’s phone vibrated. She unlocked the screen and opened a message from Sam.

Sam: So now you are going after my sister’s husband?

Nolo: Next is your father.

Nolo out her phone away and ordered her drink. Minutes passed then she called Trevor.

“Babe..”

“What are you doing? Nna I am not happy, what was that woman saying to you? Areye lapeng. (Let’s go home.)”

He laughed. “I didn’t hear her.”

“Please let’s go home. Should I come and pick you up? You need to rest. We can sleep at a hotel.”

“Ok. You can come.”

Nolo smiled then paid for her drink and walked with it to Nicole and her friend.

“I have to go. Good night.”

She hugged Nicole. “Use a condom.”

Nicole laughed. “I am not like you.”

Nolo laughed then handed MJ her drink and walked out to pick her man.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#75

Early morning, Nolo slowly opened her eyes and see stared at the white ceiling at the hotel. The sedative and everything else came back. She frowned at the slight headache she had, though nothing a painkiller couldn’t fix.

She turned and looked at Trevor. He looked so peaceful and handsome. His beard had grown out. He look like he hadn’t shaved in a while now though he had a fresh haircut. She caught herself caressing his face, she rubbed his lips with her thumb. She leaned over and dropped a soft gentle kiss on his lips.

Nolo slowly got off bed while he slept peacefully, his right hand on his chest. Nolo looked at bare his finger, he had last won his wedding ring on his wedding day. For a split second she thought of his Ranewa but then again... she had a choice. She could leave.

Nolo looked around the hotel room then picked her dress and put it on. She put on her heels then picked her purse and her phone. She paused approaching the door then turned going for the mirror.

Nolo looked at her face and smiled staring at her flawless skin. She smiled alone glad she had decided on not putting on a wig. Her short afro was enough. She pouted her lips then paused as her one night stand moved in his sleep. She walked to the door and walked out, her heels echoing down the hotel passage. She took the stairs to the reception then out through the door walking past a white man.

He turned looking at her as she catwalked to her Porsche Panamera. The lights flashed as she unlocked it then opened the door and got in. She looked at the time and started her engine before driving off.

Her phone rang, she reached for it and picked speeding away.

“My sister...”

“I tried calling you the whole night Onolo!”

Nolo smiled. “I was sleeping.”

“I worry about you. The fact that this man is still married is unsettling. You sleeping with a married man knowingly worries me. Are you not worried that this man will one day just leave you and fix his marriage?”

“I am not.”

“How do you feel lying to me?”

“What do you want me to say? I am not worried. If he goes to his wife it’s ok.”

“He’s married.”

“I am pretty sure he’s aware of his marital status.”

“Do you fear getting sued?”

Nolo laughed. “If she tries it then I will take him and have him pay that money. Besides, it was only two rounds last night, it’s not like I took his dic with.”

“Koore mma I just don’t understand how you sleep with this man.”

Nolo overtook a combi going through an amber traffic light.

“It could have been anyone. Anyone but him.”

“You are right. It could have been anyone. Life could be moving on right now Nicole. But I can’t help that I feel this way about him. I wish I didn’t but these feelings.. they are not going away Nicole. And I tried. It’s hard. I wish I didn’t love him. I don’t even know how it’s possible to love or desire someone like this.”

“I just worry about you.”

“From this conversation I can tell it’s still dry season. We should go out again today and maybe-“

“O bad influence wena, ija.”

Nolo laughed. “I love you too big sis.”

“You won’t be young and beautiful forever! Sharp mma.”

“Are you home?”

“No. But nothing happened! It was late.”

“What’s his story?”

“He was raising children he thought were his but they weren’t. He’s a nice guy. I have to go. Bye.”

“Sharp.”

Nolo hung up and switched on her radio. She tuned in to Yarona FM and hummed to the song playing.

She rolled down her window speeding in the fast lane singing.

Nolo stepped out of her car and opened her gate then she drove through and drove in the yard as the landlord walked out with his wife.

Nolo smiled waving, the husband waved back as his wife just stared. Unbothered, Nolo drove to her bachelor pad at the back and parked near the veranda singing.

“Sometimes love comes around and it knocks you down..”

Her phone rang as she turned off her engine. Nolo picked stepping out of the car taking out her door keys.

“Hello?”

“Hi, so you just left?”

She unlocked her door and walked in smiling.

“Who’s this?”

“The sex worker you met last night.”

She laughed. “I thought I thanked you for your services.”

“No you didn’t. I am very expensive by the way.”

“I will ewallet your millions.”

Trevor laughed. “What time are you knocking off today?”

“Lunch hour.”

“I will pick you up at your house. Pack a few clothes.”

“Ok.”

“I love you.”

She smiled. “Bye.”

Over two hours later, Nolo walked out of her house with her perfectly done make-up pulling down her blue pencil skirt while holding her handbag and a flask in one hand. Maureen walked over still wearing her pink morning gown with a dork covering her braids. Nolo smiled politely.

“Hello...”

She looked at Nolo inhaling her fragrance from where she was standing.

“Hi. I just wanted to say I would appreciate it if you didn’t play your music so loud gautswa dibareng because some of us have infants gape you will be disturbing us. You just can’t come at 6 in the morning playing loud music like that. My kids will be sleeping.”

Nolo looked at herself on her car then fixed her white crisp shirt smiling.

“Is that all?”

“Yes.”

Nolo got in her car and sipped her coffee then started her engine.

“I hear you. Bye!”

Nolo reversed and drove off turning up her music.

\*

Maureen rolled her eyes annoyed then walked inside the big house calling her friend.

“Natasha...”

“Waitse mma I am close to kicking that girl out of my house. Koore I have had it with that girl.”

“Which girl?”

“The tenant. Kana in the morning ke ha a goroga at six in the morning, kana that’s her usual time atswa dibareng. She comes playing music as if my house is a shebeen. From there she goes on to greet my husband, she wasn’t even looking at me to acknowledge that I am there. So now I was telling her about the noise in the morning. She didn’t even apologize, she just got into that car of hers and left.”

“You should have never let her rent that house. She’s a problem.”

“Thamma next month she won’t be here. Kana she just came from Jwaneng, she was working at the mine but got promoted or whatever to Gabs Mme she’s a ratchet.”

“Ng ng, mo kobe. (Kick her out!)”

\*\*\*

At MJ's house, Nicole walked out of the guest bedroom and smiled looking at MJ who was frying something in the kitchen.

She smiled walking over.

“Hi..”

MJ smiled. “Hey, you can sit. I am done.”

“Are you going to work?”

“No.. later.”

Nicole sat down on the kitchen stool and smiled as he dished for her.

“I can already tell you cook better than my sister.”

He laughed. “I will take that as a compliment. How are you feeling?”



“Fine, thanks. Thank you for letting me sleep here tonight.”

“It’s ok.. any day. Did you manage to get hold of Nolo?”

“Yes. Seems she was with the man she’s seeing. Whenever he’s with him, we all don’t exist.”

“Kana love e maswe.”

She laughed. “Today was the first time she openly admitted to love him.. she’s never been someone keen on falling in love but with him it’s so different, it’s scary.”

“It’s always those who claim to hate love that fall the hardest.”

They both laughed then he sat down next to her.

\*\*\*

At Trevor’s house, Ranewa sent out her job applications. Her phone rang then she picked.

“Hello?”

Ranewa took a deep breath listening to her father in law. “Hello...”

“Is Trevor home?”

“No.”

“Ok, I am coming there right now.”

He hung up. Ranewa stood up and paced frustratedly. But then maybe she could use the old man to her own advantage. She sat down patiently waiting.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#76

Later that morning at Revor Energies, Trevor walked to his office after finishing up an intense presentation with the major shareholders of his company. Ken walked behind him and looked at him.

“I didn’t think that’s the direction you wanted to take when you opened this company.”

“No. But there’s a gap in the market. This is expanding. Mining coal will be a jackpot. Electricity has shit load of money. Imagine what we could do. The kind of money we would generate per day. Already we offer perochemical derivatives, crude oil, and natural gas, see how much we make a day. Imagine with electricity and everything else..”

Ken nodded. “It’s a jackpot. I know. And TN Global Holdings?”

“That’s Nolo’s baby. She has a good plan. With that 2million tender she will be fine. I am just an investor in the background.”

“She is smart.”

Trevor smiled sitting down. “She thinks outside the box. Challenges me.”

“I know. I know she encouraged the coal mining. Matter of fact, she gave you that idea.”

He laughed. “She thinks outside the box. And honestly I didn’t see it till she had me imagine it. Coal is just the tip of it.”

“This is the rightful woman for you.”

“I am lucky, I know.”

Ken smiled. “Let me go. I will fill in Papa.”

“Sure!”

Ken walked out. Trevor reached for his phone and called his PA.

“Sir...”

“Come.”

He out down the phone and opened his laptop as she walked in. Trevor looked at her.

“I am flying out to the Delta with Onolo today. Book us into the Riverfront Lodge. I will send you an email of what I want the room to look like. We will drive there from the airport so arrange for a car. Big wheels, the road that side is bumpy.”

“Ok.”

“Did you order that slice of cake?”

“Yes, it just got delivered to her office.”

“Thanks.”

She walked to it as he picked his ringing phone. She took a deep breath sitting by her desk and picked her phone continuing her conversation with her friend.

“Waitse mma nna I wouldn't mind being a side chick to my boss..”

The friend laughed. “O simolotse.”

“I am telling you. Waitse the way this girl gets spoiled is not normal. Just two weeks back there were in Mauritius. They came back and then he got her a Rolex watch mama and red bottoms. The red bottoms had a note gotwe I want to fuck you in these. Then last week moghel got the latest iPhone that came with expensive french perfume. Now gatwe Delta outing for the weekend. Yesterday I had to collect this gorgeous evening gown that was delivered by a South African designer. He's taking it with I think. I don't know what he's planning but I know it's nothing short of class.”

“Kante who's this girl?”

“Monyana o mongwana wa ko Debswana. That woman is gorgeous... waitse she's beautiful. I met her once and hey! I pity the wife.”

“But his wife is beautiful.”

“With her beauty she doesn't compare. Anyways, let me make bookings mma!”

The friend laughed. “Sharp chomi.”

\*\*\*

At Trevor's house, Ranewa took a deep breath as rragwe Trevor walked in.

She carefully looked at him. He looked his children though he was chubby with a flabby stomach that made him look like he was pregnant

but all that didn't matter because he was going to be the next president of the country.

He smiled looking at her. "I was very disappointed when Trevor called yesterday saying he wants your belongings delivered here."

"I didn't want to keep burdening your wife. My presence has not been really welcomed into the home so I thought I would give you two space."

"Space for what? She's just like that, you should have just ignored her. She really doesn't matter."

"She matters to me. I want us to get close."

He laughed. "You will never win with that one. I thought we'd try for a baby quickly before I go to my office. With the campaigns soon starting, I won't have so much time on my hands."

Ranewa nodded. He got closer and kissed her groping her butt. She moved her head then he started undressing her.

"So you know Trevor's girlfriend?"

She squeezed her breast. "Yes."

"Why can't you help with her? Like you are helping me get pregnant."

She pushed him to the couch then sat on him.

"You can make the problem just disappear can't you?"

He looked at her breathing heavily. Ranewa took out his dick and lowered her down on it. He squeezed her waist groaning.

"Why can't you just get rid of her? Can't you do it for me daddy?"

"You want me to kill her?"

She started riding him. "Have her killed. You don't have to do it yourself. You are a powerful man with resources to make things happen. Aren't you?"

"I am..."

She went even faster tightening her pussy muscles like she had been taught. He groaned like a dying animal as she fucked him harder, a few more strokes later he grunted releasing. She screamed faking an orgasm.

She got off him. "Will you help me?"

"Yes."

Ranewa smiled. "Thank you daddy."

He smiled then got up fixing his pants and walked out. Ranewa took a deep breath disgusted at herself then walked to her bathroom.

\*\*\*

Rragwe Trevor got in his motorcade and made a call.

"Listen, I need a favor. Come toy office later. I need someone taken care of. Money is ready."

"Ok."

\*\*\*

Later that day, Trevor parked at Nolo's house. She walked out carrying an overnight bag then locked her door and jumped in the car.

Trevor leaned over and kissed her. "Hey."

Nolo smiled. "Hi. Where are we going?"

He kissed her hand. "You will see."

He drove off headed to the airport.

\*\*\*

At a warehouse, rragwe Trevor handed a man a bag of money.

"I want her tongue. Eyes and brain."

"Yes sir!"

"Good. Make sure it's a clean job. I want to hear no stories."

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#77

Hours later in Maun, Nolo yawned as Trevor drove in the gravel road at night. Nolo blinked looking at the lights from a distant away. She sat upright watching them get closer till she could see the lodge.

She smiled as he parked the 4x4 Land Cruiser.

“We are here.”

She smiled. “It’s beautiful.”

“Wait till you see it under daylight.” He leaned over and kissed her then stepped out. He took their bags as she jumped out. Trevor took her hand and led her towards the lodge.

Two ladies smiled.

“Mr. Mbakiwe, welcome.”

Trevor nodded getting the key to their suite. One of the ladies handed Nolo a glass of champagne. Nolo smiled.

“Thank you.”

One of the ladies led them to their suite.

“Enjoy your stay.”

Nolo nodded smiling as she walked away. Trevor unlock the door and opened the door for her. Nolo slowly walked in and froze looking at the beautiful set up. She looked at the floor covered with rose petals then some on the bed. She took a deep breath listening to Ed Sheeran ‘s Thinking Out Loud.

Nolo turned to him.

“This is beautiful.”

He put their bags down and looked in her eyes. “I wanted to tell you the other day that if anything happens to me, you are one thing I won’t regret. I would never get tired of choosing you.”

She blinked looking at him emotionally.

“You are the best thing to ever happen to me. I don’t see my tomorrow without you. This .. I want this forever. I want this everyday all day long.”

She smiled as tears filled her eyes. He cupped her face.

“And I have been thinking I don’t want to rush this but this is everything I have ever wanted and more. God knows he made you for me. There can’t be anyone else baby but you.” He took a ring from his pocket and went down on his knee.

Trevor smile. “Even if you say no, I will not stop asking till you say yes. I will not stop because it can only be you baby... it can only be you. You are soul mate.”

Nolo put her hand over her mouth crying looking at the beautiful ring.

She gasped crying reality settling in.

“Marry me..”

She looked up trying to hold it but she cried more

“Please marry me Onolo Feni.”

She nodded unable to talk. Trevor slipped the ring on her finger. Nolo looked at it looked at him. He hugged her letting her cry on his chest holding him tightly.

\*

A while later, Nolo laid on his chest in silence. She could barely move as she looked at nothing. Trevor kissed her forehead caressing her hip.

Trevor gently moved her head and kissed her.

“I had ordered food for us.”

She shook her head.

“Ok.”

He kissed her again then laid her down and undressed her till she was naked. He picked her up and took her to the bathroom where more rides where and gently lowered her into the water. He undressed and joined

her. He pulled her to his lap so she would straddle him then kissed her squeezing her waist.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Ranewa looked at the time unable to sleep. She picked her phone going on Facebook. She scrolled through her newsfeed then came across a varsity classmates prenatal photoshoot.

She swiped through the pictures till the ones she was with her baby daddy. Ranewa sighed and moved on scrolling then she thoughtfully went to her gallery and went through her wedding pictures. She chose one she had taken alone then changed her Facebook profile picture.

She smiled as people liked the picture and moved on scrolling. She paused coming across a picture Nolo had posted a few hours before of herself in a plane and it seemed she had flown out to somewhere.

She liked the picture and moved on scrolling. Her cousin did a callback. She immediately called her back.

“Hello?”

“Hi couzie, how are you?”

“Fine. I spoke to Trevor and he said he never touched you. You did.”

“I did? Me? Why would I ever do that to you unless he was trying to test me.”

“Maybe. I think it’s best you two kept distance.”

“I understand couzie. Is he there?”

“No.”

“Waitse how I wish we knew who that girl is.”

“It doesn’t matter because I am going to deal with her whether I know her or don’t.”

“Very good. By the way couzie, eish mma I haven’t eaten all day. There’s nothing in the house. People who are owing me have not yet laid me and baby daddy le ene mma hasn’t sent nothing. I am so stressed. I don’t know what I am going to do. I want to go to his house.



Can I please have some money ke pagame. I have a feeling he's cheating."

"Do you think you should go?"

"I am going. If he's cheating, I am going to get arrested I swear. Please borrow me some money. Just P2000 only. I will return it. I also need to lay rent. Eish mma it's hard. I am so depressed."

"Ok. I will send it now. Please do t go anywhere. Get the child something to eat."

"Ok. Thank you couzie."

"Ok."

Ranewa hung up and sent her the money. She went back to scrolling on Facebook distracting herself from calling her father in-law so she can ask if the job was done yet or not.

She smiled unable to wait till she had to comfort him for his loss. She silently hoped she would die a painful death that way even in her next life she would never sleep with married men.

\*\*\*

Later that evening, Nicole laid on her bed and tried calling her sister again but her number didn't go through.

She sent her a message instead. Her phone rang minutes later, Nicole picked her mother's call.

"Mama..."

"Nicole, I am trying to call Nolo. Her number is not going through. Your father was not responding so I hurried him to the hospital. He..." She started crying.

"He's gone... he's gone."

Nolo took a deep breath, her heart skipping.

"What?"

"He's gone... my husband..."

Nicole listened to her mother cry, her own tears filling her eyes.

## *Fires Of Desire*

Fires Of Desire

#78

Nicole put her phone down as the call cut. She put her hand over her mouth surprised at the pain she was feeling. Tears flooded her eyes, she found herself whizzing and crying. She cried till she couldn't then took her phone and tried calling Nolo again but her phone was still not going through.

She picked her car keys and walked out locking behind her. Nicole started her car picking her ringing phone.

"Hello?"

"Hey, are you already sleeping?"

"No. My... my mother just called. My father is dead.. I need to tell my sister. I need to let her know." She sniffed.

"I don't think you should drive in your state. Let me come and pick you up. Give me ten minutes. I will be there just now."

Nicole put her phone down, tears rolling down her cheeks down to her neck.

Over ten minutes later, MJ parked next to her and stepped out of the car. He opened her door and helped her out.

"He's dead... I should be happy.."

He hugged her. "It's ok to cry. It's ok to be hurt. Don't beat yourself up for it. It's ok. It just shows that you are human. You are only human."

"He's dead... he's..."

She cried more. MJ rubbed her back.

"I need to tell Nolo... let's go."

He helped her inside his car and jumped in.

\*\*\*

At Nolo's house, Nicole walked past Nolo's car and the company car then knocked on the door.

"Nolo! Nolo!"

She banged on the door. "Onolo! Nolo!"

Nicole walked round the house banging on the windows calling her.

Maureen walked over. "What are you doing?" Nicole looked at her. "I am looking for my sister."

"So that gives you a right to bang on my door and windows like a hobo?! This is my house! My children are sleeping, I am trying to sleep. You can't just--"

"I want my sister you pumpkin!"

MJ walked over and pulled Nicole in his arms. "We just want to know where Nolo is."

"She left in a Benz hours ago."

"Thank you."

"She is going to find her things outside. I will not accept--"

Nicole turned to her. "Try it! Try it! O tharamolle leswe le le mo tlogong yeo, tsek!"

MJ opened the car door for her. Nicole got in, her heart feeling heavier.

MJ got in and reversed out holding her hand.

\*

Maureen angrily walked to the main house after closing the gate and locking it. She picked her phone and called her friend reeling with anger.

"Friend.."

"Kana the tenant's sister was just here banging on the doors at the bachelor pad screaming for her sister. Ga kere ke bua le ene monyana go ntoga! This is what I told Ricardo I don't want. Right now I am alone ko lapeng and I have to deal with such nonsense. Imagine if the kids

were all there. All these noise would have woken her up. Onolo is going to find her things outside.”

“Ele gore where is she?”

“She long left with her boyfriend. He came by and picked her up.”

“I support your mma. This girl is definitely a problem.”

“I can’t deal with her nonsense anymore. I am going to see what’s inside so I know how many to hire to push her things out.”

“Ok.”

Maureen hung up and took a spare key and walk to the bachelor pad. She unlocked the door and walked inside. She looked at Onolo’s white couches then the huge plasma mounted against the wall.

On the walls there were pictures of her and her sister. She walked to the kitchen and looked at the double door fridge and few appliances inside. She made her way to the bedroom and rolled her eyes looking at the hotel like set up.

She opened her walk in closet, her mouth dropping at the amount of clothes she had. It was as if she was in a fashion house closet. She looked at the multiple pairs of heels on the shoe rack. Her eyes fell on her red bottoms. She walked over and took them. She bit her lower lip trying to fit her size 6 foot in the size 4 heel.

She clicked her tongue taking off the shoe. She opened the drawers and looked at her perfumes. She shook her head not surprised.

She closed the drawer and walked out of the bedroom going back to the sitting room. She opened the door about to walk out..

Maureen’s heart skipped as she bumped into a tall muscular man wearing all black with a mask on his face.

Her knees shook as she screamed stepping back. He gave her a lightning back slap that she fell.

The man looked at her, not what he had expected but it didn’t matter.

Maureen got up screaming. “Take everything. Take everything! Take it all! Take it!”

She screamed. He slapped her again, this time she didn’t fall. She tried to make a run for it but he pulled her with her braids taking out the knife

and stabbed her neck. He pulled out the knife, blood spurting out like water would from burst water pipe.

Her eyes widened as he stabbed her neck over and over again then dropped her to the floor. She made gagging sounds unable to move, blood pooling. He walked outside and came back with a saw.

\*\*\*

The following morning, Rragwe Trevor got the bag with the things he had requested. The man shook his hand

“They will soon find her.”

“Good.”

Rragwe Trevor walked to his car and drove alone without his usual motorcade. He called a certain number with a burner phone.

“Hello?”

“I have the parts.”

“Good. Bring them tonight.”

Rragwe Trevor hung up relieved then he called his son but his number still wasn't going through. He called Ken.

“Papa...”

“Where is your brother?”

“I don't know. I last saw yesterday in the morning.”

“Ok. I will go to his house then.”

“Ok.”

He hung up and drove to his house where he hid his bag before driving off headed to the Trevor's house.

\*\*\*

At the Riverfront Lodge in Maun, Trevor kissed Nolo waking her up.

“Breakfast is here?”

She blinked then look at the tray he was holding. She slowly sat upright and looked at her ring. She took a deep breath and looked at him.

“You want to eat rubbish food for the rest of your life?”

Trevor smiled. “Yes. I love you.”

“You are going to get disowned.”

He kissed her. “I don’t care. You will be my family. The rest can go to hell.”

Nolo smiled tearfully and put her arms around him. She whispered gently.

“I love you...”

**Fires Of Desire**

Fears Of Desire

#79

At Trevor’s house, Ranewa walked out of the house just as Rragwe Trevor’s car drove in. She unlocked her Range Rover as he parked the car and stepped out wearing jeans with a khakhi shirt tucked in.

Ranewa took a deep as he walked over to her. He smiled then hugged her.

“Is Trevor here?”

“No.. But I think he must be on his way. He usually comes around this time to be freshen up.”

He moved back. “You look beautiful. This car doesn’t suit you. You need something that says you are Mrs. Mbakiwe.”

She smiled. “I was going to take a loan to get another car but since I am not working anymore I have to wait till I get another job.”

“You don’t have to work when you can taken care of.”

She smiled pushing her Brazilian weave back. “I love working. I had asked Trevor if there’s an opening at his company. He didn’t say anything..”

“There’s always something. I will talk to him about it. On Monday you will be working. I will organize for a much nicer car.”

“Thank you.”

He touched her hand. “Let’s get inside and talk.”

