I fell in love with my son-

BYNICOLANYATE

Prologue

That moment those tiny cries fill the room ,the moment everyone has been waiting for .That moment when you crack a smile as tired as you are but knowing that those nine months were worth it .That moment it takes your nipple into its mouth and sucks for dear life . Your world feels complete, there's nothing else you want cause right there in your arms is that one person who will unconditionally love you ,that one

person that will always have your back no matter what .

But alas! Little did I know that was not to be the case with me .As I'm busy enjoying the moment , holding the little being that I had made ,I wasn't really proud of the way he came into being .But still he was mine and the fact that his father raped me didn't matter at that moment .I was looking forward to raising him .

I hear my dad whisper to the doctor

to take the baby away cause his family is waiting for him .What family? Ain't we his family? I ask what they mean and they tell me they have given him up for adoption .How could they? They are my parents they are supposed to help me raise this bundle of joy .I know I'm just fourteen but still.

I clutch my baby close to me ,they won't take him ,I didn't suffer all these nine months for nothing .I haven't even named him yet .How could my parents be so cruel this is their own flesh and blood .

I saw my dad sadly nod to the doctor .He approaches me carrying a syringe before I could figure out what was going on he injected me and it was lights out.

INSERT 1

28 years later

Brandon

My mom can be too much sometimes I can't just believe she asked me to buy her tomatoes at the market place, I never come to this place and she even specified who she wanted me to buy the tomatoes from.

Like honestly who does that ?When I told her I was going to pick some from the shops the way she yelled at me .Thank goodness it was a phonecall otherwise if I was next to her I was going to earn myself a slap at age 28 imagine!

Me: hello mah where can I find NaSipho?

I ask a lady who's selling some vegetables.

Lady: keep on walking her stall is at the end of the road .

Just great I'm ruining my perfect Italian shoes on this road for what tomatoes .

I walked on and and got to the lady's stall.

Wow I can't believe I'm checking out a woman who's obviously older than me .

She's chocolate in complexion ,got nice hazel eyes ,long lashes ,oval face ,she's just pretty ,that tiny nose and those pinkish lips ,she's just pretty and I'm staring .I wish she could just stand up so that I see her structure .

She clears her throat.

Her: how can I help you?

She asks looking at my dressing and I guess asking herself what's a guy in a tuxedo doing at her stall.

She's got those headwraps on her head I must say it really makes her look cute.

Me: I was sent by Janet Nxumalo to

come buy some tomatoes ,she's my mother .

She doesn't respond ,she just stands up and starts packing some tomatoes in a plastic bag ,they are big fresh and juicy no wonder my mom wanted them .

Damn she should have just packed them seated cause I think I'm going to lose my mind.

She has an amazing body every single feature at it's right place.

This is me staring at her and having dirty thoughts, honestly the only place I'm seeing her is in my bed.

Her: are you deaf or what?

Me: did you say something?

Her: that's three dollars ,she always buys those .

I take out ten dollars and hand it to her .She hands me back the change but I tell her to keep it .

She comes to my side and puts the money in my breast pocket and tells me to get lost cause she's not a charity case.

On any other day I would have insisted that she takes the money but I was so blown away by her I couldn't believe she was that close to me and somehow I managed not to kiss her.

I took the tomatoes and drove to my parents house still having NaSipho on

my mind the whole way .I found myself touching my breast pocket and just smiling .

I am going to wife her just watch and see nothing will stop me.

Gugulethu

It's five pm I'm now packing up my stuff, closing down my stall. I didn't have a lot of customers today and I really don't know why I refused that young man's money.

I could have bought electricity .Sipho my baby girl will have to study using candles I will buy tomorrow .

Life is a little tough but we are surviving .We have a roof over our heads and that's something .At least I don't have to worry about school fees cause her father takes care of that .

It hurts me when she goes and visits him and his new family and comes back with stuff .It shows me what a failure I am .I really need to look for a

better job but noone wants to hire an uneducated woman.

I dropped out of school when I was fourteen cause I fell pregnant .After giving birth my parents gave the baby up for adoption .

I just lost it and went through depression the baby was the reason why I never focussed on the fact that I was raped cause I was being strong for him .After he was gone those terrible memories kicked in and I tried commiting suicide twice .I couldn't go

back to school I was taken to different therapists seeking help.