They walked back in the house. Ranewa smiled.

“Did you do it?”

“Yes. Don’t worry about that one. Just get ready to comfort him.”

“Thank you daddy.”

“Anything for you my girl. You are so beautiful. I wonder how Trevor couldn’t see it.”

She blushed. “He was blinded.”

Ragwe Trevor kissed her. Ranewa kissed him back letting him put his hand inside her dress. She stole a glance at her watch knowing it wouldn’t take more than five minutes for it to be over.

He sat down unzipping his pants and pulled her over so she would ride him.

Ranewa sat on him and lowered herself on it and bounced on top of him till he was groaning.

\*\*\*

At Nicole’s house, Nicole slowly woke up that same morning. She blinked recalling everything. She slowly got off bed and walked to the bathroom where she washed her swollen face before walking out to the sitting room.

MJ looked at her talking on his phone.

“I am not going to support that baby till I do DNA tests. I am not going to raise a child that’s not mine!”

He hung up and walked over to Nicole.

“Did I wake you up?”

“No. Is everything ok?”

“Just my ex. She doesn’t want me to see that child, o bua mabaka hela but wants me to send madi a maintenance. The sister sent the pictures tsa ngwana, that child looks like the other children and I doubt he’s mine. She knows I am going to demand for DNA tests if I see him.. She’s trying me but it doesn’t matter. How did you sleep?”

“I have to go to Orapa. My mom is alone. She needs me.”

“I can drive you there.”

“You don’t have to.”

“I want to. Remember what the doctor said? We also need to protect the babies. I will drive you there.”

She nodded tearfully. “Thank you. I can’t wait for Onolo. I think she traveled with him. Once she sees my WhatsApp messages she will be get back at me.”

“Ok. You need to eat something. For the kids. I cooked.”

He took her hand and led her to his kitchen.

\*\*\*

Later that morning, the police took pictures of the crime scene at Onolo’s house while the police tried question Maureen’s husband though he could hardly talk.

“So this is your tenant’s house?”

“Yes.”

“And where is she?”

“I don’t know. She left yesterday before I left with the kids. It was around 4 in the late afternoon. She... her boyfriend came and picked her up. I left around...” He put his hands on his face unable to grasp his reality. “I left after an hour. I went to my mother’s house. She stays in Kanye so I was going to sleep there and hang around with my brother. I spoke to her around 8 at night. It was a video call. She spoke with the kids then that’s it...”

“Are there cameras here?”



He nodded, tears filling his eyes. He squatted on the ground then knelt down crying like a child. From a distant, the maid who had discovered the body spoke to the police.

“I came early in the morning and the padlock at the gate was not locked so I just walked inside. The main door was open so I walked in but I realized she wasn’t in the house so I thought she went to see a friend next door. I started cleaning the house then two hours later I took the clothes I had washed go the back to hang and that’s when I saw blood on Onolo’s veranda. The lady who stays in the bachelor pad. I clean for her sometimes so I walked over because of the blood, her door was open too. I walked inside and that’s when I saw Maureen lying in a pool of blood without a head. I called the neighbors then the police immediately.”

“The door... Onolo’s door, does it stay unlocked?”

“No. Maureen has a spare key. She snoops on whoever lives in the bachelor pad so I am not surprised that she was inside. Whoever killed her found her inside.”

Inside the main house, the police took a look at the CCTV footage of the previous day and played it. They fast forwarded till the time her husband came back from work. They watched as he walked inside the house, minutes later a Porsche drove in. They fast forwarded watching a Benz drive in then a minute later it drove out. An hour later, Maureen’s husband drove off with the kids.

They fast forwarded till the gate had opened and a car drove in.

A pregnant lady and a man stepped out disappearing to the bachelor pad. A minute later they saw Maureen walk out of her house and go there then the car drove out.

The police watched as Maureen closed the gate and walked inside her house but minutes later she walked out disappearing to the back. Two minutes later a man pushed the gate open, they carefully looked at him but he had a mask on his face and was wearing all black. He disappeared to the back holding a saw and thirty minutes later he walked out carrying a plastic and walked out of the gate.

The other police officer shook his head.

“She was at the wrong place at the wrong time. Whoever that stays in that house was meant to die.”

\*\*\*

Later that day in Maun, Nolo laughed in a quad bike riding along the Okavango river. She turned back and looked at Trevor behind her in his own bike. She laughed slowing down. He overtook her and stopped a distance away. Nolo smiled finally stopping. Trevor walked over and took off her helmet.

“You are a pro at this.”

Nolo laughed. “I happen to be a quick learner.”

He helped her down and kissed her, his hands going down to her denim bum shorts then he squeezed her butt.

She smiled. “Did you book out the entire lodge?”

“For privacy reasons.”

Nolo laughed. “Just how rich are you? Nna o nyala in community of property. You won't do me dirty. You are not to be trusted.”

Trevor laughed. “I was thinking the same.”

He turned then went down a little letting her hop on his back. He walked with her for a while and stopped.

“You can check the network now.”

She took out her phone from her bra then smiled at the two bars of network.

She quickly called Nicole. It rang once then Nicole picked.

“Nolo..”

“Hey, I meant to call last night but I found out later where I am there's no network.”

“Where are you?”

“In Maun at a lodge at the Okavango river. What's wrong? Are the babies ok?”

“We are fine. When are you coming back?”

Nolo looked at Trevor and kissed his cheek. “When are we going back?”

“Tomorrow.”

“Tomorrow. What’s wrong?”

“Nothing. I was just worried.”

“I am sorry. I was going to call. I am sorry.”

“Its ok. You sound... very happy.”

Nolo laughed. “I am.”

“We will talk tomorrow.”

“Ok. Bye.”

She hung up then laughed. “You can put me down now.”

Trevor slowly put her down. Nolo smiled looking up at him.

“Thank you.” She stood on her toes and kissed him.

She pulled away abruptly and took off running.

“First one to the bikes wins something!”

Trevor laughed looking at her as she ran, her butt shaking. He ran behind, quickly catching up before she could get anywhere then picked her up and threw her over his shoulder and continued running as she laughed.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#80

Back at the lodge, Nolo walked out of their room through sliding doors in her bikini. She stepped into the wooden floor of their suite’s patio. She looked at the sun sinking and took out her phone capturing the perfect moment before it disappeared completely. She frowned at the movement a distant away then turned and walked back in their suite. She closed the glass door and turned as Trevor walked back in.

“Our food is coming up. Are you ok?”

“I heard something outside. I think it’s a wild animal.”

He kissed her. "Ok. I am sure it's nothing dangerous."

"It sounded dangerous."

He laughed. "What do you think it was?"

"I think a snake. I heard shukushuku..."

He laughed even more. "Don't go outside without me then."

"I won't." She put her arms around him and took a deep breath.

"I am going to talk to my uncles when we get back."

Nolo smiled. "Are you sure you want to marry me?"

He leans over and kissed her. "More than anything."

She smiled touching his chest. "I can't believe you want to marry me. I can't even cook properly. By the way I don't know how to sew nicely."

"I love you. I am not marrying you so you can sew or cook for me. I would still love you even without those things."

She smiled. "I used to sleep walk."

He kissed her forehead. "I know."

She stepped on his feet and put her arms around his neck.

"You make me feel... things I have never felt before. You make me happy. Please don't ever take that away from me. It would kill me."

Trevor picked her up letting her wrap her legs around his waist.

"I won't."

She smiled kissing him. Trevor sat down on the bed.

"My mother is going to be so shocked. I always told her I would never get married."

"What kind of a wedding do you want us to have?"

"One where it's only us." She giggled. "Just us and the pastor. Or whoever that officiates marriages. In a boat.. away from everyone. Just us. It would kill my sister. I know... but that's my dream wedding. What do you want?"

"That sounds like a plan. Food is expensive and so are venues."

They both laughed. "Exactly. And not everyone that attends is happy for you. I wouldn't mind it just being us but if you want family members-".

"No... just us is perfect. My family members are not the best family members."

Someone knocked on the door. Trevor put her aside then stood up and opened the door. The lodge staff pushed the trolley with the food.

\*\*\*

In Orapa, Nicole sat on the mattress with her mother. She put her hand over her belly. Her mother sniffed.

"When are you due?"

She rubbed her belly. "The doctor said she's not going to wait till my due date. So in a few weeks. I found out when I was already two months."

Nicole smiled. "They are twins."

Her mother smiled. "I am so happy."

Nicole blinked. "I am happy too. I am scared but .. Nolo has been there. Am I wrong to be sad that my father who used to abuse us is dead? Though I am happy my children will never meet him."

Her mother took a deep breath. "I know you were angry-"

"I was not angry. I long stopped being angry."

"I am sorry."

Nicole shook her head. "You are not. Don't apologize when you don't mean it."

"I mean it Nicole. I am sorry-"

"You are not! You watched and did nothing. You are not sorry. You have never been sorry."

Her mother kept quiet then sighed. "I should have done better. I should have protected you. I didn't because I was hopeful. That he would snap out of it and realize how much he was hurting us. I should have done what a sane mother would have done. I am sorry."

Tears filled Nicole's eyes. "You are not sorry. You could have done better for us. You did not because all you thought about was yourself. You could have protected us but you feared leaving him because you didn't want to be alone. The time he got do drunk... that night that you found him trying to rape me... You did nothing! So don't say you are sorry because you are not. You were the real monster!"

Her mother put her hand over her mouth. "Nicole-"

"You never loved us. You loved him more than you loved us."

"I loved you. I loved you! I still do. I love you..."

"And now you love the benefits. The money that you get every month end.. you love that."

Her mother looked at her crying. "You could send me nothing and I will be fine. I wasn't the best mother but I loved you. I loved you so much Nicole."

Nicole stood up and walked out leaving her crying alone.

\*

Outside, Nolo walked past relatives going to MJ's car parked outside the gate. She got in waking him up. He looked at her.

"Hey..."

Nicole sighed. "My head is aching. I want to sleep. But not in there. I can't stand that house. I can still feel him. There's a bed and breakfast. I can sleep there."

MJ nodded then started the car and drove off.

\*\*\*

At the Bed and Breakfast lodge, MJ paid then got the key to the room. He walked back go the car and helped Nicole out. He took her hand and led her to inside to the room.

He walked with her inside. "Here it is."

Nicole took off her shoes and got on the bed. MJ covered her with the blankets."

"I will be in the next room."

"Please stay."

He nodded then took off his shoes and laid next to her. Nicole closed her eyes trying to forget everything.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Ranewa read the article about the woman who was killed and was found with no head. She read through, her heart skipping at the details. She took a deep breath and opened the comments.

Comment: This world!

Comment: Bathong! No head?

Comment: Ke di rituals!

Comment: This is scary.

Comment: What is the world coming to?

Ranewa took a deep breath and stopped reading. She continued scrolling on Facebook but that's all everyone else was talking about.

She put away her phone, her hands shaking.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#81

At a Network area zone just after five in the morning, Trevor listened to his brother talk, his quad bike parked a distance from him.

"She was found in Nolo's house?"

“Yes. She was snooping. The police say she was at the wrong place and the wrong time because the killer didn’t even go to the main house. He went straight to the bachelor pad.”

“And just decided to kill her?”

“Yes. I think he was sent. Nothing in Nolo’s house was stolen. There was no mess and anything like that. The killer was sent to kill. Nolo was meant to die last night. Someone wanted her dead. Either the killer didn’t get the description right. All he probably knew was that she stayed in the bachelor pad. The instruction could have been if she’s alone, kill her or what happened is a warning that she’s next.”

Trevor swallowed. “Fuck!”

“I know what you are thinking and I am thinking the same. It can only be Ranewa’s father. I mean, the man is not really happy about you bringing another woman into your marriage with his daughter.”

“I can’t believe he’d take it that far.”

“I am not surprised. That man is ruthless. His son dying didn’t bother him much. His son was gay and he hated him.”

“I will get security for Nolo. She’s going to have to move in at the new house.”

“Good idea. You also need to be careful Trevor. He’s capable of anything. I am going to talk to papa right now. I just got notified and the pictures from the scene..” He whistled. “It’s scary.”

“Thanks for telling me.”

“Congratulations by the way.”

“Thanks. Ke bata go duela magadi.”

“I don’t think a lot of people should know. Go maswe go ha.”

“I know. Hopefully her family can keep it under wraps.”

“They can. They will. We are not just an ordinary family.”

“I hope so. I just spoke malome T. He said he will get everything started.”

“How much do you have saved up? I wanted to pay magadi the other time ebe gatwe the money I have is not enough.”



Trevor laughed. "I have quite a bit." He smiled. "I am marrying my soul mate, I will pay it all."

Ken laughed too. "Ga gona magadi a more than 30k. Ebile 12k is the rightful amount. 18-20k is the highest anyone should go. Tsa bo 30k ke show off hela. It's no longer appreciation. Or unless you have kids with this woman and never paid anything."

"Ng Ng mister, o ngame. You are stingy. Ga gonna dilo tseo. 12k is a starting point. Tota 12k is the least anyone can do. 20k you would have really tried. And so fourth. Depends on your pocket and just how much you love your person. If you can afford it then why not?"

"This is why a lot happens in marriages. After paying 30k motho wa teng o dira masepa hela."

Trevor laughed. "You have issues. Serious issues. I can't even argue with you."

"It's the truth. But anyways, each to their own. By the way your family paid 30k for Ranewa. Don't be disrespectful."

"Nna ke bata go duela 100k. Tsa 30k ke tsa lona."

Ken laughed. "Go sharp mister."

He hung up and walked back to his bike. He started it and sped off in the darkness.

\*

Back at the lodge, Trevor slid in behind Nolo who was still sleeping. She touched he is cold hand waking up.

"O tswa kae?"

He kissed her neck. "I had to make a call. Sleep."

She took a deep breath and closed her eyes.

\*\*\*

Trevor walked in his parents house that morning. He walked to his father's study and walked in. His father looking at him holding his phone.

"I hear you. Call me if anything changes. Goodbye."

He hung up and looked at his son. "My boy.."

"The woman who was killed. The one found with no head..."

"Eish, I heard. But that's a police case. I don't want us getting involved. We are at a crucial level in life. We all need to act right. A lot is at stake."

"Onolo was meant to die not that woman. She died in Onolo's house. Ranewa's father. Who knows the heights he can take this to."

"That one a sour looser. I have him where I want him, if he's the one then don't worry."

"Is Trevor bound to his child forever because of his son?"

"No. But of cause you know why that marriage was important. We need his influence. Anything else that will happen after, it's ok. But Ranewa is a good girl. I don't understand why Trevor can't have them both. He can. Your uncle called. Trevor wants to pay bride price. I support the idea, I hope he can balance it. And I hope he's not about to take Onolo to that house."

"No."

"Good. You don't have to worry about Ranewa's father. He's small fish. I am glad it was the other woman who died. It would have been a tragedy if it were Nolo."

"Trevor would kill himself. He loves that woman more than anything."

His father looked at him. "That's stupid, you can't allow yourself to make someone else your weakness but I am glad he's happy. I want us to discuss your next position. I want you to be a minister. Sit down."

Ken sat down as they got into a deep lengthy conversation.

\*\*\*

Hours later that morning, Ranewa parked her car at church parking lot calling Trevor. She sighed as the call refused to go through. She thoughtfully called his brother.

“Hello?”

“Hi. It’s Ranewa.”

“Oh hey.”

“I just wanted to ask if you know where my husband is.”

“No. I haven’t seen Trevor since Friday in the morning but I am sure he is fine wherever he is.”

“He is with her?”

“Her who?”

“His side.”

“I don’t know about that. He never tells me such things. I don’t support cheating.”

“But he said you are already sleeping with her for a baby.”

“I don’t know if they are together right now.”

“So you already slept with her?”

“Yes.”

“When are we going to start trying?”

“We will hear from him.”

“Ok.”

He hung up. Ranewa took a deep breath and walked inside the church ready to ask for forgiveness from God.

\*\*\*

In the late afternoon, Nolo smiled walking out of Sir Seretse Khama International Airport with Trevor. They got in his car while she pressed her phone. She opened her messages from people she never really spoke to sending their condolences.

She frowned and called Nicole as Trevor drove off.

“Nolo...”

“Hi. What’s going on? I am seeing condolences messages.”

“Are you back?”

“Yes.”

“I didn’t want to ruin your holiday. Papa is dead.”

Nolo sighed. “About time. Good riddance to garbage.”

“I am in Orapa.”

“I will come. I hope you have not paid a cent to anything. They should just throw him inside a hole like a dog he was.”

“No. He has a funeral plan.”

“I am coming there to be a guest. Nothing more. I am so happy he’s dead. Nxla!”

“Ok.”

Nicole hung up. Trevor looked at her. “What’s going?”

“My father is dead. I am relieved he is. I am going to celebrate his death.”

“I need to tell you something about your landlord.”

She looked at him. “What?”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#82

Nolo slowly stepped out of the car at the house and looked at the police. She walked over.

“Dumelang..”

“Dumela Mme..”

Trevor walked over and put his arm around Nolo looking at the police officers. The police officer looked at Trevor.

“Morena..”

“Sure no ntate, what’s really going on right now? This is my woman, Mrs. Mbakiwe.” The one who lived at the bachelor pad.”

The police officer looked at Nolo then at him. “The CCTV footage is our only evidence and the other camera from the neighbors. The man parked a Honda Fit by their gate and walked over this side. We have a strong suspicion that the man was sent by someone to kill Mrs. Mbakiwe because he didn’t bother getting in the main house. He just went straight to the back. We spoke to Maureen’s friend whom she last spoke to and she said that Maureen had gotten into an argument with Mrs Mbakiwe’s sister. We managed to get into contact with her and she has a strong alibi but we are still doing investigations. Chances are that either Mrs Mbakiwe wasn’t meant to die last night and Maureen was at the wrong place at the wrong time.”

Nolo took a deep breath. “How did she get into my house. I had both keys with me.”

“She had a spare key.”

“So she was snooping. Trevor remember when I told you so me someone had been in my house and you said...” She took a deep breath. “She used to snoop inside my house. I knew it. And that time with the window and-“

Trevor kissed her. “I am sorry. I am sorry.”

She took a deep breath and looked at the police. “Her husband?”

“He got admitted hours back at the hospital.”

“They had children. She wasn’t my favorite person. She was annoying too. Used to have many rules and just enjoyed putting her weight around. But I would have never wished for her to be killed like that.”

“Yah. But we will find the killer. He dropped the knife he used so we have it. He’s not going to get away with it.”

“My things...”

“The house is still a police scene. But your property is still intact.”

“How long should I wait? I need my clothes.”

“A couple of days. You can get your clothes.”

Trevor looked at her. “I have already sorted that out. Someone collected them. As soon as they are done, we will move the rest of everything to the other house “

“I can always get something. They are houses.”

Trevor looked at the police officer. “Thank you!”

“Yes sir.”

Trevor walked back to the car with her. He opened the door for her. Nolo took a deep breath and got in. Trevor got in his car and drove off.

Nolo sighed. “I will get a house at-“

“Maureen could have been you! You could have died last night, do you understand that? Maureen was an accident, it was you they wanted and you want me to let you find a house where anyone can attack you?”

“Trevor-“

“I am not arguing with you. You are moving to that house with me. That house is our house, better you start familiarizing yourself with it because that’s your home. This conversation is over!”

His firm voice had her in silence with her hands out together on her lap.

“I had your car moved in the morning too. Both cars. And from today going forward, you will have security personnel close to you. You won’t see them but they will be there.” He looked at her frustratedly. “I can’t bring myself to... if anything happens to you I will die. Can I please just... be your man... I need you safe. And alive. I can’t lose you..”

Nolo blinked. “Ok.”

He leaned over and kissed her. “I love you. So much.”

She smiled. Trevor put his hand on her thigh driving to the house. The gate opened as they approached the double storey mansion. He drove on the pavement headed to the house. The yard was now times three bigger than she last remembered.

“Did you buy the plots that were around?”

“Yes. There was no enough space for the house itself worse the parking.”

He parked the car and stepped out then walked round the car and picked her up.

She smiled putting her head on his chest. “I have to go to Orapa.”

“I know. I want to drive you there.”

She looked at him as he opened the door then walked in.

“You don’t have to.”

Trevor walked with her up the stairs going to the bedroom and put her down. “Ke ta go dropa. Your clothes have been packed. You can freshen up. I am coming.”

Nolo watched him walked out taking out his ringing phone.

She walked the glass walls and looked over the balcony right to the big pool at the backyard. It was surprising that he had turned the house into a double mansion but then, everything was possible with enough money.

\*

Downstairs Trevor spoke to Ranewa.

“I was busy.”

“You were busy the whole weekend? I am your wife!”

“I am not in the mood for this.”

“I was worried Trevor. I thought you were going to try and fix things. Work it out. Aoww rra?”

“Worried about what? Can you give me a break? If you are asking about the drugs you put in my food, I am fine.”

“I am sorry about that. I just..-“

“I am moving out. I don’t feel safe around you. Who knows what else you are doing, I am not going to live with someone I can’t trust.”

“It was just a sedative!”

“You were going to rape me. What makes you think that’s ok?”

“I am sorry. I was... I was just desperate. Tlherra tla lapeng re bue. I am sorry.”

“I don’t trust you. I don’t think I ever will. Gape I told you I have erectile dysfunction so I don’t know how you would have raped me but I fear for my life so I am moving out. You can call another family meeting. You will tell them what you did.”

“How is this woman even marrying you? She doesn’t love you. She probably loves what you do for her. No woman would settle for a relationship where you can’t satisfy her sexual needs.”

“I am happy to know where you stand. I am busy right now. Bye.”

He hung up and called his father back.

“Trevor...”

“Papa.”

“Where are you?”

“I am around but I have to go to Orapa right now.”

“To do what?”

“Nolo has lost her father.”

“Ok. Meaning magadi will have to wait?”

“Yes. We will do after two weeks. Let’s give the family time.”

“Ok. I heard about the... murder. And I really think it’s something we shouldn’t be associated with.”

“As long as it has anything to do with Nolo then I am involved... papa wee this is not just any woman. Understand that. She’s going to be my wife and if there’s anything everyone is going to have to understand is the fact that that woman will forever come first to me. Everything else will follow after that. I don’t care who you are.”

“Then keep her away from that drama Trevor! A lot is at stake here. Do what you gave to do.”

“Babe, are we showering together?”



Trevor turned and looked at her by the staircases. She fixed the white towel around her body.

“I am coming.”

She smiled and walked back.

“Papa we will talk.”

\*\*\*

At church, Ranewa waited as Rragwe Trevor’s phone rang. She took a deep breath sitted in the car though she couldn’t seem to relax.

“Baby girl...”

“Is she dead?”

“No. She’s nothing to worry about. I spoke to Trevor. It won’t get far. The relationship is doomed. He will come to you. You just focus on getting pregnant. The rest leave it to me. I will make sure he loves you.”

“He is moving out.”

“Let him. Gives us more room to keep trying.”

“I don’t want the other woman being part of my marriage. Who is she? What’s her name? Maybe it’s time I am spoke to her. What’s her name and where does she stay?”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#83

“What’s her name?”

“You don’t have to know that because I have given that girl a firm warning. She knows what’s going to happen to her if she continues.”

“I don’t think you are serious about helping me. O kare o na le dikgang nyana. You can’t keep any promise you make. Don’t come to the house. I am done. If there’s no baby yet, I will talk to my husband about the initial plan he wanted because obviously I am wasting my time here.”

“You are not. I-“

She hung up and thoughtfully opened her Facebook. She went to Trevor’s profile and looked at his friends. He didn’t have much. She took her time sending all the ladies friend requests with her fake account. She came across Nolo’s profile and sighed thinking of their last encounter.

She took a deep breath and called Sam.

“Ranny..”

“Hi. Are you busy?”

“I am driving to Orapa. Nolo lost her father. I just found out, I guess she didn’t tell me because our friendship has been rocky lately.”

“And because of me.”

“No. Because of me. I let my emotions get the best out of me. I have been trying to reach out.. after your incident I feel I just need to tell her how I feel.”

“Ok. I didn’t know she lost her dad.”

“Yeah. Why did you call?”

“I was actually calling about Nolo. Ke feela guilty gore. I know she was just trying to look out for me.”

“Why don’t you leave that man Ranewa?”

“Leave how? I can’t leave him... you heard what papa said. And it’s too soon to give up. I just need to find a way into his heart.”

“Do you really believe he has erectile dysfunction? Or that he is infertile? All that sounds just like a lie. All the nights he’s not with you, you think he’s just looking at the other woman’s eyes? I just don’t believe it. Or maybe he’s gay. There’s no other explanation. Maybe he’s gay. Men love sex. You can’t separate them from sex. It’s either he’s lying or he’s gay.”

Ranewa took a deep breath. “I don’t know. Maybe that’s... but he wants to marry the other woman..”

“I doubt it. If he wanted to marry another woman he would have long done it. I suspect he is gay. If there was another woman, by now you would have been knowing who she is.”

Ranewa blinked then took a deep breath. "He won't sleep with me."

"And maybe that's a good thing. A year later you can nullify this marriage. You deserve better. You deserve way better than a man who's not a real man."

Ranewa rubbed her eyes.

"If I were you I'd screw him over."

She laughed. "Yes you. Pass my condolences to Nolo and Nicole."

"Ok."

Sam hung up. Ranewa took a deep breath then walked inside the church with her bible.

\*\*\*

Later that day at Orapa, Trevor parked the car with tinted windows outside the gate with the other cars. Nolo smiled.

"Thank you."

He kissed her. "Be careful."

She nodded then stepped out and walked to the gate pulling up her jeans. She walked through the yard passing the relatives.

Trevor turned as someone knocked on his window. He looked at the man then rolled it down.

The man smiled. "Hi, my name is MJ, you are Nolo's boyfriend?"

"Yeah, who are you?"

MJ smiled. "Lenna ke boledisitse nonyane yame. I don't know what happens with this family but ever since morning, she's been crying. Not necessarily that her father is dead but it's more. Maybe now with Nolo with her, it will be better. Kana I can't get in."

Trevor smiled. "I didn't know Nicole was back in the game... nice to meet you MJ."

MJ laughed. "Gatwe re ditsala."

Trevor laughed. “Ga ke rate stage seo. Motho wa teng o itira o kare ga itse gore go iragalang.”

“Ke mo mathateng. But I will be patient. She’s everything I have ever wanted. Her softness always gets to me.”

“Nicole is a soft person. She’s a nice person.”

“I have beers in my car. We are still going to sit outside.”

“Ok.”

Trevor stepped out of his car and joined MJ in his. MJ handed him a can of beer.

“I have met Nolo once and I couldn’t help but think she is the type to fight men.”

Trevor laughed. “She can, if forced to. She can defend herself. She’s not scared to hold her ground. Once you get to know her, you will realize she’s softer than Nicole. But she’s learnt to have thick skin.” Trevor smiled looking at the house. “She is not your everyday woman.”

MJ sipped his alcohol smiling.

“I swear it’s like you were not the one getting married months back o re tsenya under peer pressure.”

They cracked up laughing.

“Tseo tsa lenyalo ke tsa lona.”

\*\*\*

Inside the house, Nolo sat next to her sister and her uncle spoke.

“I know there are of lot of issues that happened. I know there’s a lot of pain in our hearts. I know how my brother was not the best husband nor the best father or the best relative to anyone. I blame myself, when I decided to give up on him, I left the suffering to the wife and kids. I think I thought Michelle would leave with the children because I had told her if she wants to leave I would have taken her in with my wife. I would have made room for her and the kids but she had hope in him. I was speaking to Nicole today and...” The old man blinked ad tears filled his eyes. “I

wish I had done better. At least for the kids because they suffered more than anyone.” He slowly went down on his knees, tests rolling down his wrinkled face. “I know no apology will make it right but I apologize from the bott of my heart. I could have done better. I could have done so much better.”

Nicole sniffed crying in silence. Their mother looked down feeling everyone’s eyes on her. She could almost hear the judgement.

The oldest uncle stood up. “I know it will take time to forgive or not even at all. I will accept that because I am at fault. When our parents died, I as the older child had to be take responsibility of my siblings. I failed. I will take that responsibility. We will continue with the funeral. He will be buried next to his parents tomorrow early morning to get this funeral over with. I am sure after that there’s nothing to discuss because he had sold everything. All be had was this house. Michelle can have it. The girls have made it clear they want nothing. I will kill a cow and... that’s it. Uh .. the other expenses will be under me. That’s all bagaetso. Uh... Nolo, my child, let me speak to you outside.”

Nicole looked at her sister as she stood up. She was the only one wearing pants and it didn’t look like she cared because she still had her sunglasses on.

Nolo took off her glasses. “Malome..”

“It’s so good to see you. All grown and beautiful. I am so happy. I heard all the beautiful things happening to you from your mother. I am proud of you. You turned out very well.”

Nolo smiled. “Thank you malome.”

“Uh... I got a call from a certain family and they said their son has seen a very beautiful flower and he can’t do without that beautiful flower. I had asked which flower it was because our family has beautiful flowers all over and that’s when I was told that the beautiful flower is Onolo. They went on to ask and plead for a date where they can come and respectfully with love take this flower for their son. I told them gore ba eme ke bue le sethunya sa teng pele.”

Nolo smiled. “Eerra.”

“Should I give them a date? They seem to want it done as soon as possible but they asked it’s kept under wraps because they are a well known family and they would love to keep their affairs private.”

Nolo nodded. "Eerra. You can give them a date."

"Which date would you be more suitable with because some of us are always ready."

Nolo smiled. "I need to have my dress fixed and get the house painted for merero. I would have to get the fence fixed too and the toilet."

"Leave the fence, toilet and house painting to me. I can make sure that's done in a week."

"My dress and my sister's dress will need I think two if not three weeks."

"Ok. Then a month from here?"

Nolo nodded.

"Ok. That's decided. I will have necessary family members know."

He walked back in the house. Nolo smiled alone then turned to his car. She walked over and looked as the window of the car next to his car rolled down.

Trevor smiled. "Hey..."

Nolo frowned smiling. MJ waved.

"Hi. We found each other."

Nolo laughed. "Hi. I can see."

Trevor looked at her. "How is going?"

"He will be buried tomorrow." She leaned over and kissed him. "My uncle told me. That was fast."

"I am glad you know I meant business."

She giggled. MJ frowned.

"Someone is coming. And doesn't look very friendly."

Nolo turned as MJ rolled up the window. Sam walked over, her heart racing while her hands shook.

"Who were you kissing?"

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#84

At Orapa, Nolo took a deep breath.

“Sam..”

“I thought I saw you kissing..” Sam walked past her and tried opening the door. She turned to Nolo. “Was that Trevor?”

Nolo folded her arms. “What are you doing here?”

“I thought... you lost your father and I just wanted to come and stand with you. Was that Trevor? Was that my sister’s husband because... I swear I saw him.”

“And what would I be doing with Trevor? This is crazy, who...” She sighed. “I am not going to be accused of nonsense today. Now you have followed me here to accuse me of bullshit?”

“I want to see who’s in the car.”

“I am going to mourn for my father.”

Nolo started walking away. Sam pulled her back, tears filling her eyes.

“I know our friendship has been rocky lately. I know and you may think I am going out of my way to make your life difficult but I care about you. I love you and I... I swear I saw Trevor. My sister is crying every night for this man. I just want to see who’s in the car... please...”

“I am not sleeping with your... this is ridiculous. This is crazy.”

“Can I please see who’s in the car.”

The window rolled down then MJ stepped out. He put on Trevor’s cap and put his arms around Nolo

“Hi, I am MJ. A friend of Nolo’s.”

Sam looked at MJ then the cap. She frowned then looked at the car but there was no one inside. Her heart pounded as she looked even closer but there was no one. She looked at MJ again though she could swear she had seen Trevor... yes, the t-shirt was the same but...

Nolo looked at her. “This is MJ. A friend of Trevor’s cousin who’s a pastor. Who’s car you saw at my house. Your problem is you always

jump to conclusions. You don't wait to listen, that's your problem. You could have known this if you had let me explain that time."

Sam stepped back. "I just... I.."

MJ smiled. "We are trying to keep it under wraps. I will wait in the car babe."

Nolo nodded. MJ got back in the car as Nolo walked to the house. Sam followed after her.

"I am sorry. You are right. I like jumping the conclusions."

Nolo looked at her. "Do you think this friendship is necessary? Tota all this fighting is draining my strength and most of the time I don't even know what the issue is.. if it's not your sister it's you. Nna ke lapile."

Sam smiled. "I am sorry. I know I have been the worst but today was the last time. I get worried about you. I love you."

"I am not comfortable with your sister. I don't agree with most things she does..I think it's best she and I just don't try whatever it is that can be tried. Nothing can be salvaged."

Sam nodded then hugged her. "I am sorry about your dad."

"It's ok. Being my friend doesn't mean you can get in-between my sheets to find out who I sleep with. My own sister doesn't know most things. I can choose to fuck a donkey and that's my business. Keep your worry to yourself. I have one mother and a dead father. I don't need to be parented. If there's one thing you need to learn about me is that ga ke lopele botsala. I can always play with myself. Gape hela even if it were Trevor, what were you going to do to me? It's not like Trevor is a child. He's old enough to understand his marital status. You are trying my patience, I am not scared to fight."

Sam pulled down her dress. "There is no way it can be Trevor because as much as you are annoyed with me, you wouldn't purposely hurt my sister. I am sorry for being all up in your business, I will tone it down."

Nolo looked at her then walked inside the house with her behind.

\*\*\*



In the car, MJ opened another can.

“You need to be careful or else you will ruin it at the last minute.”

Trevor chuckled. “That was close but at this point there is nothing much to be ruined. I just worry about how this will look on Nolo.”

Trevor sent her a message.

Trevor: Are you ok?

Nolo: Eh ke sharp.

Trevor: What did she say?

Nolo: I successfully lied. I don't like this. Now I am busy lying and all sorts.

Trevor: Please cry your father and leave that attitude inside that house because you are not bringing it to the car.

He looked at his phone for a while but there was no response. He grabbed his beer and drank it all down

\*\*\*

In Gaborone later that day, Ranewa walked outside and looked at Rragwe Trevor as he smiled walking over. He smiled hugging her. Ranewa stood still with a bored expression.

Rragwe Trevor stepped back. “I missed you.”

“I told you not to bother yourself because I am not having sex with you again. O kare was ntshamekesa.”

“I know you are not happy.”

“I have not been happy for the longest time. Your presence is already annoying me. It's like you don't care that your son is busy cheating on me with erectile dysfunctions busy parading his disabilities and throwing money around while I cry here for him. Is he gay? Is that why you won't tell me whoever he's involved with?”

“My girl-“

“Please go because this is pointless.”

He touched her hand. "You have every right to be upset but I thought you wanted a baby to get him fully."

"You said you will kill whoever he's in a relationship with. Till now nothing. Then I asked you to tell me who it is, you won't tell me!"

"All I need is for you to trust me. That's all. Trust me when I say the relationship is doomed. I spoke to someone. He said the relationship is doomed. I trust him. He is doing what's necessary to make sure nothing ever comes out of that relationship. We can go together and see him tonight if you want."

Ranewa blinked. "What else did he say?"

"A lot more but it's not necessary.. Trevor will come back to you. I promise you. I got you this..."

He gave her a key then kissed her. "For your new car. It will suit you more. You see daddy is taking care of you? I will do anything for you."

She smiled looking at the Audi car keys. He wrapped his arms around her happily.

"I have a meeting. Your car will get delivered in an hour or so."

Ranewa smiled. "Thank you."

He kissed her and walked to the car. Ranewa walked back in the house holding the new car keys smiling.

\*\*\*

Nicole slowly stood up from the mattress and put on her shoes. Her mother looked at her

"There is enough room for you here. I can prepare your room. You don't have to pay to sleep elsewhere."

"It's ok. Let relatives sleep in there."

Her mother stood up. "Nicole... please. I feel alone here. I know you are both going to leave after the funeral tomorrow. Can I just have today with you?"

Nolo walked inside the bedroom holding a plate of hot food filled with meat. "I am going."

Nicole picked her handbag. "Me too."

Their mother stood by the door.

"Please stay. Please stay with me "

Nolo look at her. "A friend came with me. I can't just leave him alone, he doesn't know anyone but me here."

She kissed her mother's cheek. "I love you. Your sister is outside. I will call her. Bye!"

Nolo walked out with Nicole. Nicole looked at the plate.

"Who's that for?"

"For Trevor. And myself."

Nicole looked over at the car and slowed down as one of her cousins stood by MJ's car smiling. The sister's walked over. Nolo looked at Trevor who had his cap on holding a piece of meat while MJ held a plate of food.

Trevor looked at her face then put back the meat in the plate.

"Sure MJ!"

"Sure sure T!"

Trevor stepped out of MJ's car and opened the door of his car for Nolo. She silently got in then he walked round and jumped in.

"Why are you getting food from her when you asked me to bring you something to eat?"

"Babe I sent that text over an hour back. And I hadn't eaten ever since I got here. I am hungry"

"It took long because I was cooking for you."

Trevor looked at the food and touched her chin. He leaned over and kissed her.

"You didn't reply to my message.. I didn't know you were cooking. If I did, I would have just waited. She was just passing by and offered us food. Maybe if we communicate better we can avoid hurting each other

unintentionally. Maybe instead of attacking me like I am against you, take time and see that we are a team babe.. I am not your enemy. I love you and I am on your side. I believe in our love, do you?"

She blinked ashamed. Trevor took the plate of food and kissed her.

"Thank you for cooking this. It smells nice."

"I am sorry."

He smiled. "It's ok."

He picked the meat and took a bite. She looked at him.

"Do you like it?"

Trevor chewed the hard salty meat in his mouth. He looked at the runny soup all disappearing underneath the pap. She picked a piece and frowned using a lot of strength to chew.

"It's.. it's not supposed to be like this. There's proper food that was cooked by my aunts."

He silently ate it all and smiled.

"Thank you. I loved it."

Nolo looked at him then at the plate.

"I know it was horrible."

Trevor looked at her and laughed. "It's the thought that counts."

\*\*\*

At the bed and breakfast lodge, Nicole sat on the bed and looked at MJ.

"My cousin, her name is Jade. She must be in her late twenties. She's childless and works. I can get you her number if you like her."

MJ frowned. "I don't want her."

"You don't have to pretend. I am good with it."

"She was just passing by. She offered us food. That's all. I didn't even eat it. I gave it back when I realized you didn't like it. I am not your ex same way I know you are not my ex. It's you I want but I am not be even

going to push because I don't want to put you in a position that you feel obliged to help me heal or vice versa. I am going to wait till you and I are ready to avoid a situation like this where I am accused of your ex's sins. I will sleep on the couch."

He walked to the bathroom and closed the door. She closed her eyes frustrated then reached for her handbag and took out her pills. She couldn't help but think they were making her even crazier. The things she kept seeing at her father's house, the voices..

She slowly put one in her mouth then spat it out and walked to then bin where she disposed all of them inside.

She sighed relieved then threw the container inside too.

\*\*\*

At the funeral, Sam walked around searching for Nolo. She walked to her car calling her.

Nolo picked breathing heavily.

"Hi."

"Hey, are you ok?"

"Yes."

"Where are you?"

"Uh... MJ... he had to go. So we just left. I couldn't find you."

"I wad helping with cutting veggies. O kae right now? Are you coming back?"

"I am not sure."

"I need to talk to you about something."

"What is it?"

"In person. Tonight."

"Tonight won't do. Ke busy. You can,-"

"I love you."

“I know and-“

“Not like that. Not in a friendship manner. I love you. More than a Friend is supposed to.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#85

The following morning, Nolo watched as her father’s grave got filled with soil. Her mother continued crying in her sister’s arms. Nolo looked at Nicole who was just blankly staring. Nolo put her arm around her.

“Hey...”

Nicole looked at her startled. Nolo looked at her worriedly.

“Are you ok?”

She nodded. “Yes. I just... I feel sad.”

Nolo nodded. “I know. I am sorry. You have a place in heaven.”

Nicole laughed. “Funny.”

“I know you do. I am unbothered honestly.”

Nicole looked at Nolo in the back dress. “I know. I wish I could do it like you.”

Nolo hugged her. “I am sorry about your loss. I am going after this. Trevor has a meeting later on.”

Nicole sighed. “I heard that... he’s marrying you.”

“I was going to tell you. I just didn’t know how.”

Nicole sighed. “Things have changed since him. You are not the Nolo I used to know. But to be a second wife?”

Nolo smiled. “I will tell you everything once magadi is done. I know what you are thinking and I know you are worried. But trust me on this one. Please be happy for me. A lot more is going on gape hela do I look like second wife material? Trust and be happy. I am going to talk to a designer about our dresses. And mama’s too.”

Nicole looked at the happiness in her sister's eyes and smiled. The burial went on and the people sang. A while later, Nolo moved from the crowd pressing her phone.

Sam walked over. "Hi."

Nolo looked at her. "Hey."

"I am sorry about yesterday. Wrong timing. I don't blame you for hanging up."

"I was shocked but then a lot of things started to make sense and honestly I admire your confidence."

Sam laughed. "Confidence ya masepa."

Nolo laughed. "You were brave. But I don't feel the same way about any woman. I like you... I care about you as a friend and I love the friendship bond we have. You are a good person, you really are but I don't see you in that light. Gape nna mma I like dic tota. And I love my man."

Sam nodded smiling. "I know. I just wanted to get it off my chest."

"Thank you for coming. I am leaving now. My sister's is staying behind a bit. She'd angry but... she wants to make sure mama is ok."

"I am also leaving. Ranny sends her condolences."

"Ok. Thanks."

Nolo walked out of the gate to a tinted window car with no number plate.

Trevor looked at her. "Done?"

Nolo nodded. "Yes. Thank you."

He started the car and drove off picking Ken's call.

"Mister..."

"How does this work? You don't want her but you still spoil her and give her good positions at work?"

"Who?"

"Ranewa."

"Spoil how?"

"The Audi you just got her."

“I didn’t her anything.”

“She has a new car. And she’s here at your company. She’s filling in for the CFO?”

“I don’t know what you are talking about. I am not around. I am driving back right now. Fuvk! Papa! I will call you back.”

He hung up. Nolo looked at him.

“What’s going on?”

“Ranewa got a job at my company. I don’t even know about it. There’s a certain dude I wanted for that position.” He pressed his phone while driving with the other hand.

“Which position?”

“CFO. I need someone more qualified for that position. Someone who knows what they are doing! We had an issue with the previous guy and I wanted everything to be checked.”

He put his phone on his ear and cursed underneath his breath as the call didn’t go through. He called another number.

“Gillian, go iragalang?”

“Good morning Sir, Mr. Mbakiwe Senior came in the morning and asked we prepare her office.”

Nolo held his hand. “Hang up. Let me tell you something.”

He hung up and looked at her. Nolo smiled.

“Calm down. Obviously she went to your father for this job. Look at the bigger picture and what we are trying to achieve. Let her keep busy. There’s no harm. Let her have the job till we are settled. Mistakes will happen and she will be dismissed.”

He put the phone down. “Ok.”

She smiled. “You need to put your foot down when it comes to your father. I don’t like how thinks he can just do whatever and get away with it.. o kare o na le obsession nyana with this marriage.”

“He’s always at the house I guess convincing her otherwise. But I hear you.”

He kissed her cheek putting his hand between her warm thighs.



\*\*\*

At Revor Energies later in the afternoon, Ranewa settled on her desk smiling. She had never used an office that big before. She stood up and looked out through the window looking over at the city. She smiled sitting and took her phone.

She took a deep breath looking at the company documents on her desk. She thoughtfully reached for her phone and called him, her heart pounding.

“Hello?”

Ranewa cleared her throat. “Hi. I just wanted to be say thank you for giving me this job. I found flowers waiting. I love them. I love the office. I appreciate all this. Thank you. It’s made me so happy.”

“I just found out you got that job. You can thank my father.”

Ranewa blinked. “Uh ok. But I am happy we are working close to each other now.”

“I don’t appreciate the closeness honestly. Don’t you want us to have an open marriage? I don’t mind..I don’t enjoy what’s happening between us. You are a great woman and I know circumstances are pushing you into being the person you are not. Let’s have an open marriage. You can be with anyone you want. I will not judge you. If you happen to fall in love and want to leave, I will help you. I don’t think our marriage is going to work. I am going to sign over the house to you. Let it be yours. I don’t think us staying together will help anyone.”

“You want us to have an open marriage then you go and marry her?”

“I am opening room for you to discover what’s out there.”

“No. You want to marry this woman and...” Tears filled her eyes. “And discard me. Already you were looking for means to demean my character that’s why you are so happy about the drug thing. Therra you are hurting. You are breaking Trevor.”

“Do you want us to go on pretending things will work out?”

“You are not giving it a chance to work out! Are you gay?”

“What?”

“Are you gay? If not I want to meet this woman. You are not marrying her before I meet her.”

“You are free to do whatever you want.”

He hung up. She looked at her phone angrily and started typing a message. She stopped midway defeated and put her hands on her face sobbing.

\*\*\*

In Orapa, Nicole watched as every last relative left while she sat on the mattress. Her mother look at her.

“Are you ok?”

Nicole blinked. “Yes. The doctor said she will induce me because I have preeclampsia on top of everything else. She says my heart won’t be able to take more. The babies will be in the incubator.. it’s going to be a C-section and chances are that I might not make it out alive. But that’s ok. I am prepared for that. I am just... I know Nolo will remain with my children but I am just scared. I don’t want my children to grow up like I did. And it’s sad because I can’t trust you enough to rely on you.”

Her mother blinked. “I know I was wrong. I know you are angry, hurt and heart broken..I did that. I wish-“

“Don’t. Don’t. You loved a man more than your own kids. I am sorry for your loss. Bury me next to my grandmother.”

Nicole walked out and made her to MJ’s car and got in. He looked at her.

“Are you ok?”

Nicole nodded. He started the car and drove off.

A MONTH LATER...

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#86

A Month Later...

In Orapa, Nolo took a deep breath sited on the bed. Nicole looked at her in a german print dress.

“I can’t believe you are getting married.”

Nolo smiled. “That’s if everything goes well.”

“Everything is going well.”

Nolo stood up and slightly opened the curtain. She looked at the two trucks with cows and closed the curtain sitting down.

Nicole smiled looking at her younger sister, Nolo had always been beautiful but somehow today was different. Her hair and makeup was already done and she looked more than just beautiful. She looked like a bride.

“You look beautiful.”

Nolo smiled. “I am nervous. Trevor hasn’t called. By now he would have long called.. normally if...” Nolo sighed unlocking her phone.

“He’s here. Somewhere here. Don’t you feel bad?”

“About what?”

“For Ranewa. Honestly she did nothing wrong. She still thinks she’s married. She’s still trying to make it work. Don’t you feel bad for her?”

“I do. I know she’s going to be so hurt. And nothing will make it right. Trevor is going to compensate her. It won’t make things right... but it’s something.”

Nicole stood up. “To think Sam is your friend. I wonder how this is going to look. A lot of hearts are going to be broken on top of the humiliation of it all.”

Nolo sighed. "I do wish it was not like this. If Trevor didn't keep coming back, I would not be here today with him. But now it's just too late. I love him. I have never loved anyone the way I love this man."