It took me ten years to pull myself together and I was twenty four by then .I was still at home and my parents did not mind taking care of me .

At twenty six I met Ben ,Sipho's dad and I was so inlove with him ,two years later we had Sipho and life was good .We lived a comfortable life and we were happy .

Ben started changing when Sipho turned nine ,before the year ended I was divorced and replaced by his current wife .

I managed to get us a two bedroomed cottage from the little money my parents me.

I'm now forty two and my daughter thirteen.

Me: where did the lights come from?

I ask her as I unpack the tomatoes in our small kitchen .

It smells nice in here little missy has cooked.

She wraps her arms around me.

SIPHO: don't be mad ,dad was here he brought groceries and left some money ,I didn't call him I swear .

Me: it's okay love ,have your done your homeworks?

SIPHO: yes ma'am .Let me dish up for you .

She dishes up for me and I eat .As much as it hate the fact that Ben is buying stuff around here I will just keep quiet and not fight him .I have to do it for Sipho ,we are a bit lucky it's not everyday you have a baby daddy that will still support his child even though he has other children with another woman.

I should really try to pull up my socks and find something that will generate

money so that I give Sipho the best life .

Insert 2

Ben

I'm at home with my family .We are having supper just talking and laughing .Sipho should be here ,I don't like the fact that she's living in poverty while I'm living a comfortable life ,I'm not rich I'm not poor I'm just

comfortable.

Wife: what I you thinking of?

Me: Sipho

Wife: then take her .

Wait what ,reason why I never did that is that I thought she wouldn't want Sipho here .

Me: are you serious?

Wife: yep like this is her home ,besides it's not like we don't know each other she comes to visit.

But visiting is different from living with us .

Wife: babe relax I won't harm her come on ,I know you might think I will abuse her kodwa angeke ,I will treat her like my own .

That's great I'm getting my baby.

Brandon

Mihle: hey back to earth Brandon.

Me: you said something .

She claps once.

Mihle: you never pay attention to me so are you telling me that all this time I've been talking to myself heeeh?Do you even want to get married or vele I'm wasting my time Brandon? I feel like I'm the only one who puts an effort into this relationship .I'm even the one who proposed for fuck's sake .Don't you love me yini?

Me: calm down babe you know I love you I just had a long day at work ,chill calm down ,it's not good for the baby you know that .

She starts crying .Oh Lord no kill me right now I can't stand this .

Mihle: I just feel like I'm forcing things

She's crying having hiccups, tears running down her face mixing with her mucus sies man.

Me: babe you are not forcing anything I'm sorry.

But she is .She's forcing this relationship .Till yesterday I didn't mind just getting married to her .She has been given half of the company by her dad .My father and hers were

equal partners .Hers has stepped down given her all his shares .My dad saw this as an opportunity to make it a family business by me marrying Mihle .

Honestly I have done all that my pa wants I'm that kind of son .He says jump I just ask how high .

But now ,I just can't stop thinking about NaSipho from the market place .She's been running on my mind ever since I met her .

And I never like ever think of a woman .It's usually just fuck and pass .

I will have to get rid of these thoughts cause we have a company to run, l have to wife Mihle and besides she's pregnant with my child. While I don't know how that happened but okay.

Me: babe listen ,l love you neh ,come here .

She comes into my arms with her tears and all. The things we do for

power.

Sipho

I'm about to reach my climax when we hear the kitchen door open .Oh fuck no this can't be happening mom should be at work right now .

Sbu quickly gets into the wardrobe and I dress up .Five minutes later she opens the door .

Mom: Are you sick ?Why are you

sleeping in the middle of the day ,ain't you supposed to be on your extra lessons .

Me: I got a slight headache.

Mom: did you drink some pills?

She asks looking all worried ,shame my poor mom she loves me so much .

I nod.

Mom: okay babe just rest neh ,l

need to rush back to the market .l was here to get that nice black dress of mine ,the one with the strapless back .

Oh no it's in the wardrobe.

Me: why?

Mom: I want to sell it ,we need some money otherwise the council wants to close our water .

That's why I do what I do .

Me: you don't have to loss your dress .Here some money ,I got it from dad the other day .

Mom: how much exactly did your dad give you?

Eish !I hope she doesn't ask him cause he never came nor left me some money .

Me: enough ,mama take it and go they close their offices at four .

She takes the money.

Mom: who's shoes are these.

Me: dad's he left them the other day .

She stares at me .But she has to believe me cause those are a grown man's shoe .

Mom: hooo

She leaves rushing out.

Phew that was a close one.

I open the wardrobe.

Me: where were we daddy?

Sbu smiles ,he likes it when I call him that .I don't .But the money is good like real good .See I just helped mah pay for the water the other day I bought groceries and electricity .Even these extra lessons I pay for them .

Sometimes a lady has got to do what a lady has to do to survive .

He picks me up and we start all over again .Yep this is the story of my life at least he's sexy, good looking and really good in bed .

INSERT 3

Nkosilathi Ndiweni (Brandon's dad)

Leo comes in staggering he's kak

drunk, such a disappointment.

Leo: dad

Mnx he stinks like the whole bar.

Me: Ndondana (son)

He sits on my bed .His mom is in the shower .

Leo: why?

Why what?

Me: you are drunk .

I say it as a statement.

Leo: I'm your son ,your first born ,the pride of your youth ,how is it you are taking my birth right and giving it to that adoptive piece of shit of yours

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If only he knew that Brandon is his half brother ,maybe he would try to

get along with him.

But no one knows ,not even my wife .

She couldn't have kids anymore after giving birth to Leo .Five years later she wanted another child ,she was pushing the adoption thing down my neck .

I wasn't interested like why would I want to raise another man's child.

It happened I impregnated someone

so I couldn't let my child be raised by it's teen Mom. The adoption thingie came to my advantage see.

I told her I had found some parents who were willing to adopt .

At first she wasn't agreeing cause she was saying she wanted a daughter ,you know how it's every woman's dream to have a daughter .

I had to contact my brother for help uNdiweni his some family seer of the Mkandla's so he told me not to worry

about it.

Few days later wifey came to me on her own saying she wanted to adopt the boy after he was born .And the way she loves him . Ndiweni's things do work for sure .

She comes out of the shower ,uMaNxumalo wami ,she's a beauty this one .Leo just had to be here ,l should making love to my wife right now she's looking so sexy .

Janet: and then wena (you)

Me: he's drunk

I whisper .She claps her hands once and shakes her head .

I know right ,Leo behaves like a damn kid .

He's now asleep on our bed with his arms and legs open nje .

We look at each other.

Me: let's use the guest room .

Janet: ngitsho (no)

I see her typing on her phone .A few minutes later Brandon comes in .

Janet: get your brother off our bed.

Brandon: haa mom

Janet: get him off we want to sleep.

He picks him up and goes off with him .Shame my poor son he should be the one being carried not the other way round .

Brandon

I'm driving Mihle to the airport, she's going to America to shop for a handbag she saw online, like who does that?

I asked her why she doesn't buy it

online and have it shipped over .She almost bit my head off hence here we are driving her to the airport so that she goes shop for her bag in America

Oh Lord I can't believe it's her .I stop the car .

I open my window.

Me: you off to the market .

She's carrying her crate of tomatoes and some vegetables .

NaSipho: yes

I get off to help her put her stuff in the boot.

I go to the front seat.

Me: babe go to the back.

Mihle: ahhhh what?

Me: go to the back ,we can't let an

elder sit there on her own and besides we might be late if we keep arguing with each other.

She gets off and sits on the backseat sulking and all .The only reason she's letting it go it's cause of the nothing else.

NaSipho gets in .

She so beautiful she really does deserve to be in the front with me .As my wife ,as a Ndiweni am going to wife her I don't know how but I feel it

in my bones that she's the one.

Me: do you have a name NaSipho.

She smiles, damn.

There's a mnx coming from the back .That's her own problem who's talking to her .

NaSipho: it's NaSipho phela.

Me: nah please tell me your name .

NaSipho: is that what your mother is teaching you to call adults by their name?

Me: she's not here is she? Besides I'm doing you a favor ,town is a bit far from here ,don't you think I deserve to know your name .

She smiles .She must do that a lot yoh .

NaSipho: it's Gugulethu .