Nicole sat next to her. "I don't approve how you two are doing your things because I know how it feels, I have been played and made a fool before. I understand that pain so well, the fact that it's you is going to hurt more than if it were just a random stranger she doesn't know. But nonetheless, I am happy for you. I am happy you found love. I have always prayed you find someone and you did. To a certain extent he's a good man and the fact that he loves you is all I need to be certain."

Nolo hugged her holding tears. "I love you."

Nicole rubbed her back. "I love you too."

They pulled away from one another listening to the ululations outside. Nicole smiled holding her sister's hand.

"The aunts are coming to dress you soon."

Nolo smiled excitedly as the singing started outside. She stood up and opened the curtain a bit. Nicole peeked from behind and watched as Trevor's aunts standing outside the gate in a long queue singing, some carrying blankets, some bags while some held the traditional brooms.

They all looked in uniform in German print skirts, white long sleeved shirts and their tsâles around their shoulders.

They moved in sync dancing in black heels. The big beautiful cars parked outside had the neighbors watching too.

Nolo giggled as two of her aunts walked to the gate and welcomed the Mbakiwe aunts back into the yard.

Nicole smiled happily. "Get ready, they are coming."

Over twenty minutes later the door opened and the aunts walked in to dress her. One of Trevor's aunts looked at her and smiled.

"O monte yang ngwana ke wena. (You are very beautiful.)"

Nolo smiled shyly. Nicole walked out. Nolo's aunt smiled.

"Us the Feni's, re bantle mogo maswe. Emella ngwanake ba go bone."

Nolo shyly stood up. Trevor's aunt smiled. "She is very beautiful."

Two other aunts smiled looking at her. They took off her silky morning gown leaving her in her lingerie.

Her aunt smiled. “Onolo .. gomo keng? (What’s this?)”

Nolo looked at her confused. “Ma?”

The other aunt laughed. “Ke mpha gomo? Waitse Tereva ke mathata a motho?”

Trevor’s aunt looked closer. “Mothono ke mosadi wa gagwe. O mo imana ngwanaka? (This is his woman. Are you pregnant my child?)”

Nolo blinked. “No.”

The rest of the aunts looked at her stomach. Trevor’s started ululating. Nolo stepped back lost

Her aunt smiled. “You are pregnant. This belly .. it’s carrying a child. But it’s still early to show.”

“I am not. I am on contraceptives.”

“My contraceptive is 31 years old with four kids from different fathers. It happens.”

Nolo looked at them in silence as they dressed her in her blue dress that hugged her curves. Nolo took a deep breath as they struggled closing her zip. The aunts laughed.

“Heela Onolo, didn’t you get measured?”

Her aunt smiled. “It’s the pregnancy. The hips are wider, lerago la teng le le kima yang. Let’s work together. Two pull the dress together and I will pull up the zip.’

Nolo took another deep as they worked together. The zip closed then they tied the doek nicely in her head careful not to ruin her hair. Nolo watched her aunt help her put on her shoes.

Trevor’s aunt reached for the tsâle and put it around her shoulders so that she looked like a proper married woman. She looked at the tears in Nolo’s eyes.

“Why are you crying? You did nothing wrong. This child is not a mistake. Trevor knows what he was doing. O mosadi o nyetswing. O Mma Mbakiwe. That ring you are wearing is not for decoration. We are here

today to claim you as ours. You are carrying a Mbakiwe, you are carrying blue blood.”

She rubbed a tear off Nolo’s cheek then stepped back.

Nolo’s aunt looked at her. “Stay here. We will come and get you. You look beautiful.”

They all walked out going to where the test of the aunts were. Nolo weakly sat down. She swallowed, her hands shaking.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Ranewa sat in the toilet in her office, her heart racing. She stood up and paced unable to relax. Five minutes later she picked the pregnancy stick and looked. The two bold lines weakened her knees.

“God...”

She leaned against the wall, eyes closed. She opened them as a tear fell. She took the other two and they all had the two lines. She quickly threw them in the bin then walked out.

Ranewa took off her shoes as her knees shook. She took her phone and called her father in-law.

“The number –“

She cut the call and sat down. Minutes slowly went by as she stared at nothing. She thoughtfully picked her phone a while later and called him.

Ranewa stood up as his phone rang then he picked

“Hey..”

“Hi, ke Ken. Trevor is still busy.”

Ranewa frowned at the noise in the background.

“It’s important. It won’t take long.”

“He is under the car. We had a breakdown..”

“Oh... uh you can tell him to call me.”

“I will.”

Ken hung up. Ranewa looked at her laptop and opened a travel website. Her phone vibrated ringing. She quickly picked.

“Hello?”

“Couzie, what’s going on? Trevor o ntsha magadi?”

“What?”

“I tagged you on a post mo Facebook. Check it.”

Ranewa hung up and opened her Facebook. She opened the post her cousin had tagged her on. Ranewa looked at a picture of Trevor and Ken standing with their two aunts that had been posted by Trevor’s aunt. She swiped the screen and looked at the other picture of Trevor’s aunts including the other married ladies she saw on her own wedding day.

Her heart raced as her cousin called her again.

“Hello?”

“Couzie... something is going on. Is there a family event?”

“No..I would know if there was. It’s Friday .. they... let me call someone. I will call you back.”

Ranewa took a deep breath as cutting her cousin’s call and called one of Trevor’s cousins.

“Renaye... hi!”

Ranewa forced a chuckle. “Its Ranewa mma.”

The cousin laughed. “Yes yes! God, sorry. Hi love “

“Hi. Is your mom around?”

“I don’t know. I am not home.”

“Ompile, something is going on. And I know we are not close but I know you know. What’s going on?”

“With?”

Ranewa’s voice shook. “Please tell me. I am begging you. I will pay you. How’s 2k?”

**Fires Of Desire**

## Fires Of Desire

#87

In Orapa, relatives ululated as Nolo walked out of the house with her aunt. Nolo smiled looking down walking with her aunt towards her in-laws. Nicole smiled singing with the other aunts. Their mother smiled looking at her daughter. Nolo raised her head as they approached immediately locking eyes with Trevor. He smiled looking at her.

Nolo looked away shyly as they all sat down. Nicole walked a distance away taking out Nolo's ringing phone from her handbag. She looked at Ranewa calling and picked.

"Hello?"

"Hi, Nolo?"

"It's Nicole."

"Oh hey, how are you?"

"I am fine you?"

Ranewa laughed. "My husband is marrying another woman. I feel I am going crazy."

Nicole swallowed. "Who?"

"I don't know her but it's happening right now." Ranewa's voice shook. "I just left wor. Where are you guys? Sam told me something about Nolo being in Orapa. Gatwe the woman is from Orapa. It's happening there."

"By the time you arrive I am sure the wedding would have long been over."

"I want to see her. I am suing her because I didn't give a final consent to that wedding. I should have been there. He can't just marry a woman behind my back..I am his wife! His legal wife!"

"I don't think you should go.. Driving in your state-"

"I don't care! Where are you?"

"At home. Ranny...-"

"Can't you find out who it is for me?"



“I wouldn’t know who to ask.”

“Please. I just need to know who it is. I can’t...” She sighed. “If this woman comes then it’s over for me. She’s replacing me. Trevor won’t give me a chance. I am... I am desperate and I know I sound crazy. I have done everything... I don’t know what to do anymore. I feel I am losing my mind.”

Nicole sat down. “I am sorry.”

“I just want to talk to her. Woman to woman. Maybe she will understand.”

“I don’t think she will understand. You talking to her will do nothing but embarrass you. I know what you are going through. Begging to be loved. The more you fight the more he hurts you because he knows he has the upper hand. I am sorry, it’s not easy but the least you can do is keep your dignity.”

“I am so scared. His whole family is there. The people who smile at me. The people I thought had my back.. they are there ululating for another bride. The people I have been crying to, the people who said they are now my family are cheering while I am in the dark. I am going to Orapa. I am going with my cousin. But thanks.”

She hung up. Nicole looked at the phone then her sister who was now seated. The proceedings went on for a while then the singing started again.

Nicole walked over to Trevor’s aunt who was walking to her big car outside the gate.

“Mme..”

She turned to Nicole and smiled. “The big sister, how are you my girl?”

Nicole smiled. “I am fine. There’s a little issue here. I don’t know if you are aware of this but I just got a call and Trevor’s wife is coming here.”

“Ranewa?”

“Eemma. I don’t want to tell Nolo and ruin her day.”

“I understand that. It’s ok. I will sort it out.”

“Eemma, thank you.”

Nolo walked away and stood a distance watching Nolo hug Trevor. Her mother walked over to her.

“You have been standing for a while now. You need to sit down.”

She pulled a chair. Nicole slowly sat and looked at her swollen hands and legs.

“Everything went well.”

Her mother smiled. “Yes. I am so happy.”

Nicole nodded. “Me too.”

“I am going to renovate the house. Maybe if it looks different you will be able to visit more.”

Nolo shrugged in silence.

\*

Trevor’s aunt held her phone and laughed as Ranewa picked the call.

“My daughter...”

“Dumelang.”

“How are you my girl?”

“I am fine.”

“I bought something for you. Where are you ? At work?”

“No.”

“Cant I meet you at home in twenty minutes?”

“No. Ke dule.”

She put her bag in top of the bonnet. “I know you are not happy at the moment my girl. I know you know, we didn’t tell you because you would have not been able to handle watching him watch him marry someone else. We thought it was best to quickly do it and move on. Tota ke magadi hela. Gase sepe gape.”

“I don’t think any of you ever wanted me..if it was like that why didn’t you stop the wedding? He could have married the one he wanted and now

grown women and men are busy sneaking lentsha magadi. What you are doing is illegal. I am taking this to court. You have wasted your money because I am going to sue her for home wreckage!”

“Ranny, my girl you knew this was coming.”

“You lied to me. Made me believe he will love me. Today you are the same people in Orapa. I am taking this to court! If no one ever told you, le baloi hela lotlhe. I am going to destroy all this! You don’t know what I am capable of!”

“Ware mang ke moloi?”

“All of you! All of you! Le bo satan! You are a bunch of liars but you don’t know me!” She hung up yelling.

Trevor’s aunt took a deep breath and walked back to everyone. She pulled her sister in-law aside.

“I was just talking to Ranewa. She found out about this and she’s coming. She’s angry, she called us witches. O ntogile monyana o. Ebile she says she’s going to destroy all this. She says she’s going to take us to court.”

“How did she find out?”

“I don’t know lenna. I have to let rragwe Trevor know. O kae Mrs?”

They laughed. “She is inside. Wa mo itse..”

“I wonder what my brother saw. Koore she feels herself now that she’s going to be the first lady.”

“She looks so bored. I saw her busy fixing herself. She never liked Nolo.”

“No.. that’s she’s angry. She didn’t want this to happen but now she has to deal with two daughter in-laws. All that nonsense is going to end.”

“Waitse I am still shocked that Onolo is pregnant after Trevor said he has erectile dysfunction.”

They laughed. “Shhh... we are not telling anyone that but I knew he was lying. He doesn’t want Ranewa and he’s not budging. Gongwe after the elections that sham of a marriage can come to an end.”

“Eish mma, and I really feel sorry for her. She’s trying.”

“This is life and life is not fair. We need to finish up before she arrives. Tota we can't afford drama after such a beautiful gathering.”

\*\*\*

Over Two Hours later..

The helicopter touched down at Orapa. Ranewa stepped out minute later with her cousin and hurried over to the cab that was already waiting for them.

They got in, Ranewa took a deep breath calling Ompile.

“Hello?”

“Hi, did you get the directions of where we are going?”

“Gatwe behind a primary school, there's a red tuckshop in the street.. that's all I can tell you. Please don't call me.”

She hung up on. Ranewa looked at the cab driver.

“We are going to a wedding. I am not sure exactly where mme gatwe it's behind a primary school and that there's a red tuckshop along the street.”

“Wedding? You mean at Teko's house?”

“Rra?”

“Ke utule gotwe people were gathered there.. important people. Rich people ebile gatwe the Vice President's sister was seen there.”

“Exactly where we are going.”

He nodded then started the car and drove off...

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#88

The cab stopped at a gate where a few cars were parked. Ranewa stepped out with her cousin and walked in the yard in her suit. A few people were around seated. Ranewa walked to the slightly open door and pushed it walking in.

She looked at the men and women seated in the sitting room. They all turned to her. She took a deep breath and respectfully put her hands together.

“Dumelang.”

“Eemma dumelang.”

“My name is Ranewa Mbakiwe. My family was here earlier. I am late for the wedding.”

The elderly man smiled. “You are very late my child. They long left.”

Ranewa laughed. “Aoo bathong! Didn’t they stay for lunch?”

“Unfortunately not. Who are you again?”

“Ranewa Mbakiwe. A daughter in law of the family.” Ranewa smiled.

“Monyadi ene o teng?”

They all laugh. “She had to leave. She had a something important that needed her attention. So sorry.”

Ranewa sat down with the other women. Her cousin followed suit.

“Ke mathata. I would have loved meeting her today to just show her how much we adore her. Trevor is so in love, koore I just wanted to see her.”

Mmagwe Nolo smiled. “My daughter looked really beautiful. I have pictures let me show you.”

Ranewa’s heart pounded as she waited. Mmagwe Nolo stretched out her hand and handed her the phone. Ranewa took them with both hands and took a deep breath looking at the pictures. She frowned looking at Nicole.

“Is this... is this her?”

She showed the other relative. “No.. that’s Nicole.”

The relative swiped the screen to a picture of Onolo in her beautiful german print dress that hugged her curves, her arms around Trevor who

seemed to be whispering something in her ear that obviously was making her laugh.

Ranewa swiped the screen and looked at another one where they were kissing, Nolo's ring sparking on her finger. She swiped and looked at one where Trevor was hugging her from behind.

She swiped again and looked at the one where he was alone wearing his suit that matched Nolo's dress.

"Ranewa!"

Her cousin shook her, Ranewa gasped dropping the phone, shock and disbelief reflecting in her eyes.

Mmagwe Nolo looked at her. "Are you ok?"

Ranewa's cousin shook her head. "No! Your daughter married a married man!"

Everyone else looked at her. She stood up taking out her phone. She quickly opened Ranewa's wedding pictures and showed them.

"He is married to her! Waitse Nolo is a snake! I long saw that bitch!"

Ranewa tried standing. She put her hand over her chest.

Her cousin helped her up. "Ranny-"

"Nolo..."

"She is going to get what belongs to her."

"Nolo..." Tears rolled down. "Nolo is my friend."

Mmagwe Nolo stood up. "Trevor is married?"

Ranewa gasped crying.

Her cousin nodded. "He is a married man and Onolo has been having an affair with him. She attended their wedding. She's her friend."

"Nolo is not that kind of a woman. My daughter would never sleep with a married man."

"Your daughter is a home wrecker. She's a snake. She pretended to be a friend of Ranewa's while fucking her husband behind her back. Even go as far as marrying him. She's getting sued for home wreckage, you

better hold on to whatever they paid for your whore daughter because she's going to need it!"

"Hey wena, what are you calling my daughter?!"

"She is a witch. Let's go Ranewa. The helicopter is waiting."

Ranewa's cousin dragged her cousin out to the cab.

Mmagwe Nolo shook her head then picked her phone and called her daughter.

"Mama-"

"Onolo... Onolo what am I hearing about that man being married?"

\*\*\*

In Trevor's car, Nolo lowered the volume of the music as Trevor drove with his other hand in-between her thighs.

"Ma?"

"Ware ma? Kare what am I hearing about Trevor being married? O nyatsi wena? Huh?"

Nolo's heart skipped a beat. "Mama..."

"Nolo please tell me it's a lie and that woman that just came is a trouble maker. Please tell me that man is not married because if he is I am giving them back everything! Tell me it's a lie Onolo."

"It's... he's not married. He was. But not anymore. He ended that marriage."

"What do you mean? So this woman is lying?"

"She... it's complicated. I will explain. Was she there?"

"Nolo..."

"I need you to have my back mama. Were people still there?"

Her mother started crying. "Onolo what is this?"

"I am sorry. He is not married. It's complicated.."

Her phone vibrated indicating an incoming call. Nolo looked at Ranewa calling.

She cut her mother's call and looked at Trevor.

"She knows."

Trevor held her hand.

"It's ok. It's going to get messy. People are going to talk. A lot is going to happen. But I got you. There's nothing anyone can do now. We are married. I am glad we did it yesterday. We are going to stand together on this one. You don't have to worry because I got you."

She nodded as her phone rang again. Trevor took it and switched it off then made a call.

"T.."

"I am on my way. I am with my wife. I know we were scheduled to fly out later tonight but can it be in.. say three hours. With the private jet."

"Yeah."

"Thanks."

He hung up.. Nolo looked at him. "Where are we going?"

"I am giving you the wedding you want. We will deal with everything else when we come back. They won't die."

\*\*\*

Later that day in Gaborone, Ranewa got in her car at Sir Seretse Khama International Airport with her cousin and drove off calling her father in law. Her cousin frowned looking at Trevor's Benz speedo past them headed to the airport.

"Ranny, Trevor!"

Ranewa looked at her. "Where?"

"There! He just went to the airport."

Ranewa looked at the rearview mirrors catching his benz disappear out of sight. She cut the call driving towards the traffic light. She stepped on



the accelerator driving into a red traffic light and took a U-turn headed back to the airport as a combie driver angrily hooted spewing insults. She blinked speeding and pulled into the airport parking. She looked around trying to spot his car.

Her cousin pointed. "There!"

Ranewa drove over and parked in front of it. She stepped out and looked inside the car but there was no one inside. She ran inside the airport, her heart beating loudly she could almost hear it.

She looked around then walked over to the security guard.

"Dumelang.. my husband... my.." She took a deep breath trying to talk properly. "My husband.. Mr. Mbakiwe's son. The vice president's son. He just came in... he forgot something. Did you see him?"

He shook his head. "No. Check there."

He pointed at a desk.

"What's flying out right now?"

"Uh my sister go bua nnete hela I don't know."

Ranewa turned and rushed to the desk.

"What's flying out right now?"

"A flight to Windhoek just took off. One to Johannesburg leaves in thirty minutes. Right now we are expecting one from Johannesburg to land."

"My husband... Trevor Mbakiwe just came in. He forgot something. Did you see him? Trevor Mbakiwe. My name is Ranewa Mbakiwe. I am his wife. The daughter in-law to Mr. Mbakiwe. The Vice president. He's son.. my husband..." She put her hand over her mouth crying. "He just came here... did you see him?"

The woman looked at her. "I am sorry. I did not see him."

Ranewa looked around. "Trevor! Trevor!"

People looked at her as she screamed. Her cousin walked over and hugged her as she cried. Ranewa pushed her off and walked around the airport screaming for Trevor.

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

People looked as Ranewa screamed like a mad woman. Her cousin walked over as two security guards made their towards Ranewa.

“Ranny, we need to go. I think he’s left already.”

“Ng Ng Setso.... Trevor!”

Setso hugged her. “He’s gone Ranny. He’s gone.”

Ranewa closed her eyes crying. The security guards approached. Ranewa’s cousin looked at them.

“Please help carry her outside.”

The security picked her up as she cried even more. The cousin picked Ranewa’s heels and hurried out with them leading the security guards to Ranewa’s brand new Audi. She looked at the empty spot where the Benz had been.

She unlocked the car and opened the passenger door. The security guards put her inside then closed the door.

Setso looked at the security guards. “Thank you.”

“Take care of her. We didn’t see her husband, if he came it means it was a quick in and out especially if he’s a high profile person. He probably didn’t use this entrance.”

“Eerra thank you.”

Setso got in the car. She took a deep breath then started the engine. The car roared to life slightly startling her.

She put on her seatbelt and smiled feeling the power of being in a nice car and actually driving.

She looked at Ranewa who was still crying. She drove off headed to Trevor’s mansion. The gate opened as they approached. Setso drove through the gate wondering who had opened but rich people’s things were always questionable. She helped her cousin I to the house.

Ranewa curled on the couch sobbing. Setso sat next to her.

“I am sorry. I didn’t expect Nolo to be the one to do this to you. She listened to all your cries pretending to care. To think she even came to

the wedding. Her and her sister are the most evil people I have ever come across but Nolo won't get away with it. Get a lawyer and sue."

Setso's phone rang. She took it out and picked her baby daddy's call walking away. She walked back minutes later.

She looked at Ranewa then thoughtfully took out her bottle of Allergex mixed with vodka and sedatives.

"Cousie, tsa, drink. It will help you sleep."

"Nolo..."

Setso helped her seat and put the bottle on Ranewa's mouth spilling the contents in her mouth.

Ranewa swallowed moving back tasting the horrible tasting mixture. Setso licked her fingers where a bit had spilled.

"It will help you sleep."

Ranewa looked at her. "I don't want to sleep."

Setso pushed Ranewa back to the couch and sat down next to her.

"You should charge 150k. That girl needs to pay."

Minutes passed then Ranewa's breathing got calmer. Setso stood up realizing she had fallen asleep then took the keys to the Audi and walked out.

She got in the car and drove off calling her baby daddy.

\*\*\*

Later that evening, Nicole smiled as MJ massaged her feet while she spoke on her phone.

"I am happy for you."

Nolo sighed. "I am so happy Nicole. I feel like I am floating irregardless of everything happening."

Nicole smiled. "Today was beautiful. You looked so beautiful."

Nolo chuckled. "You too."

“So what are you going to do with Ranewa? You are still going to come back.”

“Trevor and I will handle it together. I have a burning edge to say my husband and I.”

Nicole laughed. “Say it if it makes you happy. I am happy for you. But I hope you saw today that your in-laws will forever choose their own. Be careful. Those people are dangerous.”

Nolo laughed. “I know. I saw it with our parents.”

Nicole looked at MJ as he finished up. She smiled.

“So where are you going?”

“I am not sure. We went to a hotel to freshen up. We are about to board into a plane. He says it’s s surprise.”

“Ok. Communicate when you arrive.”

“Ok. Bye.”

She hung up. Nicole smiled at MH

“Thank you. I loved that.”

MJ smiled back. “Did anyone tell you that you looked beautiful today?”

She smiled. “Nolo..”

MJ got closer. “You looked beautiful today. More than usual.”

She smiled. “Thank you.”

MJ leaned over and kissed her gently. Nicole closed her eyes receiving the kiss. MJ moved back and smiled.

“You want to watch a movie?”

“Ng..”

“Ok.”

He cuddled with her on the couch holding the TV remote.

\*\*\*

At OR Tambo, Nolo took a deep breath as the plane took off. She held Trevor's hand and relaxed minutes later. He kissed her.

"Mrs. Mbakiwe..."

Nolo smiled. "Hi."

"I love you."

Nolo blinked holding his hand. "I love you too."

Trevor kissed her more. Nolo smiled and buried her head on his shoulder taking in a deep breath. Trevor kissed her neck rubbing her back.

\*\*\*

That following morning, Ranewa slowly woke up. She blinked then slowly sat upright. She looked around then picked her phone as everything came back to her. She unlocked her phone. Her heart skipped as she looked at the message he had sent her. She opened it.

Trevor: Hi, I have left the country but will be back in a week.. we will talk about it all when I get back, hopefully everyone would have calmed down.

She typed him a message back.

Ranewa: I am going to sue that whore. What you did is illegal. You and I are married under the court law. I am going to sue her, you can count on that. On top of your erectile dysfunctions you choose to embarrass me with someone who does nothing but sleep with married men! By the way I hope you know she's fucking your cousin!

She put her phone down after sending the picture but pain made it hard to breathe as pain tightened her throat.

Tears filled her eyes. Her phone rang, she sniffed picking.

"Setso..."

"Cousie, eish mma, an accident happened. Re ko police, the police want to talk to the owner of the car. Kana baby daddy hit another car by mistake."

“You what?”

“Heela mma don’t take out your already there frustrations on us. This is nothing can’t fix. Come to the police. This guy are ene o bata 10k.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#90

Ranewa hung up breathing heavily. She sat down unable to breathe properly. She closed her eyes and opened them as the door opened followed by rragwe Trevor walking in.

She looked at him silently. He sighed.

“I am sorry but you being there could have really hurt you.”

Ranewa shook her head, tears in her eyes.

He sat next to her. “I am sorry. I am so sorry.”

She smiled tearfully. “I might as well not bother trying anymore. The fact that you had me believing it would work out at the end knowing you were advocating for the other woman hurts me more than anything.”

“I believe in my traditional doctor He said it will end.”

“You have said a lot, most of which were lies if not all of them.” She sniffed. “And yesterday was just a clear sign on how you hate me as a family.”

“I am sorry. What can I do to make this right?”

A tear fell. He wiped it off her cheek. “What can I do?”

“I want you to do what you promised you would do. I am pregnant but Trevor still had not touched me. How am I supposed to explain this pregnancy in the future?”

He smiled. “You are pregnant?”

“Yes.”

“Very good. Don’t worry. I am on top of everything. I know the trust you had in me is shaken but I will make things right.”

“Do what you promised you would do! Or forget everything. I will just abort this baby, I won't lose anything!”

“No no... I will do it.”

Ranewa's phone rang. She looked at her cousin calling. Emotions overwhelmed her, she put her hands on her face crying. Rragwe Trevor hugged her.

“I am sorry...”

She cried even more.

\*\*\*

At the police station, Setso sat on the floor with her boyfriend. She looked at the time on her phone wondering what was taking Ranewa so long.

Twenty went by, her baby daddy looked at her. “Didn't you say you called your cousin?”

“I called her! Why are you asking as if you were not there when I called her?”

“Call her again. I have places to be!”

“We wouldn't be here if you had been driving carefully. No wonder you don't have a license. Nxla!”

A police officer walked over to them.

“The owner of the car will sort out the issues with the other driver of the car you crushed into. Mme you two are going to jail.”

Setso looked at the police officer. “I wasn't the one driving. I did nothing wrong. I swear..”

“Nyaa mma, the owner of the car says she never gave you her car so you are going in for theft and wena rraetsho, yours I will list as we go to the cells.”

\*\*\*

Later that morning, Nicole opened her door and looked at Sam. She put her hand over her belly protectively.

“Nolo is not here. She’s not in the country. I can’t tell you nothing because I know nothing. Wait for her to come back.”

“You knew didn’t you?”

“Knew what?”

“That all along it was Trevor she was sleeping with. You knew all along that she was sleeping with my sister’s husband.”

“No.”

Sam looked at her. “Why? Did my sister do anything to her or did I? Maybe I did unknowingly. Why?”

“Samantha, I understand you feel hurt but there’s nothing I can tell you. Just wait for Nolo “

Sam rubbed her eyes. “To marry him .. not that having an affair with him was enough, she went ahead and married him. That’s my sister’s husband. The man my sister cried to her about!”

Nicole looked at her sadly. “I am sorry.”

“That day I found Trevor’s car at his house... he had been there hadn’t he? And a lot of other incidents...” Sam stepped back with reddish eyes. The hurt in her eyes visible.

“I am sorry but only Nolo can explain herself.”

Sam nodded then sniffed walking away. Nicole closed the door and locked it. She walked to her ringing phone.

“Mama...”

“Where is Onolo? I am calling her but her phone is not going through.”

“She travelled out of the country. I spoke to her yesterday and if you think I will allow you to be vice Jesus in her life, you have another thing coming. The least you can do is stand with your child but of cause you don’t understand that because when have you ever stood up your children? Onolo is my sister and I will turn everything upside down for her. Focus on crying for your shitty husband!”



\*\*\*

That same morning, Ranewa sat in her bedroom live on Facebook. She looked as over thousand people watched. She sniffed talking to the camera.

“When my husband married me, I thought we were going to be one of those lovely couples. I was prepared to put in the work to make our marriage work but I was alone on that. He said it would take time to adjust to our reality of being husband and wife, the first night I tried initiating intimacy and that’s when he told me he wasn’t really into sex. So I let it go, gape I was a virgin and the fact that he wasn’t putting me under pressure was nice but that’s when I realized there was someone else and this someone else was here to stay. Trevor would sleep out and come back in the mornings. I would tell my friend.. Nolo about the situation and she was very supportive. I remember at some point I decided it would make things easier if we started as friends but after that he just started doing as he pleased. To him it was just fine.. him cheating on me openly.” Ranewa put her hand over her mouth crying.

“I tried everything and he told me till his side cheek was comfortable enough with sharing, only then will he put effort into our marriage. I guess she never did because he’s never touched me. He started sleeping out more. He would go for days then come back after three days to freshen up, change and go to work. I consulted with family and that’s when he said he has erectile dysfunction and is infertile. When you are desperate you’d believe anything. And at that meeting he told my family and I he wanted to take his girlfriend as a second wife. He also said that I need to sleep with his brother so his brother helps us conceive. This was over a month back. And from that meeting things went from worse to even worsen. Yesterday I found out that his family went to marry the side chick ko Orapa and guys that side chick is my friend. The friend whom I used to cry to. The friend who I used to tell all problems to. Onolo why? I don’t understand... “

\*\*\*

Amo watched the live video with over two thousand more people while she breastfeed her daughter in the servant's quarters in her yard.

Ranewa spoke crying.

"I trusted you... I trusted you. You were my friend. You came to my wedding. I don't understand. Pelo yame e botlhoko..." She looked down crying.

Tears filled Amo's eyes as she watched Ranewa cry. She cried so much her cries eventually had a tear roll down Amo's cheek..

"Right now Trevor sent a message last night saying he's travelled out and that hopefully when he comes back, I would have calmed down. When it's like this what do we do bathong?"

Amo sniffed listening to Ranewa crying. She quickly typed a comment.

Amo: I know Onolo. She was once sleeping with my husband knowing he was married. That time she was still staying Ko Jwaneng. My husband would always be there till I found out he was sleeping with her. I know this woman bathong and today I am a single mother because of her.

She sent her comment and read more comments from other people.

Amo's phone rang. She picked.

"Friend.."

"I saw your comment. Do you think it's wise looking at the fact that you applied for another position at Debswana. Nolo works there."

"Waitse mma it's time the world know what evil woman she is. I hope she losses her job! Ke moloji monyana o!"

"Amo, you have a baby... your husband is in jail for domestic abuse. Your boyfriend who is your husband's friend who no longer wants you won't support his so called child. You need to be smart."

"I have applied for the youth funds to start my own business. I don't need Onolo Feni. That woman needs to go down and I hope Ranewa sues that bitch! Sfebe!"

Fires Of Desire

#91

MJ frowned watching the live video in his car at a mall then called Nicole.

“Hello?”

“Hey, I am at Game City.”

“If you can’t find it, ask the store staff.”

“Ok, have you seen that trending video?”

“No.. what video?”

“Trevor’s ex wife has made a live video about Nolo. It’s looking bad for her. She’s trending for all wrong things.”

“Ranewa made a video?”

“Yes. A live video. She told her point of view and you know how the Mbakiwe surname is a famous surname. Everyone witnessed the wedding. After a while it was broadcasted on BTV. Of cause people would take her side. It’s not looking good. Nolo might lose her job.”

“Nolo submitted her resignation letter weeks back. She knew this was coming. She really doesn’t need Debswana. It’s yet going to get ugly when entire truth comes out. I hope Nolo is prepared for it.”

“She says she wants to sue Nolo for home wreckage.”

“She’s forward. Right from the beginning she knew Trevor didn’t love her. I don’t support how things turned out but Trevor had never touched this girl before. He’s never promised her anything. Tota it all doesn’t matter because she’s not even married anymore.”

“Nolo is a big girl. She can handle this. I thought I’d keep you in the loop. Media houses soon will be calling you. You know how they love drama.”

“Thank you.”

“Let me get in the shop. I will call you.”

“Ok.”

\*\*\*

At Nicole's house, Nicole frowned watching the live. She chuckled listening to the half baked stories. She opened the comments.

Comment: That's why I don't gave friends, boloi is real!

Comment: Waitse shock is an understatement! In-laws will never be your family.

Comment: I feel sorry for this woman. Found myself crying with her.

Comment: Mjolo the pandemic!

Comment: Husband and wife and you two have never gotten intimate? How did you even get married? Your story has portholes.

Comment: Something doesn't make sense. How long were you dating this guy?

Comment: Heelang! Is this the woman whom Trevor (vice president's son) married? I knew something was wrong..that man didn't look happy on his wedding day. It's like he was being forced.

Comment: After the God, fear a friend!

Comment: This woman! I can't believe it. This home wrecker needs to be sued.

Comment: Sue love o mo bakise. Moloji!

Nicole left the comment section and scroll down her newsfeed and paused looking at the post from a famous newspaper, her sister being the headline. She looked at the screenshot of Amo's comment that had been posted.

Nicole thought of commenting but then that would be putting petrol into the fire. Her phone rang, she took a deep breath and picked.

"Why are you calling me after selling half stories to the public? You are very pathetic! Why didn't you tell them that your marriage was arranged and that Trevor never wanted you? Why didn't you tell them about how he's always been open to you about not wanting you? Why did you not tell the public about you drugged him to rape him?"

Ranewa sniffed. "Your sister backstabbed me!"

“My sister was never your friend. You were forcing yourself on her. Trevor and Nolo started before you two got married. They have been together longer than how long you have been using the Mbakiwe surname!”

“I am still Trevor’s wife and nothing is going to change that. I am going to sue her. Trevor is a married man!”

“Go ahead and sue. You are a true definition of a side chick with a ring. I pity you.”

Nolo hung up and took a deep breath trying to calm down as one of the babies moved. She closed her eyes trying to forget it all.

\*\*\*

At Trevor’s house, Ranewa answered an incoming call.

“Hello?”

“Hi. My name is Amogelang Moremi. I know Onolo. She once at some point was sleeping with my husband. She ruined my marriage. That time she was still working in Jwaneng. She was sleeping with my husband even though she knew he was married. I went to talk to her and her sister was there. She defended her. She’s a man snatcher. That’s her style. I am so happy you spoke up. I want to stand with you. Let’s tag team and teach this girl a lesson.”

Ranewa stood up. “I saw your comment.”

“I tried talking to her. She thinks it’s ok to sleep with married man. She needs to be taught a lesson. One she will never forget and I am here to help you. I have a plan... she will never sleep with anyone’s husband after that.”

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. .  
. .

Fires Of Desire

#92

Hours later in Greece, Nolo took a deep breath at a hotel's that looked over the blue sparkling waters. The designer finished fixing Onolo's gown.

"You can look.."

Nolo took a deep breath and turned. The lady smiled uncovering the big mirror in their executive suite.

Nolo froze staring at herself in the ballroom gown embellished with luxe stone beading. Tears filled Nolo's eyes as she walked closer, the dresses long trail following behind. She gasped looking at herself, she ran her hands down the beaded details.

A tear fell. "I look... like a bride. A real one."

The designer smiled. "Because you are. He's waiting..."

Nolo looked away as more tears filled her eyes.. the designer smiled pinning the veil into her head.

"You are the most beautiful bride I have ever come across."

Nolo looked up to keep her tears away but they still rolled down. The designer gently dabbed away the tears with a tissue..

"He's waiting."

\*

Outside the hotel, Nolo slowly walked on the wooden bridge that led to the docks where a white yacht was docked.

Trevor stood at the far end in his tuxedo watching her as she walked over while the sun set. He swallowed and took a deep breath as she slowly approached.

He took another deep breath as something sat on his throat. She stopped a couple of feet from him holding her flowers. Trevor walked closer and smiled trying to keep it together. He held her hand, tears itching his eyes.

"You look beautiful Mrs. Mbakiwe... so beautiful.."

She sniffed, her face underneath her veil. Trevor wrapped his arms around her and rubbed his eyes as she held on to him. He held her for minutes and finally helped her inside the yacht. Nolo followed the roses next to him as the yacht gently moved sailing into the blue waters of the sea.

The hired Reverend smiled as the couple approached. He fixed himself and smiled watching them. Trevor took the flowers from her and put them aside. He held her hands in front of the Reverend and smiled.

“I know we are already legally married but I wanted to give you this... a yacht, you and me, the Reverend and the other guy who’s sailing this thing.”

Nolo blinked. “It’s beautiful. It’s everything and more...”

Trevor looked at the Reverend who then started.

“Beloved, we are here today to unite Trevor and Nolo and make them one. Love is a beautiful thing when it’s with the right person. It’s a beautiful thing when it’s real.. I don’t know you two but I can see and feel it. Today I am here to join you two in matrimony commended to be honorable among all; and therefore is not to be entered into lightly but reverently, passionately, lovingly and solemnly. I will start this with a short prayer.”

Nolo looked at Trevor as the Reverend prayed. He squeezed her hands in reassurance.

The Reverend finished his prayer and smiled.

“I understand you prepared your vows. Trevor...”

Trevor kissed her hands.

“You look beautiful, I can’t get over the fact that you are mine and mine only. I can’t get over the fact that from today going forward I am going to be waking up next to love of my life. I never thought I could actually love hard like this till you happened. I can never thank God enough for you. In a short period you have become center of my being. I can’t imagine my life without you. There can never be me without you. You are best decision I have ever made, and I know you were made for me. This is just the beginning baby, and it’s going to be forever. I will give anything for you. I take you today to be my wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in

health, to love and to cherish; from this day forward until death do us part. I'd still choose even in our next life. I will forever choose you. I love you so much. I love you more than anything and-" He paused rubbing his eyes. "You are my forever."

The Reverend smiled getting emotional. "Nolo..."

Nolo sniffed. "I didn't write anything. I... I didn't know this kind of love till you. I never believed that love can be do intense and genuine. You have shown me that it can be different. That it can be like this... you are so good at this love thing, I feel safe with you. Everyday I yearn for you more and more. You have won my heart that I can't go a second without thinking if you. I have fallen for you so hard it scares me. I love you Trevor... you have completely kidnaped my heart and made it yours and I want it that way. I too take you to be my husband, my friend, my faithful partner and my love from this day forward. In the presence of this reverend, I offer you my solemn vow to be your faithful partner in sickness and in health, in good times and in bad, and in joy as well as in sorrow. I promise to love you unconditionally, to support you in your goals, to honor and respect you, to laugh with you and cry with you, and to cherish you for as long as forever shall last. I Onolo Feni take you Trevor to be my only partner in life and my one true love. I will cherish our union and love you more each day than I did the day before. I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad, regardless of the obstacles we may face together. I give you my hand, my heart, and my love, from this day forward for as long as we both shall live."

The Reverend smiled. "And with power I hold, I announce you as husband and wife. You may kiss the bride..."

Trevor took off the veil and kissed her. Nolo put her hands on his chest kissing him back. The Reverend walked away.

Trevor smiled. "I love you."

She blinked. "I Onolo Feni give you this wonderful gift of bring a father... I am pregnant."

Trevor blinked. "We are having a baby?"

She nodded crying. "We are going to be parents."

Trevor hugged her picking her up. She laughed crying as he twirled with her.



Trevor put her down and cupped her face. "We are having a child baby"

She nodded. "Yes."

He kissed her and hugged her tightly unable to contain his happiness.

\*\*\*

Late in the evening somewhere just outside Gaborone, rragwe Trevor sat naked in a small room with a traditional doctor.

"She is pregnant now."

"We need that sacrifice now. Time is running out. You are not going to become the next president if we don't do that ritual."

"What should I do?"

"I need blood... and the necessary parts. This unborn child will not do anything for you."

"Ken-"

"Trevor. Bring Trevor's blood. The one you love more than anyone... he's the sacrificial lamb. Bring Trevor's heart.. it needs to still beating when you bring it and everything you desire will be yours. Bring Trevor's heart and it's all yours! If you don't... you will lose everything in the blink of the eye."

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#93

The following morning in Greece, Nolo sank her nails onto Trevor's back convulsing underneath him moaning his name. Trevor stilled inside filling her up again. His lips found hers, his hands all over her body.

Nolo rubbed his shoulders as he released her lips. He smiled looking at her.

"Wareng?"

She got shy smiling. "Akere sepe."

“O monate gore.”

She giggled. He kissed her gently easing out then pushed back in making she gets every last drop.

Nolo touched his beard. “You are my happiness..”

Trevor smiled. “I live for your happiness.”

She giggled. He slid out and laid next to her pulling her in his arms. Trevor squeezed her butt.

“I couldn’t sleep last night. I am going to be a father.”

Nolo smiled. “You are going to be amazing.”

Trevor sighed happily. “This is perfect.”

She blinked. “It scares me a bit.”

“Don’t let it.”

“This is going to ruin your reputation.”

“It won’t. People talking about me on Facebook will not affect me. I have secured everything. I prepared for it. When we go back home, we are going to stand together firmly. Let them talk... it won’t change anything.”

She smiled and kissed his chest. “Ok.”

“And we are getting more security.”

Nolo laughed. “Babe your tone...”

Trevor looked at her smiling. “Just making sure we understand each other.”

“We do.”

“Perfect Mrs. Mbakiwe.”

Trevor rubbed her lips with his thumb, Nolo blinked smiling. He kissed her letting everything else drift away till it was only her he could think of.

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, hours behind, Mmagwe Trevor sprayed her fragrance at the back of her ears looking at her husband.

“Where did you sleep last night?”

“In the study. I couldn’t sleep properly. Trevor is stressing me.”

She turned and looked at him as he finished dressing.

“You allowed for this nonsense to happen. Now look at the mess... Trevor should have focused on making his marriage work.”

“And you think he would have stopped seeing her?”

“That girl could have been taken care of.”

“Do you even care about his happiness.”

“I do. But sometimes we have to give tough love. Trevor shouldn’t have been with Nolo. Now look, the drama that’s happening. I don’t even know what type of a wife Ranewa is. That girl was not trained properly. Who taught her that you air your husband’s dirty laundry to the public. She’s very stupid if she thinks now Trevor will love her. She’s just pushed him further into Nolo’s arms.”

Ragwe Trevor sat on the bed. “Can you just...” He sighed. Mmagwe Trevor fixed her earring.

“Let’s go. We don’t want to be late.”

He stood up and followed her out unable to stop thinking about what the traditional doctor had said.

\*\*\*

Nicole smiled opening a picture Nolo had sent. She smiled looking at her wearing a beautiful wedding gown.

She smiled and sent her a message.

Nicole: Beautiful. I wish I were there.

She looked at the picture again looking at Nolo’s smile again and saved the picture to her phone.

She frowned receiving a message from Thabiso.

Thabiso: I heard you already have a new boyfriend, is that good for my babies?

Nicole: Stay out my business. Never ask me any questions regarding my personal life or else you and I will have a serious problem. You have no business in my love life.

Thabiso: it's my business when it comes to my children.

Nicole: I truly blame this on your absent father. I wish people knew just how an absent father may affect the kids. Look today the kind of man you think you can be. This toxic behavior is not anywhere close to being a good father. I will date who I want. Please don't bore me with your nonsense. With that being said I am blocking you. Till the babies are born you and I have nothing to discuss.

She sent the message and immediately blocked him.

\*\*\*

That same morning, Ranewa walked inside a restaurant wearing a scarf on her face that it looked like a hijab. She fixed her sunglasses looking around then walked over to Amo who was seated at the far end table. She walked over and sat down.

Amo smiled. "Hi."

Ranewa took off her glasses. "Hey. Ranewa.."

"Amo."

Ranewa smiled. "I remember you from Miss Botswana."

Amo laughed. "Everyone does."

Ranewa laughed. "You got us into the Miss World top 5, why not?"

"Waai, that part of my life ended. Now I am just any other person."

"Your husband..."

"In jail. After Nolo accused him of abuse. Kano had never touched me. Never. He's not abusive... it all started when she started sleeping with him. She was pregnant, she aborted... I was ready to sue her."

"She is my friend or pretended to be. I met her through my sister. They worked together in Jwaneng. I liked her right from the first day I spoke to

her. I thought she was a real friend. She actually inspired me. She's driven, a hard worker and... I would cry to her about my husband..."

"She needs to be taught a lesson. She can't get away with it."

"I have spoken to a lawyer. I am suing her."

"That won't be enough. She needs to feel the pain of what she has put us through. People like her need to be dealt with. I want to torture her till her last breath."

"What's the plan?"

"A gang bang. And we make sure it's recorded and published. We will see who will still want her after that. We will make sure it's intense. She will never heal from that."

Ranewa looked at her. "I was raped months ago."

"I am sorry but you can't put your emotions into this. Onolo needs to pay for everything she did. After that you sue her. Not even your husband will want a woman who's vagina has been destroyed. She will eventually kill herself. That's what she deserves for the devil she is. She deserves even more."

"And who will do it?"

"We will hire people to. But first we need to get her. Kidnap her then get her raped and discarded like a piece of shit she is. I am ready for the whole process to begin. They are going to come back. We will catch her when she comes back. No one will sympathize with her because akere ene she's s home wrecker."

"I am not sure.."

"Don't you want her to suffer for everything she's done? She has to pay. Onolo can't get away with everything. She needs to pay and she will!"

A WEEK LATER...

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#94

A Week Later...

Nolo looked at herself in front of the mirror in the morning. She put on the white jacket. Trevor walked over in their bedroom and hugged from behind kissing her neck.

"You smell amazing."

Nolo turned to him. "I am going to collect my things first."

"Ok. Do you want me to drop you off?"

"No.. I can manage. They won't say anything to me regarding the Facebook scandal, akere kea ba intimidater.."

Trevor laughed. "Go bata yalo."

"Yes. Most of the Facebook talkers don't even say hi to me. I scare them, ga ke shename, ba ntsaba."

Trevor kissed her. "I love you. Security will be a distance away."

She smiled. "Yes sir. I can't believe our honeymoon is over and we are back."

Trevor squeezed her butt. "We will have a proper one soon. One that's not rushed."

"Ok. I loved this one too. I loved our small wedding more. Thank you."

Nolo kissed him then picked her handbag and laptop bag. She walked out with him behind her. Nolo got in her Porsche and smiled waving driving off. The gate opened then she drove out calling her sister.

"Hello?"

"Hi. I am back. I arrived last night."

"I missed you. By the way, you are getting sued."

Nolo laughed. "And so I have heard."

"They are out for your blood."

"On Facebook streets. They don't try me face to face."

"She went and sold the everyone half baked stories."

“I knew she would do that. I don’t blame her.”

“Amo joined in.”

“Amo?”

“Ng. O kare they have teamed up.”

“Mxm, and to think I had recommended her for my job ko Debswana. Let them team up. Ranewa knew about me.. her not knowing who exactly it was doesn’t change the fact she’s always knew I was there. But let her be. Tota if it helps her to vent to the public, it’s ok. There’s an incoming call, I will call you.”

Nolo hung and looked at Sam calling.

“Hello?”

“O molotsana monyana ke wena! Satan!”

Nolo overtook a cab switching to the fast lane.

“I knew there was something going on! I knew it right from the beginning. How do you feel? O Satan Onolo and if you think you will get away with it thamma you are wrong! This time you gave messed with the wrong family. You have gone far. It doesn’t get old to you does it? Getting used by married men... everyday you are always jumping on dics like a prostitute you are. How do you feel opening your stinking legs for married men?”

Nolo hooted at a driver in front of her. “Damn! Indicate when turning!”

“Are you listening to me? You better be careful because you messed with the wrong people!”

“O heditse?”

“How could you? It could have been anyone but him. How could you?”

“Are you done?”