Another mnx comes from the back.

I turn on the music, I really one talk with this woman that's besides me but at the same time I don't want to anger Mihle, who knows what she might do, she's psycho this one.

Gugulethu

Thank God I got some transport today .I'm early setting up my stall.

Guess what here comes Janet .She's with some young man who looks like her it must be her son .

The other women from other stalls start murmuring mnx jealous bitches.

She comes to my stall.

Janet: MaNcube

Me: MaNxumalo

We laugh .The guy just looks at me.

Janet: you are in luck today .I'm buying your whole crate .

Say what!

Me: serious?

Janet: yes ,I'm preparing some dinner for family friends some I need fresh juicy tomatoes .

A whole crate though, whatever as long as I'm getting my money.

Janet: you got some cucumbers?

Me: no

Janet: okay let me go look for them over there .Leo wait for the tomatoes I'm coming.

The Leo of it looks like he would rather be somewhere else.

Leo: do you want a job?

Me: yes

Leo: how does personal assistant sound to you .

Me: I don't have them qualifications

Leo: you don't need them ,you will be my personal assistant ,I will teach you on the job .

Me: okay so when do I start?

I hope I'm not dreaming .Jobs just don't come to you in Zimbabwe .

Leo: next week Monday ,I will be out of town this whole week so yah come Monday .Here is my card .

I take it .I can't believe this like what.

Janet comes back with some cucumbers her tomatoes are already packed.

Janet: okay love we not staying we

are in a hurry.

Me: no problem.

They walk away .I'm just left with a few items to sell ,today has been a good day shame .

To new beginnings I can't believe by Monday I will be getting a salary.

INSERT 4
NKOSILATHI

I can't believe I'm doing this .But who would say no to two point five million you can gain just in a day by pulling this off.

I'm now at the baby's wing in this clinic .I'm dressed like a nurse ,with a cap pulled down my face .Not that there are a lot of CCTVs here but it doesn't hurt being too careful.

I just pick one of the baby's .I don't know what Ndiweni wants to do with it but I hope it lives a happy and long life where it goes to .

I don't rush out of the wing I walk in a steady speed lucky the little girl is not crying that would be my worst nightmare being caught.

We are out of the clinic without anyone stopping us .I give her to the driver that was sent to collect her .

He hands me two black bags .l open them just a little ,holy shit this is real like the money is real . I have already gotten rid of my disguise, I'm being careful shame.

One of the nurses from this clinic stops me as I'm now getting into my car ,the money is already in the boot ,the driver is long gone as soon as he received the baby he drove off.

Nurse: oh my gosh it's really you Mr Ndiweni ,how are you sir .

Where the hell does she know me from .I'm not that famous and besides I doubt she knows anything

about business.

Me: sisi hie

She blushes ehhh kids of these days she's old enough to be my daughter.

She drops her phone purposely making it look like a mistake, she faces the other way to pick it up.

What do you know ,she picks it up her uniform is so short her butt and pussy are out there for me to see

.Why ain't she wearing any panties?

I feel my dick throbbing ,no I won't shame the devil is at work here .I won't fall for this temptation .

I promised myself after what happened twenty eight years ago I won't look at another woman that's not Janet.

I get into my car and drive off leaving that nurse shocked .Fuck that was sure a nice looking pussy shame. *Leo*

She's here ,at least she managed to pull off a formal attire I was really worried about that .

I'm waiting for her by the reception I didn't want her to go through trouble looking for me and all. Besides she's not the company's employee she's mine. I will be paying her personal cause there's no where in hell Brandon and that Mihle of his can hire an uneducated woman, they

want the most excellent stuff mnx.

Gugu: am I late?

She asks panicking ,I'm sure she wanted to impress but she must relax she's not .

I'm glad I'm helping someone out .

Me: no not at all follow me.

She follows me ,the eyes I get .I'm sure they are thinking she's one of

my fuck mates phela I'm known for bringing women to the office but come Gugu is good looking and all she's just not my type I like them young.

I open my office door.

Her: wow nice

I just smile for the sake of it she should see Brandon's office she will see that this is nothing compared to it.