“Why Nolo? Why? My sister was your friend. You listened to her cry to you. You knew everything. How could you take advantage of her pain?”

“Why eng? Your sister was not my friend. She was the woman who was trying to force herself onto me. Your sister knew about me before she got married. But I won’t waste my time trying to explain myself to you. I

owe you nothing. I owe your sister nothing as well. Go and question Trevor. He's the one who married your sister. Your anger is misplaced."

"You went and fucked my sister's husband then you say my anger is misplaced?!"

"Go and question your brother in-law. I am not going to explain myself to you."

"You are getting sued and you are going to lose your job. Let's see if what happens from there!"

"Ok. We will see. Wait, my marital status doesn't allow me to bark like a dog, I am someone's wife and it would be a shame if my husband ever had to find out that this is what I entertain."

"He is not your husband! You are getting sued, let's see what will happen after that."

"Ok. I believe you are done. Have a lovely day."

"O tletsu masepa lebelele ke wena! Selo se se robalwang gongwe le gongwe! What kind of a woman are you!"

"The kind you have a crush on. Bye sweetie."

Nolo hung up and parked her car at Debswana Headquarters. She walked inside the building holding her handbag.

She walked past the reception headed to her office. Her PA looked at her packing Nolo's things in boxes.

Nolo smiled. "Hi, done?"

"Yes. I submitted my resignation form too."

Nolo smiled. "Ok. Then we can go.. you take the boxes to the reception. I have to see HR first."

"Emma."

Nolo walked to the HR's office and walked. The HR Senior Manager looked at her.

"Nolo."

"Good morning. I was here to collect my things. And to also tell you that the lady I recommended is not a good fit for the position nor the company but I do hope you find someone."



“I spoke to the bosses. We need you on our team. The new projects we are currently running are because of you. You are a big asset to this company and we’d go propose a salary increment.” She handed Nolo a contract. Nolo opened it and looked at her in shock.

\*\*\*

Trevor walked in his office later that morning talking on the phone.

“We need to do damage control. Show the world otherwise. Surprise Ranewa with something nice.”

“I am not going anything like that. My wife won’t appreciate that.”

“Paying magadi doesn’t make that girl your wife. Ranewa’s father is on my case. Do you understand why you got married to that girl besides the fact you killed her brother?!”

“You made that deal not me. I was fine with jail. Onolo is now my wife and a lot is going to change. Not everyone will like it, I don’t care. I am not going to do anything to please the public. Gape all this will be over by next week. There’s always something that’s going to trend.”

“Trevor-“

“My marriage with Ranewa has been over. We nullified it. Onolo is legally my wife.”

“You what?”

“We nullified our marriage. She can’t do anything, Onolo though can. Legally she’s Mrs. Mbakiwe.”

“You and Ranewa nullified the marriage?”

“Yes.”

“And she agreed?”

“No..but it had to be done. That’s the truth. F she goes ahead with suing, she will find out our marriage was long deemed void. She and I are nothing to each other. Not even my ex wife. She’s just a person and I will do it again if I had to.”

“Do you realize what you done boy? All my hard work!”

“I don’t care. Onolo is expecting and I don’t want anything stressing her. Not even Ranewa.”

He hung up and picked a document of the meeting he was about to get into.

\*\*\*

At Debswana, Nolo walked out of the building over thirty minutes later. She unlocked her car from a distance calling Trevor but cut the call as Ranewa parked next to her car.

She stepped out and looked at her angrily as Amo also stepped out.

Nolo calmly looked at them. “Ladies...”

“So all along you were fucking my husband? All along when you pretended to be my friend, to care, you were fucking my husband? Huh? Ke bua le wena! O tsile go nyela gompiano and from here get ready to be headlining on new newspaper

Nolo looked at the time on the Rolex watch on her wrist.

“I have a meeting, ke kope o ntsutele ke tsamaye “

Amo laughed. “O tsile go nyela gompiano!”

“Ah! There goes the unemployed one. Shouldn’t you be looking for piece jobs because trust me, ya office yone lebala! They don’t hire ratchets. Look at yourself, o tlabisa ditlong. You are very pathetic.”

“O sematla go robala le banna ba ba nyetsing! You have no self respect.”

“Sematla ke mmago le rrago who failed to abort you. You are both wasting my time, gotswa ha, I am going to report harassment to police. You think everyone here inhales farts like you. Get out of my way Ranewa. I was never your friend and never will be your friend. Go and play on Facebook.”

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#95

Ranewa tearfully looked at her then laughed till a tear fell.

“The timed I cried to you, did you laugh at me when you would fuck him? Does he even have erectile dysfunction or that was just a way to push me away? Every time you advised I stop trying, it wasn’t out of the goodness of your heart was it?”

“I am done talking to you. Move out of my way. I have an important meeting I have to attend..”

“I am going to sue you.”

“If it makes you feel better, go ahead.”

Nolo walked past her. Amo pulled her hand..

“And where do you think you are going?”

Two man approached in suits.

“Mrs. Mbakiwe...”

Ranewa looked at them. “How can I help, you?”

Nolo sighed looking at Amo. “Never put your hands on me ever again. You will regret it.”

Nolo fixed her blazer and opened her car door. One of the man closed the door for her. Nolo started her car and drove off as two man walked to a black BMW and drove off following her car.

Amo shook her head. “Were they referring to her as Mrs. Mbakiwe, this girl has the nerve waitse!”

Ranewa turned to her. “Did you find the men to do it?”

“Yes. 10 for all five of them.”

“How soon can they do it? I am going to see my lawyer today so we can get a court order to sue.”

“Even tonight.”

“They should make sure to ruin her face too.”

\*\*\*

Nolo took a deep breath driving to a hotel. She looked at her phone ringing and picked.

“Trevor..”

“What’s wrong?”

She put her hand over her lips. “Nothing.”

“Talk to me.”

“Ranewa was... she was trying to try it with me but.. I handled it. She’s soon going to know.”

“Yes. My lawyer is ready with the documents to the house. The money is also ready.”

“Ok.”

“What is it?”

“Nothing. I just feel bad for her. I want to say I wish you didn’t marry her and just stood firm to the fact that you didn’t want her.”

“Yes. I could have but then I hadn’t fallen for you this hard. Hard enough to know I want nothing else but you. But I am not excusing the fact that I could have done better. But she knew... she knew before the wedding. She’s been knowing... that I love you.”

“You are whispering.”

“Meeting.”

“I am sorry.”

“Don’t be. Call whenever and I will answer.”

Nolo smiled. “I love you. I know I don’t tell you enough-“

“You do. And I know you do.”

She chuckled. “What time are you knocking off today?”

“I have a meeting at 6, should take an hour or less.”

“I am meeting the potential investors for the NGO right now.”

“You know this is something-“

“You could funded. I know. But this NGO is close to my heart. Can it be just mine?”

“Ok.”

“I will cook dinner. I have been learning at that lady’s cooking lessons. I will make you what she’s been teaching me.”

“I appreciate your efforts. But don’t feel pressured. You don’t have to. We can always hire a chef to cook.”

“No. I want to cook for you. I promise, one day I will be good. Really good.”

“Ok.”

“I love you.”

“I love you too Mrs. Mbakiwe.”

She hung up driving into the hotels parking. She stepped out of her car in holding her handbag and laptop bag. She walked to the hotel’s conference room, her heels echoing on the tiled

She opened the door to the confrere room and looked at the women seated on the long round table. They looked at her as she walked to the chair at the head of the table. Nolo settled and looked at them.

“Thank you ladies for coming today, it’s an honor meeting some of you. Mrs Mokwena..”

Anaya smiled. “That sounds too... scary. Call me Naya. You are gorgeous.”

Naledi laughed. “Of cause men snatchers are always gorgeous. If it were my man we would be saying something else.”

Nolo smiled. “Good thing it’s not though be careful. Thank you Mrs. Balopi.”

Kenny smiled. “Nna bathong I am only here for the tea, is it true that he has erectile dysfunction? Nna I wouldn’t survive, how do you do it?”

Bantu laughed. “Gatwe e gana go tsoga, nna nka tlogela once!”

They all laughed.

Eazi laughed looking at Bantu. “Eseng wena, wena isn’t it that your husband almost killed you because of bofebe?”

Bantu laughed even more, her thick afro shaking. “Gase nna, gatwe ke Keneilwe wa go cheater.”

Tears filled Kenny’s eyes as she laughed. “Waaka nnaka. I don’t cheat..I just serve the same energy you serve me.”

Anaya smiled. “You guys are full of scandals. But thank you Ms. Feni-“

Nolo smiled. “Mrs. Mbakiwe.”

Anaya smiled. “Mrs. Mbakiwe, thank you for having us today.”

Nolo nodded. “It’s really nice meeting you all here. I have heard amazing things, aside the drama and staff. We have Anaya who started from bottom and now look at you, one if the well known women of the century. Naledi, well known for her work, can’t even begin to list all your achievements. You have done so well for yourself to a point where you were called to Harvard to motivate the others. We have Keneilwe.. Kenny as most would know, the true definition of when life gives you lemons, make lemonade, your business ventures have been nothing but motivational to a lot. Not everyone will make money from making a simple drink but Eazi you have proved otherwise, a true definition of hard work pays. We have Lelentle, quiet at the corner.” Lele smiled. “A dream to most if not all that you can be who you work hard to be, I mean, a whole brand that caters for plus size featured in vogue magazine, we have Bantu... a lesson that with money.” They laughed. “And brains, you can go far. And today I have called you here with a proposal of an NGO for women. It’s always been hard being one.. but all you here are a living testimony and what better way to show it than start something that will help a lot of other women with potential and will to do great.” She everyone a copy of the proposal and started with her presentation.

\*\*\*

Ranewa looked at her lawyer as she spoke.

“If we are going down this route, you need to be prepared to have your name being dragged.”

“I am ready. I just want Nolo to pay for it all.”

“Ok. I will submit this at court so we get a court order.”

“Ok. Thank you.”

She stood up and walked out picking Amo’s call.

“Hello?”

“I have just paid them. Where does she stay?”

“I am not sure anymore. I think it’s better to lure her to a location where they will take her from.”

“How?”

“Her sister has a high risk pregnancy so we can play her sister’s doctor. Ask to meet up..she loves her sister so much she will go. They will be waiting there for her.”

“Perfect.”

Ranewa got in her and drove to Trevor’s house.”

\*\*\*

Later that day, Ranewa’s lawyer held her phone speaking to someone.

“Look, I am calling in for my favor. I need a court order. My client is suing for home wrecking. I need a court order. She’s married to Trevor Mbakiwe.”

“Ok. And the-“

“I have emailed everything.”

“Ok. I will have the process done faster. I will call you back.”

“Cool. Thanks.”

She hung up then minutes later her person called.

“Done?”

“What’s her husband’s name again?”

“Trevor Mbakiwe.”

“The vice’s son?”

“Yes.”

“And your client is Ranewa Mbakiwe?”

“Yes.”

“That dude is married to someone else. To Onolo Feni.. his marriage to Ranewa Mbakiwe was annulled. She can't sue. She's not his wife.”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#96

“Heela Tsitsi, wareng?”

“I am saying your client is not married. Her marriage was nullified and Trevor is married to Onolo Feni.”

“How was their marriage nullified because knows nothing.”

“It was obviously finalized in court and obviously your client should have been there. She obviously signed the documents.”

“No. She.. something is going on here.”

“A judge finalized proceedings.”

“I will call you back.”

She hung up and called Ranewaa.

“Hello?”

“Hi. There's something wrong. You said your husband only paid bride price right?”

“Yes.”

“And you are married under the court law?”

“Eemma.”

“Ranewa I am going to need original copies of your marriage certificate. I just spoke to my guy and there's no marriage between you and Trevor.”

“I don't understand. What does that mean?”



“Your marriage was annulled. It means you and Trevor proved to the court that your marriage never existed and therefore the court ruled the marriage invalid. The court dissolved your marital union on the grounds that it is not valid. You or him or both of you applied for this. You signed the documents and submitted them then went to court where .. God!”

“I am lost. I didn’t do anything. Trevor and I never went to court to dissolve our marriage. Please check properly.. I will email my marriage certificate to you. We are still very much married.”

“I need the original one tomorrow.”

“Ok.”

She hung up and laughed staring at her phone shocked.

\*\*\*

Nicole looked at her doctor as she did the scan. She slowly moved the throb around Nicole’s belly while Nolo looked at the screen holding her sister’s hand.

Nolo smiled listening to the heart beats. The doctor smiled.

“Seems we are doing fine in here though the other heart beat is not as strong.”

Nicole looked at her. “Is there something wrong with the baby?”

“I will have to run some tests but... We have to induce labor Nicole.”

Nicole sighed. “But I am doing well.”

“No.. you are living on the edge. If there’s anything wrong with the other baby, for both your sakes. It’s better to handle it after you have given birth. If we push too far you might lose the babies and your life.”

“They are not ready yet.”

“They are. And we have incubators for a reason. The goal here to save all three of you. Let’s not take risks. I am admitting you. I will run more tests and schedule you for a C-section.. We can’t waste anymore time.”

Nicole put her hands on her face. The doctor walked out then Nolo hugged her.

“You are going to be ok. You and the babies. I have faith.”

Nicole sniffed. “I am scared.”

“You are going to make it. I promise you.”

Minutes later the doctor walked in with two nurses and a bed.

They helped Nicole to the other bed and pushed her out.

“I am coming Nicole.”

Nolo watched as she got pushed out then looked at the doctor.

“She is going to make it... right?”

“We have the best team on our side. We had to call in a surgeon. She’s good. And... I believe Nicole will make it . After that we will attend to her heart.”

Nolo nodded.

“As next of kin, you are going to have to sign a few documents.”

“Ok. Uh, I want to do a scan. I am expecting.”

The doctor smiled. “That’s great!”

Nolo laughed. “Scary and shocking? Yes. I.. I was on contraceptives. I am still in shock.”

The doctor laughed. “I have been there before. It happens.”

Nolo laid down on the bed and pulled up her shirt. The doctor put the cold gel on her stomach and moved her throb gently.

She smiled. “Indeed you are expecting.”

Nolo looked but she couldn’t make sense of anything.

“You can’t see anything yet but.. do you see that .. dot here... the-“

“Yes...”

“That’s where we are. It looks like we are still in the early days.”

Nolo smiled. “Yes.”

“Congratulations.”

“Thank you..”

She wiped the gel with a tissue. She walked minutes later smiling and went to the room they had put Nicole at.

\*\*\*

At Trevor's house, Ranewa looked at her marriage certificate and put it away in an envelope. She quickly freshened up then walked out of her bedroom calling Amo.

"Hi.."

"I think Nolo has body guards. Those two men looked like bodyguards. I think Trevor hired them for her to protect her from people... but that means they will be around her at all times. We need a better plan...I am going to have to find out where she lives then we will send the men there."

"Ok."

Ranewa looked as rragwe Trevor walked in the house. She hung up and folded her arms looking at him.

He walked over and pinched her cheek. "Are you angry at daddy?"

"I don't want to do this anymore. I am pregnant so we don't have to."

"I told you I will make things right."

He tilted her chin. "I want to buy you a house. Your own house. The Audi will be here tomorrow."

She looked at him silently.

"Let's go on a vacation. Tomorrow. I will take you anywhere you want to go.. Dubai... you need time off the drama."

He kissed her.. Ranewa closed her eyes kissing him back.

He unzipped her dress and pushed it down her body.

\*\*\*

Nolo walked out of the hospital after seeing her sister. She frowned looking at her flat tire. She looked around then got in her car calling Trevor.

“Babe...”

“Are you still in a meeting?”

“No. Just got postponed it.”

“Can you please come and pick me up ko GPH, I have a flat tire, I don’t know how because it was fine earlier on.”

“Ok. I am coming.”

\*

Fifteen minutes later, Trevor parked next to her. Nolo stepped out as he got out of his Benz. He wrapped his arms around her kissing her.

“Hi...”

Nolo smiled. “Hey.”

He let go and looked at the flat tire. “We are going to have to leave it here. I will get someone to take it to a garage then bring it home.”

“Thank you.”

They got in his car then he drove off.

“I am going to the other house. I need to talk to Ranewa. Better I tell her myself. It won’t take long.”

“Ok.”

He drove to the house and frowned driving through. He looked at his father’s private car.

“That’s my father. It might take a bit longer. I am sorry.”

She kissed him. “It’s ok. I will sit here.”

“Ok. I love you.”

She smiled. “I love you too.”

He stepped out and walked to the door. He walked inside.

Trevor paused staring at Ranewa's dress and panty on the floor. Next to hers were a man's clothes.

He looked at the vibrating phone on the couch and curiously picked it up..

Trevor froze looking at his mother's number calling and picked.

"Mama.."

"Uhu, where is your father?"

Trevor dropped the phone and picked his father's clothes on the floor. His blood rushed as his heart raced. The possibility of a possible affair made his heart pound even more. He went up the stairs going to her bedroom and violently pushed it open walking in.

Ranewa paused bouncing on her father in-law who was still grunting and turned looking at Trevor.. She jumped off him butt naked falling then quickly got up.

Her knees shook as she looked at him. Rragwe Trevor quickly covered himself shaking, fear threatening to paralyze him.

Tears filled Ranewa's eyes then she threw herself on the floor and started crying.

"He has been forcing himself into me... he's been raping me all along."

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#97

Trevor looked at his father..

"Son... it's... it's not what you think. We .." His throat dried up as sweat ran down his spine. "She .. we... it's not what you think."

Trevor shook his head. "You are sleeping with her?"

"No.. I was... I was just trying to help you. You said you are infertile and that you gave erectile... I was helping."

"By sleeping with her? How the fuck I'd this helping me?"

Ragwe Trevor swallowed, his hands shaking. Ranewwa cried more.

“Trevor...”

“Don’t even wena!”

“He... he was forcing me I swear. Baby please... I swear he was forcing me..I didn’t want it. I didn’t want it. I... please..”

She tried to touch him but he pushed her off.

“Don’t touch me. I don’t care what you do with your vagina. I have never cared because I have never wanted it. You disgust me, to think I have been thinking you are a victim kante all along you have been riding my father? Where you even raped or he’s the one that broke your virginity and you just thought you’d lie your way out of it?”

Ranewa put her hand over her mouth crying still naked.

“I swear I was raped. I never wanted to sleep with your father. He emotionally forced me..he said... baby I didn’t want to do this please believe me. Please believe me.”

“I have never had a woman disgust me the way you do. When you were busy airing our business to the public why didn’t you tell them you were banging my father while at it. You are a liar, a manipulative liar. You were never raped. That was an act and you were trying to guilty trip me. Wait till everyone knows how you were sleeping with my father.. wait till your family finds out... I am so happy I am not married to you.”

“Trevor, please listen to me... please..”

“I don’t want to hear a word from you!” Trevor looked at his father. “I am going to tell my mother. You are the worst thing to ever happen to her. You would think diabetes helped the situation kante you are still busy spreading HIV and herpes to anyone who you see. Did you tell her you have HIV and herpes.” Trevor looked at her. “He is a sick man. You are not the only one he sleeps with. You are a lot.”

Ranewa froze.

“I am surprised he didn’t tell you seeing you two have been at it. If you thought you were screwing my father to get back at me, you have played yourself but get ready for the storm that is coming. I am going to show you both.”

Trevor turned and walked out. His father got off bed and ran after him, his dick dangling.

“Trevor... son... wait. Listen to me... I made a mistake, one that I regret and .. I will do anything. Please... no one can know about this.”

“Everyone is going to know. I am going to see mama right now.”

“Trevor... my boy... you know how I have done everything for you. You are my son... I am your father. I will do anything.. if this gets out... I..”

Trevor walked out of the house. His father rsn after him pleading.

“Trevor please... please my boy... son...”

Nolo quickly looked away as his father vane over naked. Trevor got in the car and sped off angrily.

Nolo looked at him. “They were...”

“Yes. I found her on top of him then she screamed rape! Rape while riding him!”

“Jesus..”

\*\*\*

Ragwe Trevor rushed in the house and picked his phone. Ranewa walked over with a towel around her body.

“He’s gone?”

“Shut up!”

“Don’t tell me to shut up! You have HIV and herpes.”

“Yes. If... No one can know. This... no one can ever know. If you go on Facebook and start talking rubbish, I will kill you. I will end your life!”

Ragwe Trevor quickly dressed and rushed out. He got in his car and drove off calling Trevor but his phone just rang.

He cut the call and called him again but he still didn’t pick. Ragwe Trevor called another number.

“Rax!”

“Sir..”

“Trevor... did you see his car? He just left.”

“Yes sir. I am behind you.”

“He saw something he shouldn’t have seen. Follow his car and stop him. He’s on his way home go see his mother. Don’t finish him off. I want him alive.”

“Yes sir!”

“Do what you must. He mustn’t reach where he is going.”

“Yes Sir!”

\*\*\*

Ranewa paced worriedly. She sat down shaking with fear at the thought of having diseases and on top of it people knowing she was having sex with her father in-law.

She stood up then tried calling Trevor. His job rang till it stopped. She called him again.

“Ranewa, stop calling my man.”

“Your man?! That’s my husband!”

“You have lost it.”

“I was getting raped. He was raping me.. I never wanted any of it... let me speak to my husband!”

“Whatever you are smoking is strong.”

She started crying. “He was forcing me. He was raping me. I would never sleep with my father in-law willingly. Please... please let me speak to him. He can’t tell that to the people. No one will wait for an explanation.”

Nolo hung up. She tried calling him again but this time the call didn’t go through.

Ranewa dropped her phone and sat down, her hands on her head.



\*\*\*

Trevor stepped on the accelerator going through a red traffic light. Nolo swallowed.

“Where are we going?”

“Home. I need you safe before anything. You are pregnant and... I don't want you being involved in this..”

“What is your father going to do?”

“I have...” Trevor looked at his rearview mirror catching a car speeding behind him. He took a turn and the car turned behind him.

“Listen to me... our family is not just a normal family. Some of us are power hungry and would do anything to get power. His affair will ruin any chance of him being president. Your safety comes first to me. I am dropping you off kolapeng. Stay home and wait for me.”

“Trevor... what's going on?”

Trevor joined the main road going over to the CBD traffic lights speeding. Tears filled Nolo's eyes.

“Trevor...”

Trevor looked at the SUV coming from behind then looked ahead as a combie crossed in front of them just as the traffic light turned red on his side. Trevor stepped on the breaks. Nolo grabbed his hand, the SUV increased speed and crushed into the Benz from behind with so much impact that the Benz flew.

The traffic police standing a distant away gasped as the SUV hit the Benz sending it up flying towards incoming traffic.

She screamed watching a combie speeding to beat the traffic light hit the Benz from the side sending it rolling towards the other lane and off the road as it immediately started burning.

The combie stopped, it's entire bonnet destroyed while people inside screamed.

The traffic police staggered to the Benz screaming as if she were mad watching it burning.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#98

A taxi driver who had witnessed the accident grabbed his fire extinguisher and ran over to the Benz. He stood a distance away and opened it killing down the fire from the car. More cars stopped causing traffic. The traffic police got closer and looked inside the car. She looked at the driver who's head was on the stirring wheel, blood dripping from his head.

She tried opening the door but it was jammed. Two more men rushed over. She moved aside calling an ambulance letting the forcefully pull the door open.

They looked at the driver then the lady on the passenger seat. One of the men touched the driver's head and put his fingers on his wrist.

"He's alive... I feel a pulse!"

Minutes later four ambulances came, it's siren so loud it drowned the screams from the combi. Paramedics from one of the ambulances rushed over to the two people by the Benz while others attended to the combie passengers and the combie driver who was badly injured.

The police officer looked at the paramedics.

"They were both in the Benz."