Me: that's your desk I already had it prepared for you by right you should have your own mini office but since your are under my pay check

She nods, perfect she understands. Let me train her maybe then she will be doing all my work for me and I will have more time to go clubbing with the boys.

Mihle

I feel like crying I really do ,like what the fuck .l even had to go to America to have myself checked out and the doctors told me there's nothing wrong with me .

I look at the negative pregnancy test and tears well up in my eyes .My lies are catching up with me but I thought that by now we would be pregnant you know .

Is it possible that the problem is with Brandon ?Oh nkosiyami (Lord) why didn't I think of that .What do I do now

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Brandon doesn't seem to be fully invested into this relationship .I'm telling you he doesn't even check on how the wedding preparations are going .I feel like I'm getting married to myself and I'm sure the only reason he agreed to marry me was cause of the baby .

How do I get pregnant if Brandon can't have kids?

I dial my mum's number she should

know what I should do .

Mum: hello

Me: mama I think the problem is with Brandon .

Mum:eish baby we have to have a plan fast time is moving.

Tell me something I don't know.

Mum: the dad ,sleep with the dad they look alike with Brandon ,even if

the child comes out looking like him noone will say a thing .

Me: but mah

Mum: there's no time baby ,you have to act fast think careful about this neh ,bye your dad is calling me .

Yooh sleeping with Nkosilathi .l don't know about that one .Am l that desperate .

INSERT 5

Gugu

He just busts into the office ,he's really angry yoh I wonder what angered him .He doesn't even notice me he goes to Leo's chair and holds him by his collar .

Him: I'm so fucken tired of your sick behavior .This is a company damnit Leo not some club or a brothel where you bring women and all that shit .We must set an example for our employees ,what kind of

example are you setting ,grow up asshole ,I'm tired of your shit I've had enough of it .

I doubt Leo is breathing. This guy must be suffocating him. Funny I don't even know his name but we have met like twice.

Leo tries to say something but ain't nothing coming out of his mouth ,the guy's grip is too tight.

Me: you are going to kill him!

Him: shut up slut

He says as he turns to face me. His jaw drops when he recognizes me.

He lets go of Leo's collar.

Him: Gugu hie umm

I ignore him ,pour some water for Leo who's massaging his neck .

I give him the glass he downs it in a second.

Him: Gugu what are you doing here at you supposed to be at the market .

Mnx who does he think he is .Cause he gave me a ride the other day he now thinks we are friends .

Me: I work here.

I say with so much attitude .How can he belittle me like this ,he's basically

saying that I belong to the market place not here.

He looks at me with a confused facial expression .

Him: what do you mean your work here ,HR didn't say anything to me about hiring a tomato employee .

The slap I give him .I'm offended like really offended I feel tears welling up my eyes .

Leo: Gugu I'm sorry.

Brandon dude listen I can explain.

Oh so his name is Brandon.

Leo: Gugu is under my pay check ,she's my employee not the company's like she will be helping me around and ummm

Brandon: okay I understand

It's Leo's turn to be shocked.

Leo: you understand!!

He nods.

The girlfriend comes in .She sees me .

Mihle: what is she doing here?

She says pointing at me with a look of disgust on her face.

Mihle: babe I've been looking for you all over the office and I find you here with her?

Ayibo is this girl blind ,Leo is here and what does she mean by what she just said .

Leo: Mihle noone has time for your drama .Get out of my office .

I see the neck doesn't hurt anymore kkk or he doesn't like this Mihle chick .

Mihle: you don't tell me what to do in my building ,babe I left some important documents at your parents house the other day so I'm going over there to get them .

Brandon: okay

Mihle: okay that's all?

What does she want him to say.

Brandon: what do you want me to say?

Leo: may you please leave already some of us have got some work to

do.

Brandon pulls his girl and they go out ,we can still hear her shouting down the corridors .

Leo looks at me.

Him: thanks I owe you one.

Heeh?

Him: I know let me take you and your child to dinner tonight.

Me: dinner?

Leo: yep down at Let's dine.

Wow that's some fancy restaurant. We will go with him, my daughter deserves a decent dinner she has been such a good girl.

Me: okay sounds good .

We get back to work.

Nkosilathi

Mihle is here .I'm home alone .

Me: makoti what a surprise .

I say as I open the door for her .

She smiles and sits on the couch ,we are at the lounge .

Mihle: baba there's something I

need to tell you.

Me: okay I'm listening.

I wonder what it is ,don't tell me she wants to pull the engagement off .She has to marry Brandon so that the company becomes a Ndiweni thing .

She starts crying .I will let her cry till she calms down on her own I'm not comforting anyone mina .

Mihle: I ...I didn't know thatthat there was something wrong with....with him .

What is she talking about?

Mihle: I thought by now wewe would be pregnant but we are notI checked with different specialist I'm fine nothing is wrong with me .

Me: what are you talking about makoti ,I'm lost .

She cries some more till she calms down .She's wasting my time ,I need to go hide that money before Janet comes at home .

Mihle: so the thing is ,I lied to Brandon about being pregnant, I'm not I thought by now we would be since we are no longer using protection, we are not, I got checked I'm fine so the problem must be with your son I

Me: so you have noticed that your plan has backfired what's the way

forward?

Mihle: I don't know that's why I came to talk to you so that you may assist me, I know you want us to get married.

Me: I will get back to you makoti

Mihle: thank you baba

She says getting up.

Now what do I do about this issue?

INSERT 6

Gugu

I get home at first I think I just entered the wrong house cause there are sex sounds coming from my room .But I look around this is my place so what the fuck is going on .

I open my bedroom door .My mouth runs dry .l can't believe what I'm seeing this must be a dream like what the fuck.

They continue they didn't even hear the door open .She seems to be enjoying it .This is a mutual agreement she's not being raped .

Tears just fall down, where did I go wrong with her, she's so so young I mean ...

Me: Sipho?

They both look at me from their

doggy position.

Sipho is shocked she wasn't expecting me I had told her I will be at home around eight it's six.

The guy gets dressed so quick and he leaves .He looks twenty two or something .

Sipho: mama I can explain .

Me: get dressed

She does I'm sure in her head she's trying to cook up a story.

I call Leo.

Me: hie we won't be able to make it to that dinner.

Leo: great

Great??

Me: what?

Leo: I'm already at the restaurant and there's this sexy looking lady, I might just make my move.

I laugh ,he's crazy this one .

Leo: don't worry we will have the dinner some other day .

I drop the call after thanking him.

I go cook ,I don't know what to do with myself .I'm so hurt like really hurt

.Noone wants to see their teen daughter having sex with a guy who's obviously more than ten years older than her.

She wraps her arms around me lying her head on my back.

Sipho: mama?

I don't want to talk to her ,I don't have anything to say to her .

Sipho: mama please say something

,like please ,shout , yell anything is better than silence .

Me: you are going to boarding school.

Sipho: mama!

Me: yes down at the bundus I will talk to your dad about it, preferably a girls only boarding school.

Sipho: but mama

I lift my hand up as a way of silencing her .It's a done deal .I can't deal with her I don't know how to deal with her .

Sipho

I'm crying so hard ,how can she want to send me to boarding school worse at the bundus .

How did we even get caught .At least she found me with a college boy not Sbu .If she had caught me with Sbu I think she would have be hospitalized by now .

I was just helping out I didn't mean to hurt her .

She comes into my room and cuddles with me.

Mum: I love you baby okay ,you are just too young to be doing the stuff you are doing ,focus on your books the time for boys will come ..

The way she looks hurt .Fuck I messed up my mom does a lot for

me ,I was just trying to help out that's all .

Mom: I have to be your best friend I know I'm not around most of the time but I will just be trying to gather some money for us .But I promise you it's going to be better from now on ,I got a decent job .

Me: we will never get rich with you working for someone else .

She looks at me.

Mom: so you saying I should continue selling tomatoes?

Me: no find your calling ,find what you are good at ,like a talent like I don't know how to explain it

She nods her head .She pulls me close to her .We cuddling ,I get to sleep with her today .Thing with my mom she bottles things up , what I know is that she won't say anything about this she will just bottle it up and it's all my fault .

Brandon

I'm looking at her video working ,look at her all focused and all .

I kept thinking of her to the extent of me calling my security system from the company asking me to send me the CCTVs videos from Leo's office.

I think I should get her number .At least get her to know me ,who knows the feeling might be mutual .