One of the paramedic put his head on Trevor's neck.

"Pulse is present."

He moved on to the woman and out his fingers on her neck.

He looked at the people staring.

"Her pulse is weak. Let's move them."

They took the stretchers from the ambulance and with the help of the bystanders, they quickly put them on the stretchers and transferred them into the ambulance immediately intubating them.

Two police vans arrived as the rest of the ambulances took the badly injured people. A lieutenant walked over to the traffic officer.

“What happened?”

She blinked. “Uh... the Benz was coming from that side and... the traffic light turned red. The driver stopped, the traffic light opened for the... the uh... the other cars and that's when an SUV came from behind the Benz and crushed into it so hard that the Benz flew. I saw it fly... going right onto the incoming traffic and the combie hit it from the side sending it rolling.”

He nodded. “And where's the SUV?”

“It sped off. No number plate.”

The lieutenant walked over to the utterly destroyed Benz and shook his head. Surprised people even came out of there.

\*\*\*

Ragwe Trevor walked in his house and went right to the bedroom where he quickly showered..he walked out a while later just as his wife walked in.

She looked at him. “Hi.”

He nodded. “Hi.”

“Did you talk to Trevor today?”

He swallowed. “In the morning. Why?”

“He sent me a message a while back saying he's coming to see me, that there's something I should know.”

“Maybe he decided otherwise.”

“Trevor would never say something and for something else.. it's unlike him.”

“Then wait. I am sure he got busy.”

“Ng... how was your meeting?”

He looked at her and blinked. “Fine.. thank you.”

He dressed up and slowly sat down, his knees weak..

His wife walked out as his phone rang.

“Rax..”

“It’s done. He’s just got transferred to the hospital. But he wasn’t alone. He was with a woman.”

“Onolo... is she-“

“They are both at the hospital.”

“Good. Thank you.”

He hung. He put his hand on his chest and breathed out in relief.

His phone rang again . He picked Ranewa’s call.

“What do you want?”

“Did you talk to him?”

“I will deal with all this in the morning tomorrow. You and I are done. It was fun but I don’t want you anymore. You better prepare yourself, tomorrow you are going to an abortion. That pregnancy will be nothing but a problem. Trevor will know.”

“And your HIV? Is it true?”

“Yes.”

“How could you?”

“Hey wena! Skeberesh! You wanted this and I gave it to you! Go to the hospital and gave it dealt with.. if you run your mouth, your parents will burry you. It’s a promise.

\*\*\*

That evening, Nicole dialed Nolo’s number bored.

“The number you have-“

She cut the call and sent her a message.

Nicole: Hey.. call me.

She sent the message and waited then she sent another message.

Nicole: My beautiful sister...

She went on WhatsApp but her last seen was hours back. She sighed then opened her Facebook bored. She scrolled through Facebook unbothered till a certain post.

'Bathong, the accident I witnessed by CBD traffic lights.. I want to cry... the Benz!'

She opened and read a couple of people asking what happened. She moved on scrolling.

She read another post again.

'Guys, saw an intense accident by CBD. SUV hit a Benz by the traffic light landing it into oncoming traffic and it got hit by a combi that it started spinning till it caught fire. I can't stop shaking. God please be in control.'

Nicole curiously read the comments. It seemed the accident had happened hours back.

Nicole called MJ.

"Hey..."

"Hi. I am still coming."

"Ok..did you hear about the accident by CBD?"

"Yes. The SUV that hit a Benz from behind? Yeah .."

Nicole laughed. "I get so attached to things that have nothing to do with me."

"Because you are human."

"Don't forget my chocolate."

"I won't. I will be there just now."

Nicole hung up and picked an incoming call from a landline.

"Hello?"

"Dumelang.."

"Am I speaking to Ms. Nicole Feni?"

"Yes, how can I help you?"

“I am calling from GPH hospital. This is about your sister. We are going to ask you to come by.”

“I am here at the hospital. She can come over go my room.”

“Which room is that?”

\*

Two doctors walked inside Nicole’s room including her doctor. Nicole looked at them confused.

“Uh.. where’s my sister.”

Nicole’s doctor swallowed and held her hand as the other two doctor look at her.

“What’s wrong? My babies?”

The other doctor started talking. “No.. it’s your sister.”

“What... what is it?”

“She was involved in a car accident just a couple of hours back and she was with uh Trevor Mbakiwe.”

Nicole sat upright. “Her husband... uh... she.. what’s going on? Where is she?”

The doctor took a deep breath.

Nicole’s shook. “Where is my sister? Where is she?”

**Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#99

Nicole looked at her doctor.

“Where is my sister?”

“She is here. She’s been brought here.”

Nicole looked at them. “Ok... “

“But she’s brain dead. She had severe head injuries and suffered brain hemorrhage. Her brain is damaged beyond point of recovery... she’s here right now because if the machines.. they are the ones keeping her heart going.”

Nicole got off the bed. “I want to see my sister.”

\*\*\*

In ICU, Nicole looked at her duster connected to the machines. Her knees weakened as she got closer while the machines beeped steadily.

“Nolo... hey...”

She touched her hand and looked at her face. “Nolo...”

The two doctors watched her as she caressed her sister’s face.

“You are going to be ok... you are going to be ok. I am here...”

“She is never going to wake up.”

Nicole shook her head tears filling her eyes.

“Don’t say that.”

“I am sorry Ms Feni...”

“No... she’s going to be ok. She’s... Nolo...” Her tears fell as she looked at her sister lying unconscious on the bed. “She is going to be ok. I know her... she’s a fighter... she’s going to be ok.”

Nicole held Nolo’s hand crying. “You are going to be ok. It’s alright...you will be fine.”

\*\*\*

Mmagwe Trevor rushed in the hospital with her husband.

“My son! Where is my son?!”

A nurse walked over. “Mrs. Mbakiwe-“

“My son!”

“This way.”

They followed behind her to Trevor’s room. They walked in, mmagwe Trevor rushed to her son’s side.

“Trevor...”

Rragwe Trevor look at him and sighed in relief. He looked alright though with a few scratches.

Trevor’s doctor walked in.

“Mr. And Mrs. Mbakiwe, I am Dr. Telang.”

Mmagwe Trevor looked at him. “How is he?”

“It’s a miracle that he survived that with no serious injuries.”

“Oh thank God! Thank you God.”

“The head injuries are not bad though he might suffer from headaches in the future.”

Rragwe Trevor nodded. “He is a man. He will be fine. And uh the woman he was with?”

The doctor sighed and shook his head. “She won’t make it. She’s brain dead.”

Mmagwe Trevor nodded. “About time. Now he can focus on his marriage. Did you have his wife called?”

“We called his brother who informed us that he was with his wife.”

“No. That one is a side dish. His legal wife. I will call her.”

“Eemma.”

Mmagwe Trevor walked out taking out her phone. Rragwe Trevor’s looked at his son and took a deep breath sadly stepping back.

\*\*\*

Ranewa fearfully picked her mother in-law’s call, her heart pounding.

“Hello?”



“You are at home, your husband had been involved in a car accident. We are at GPH. Come.”

“Accident..?”

“Yes. But it’s not bad. Only a few scratches. Bring a couple of his things and some fleece.”

“Emma.”

She hung up. Ranewa quickly rushed to her bedroom to change.

\*\*\*

At the hospital, Ken looked at his brother. He took a deep breath looking at him then look at his father.

“How is he?”

“The doctor said he doesn’t know how he’s lucky to have made it out without severe injuries.”

Ken smiled looking at his brother. “I was so scared. And Nolo? They were together.”

His mother folded her arms. “Brain dead. She’s dead so now Trevor can focus on his marriage.”

“Nolo is brain dead?”

“Yes. They should have just announced her dead at the scene.”

Ken looked at her. “He loves her! He loves her more than anything! That’s his wife! He is married to her! What kind of a human being are you?”

“Him paying magadi to-“

“He did more than just pay bride price! He took her to the commissioner’s office and married her. Nolo is his legal wife! His marriage to Ranewa long ended. They annulled it. They are not married!”

Ranewa froze standing by the door.

“What?”

Ken turned to her. "Trevor is not your husband! Go and check for yourself. His only wife is Onolo. There's nothing to rejoice here because you might lose him if Nolo dies! But your heart is so cold you wouldn't know that."

"Annulled, how? Ranewa?"

Ranewa looked at her mother in-law in confusion.

"I don't know what he's talking about."

Ken looked at her and laughed. "You don't know because you are very stupid! The time we went to court, that was what being finalized. Trevor never loved you or wanted you. But I am sure you knew this because you were busy fucking his father."

Ranewa's heart skipped. His father stood up.

"Uh Ken-"

"I know. Trevor sent me a message funny enough just before the accident." He looked at his mother. "Yes! Your so called daughter in-law has been fucking your husband."

Mmagwe Trevor looked at Ranewa. Ranewa started crying.

"He forced me!"

Ragwe Trevor shook his head. "It's not... I would never sleep with my daughter in-law... I..-

"You were sleeping with her!" Ken yelled. "And you were trying to kill him so that he wouldn't tell anyone. We are getting to know each other here."

Ranewa's hands shook as she cried.

"You are crying? Wipe that nonsense away, you were busy fucking his father all along while you cried victim! Did he tell you about his disease?"

Mmagwe Trevor stared at Ranewa in shock. "My husband?"

Ranewa dropped the bag of clothes she was holding and ran off.

Mmagwe Trevor looked at her husband. "You were sleeping with Trevor's wife?"

Ragwe Trevor shook his head. "No. Trevor didn't see properly... he.. mogatsaka-"

“She is the one you have been sleeping with?”

He swallowed feeling hot. He moved back fanning himself with his hand feeling like he was burning.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#99

Ken looked at his father unbothered.

“You are not getting away with it.”

His father staggered out, his hand on his chest. Mmagwe Trevor sat down defeated

\*\*\*

That same morning, Nicole held her sister’s hand staring at nothing. Her doctor walked in.

“Nicole... the C-section has been scheduled for this morning.”

“I am not leaving my sister.”

“Nicole-“

“I am not leaving my sister. I am not leaving my sister.. I am not!”

“Nicole, you-“

Nicole broke into a loud sob holding on to her sister

“I am not leaving my sister!”

Nicole’s doctor sadly watched as she cried holding on to Nolo. Tears filled her eyes, she walked over and hugged Nicole.

“You are not. You will find her right here... she will be right here...”

Nicole cried till she was just gasping.

\*\*\*

At Trevor's room, Trevor slowly woke up. Ken looked at him.

"Hey .."

Trevor looked around. "Nolo..."

"Relax, let me call your doctor."

"Nolo... where's Nolo?"

"Here. She's here."

"Take me to Nolo."

Trevor bit his lower lip getting off the bed.

"Trevor, wait-"

"Take me to Nolo!"

\*\*\*

In Nolo's room, Ken pushed his young brother's wheelchair inside the room. Trevor put his foot down and groaned getting up. He slowly walked over to her and looked at her face. He caressed the scratch on her cheek and held her hand.

"I am sorry... I am sorry... you are going to be ok. I promise you... what happened yesterday will never happen again.."

He kissed her hand. Ken sadly looked at him wondering who was going to tell him.

Nolo's doctor walked in.

"Mr. Mbakiwe..."

Trevor looked at him.. "My wife.. she's pregnant. Is the baby ok?"

The doctor helped Trevor seat.

"Your wife suffered a severe head injury. The accidents impact left her brain bleeding. By the time she got here it was already too late. I am so sorry but... what's keeping her alive is the machines. I am sorry but in other words she is dead. She's never going to come out from ICU or

ever recover. Right now all we can do is just make her comfortable but the best thing to do would be to let her go and free her...”

\*\*\*

In the operation room, Nicole laid on the bed, the anaesthesia working on her lower body. The nurse looked at her.

“You are doing great...”

Seconds later a baby started crying. The doctor smiled. “Twin one! A girl!”

Nicole put her hand over her mouth crying. The nurse squeezed her hand. Nicole cried more.

“My sister... she was supposed... to be her.. God what am I supposed to do without Nolo..”

“Twin two, a girl!”

The second baby opened her mouth letting out a very loud cry.

\*\*\*

At the waiting room, MJ paced. He looked at the time and it seemed the operation was just taking forever.

Thirty minutes later, Nicole’s doctor walked over to him.

“Hi. She gave birth to two beautiful health babies. She’s been taken to her room. She’s going to be fine. The worst is over. Her condition is manageable.”

“Thank you. Thank you so much...”

“You can come and see the babies before you go and see her.”

He followed the doctor to where the babies were. He looked at their little bodies in the incubators and smiled.

“They are beautiful. So Beautiful...”

\*\*\*

Ragwe Trevor sat in his study. He slowly stood up and walked to the bedroom. He frowned listening to a baby crying in the bedroom. He looked around as the baby cried even more then slowly walked inside the ensuite where the cries seemed to be coming from. He screamed looking at the baby covered in blood crying on the floor. He ran out bumping into his wife.

“What’s wrong?”

He turned to the bathroom and looked at the baby crawling towards him still crying. He turned back to his wife but she had turned into the twelve year old girl he had raped and killed for a ritual.

He screamed running out of the house, the baby’s cries following him. He looked at his hands covered in blood then his clothes. He took everything off and ran to the gate and out of the yard going into the streets butt naked as his security ran after him.

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#100

Ranewa went to Nolo’s timeline later that day. She refreshed it but there was nothing. She went to Nicole’s and still there was nothing.

She took a deep breath thinking of everything she had done trying to force the marriage to work.

Tears itched her eye as she sat in her sister’s house all alone. She breathed out and laid on the couch silently crying.

Her phone rang, she quickly sat upright and looked at the unsaved number.

She picked. “Hello?”

“So this was your plan all along? Coming to my house was so that you sleep with my husband?”

“Mrs-“

“You sleep with my husband under my roof, who do you think you are? I must be losing touch to have a stupid girl like you disrespect me this much!”

“Please-“

“I must be losing my touch, how dare you?! Is this what your parents sent you to do? Huh?”

Ranewa’s heart raced as she breathed heavily.

“Is this what you were sent to do? You don’t hide forever little girl. I am going to end you. You have provoked the wrong one today. You don’t know me or what I am capable of. I will show you what I can do to little wh\*res like you! Sl\*t!”

Ranewa hung up and switched off her phone. She put her hand over her mouth shaking with fear.

\*\*\*

At the private clinic, mmagwe Trevor looked at the doctor.

“What’s wrong with him?”

“I am going to have him evaluated by a psychiatrist. He’s hearing and seeing things. I’d say schizophrenia but I am not a psychiatrist so we will have to wait till then. I have given him something to calm down.”

She nodded. “So.. if he does have schizophrenia... what will happen to him?”

“He will be put under treatment immediately. Depending on how severe it will be, we might have him admitted.”

She took a deep breath. “Thank you. Can I see him?”

“Yes.”

Mmagwe Trevor followed the doctor to the room. She looked at her husband as he stared into nothing.

Mmagwe Trevor frowned. "Is he ok?"

"Yes. You can talk to him. He can hear you but don't be able to response."

She looked at his face as the doctor walked out. She shook her head.

"I could take it all. Your disrespect and everything else but to be sleep with your supposedly daughter in-law takes the cup. In my house and right under my nose. On days you claimed to have went to try and talk to Trevor, it was to be sleep with his wife? You are very disgusting. I despise you with everything in me. You should know that. But you are not going to get away with it this time around Mbakiwe. This time around you are going to suffer for it all. God had already started, I am joining him. You are going to pay for everything. To think you were trying to kill my son .. that I will never forgive you for it. Get ready because you are going to be suffer so much till you eventually decide go kill yourself! Nxla!"

She walked out while he just stared. She walked to her car calling someone.

"My love..."

Mmagwe Trevor smiled. "Hi. I am coming."

She got in her car smiling still, her phone on her ear.

\*\*\*

Nicole woke up and looked at the white ceiling. She turned her head. MJ opened his eyes and locked eyes with her.

Nicole blinked. "Nolo..."

MJ held her hand. "Hey... take it easy.."

"The doctor..." Her voice faded as tears fell from the corner of her eyes. She looked at the ceiling crying.

"The doctor..."

MJ hugged her. Nicole sobbed in his arms.

"I can't lose my sister... I can't lose her... I can't lose her..."



MJ held her tightly listening to her crying. The pain in her cries making his heart ache.

“I can’t lose her .. I can’t... she didn’t see the kids... she didn’t... I can’t.. I can’t... God my heart... help me... God help me.. I’d give anything. I’d give anything...”

MJ sniffed holding her. Her body shook as the pain broke her into a million pieces that it felt physical.

\*\*\*

In Nolo’s room at the hospital, Trevor kissed Nolo’s hand. He looked at her not having moved an inch since morning. He took a deep breath and spoke to her for the first time since that morning.

“I spoke to another doctor... we are going to get a second opinion and I know you are going to make it.” He kissed her hand again. “See, the thing is that I can’t lose you babe. Not in any way but especially not like this. I was thinking to myself the other day wondering just how lucky I am to have you in my life..

He chuckled. “You are my everything and I don’t even know how that happened. You are the highlight of my life and there’s no Trevor without you babe. There can never be me without you because I live for you. You are entire life. You own my heart babe. There can never be.. “ He sniffed. “Anyone else. If I lose you... I would die. I’d rather die than go on without you. I’d rather be dead than lose you.”

Tears rolled down.

“If lose you then there’s no reason to go on. God can’t take you away from me when I just got you. I love you. I love you so much.. please don’t leave me I am begging you... I love you babe, I love you so much... I don’t want this life if you are not part of it .. please stay... don’t leave me...”

He touched her face and put his head on her chest crying.

“I am begging you.. please don’t leave me... not like this.. please not like this. I swear I will take anything else... not like this... please..”

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#101

Nolo's heartbeat raced making the heart monitor beat uncontrollably, the nurse attending her quickly pressed the emergency button as Nolo's heart pumped way too fast.

Seconds later a doctor rushed in.

"She's having a cardiac arrest!"

The numbers on the heart monitor started dropping till it showed a straight line.

Another nurse rushed in as the other one started with chest compressions. The doctor prepared the defibrillator. The other nurse tore the collar of the hospital gown exposing Nolo's chest then the doctor smashed the pads on Nolo's chest.

They all looked at the heart monitor but there was nothing.

"Again!"

He did it again jolting her body. They looked at the heart monitor and sighed in relief as the numbers appeared on the screen followed by beeping. The doctor closed his eyes, sweat forming on his forehead.

One of the nurse looked at Nolo's mask as mist covered it.

"Mist! She's breathing! She's breathing!"

Nolo moved her fingers then her head making inaudible sounds. The doctor quickly checked her vitals as the nurses watched standing still.

Nolo slowly opened her tearful eyes, the doctor looked at her surprised.

"Ms Feni, welcome back!"

Nolo looked at him then closed her eyes and opened them again as tears fell while she tried to talk. The doctor curiously looked at her and pulled down her mask.

She opened her mouth and whispered. "Trevor.."

“It’s ok. My name is Dr. Zikomo. I am a surgeon and also practice family medicine. You were involved in a car accident three weeks ago, today is your Twenty first day here at Bokamoso private hospital. Do you what your name is?”

She closed her eyes crying. He put back the mask on her face worried even more.

\*

Over an hour later, Dr. Zikomo walked in Nolo’s hospital room and looked at her. He had never seen such before, it wasn’t just her beauty but a lot more he could not even explain.

He grabbed a chair and sat down just as she opened her eyes breathing on her own.

She blinked looking at him and looked around.

“Hey... it’s ok... you are ok.”

“Trevor...he... where’s Trevor? I-“

“We have called him. He’s on his way. What’s your name?”

She looked at him.. “Onolo..”

He smiled. “Do you remember what happened Onolo?”

“Trevor.. my husband and I... we went to his house.. and from there...”

“It’s ok. Take it easy.”

“The car was spinning. It happened so fast.. and next thing everything turned black.. then I was falling into a dark hole.”

“It did. Is that all?”

Tears filled her eyes. “Then I saw my sister... at GPH. it felt real... but.. like a dream..I saw her and they said I was brain dead... they kept saying I was brain dead.. and she was crying. It felt real... then Trevor’s father went crazy. He was seeing things. Scary things. He was running around naked.. Trevor’s mother found out that her husband was... I could see everything. The doctors told Trevor that I was good as dead... he was crying.. he kept saying I shouldn’t leave him...” She paused

crying. “He was begging I shouldn’t leave but the doctors were saying I was as good as dead. I wanted to tell him I would never leave him... am I dead?”

Dr. Zikomo smiled. “No. You are not. And it was a dream. It happens to most ICU patients. It’s trauma. I’d say you were dreaming your fears...”

“Did my sister give birth? I dreamt she did..”

“Yes. I think she did. You mean the one that looks like you?”

She nodded.

“I guess your dream got that right. You got into an accident three weeks back by CBD traffic lights. You were taken to Marina hospital then got transferred here that same night. You did have head injuries, your brain had swelled but we managed to get that under control. Till today you had two cardiac arrests, the first being the one that had you brought here. You have been in coma since. I would refer to your dream as hallucinations or delusions. It’s normal, a lot of people in coma tend to have these dreams, some are just nightmares. They feel real because you are stuck in them. These is persecutory in nature and are sometimes very frightening. What you were dreaming was a result of trauma. Your brain remembered the events of the accident hence creating delusions in your head. ”

“He was crying... And I was scared.”

The doctor looked at the tears in her eyes as the raw emotions she couldn’t begin to hide reflected in her teary eyes.

“He is scared. He got away with less injuries. Courtesy of a Benz. The hallucinations may still occur in your dreams but that’s just because of trauma. It’s a normal thing to happen. Some people unlike you don’t remember such dreams. You were never at GPH by the way.”

“It felt real.. like it was happening. Like I was dying... and I could see everyone’s life.. my sister was devastated. So devastated.. and I had a different doctor.. not you.”

“That’s what makes it a hallucination, delusions often feel real. We are running more tests but you are ok. And you are still trending for husband snatching.”

The door opened then Trevor budged in. He looked at her and slowly walked over.

Nolo at him looking more than just disheveled, he looked like a street person.. she could smell the alcohol on him from a distance. His beard had grown out and he had lost weight.

It made it hard to believe she had been dreaming because it hadn't felt like three weeks of her dream or now hallucinations.. it felt like only a couple of days.

Trevor got closer. "Babe.."

She blinked letting a tear fall as emotions made it hard for her to hold everything inside. "Have I ever told you how much I hate how easily you make me cry? How..." Her voice shook. "I love you so much it hurts..."

Trevor wrapped his arms around her sobbing like a child.

"I love you too. I love you.. I was so scared.. I love you..."

The doctor stood up. "The crying was happening in real life too by the way."

He walked out leaving them holding each other. Nolo rubbed his back minutes later.

"Does your mother know about Ranewa?"

"I haven't told anyone... I was worried about you... anything else could wait.."

"Your dad is just fine?"

"Yes."

Ranewa?"

He hugged her tightly, hid head between her breast.

"Ran off to somewhere."

Nolo sniffed and looked at him. "I dreamt your father had gone mad. And that I was brain dead and you were crying."

Trevor sniffed. "You are fine. And I will cry for you because I love you. I am happy even in your dream you know it."

"It was a horrible dream.. I never want to lose you too. I love you. Losing you would be my worst nightmare."

**Fires Of Desire**

## Fires Of Desire

#102

Trevor looked at her.

“You dreamt all that?”

Nolo nodded. “It felt real. It’s like it started right after the accident. One moment I know the car was spinning, next I know it’s all black and I am falling then the next moment I could see my sister on the same bed I had left her ko GPH. It’s like I was there when they told her that I was brain dead. She was...her emotions felt real then she was with me but I wasn’t responsive. Then I saw you, then your mother, your father and Ken. Then Ranewa .. Sam.. and even MJ. Your dad went crazy in my dream. I don’t know, I have always thought that he looked like a ritualist or something.. and he was seeing things running around naked.”

Trevor caressed her face. “Maybe it was a moment between life and death. And you saw the possible future..”

“I don’t want that future... not if I am not there. I would have come back as a ghost to make your life difficult.”

Trevor laughed. “I would have joined you there. I was so scared. We were both brought here. I had less injuries. You...” He took a deep breath. “I thought I had lost you. I was never going to survive it.” He smiled. “I would have never survived it.”

“Nicole.. how is she? And the babies..”

“I spoke to MJ mabane and he said her doctor just found she hasn’t been taking her pills. She had an episode but she’s ok now. I guess losing the other baby and you having your life hanging on the thread has been taking so much from her. She’s not herself. I saw last week and she wouldn’t stop crying.”

“She lost the other baby?”

“Yes. The other twin. The doctor said she got strangled by the umbilical cord.”

Nolo swallowed. “No...”

“Yes. But I think you are what she needs right now.”

His phone started ringing. He took it out and picked MJ's call.

"Is she awake?"

Trevor smiled. "Yes. She is...."

"Thank God. Uh, wait. I am getting into see Nicole. Can they talk?"

"Yes."

\*\*\*

Nicole laid on her side staring at her baby on the trolley next to her. MJ walked in and looked at her.

"She is out of the incubator?"

Nicole sniffed. "I have been thinking I should have done the operation sooner. I was selfish and my baby died in the process. I was so caught up in.." She started crying.

MJ put the phone on loud speaker.

"She can hear you..."

Nicole looked at him confused.

"Nicole..."

Nicole's cries stopped as she looked at the phone.

"Nolo?"

"Hey..."

Nicole took the phone shaking. "Nolo?"

"I am here."

"I have a scar somewhere... I got it when I was seven because I had been playing with something. We have never talked about that incident since the day it happened. Where is it?"

Nolo laughed. "You were playing with papa's knife. The small red one that had a leather handle. You thought the handle looked like Totso's dick because you had seen it when you were playing family. You fell holding it and sliced your butt. The scar on her left butt was the knife."

You bled so much and when mama saw the blood you said you were bleeding down there. Mama knew you were lying but she said nothing. We never spoke about it since that day till now. It's me... no one can ever take over again. Not again."

Nicole closed her eyes crying. "I was so scared... I thought I had lost you forever and... God what was I going to do without you?"

Nolo sniffed. "I am still around."

"I lost Yaone... the doctor said the umbilical cord strangled her. That's why her heartbeat wasn't as strong. I should have done the operation when the doctor suggested it."

"I am sorry. I know you were excited for both. But I am sure she would have been a beautiful child. She loves you wherever she is, who wouldn't? You are amazing. And you have Yame to help you heal. You fought for these kids. You loved them even before they were here. And I know Yaone is looking over you and her sister. Don't too much for you have something to rejoice about."

Nicole held the phone tightly. "I thought I was going to lose you. I was going to die."

"I am a die hard! Ga nkake ka swa, ke intimidator bana."

Nicole giggled tearfully. "Gape wena o married woman."

"Heela ija! Ke Mrs nna girl. God was going to return me. Eseng nna."

"Ranewa deactivated all her accounts. Sam called me a week back asking if I had seen her sister."

"She should run forever."

"How are you feeling?"

"My arm hurts but other than that I am fine. And the doctor just said Yame's sister is doing ok. She will be with us in eight months. She will be her twin. And we will call her Yaone."

Nicole gasped. "You are pregnant?"

"A couple of weeks. Six."

Nicole screamed making Nolo laugh.

"I can't believe you are pregnant. Remember when you said-



“I’d never have kids. I had not met a man who makes me squirt two times a night. It’s rare to find such.”

Nicole laughed turning to her side. “I am so happy. We are definitely having a baby shower for you. I need I give a speech about how you vowed to never have kids nor get married or fall in love.”

MJ walked out realizing the call was never going to end.

Nolo laughed. “I met a man. I didn’t know I could actually love till him. I didn’t know I was capable of being so in love to a point where you think of that person when you wake up. To a point where you are always thinking about that person... that everything you do is centered around him. I feel sick if I don’t talk to this man Nicole. Or even see him. His call will light up my entire day. Just a hug from him makes it all alright. So forgive me but if he wants to put a baby inside me, I am keeping it.”

Nicole laughed. “They still hate you on Facebook and talk about you.”

“What else can they do if not talk about me and have me bother them. I don’t even know them yet they are so invested in my life. I bore them yet I don’t even know them. Motho o ipona a kwala bo I hate this girl and hewe hewe this girl bores me mo Meta yet I don’t even know you. They low-key love me that’s why they are invested in my life. How do you post o re I don’t even know this girl but I hate her, hewe hewe she deserves to suffer, you know me that’s why I have the power to make you talk about me without even trying. Ba hema ka stroll.”

They laughed even harder chatting happily while Nicole rocked her baby happily.

\*\*\*

At a lodge outside Gaborone, Ranewa took a deep breath seated on the bed. She looked at her HIV results including the STD test results. She took a deep breath closing her eyes wondering how much stupid she had been.

Her phone with her new sim card rang.

“Hello?”

“Hi. Do you have the results?”

Ranewa sniffed. "I have herpes and HIV. On top of that I am pregnant and unmarried. I can't believe Trevor tricked me into having me agree to having our marriage nullified."

"Herpes and HIV are not the end of you. If you want to abort, I will pay the costs but I think it's time we all responsibility for our actions. I don't blame you for trying to make it work with Trevor. You are human, you were hopeful. I don't judge you because I know a lot of people who won't leave relationships they are not loved in because motho o hopeful. It doesn't make you stupid, it makes you human. But take accountability for your actions and move on. Learn and do better in the future. In life it's all about learning. And we learn to be better people."

Ranewa wiped away her tears. "Trevor's lawyer emailed me. Trevor wants me to have the house we were staying at. He also said he will give me a million to compensate for the time lost and also give me the flats at block 10."

"Take it. Honestly for a man that was honest with you right from the beginning, it's a lot. Take it and start afresh. Gape nna I have always hated that family. I know Nolo is going to get her karma for hurting you like that. You know the saying ya the way to get him is the same way you lose him. She's yet going to cry because karma yone never forgets the address."

\*\*\*

At Rragwe Trevor's house, DIS cars parked in front of the house. They stepped out and walked inside his house.

Mmagwe Trevor looked at them.. "And then?"

Rragwe Trevor walked over holding a newspaper. He looked at the DIS confused.

"Mr. Vice president, you are under arrest of the murder of Maureen Tshogofatso Pilane who was murdered-"

"What? Are you crazy?"

“You have the right to remain silent, and anything you say shall be used against you in court. We can do this the hard way or the easy way, you choose but you are coming with us.”

They handcuffed as he yelled angrily.

“Do you know who I am? Do you know who I am,?!”

The dragged him out as he yelled. Mmagwe Trevor watched as they drove off with him then she called a number.

“Hello?”

“He’s been arrested for Maureen. I also have evidence to the murder of two young boys who he killed last year to win the elections. I still want to remain anonymous. I have videos and voice recordings.”

“Good. I will take them from you. Don’t worry, your name will never be mentioned.”

“Thank you.”

She hung up and smiled.

\*\*\*

Later that day at Bokamoso private hospital, Trevor walked in Nolo’s room after having freshened up. She looked at him and smiled.

“Better. You have lost weight.”

He walked over and hugged her kissing her neck. “I couldn’t eat. You were all I could think about.”

She touched his beard. “At home, take the money in my wallet and go to the barber. Do it tomorrow. You look like you smoke weed.”

He laughed then joined her on her small bed and pulled her in his arms holding her tightly.

“I love you.”

Nolo looked at him then kissed him. “I love you more.”

He smiled and held her even tighter kissing her neck.

FIVE YEARS LATER..

## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#103

Five Years Later...

In Maun, Ranewa parked her car at her son's preschool then stepped out of the car with him. Her son's teacher smiled as she approached.

"Hello!"

Ranewa's son's face lit up as he caught sight of his friend.

"Bye mama!"

He ran inside the class. His teacher looked at her.

"How is he today?"

Ranewa smiled. "He's fine. I gave him paracetamol last night."

"He looks way better. I can see there's a flue in class so I know most of them are yet going to get sick. He's a strong boy."

Ranewa smiled. "He is. I will see him later. Bye."

"His father did call yesterday though."

"He did?"

"Yes. Soon after you collected him."

"Oh ok. Bye!"

Ranewa turned to her car as the morning wind blew her straight long weave. She walked to her car and got in calling Trevor.

"Hello?"

"Hi, bad time?"

"No. Is everything ok?"

“Yes. Junior is better today.”

“That’s good. I will call later to speak to him.”

“The school just told me you called them yesterday.”

“Yeah, I was worried.”

Ranewa smiled. “It was just a flue. When are you coming to see him? You know he misses you.”

“Yesterday Nolo texted you about Junior coming for the holidays and you ignored her message.”

“Because Onolo wasn’t asking, she was telling me. Ke mmagwe Junior Trevor, not his nanny.”

“And here I thought we had made progress. You are so ungrateful. If it wasn’t for Nolo I wouldn’t have given two fucks to be in his life. That woman is the reason my name is on that boy’s birth certificate. You must be the most stupid person if you think everything that I do for Junior is done by me. It’s that woman. I wasn’t obliged to financially help you especially after you blew all the money I gave you, she stepped in for you. I am tired of your attitude, if you can’t discuss it with my wife then don’t discuss it with me.

“So I should bend over backwards for your wife? I did nothing wrong but you won’t see it because your wife can never do wrong. Onolo sent a message telling me she’s coming to take Junior next Saturday in the morning. I will forward you the message, she wasn’t even asking to see if I had no plans with my son. I always discuss Junior with her but she never gives me a chance to explain anything to her. Whenever she talks to me it’s a command. O kare I am paying the price of having you in Junior’s life. I can’t keep doing this, maybe it’s best we stop..I will take down your name from his birth certificate. One day he will understand it all.”

She hung up. Ranewa took a deep breath then called Nolo.

“Ranewa..”

“Hi.. I just spoke to your husband and I am grateful for everything you and him have done for my son but I think it’s time I manage on my own. Things have been fine but lately I have been feeling disrespected. I have realized that at first you used to be polite and we would discuss Junior’s things together mme these days I am being treated like I am my son’s

nanny. Last holiday you sent a message ke le ko Shakawe on business. You told you were taking Junior the following day in the morning and when I told you I was far you went on to say that I knew you were taking Junior for the holidays as if you had communicated with me. You made me feel guilty to a point where I traveled overnight to come back with him so you can take him.. After that you did the same when you and Trevor came to Maun. Last night you sent a message telling me you are going to come and take my son. It's like no one cares about my plans. I understand you are obligated to take care of him but to consult with me wouldn't hurt anyone. So I think it's best I do this by myself because I can't anymore. I just spoke to your husband and had him tell me hurtful things.. it's like I am not allowed to voice out my concerns. I can't keep doing this anymore. It's fine, my family will be the only family my son knows but thank you for everything.”

“I didn't realize this was how you felt. I just assumed that knowing Junior visits for holidays, you would always have him ready but as I say this I actually realize I sound entitled. I am sorry I have been like this, you are right, consulting you wouldn't hurt. I am sorry you feel your feelings are taken for granted, yesterday after you didn't respond to my message I was annoyed and I shared my annoyance with my husband. I will take the fall for his lash out. Junior is Trevor's brother and there's no way him being a part of his young brother's life is a favor.. it's his responsibility. I was wrong but I wish you had communicated with me on how you didn't like the way I was demanding Junior the first time I did it. I don't believe in bottling things up, say it right there so I fix it. Please allow me to fix it..”

Ranewa sighed. “If Junior is too much it's ok.”

“He's not. And you are not being difficult. I am the problem here. I will consult you from here going forward. I also want us to have a smooth relationship. For Junior. He deserves much. Forgive me. I am sorry. I was wrong.”

Ranewa smiled. “Ok.”

“Perfect. Is there anything you'd like me to fix?”

“Nyaa mma.. that's all.”

“Ok. Bye.”

Nolo hung up. Ranewwa sighed feeling like weight had been taken off her shoulders. She started her car and drove to work. She walked inside

the building going to her office. Her PA walked in as she settled. Ranewa looked at the flowers in her hands.

“And?”

“An the secret admirer has done it again. Waitse this man is focused.”

Ranewa laughed getting the red roses. Her PA walked out then her phone rang. She looked at the number saved as ‘Secret Admirer’.

“Hello?”

“Do you love the flowers?”

She smiled. “Your voice sounds familiar. I know you.”

“Yes you do. And I want you.”

“I don’t want to be hurt again. I don’t want to go through pain again.”

“I have been hurt before. It turned me into something I wasn’t and I didn’t realize it till it was already too late, I was in a relationship with a woman who resembled the woman who had once hurt me. And I was a monster. I never realized just how pain has so much power over your life but I got help. True love is there.... I know it’s there and I want to experiment it with you. I am coming there tonight. Let’s do dinner...”

Ranewa smiled. “I have history. Not so nice history. And I have HIV.”

“It doesn’t make you less of a human. So dinner?”

Ranewa smiled feeling butterflies in her stomach. The feeling of having a man want her excited her do much she blushed.

“Ok.”

“Thank you.”

\*\*\*

In Gaborone, Nicole sat on the bed while holding her baby as she sucked on her breast while the one she was carrying kicked in her stomach.

MJ walked out of the bathroom and walked over to her. He kissed her.

“You look beautiful.”

Nicole gently laid down her infant and sighed. "I feel I have too many kids. Yesterday I saw one of my high school classmates and she looked thin and nice. I can't look really beautiful because I am always pregnant. I am going to have four kids. Four! My body will never recover and I always going to be dealing with kids."

MJ sat next to her. "You are the most beautiful woman on earth. The reason you don't see it is because you are constantly comparing yourself. And we agreed this would be our last one. If the kids are too much, let's get another nanny. An extra hand to help us. It's ok to need help. It doesn't make you weak. Honestly I don't mind all my kids. I love them all and I don't regret them. You can have your kids and still look beautiful. I love you... and you always look beautiful. Can we do us and leave others do their own. We are moving at our own pace. It's ok to be us... to be our own people. You will get into shape. Four kids is not a sin. Your body will recover and no one will know you even gave birth. You are beautiful.."

She smiled fiddling with her fingers. MJ tilted her chin and kissed her.

"I love you."

Nicole smiled. "I love you too."

"No more comparing ourselves right?"

She nodded. MJ stood up then kissed the baby.

"Ok, I will see you later. I will come back quicker to help you with the kids after they come back from school."

"Ok."

He kissed her again and rushed out. Nicole smiled looking at her beautiful daughter sleeping peacefully then she looked at her ring.

She laid down staring at her ceiling.

"Be grateful Nicole... you have everything you have ever wanted. Be grateful."

\*\*\*



Later that morning, Nolo parked her car at her daughter's school then stepped out holding her lunch box. She rushed to her class, her long heels hitting the pavement. She knocked on Yaone's class then peaked inside. Yaone turned from her chair and looked at her mother, a huge smile covering her face.

Nolo smiled and waved staring at her. Yaone's teacher walked over to her staring at her blonde to yellowish hair cut into a pixie cut that made her even more beautiful. The hair was definitely a signature look and it made her look like she would get featured on Sexiest woman magazine.

"Mrs. Mbakiwe.."

"Hi. I forgot to pack her lunch box in her bag. I was in a meeting and it slipped my mind."

The teacher smiled. "It's ok."

"Thank you."

The teacher smiled as Nolo rushed back to her car in her formal pants that hugged her bum and curves. She watched as she hurried to her i8. Yaone's teacher walked closer and watched the i8 speed away. Another teacher walked over.

"Hey, this woman Jehova!"

Yaone's teacher smiled. "Every time I see her I try to imagine how her husband feels every day asking up next to a goddess. I mean... look at her daughter."

"Ene o monte but money makes her even more beautiful. Kana go di skin care and everything.. she's too beautiful I am sure money has something to do with it. She's way too perfect for it to be natural."

"Ng Ng mma, she's beautiful and it's natural gape.. let me go back to class. Bye!"

She quickly walked back to her class.

\*\*\*

Nolo overtook a truck calling her sister.

“Hi.. “

Nolo smiled. “I am going to the mall. Are you still craving it?”

“Yes. Thank you.”

Nolo dropped the call, minutes later she parked her car and walked inside leaving people staring at her car. She walked inside a supermarket and picked her sister’s favorite Biltong before walking to the till. She locked eyes with Amo who was wearing a Chippies Supermarket t-shirt. Amo looked away embarrassed.

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## **Fires Of Desire**

Fires Of Desire

#104

“Plastic?”

Nolo shook her head. “No.”

Nolo handed her money. Amo quickly served her unable to look her in the eyes. Nolo walked out with her biltong and walked to her car.

She jumped in and started the engine just as a Jeep parked next to hers. She frowned as Elizabeth stepped out of the car.

Nolo jumped out. “Elizabeth!”

Elizabeth turned and looked at her. She smiled.

“Nolo...”

Nolo smiled. “Hi.”

She walked over. Elizabeth smiled. “Wow, you look beautiful.”

“Thank you. You too.”

“I don’t come anywhere close to you. How are you?”

“Uh... I am fine. I got married.. and uh... I have a daughter. She’s five and I am happy. Nicole has three, carrying her fourth and she’s also... she’s happy. She’s married to a good man.”

“Wonderful.”

“Remember when you said one of us would kill the other?”

“Yes. But the future can always change. Unlike the past.” Elizabeth took Nolo’s hand and ran her finger’s through her lines.

Nolo curiously looked at her. “What do you see?”

Elizabeth looked at her. “I see happiness... joy.. I see another child... in the future... “ She looked at her hand and closed it. “Be grateful Nolo.. for what you hold. Be happy and live life with no fear... a life... was given up for yours... you are lucky.”

Nolo looked at her confused. “What for you mean?”

“The truth is not what it always seems to be. Be grateful for a life was given up so yours can be ... it wasn’t just s miracle.. it was a sacrifice... bye Nolo! Remember, live your life.”

She walked away leaving Nolo standing still, confused.

She finally got in her car and drove off headed to Nicole’s house.

\*\*\*

Nicole smiled as her sister walked in.

“Hi.”

“There you go. I have a meeting thirty minutes at Debswana. I am thinking of quitting as their private consultant. I have a lot on my plate. TN Global Holdings needs my full attention for the new project we are taking on.”

Nicole nodded. “Understandable. I can’t wait to go back to my students. I miss teaching.”

Nolo laughed. “I admire your patience. How’s the baby?”

“Which one?”

Nolo smiled and rubbed her tummy. "All."

"We are fine. I felt down in the morning. I felt I have way too many kids."

"You don't. Are you still thinking about that girl yesterday?"

"I couldn't help it. But MJ sorted me. I am happy with my life. I am grateful for my kids.. my good health... my craziness.. my husband and you... I am grateful to be alive... I am grateful to be loved. I am and... I need to start appreciating it more."

Nolo smiled. "I agree. I was thinking we go to some island. You, me and mama. I am so happy you two are working on your relationship. It makes me so happy."

"So am I. Forgiveness is a process. Bye!"

They hugged then Nolo walked to her car as Nicole watched her with a proud smile.

Nolo jumped in her car picking a call.

"Onolo Mbakiwe, hello?"

"Hi. It's Kano."

Nolo reversed out of Nicole's yard and drove off.

"How can I help you?"

"I have been out for a year and... I have been trying to figure ways to approach you. And I was also scared but today I have gathered myself. I wanted to say I am sorry. I am sorry for the monster I was to you. I am sorry for how much I hurt you. For the pain I caused you when all you did was try to love me. I am sorry and I deserved going to jail..I needed it because if I didn't, I would have never found the root of the problem. You somehow helped me and I will forever be grateful. I am happy you found love at the end. You deserve it."

"Ok. That's all?"

"Yes."

"Ok. I forgive you. I hope... you are married to Amo right? Well I hope you find better."

“We are divorced. She was sleeping with my friend but there is someone I really like. She stays in Maun. I met her through Amo but I like her. I am not being bitter or anything... I just-“

“Do what your heart desires. You only live once!”

She hung up and stepped on her accelerator increasing the speed.

\*\*\*

Later that day, Trevor wrapped up a meeting and walked out of the boardroom. He walked to his office calling his brother.

“Hello?”

“Ken, did you talk to mama?”

“No. She’s in Mauritius with her boyfriend. I can’t believe the garden boy is now... aii!”

Trevor laughed. “Let her be. He makes her happy.”

“He is five years older than me.. it’s weird but if she’s happy, so am I. Angie is happy about it too. I wanted to tell you that Papa has more charges waiting. He’s never getting out.”

“Good.”

“I worry about him.”

“He will be fine. He’s right where he belongs. By the way, Zambia approached us about the electricity. We are looking at billions...”

Ken whistled. “Fuck!”

“I know! I can’t believe this is working out the way Nolo said it would. I am blessed.”

“You are. Her i8 has been the talk in my house lately.”

“Mister, spoiler mosadi!”

“I am going to. Just not an i8.”

He opened his office door and walked inside. He froze staring at Nolo sitting on his desk holding handcuffs.

He cut the call and looked at her. "Hey..."

Nolo put down the handcuffs and took off the black coat she was wearing remaining in her lingerie. She took out the toy gun from her garter and walked over to him with the handcuffs.

"Mr. Mbakiwe... you are under arrest for not calling me today..." She rubbed her lips against his. Trevor squeezed her waist kissing her. Nolo smiled. "And also for loving me this hard. For driving me crazy with that love and the list goes on."

He smiled. "I plead guilty. Arrest me!"

She giggled and handcuffed his hands then pushed him to his couch. He laid down as she got on top of him.

"I am going to ride you so hard Mr. Mbakiwe and put you into line!"

He looked at her as his dick jerked. She took it out and stroked him before she started sucking him making him grunt helplessly.

She pulled her mouth off pulling her panties to the side and lowered herself down on it and...

.

After the hot station, Nolo put on her coat while he watched her lying on the couch thoroughly fucked.

She fixed her hair and smiled.

"Bye!"

He looked at her smiling. Nolo walked out and got in her car. She smiled taking out her ringing phone and picked his call.

"Hi.."

"I love you."

She smiled. Those three words still had the same effect on her.

"I love you so much too."

Trevor chuckled. "I am going to commit more crime in the future if I get punished like this."

Nolo laughed. "I missed you."

“Me too.. maybe tonight we can drop off Yaone at Ken’s house and we make love everywhere.”

Nolo smiled. “Ok. I spoke to Ranewa. I understand why things have been tense. I was wrong with my approach. We ironed things out and going forward I think we will have it easy.”

“Ok. I will apologize to her I thought she was being difficult.”

“No..she wasn’t. I was. And I apologized.”

“Ok. I will too.”

“I love you Trevor. I love you.”

\*

In his office, Trevor stood by his window staring at her car.

“I know. And I love you.”

“Bye.”

She hung up then drove off. Trevor sat down on his chair smiling like a child.

He looked at her picture frame on his desk and fixed it.

\*

In Nolo’s car, Nolo sang along to Shania Twain headed home to wait for her man.

‘Looks like we made it

Look how far we’ve come, my baby

We mighta took the long way

We knew we’d get there someday

They said, “I bet they’ll never make it”

But just look at us holding on  
We're still together, still going strong, mm

You're still the one I run to  
The one that I belong to  
You're still the one I want for life  
(You're still the one)

You're still the one that I love  
The only one I dream of  
You're still the one I kiss '

She rolled down the windows of her BMW i8 singing even louder  
happily.

~~THE END~~