My phone rings ,why would my dad call me at this time .I hope it's got nothing to do with Leo I can't be driving over there to remove him from their bed .

Me: baba

Him:cancel all the plans you have tomorrow, we are going to see your babomdala (uncle)

Me: which one?

Dad: Ndiweni

Why are we going over there .That guy creeps me out .Like there's just this bad aura around him .

Me: may I ask why?

Dad: you will see when we get there

Ahh I don't want to go .But what can I say ,it can't be that bad I mean its just

a visit to that creepy guy .I honestly don't know how we are related to him

The next day

We arrive at his homestead .lt looks clean I wonder who does it for him .

This place unsettles me .Like I'm hearing strange sounds I can't place where there are coming from .

Ndiweni comes out of one of his huts.

Blood dripping from his hands.

Me: dad do you see that .

Dad: see what?

Me: the blood that's dripping from his hands .

I'm whispering . My dad looks at me as if I'm crazy .

Dad: Brandon what are you talking about?

Am I the only seeing it cause even the people that are passing by the road ,they are just greeting us getting on with their day .

Ndiweni: hawu hawu bhudiwakhe (my brother) ,(ndodana) son .

We greet him back.

Ndiweni keeps giving me a look l don't understand .

We get into one of his huts.

Ndiweni: should I give you mahewu or you want water .

Dad: no no no we are good .We came here for a consultation .

Ndiweni: oh I see ,let's go to the other hut .

I wonder why he built so many huts he could have just built one house .I'm just saying. We get into his healing hut .Dad just gets in and sits down .I'm just by the door . There's this big black snake inside and there are two little men (they look like men but their height are that of babies) who are just sitting down next to the snake .

Dad and Ndiweni both look at me
.Come on am I supposed to get in
.How come my dad is not seeing any
of this .

My phone rings . This is one of those

days I'm grateful I have an annoying girlfriend .

I answer the phone running to my car ,I guess there are thinking there's an emergency .I don't what Dad will use to get home since we only brought one car but whatever that's not my problem let him stay with his creepy brother .

INSERT 7

Nkosilathi

Why is he staring at me I also don't know what is wrong with Brandon .Like the way he just ran off was so out of character .He looked like someone who was being chased by demons or something .

Me: bhudi ngilesicelo (I got a request)

Ndiweni: I'm listening.

Me: my son is failing to impregnate his fiance .May you consult with the elders .

Him: it's not a physical problem it's a spiritual problem .

What does that mean?

Why doesn't he just use his bones instead of telling me what's coming from his head.

Me: what do you mean?

Ndiweni:only time will tell you can't play with fate .He will have to suffer the consequences for your mistakes .

Me: suffer?

Ndiweni: don't worry it only will be emotional pain .

As if that makes it better .I wonder what mistakes are those . Does it

have anything to do with how he came into being?

Gugu

It's around two pm .We are taking a walk with Sipho .I didn't go to work today .Leo called he said he had a terrible hangover so I bother about going to the office cause he's won't be there .

I hope I get my full paycheck by the end of the month.

A car almost runs us over it missed us by an inch .The driver stops after a yard or two .He comes to check on us .Sipho is crying .She cries when she gets freak out.

What do you know the driver is Brandon mnx.

Brandon: are you guys okay?

Me: what do you think ? You almost ran us over so we are super fine .

Brandon:I'm terribly sorry . Let me give you and your sister a ride I will drop you off .

Nce he thinks Sipho is my little sister ,she looks big for her age ,you might say she's around sixteen eighteen .We look alike .She took them curves and hips from me .

Me: she's my daughter.

I led the way to the car .Sipho is now

quiet she's no longer crying.

He opens the doors for us .l sit at the front ,Sipho is at the back .

Me: you scared my baby.

Brandon: I'm so sorry I really am it's just that I was in a rush .

Me: so we better get off since you are in a rush.

Brandon: I'm no I mean I left in a rush where I'm coming from .

He's not making sense but whatever who cares.

Brandon: can I have your number?

Me: what for ?

Sipho: 077.....

Uyaphapha loo (she's too forward this one)

The look I give her .She just shruggles her shoulders.

Brandon: thanks ,I'm guessing you must be Sipho ?

Sipho nods her head.

Sipho: and you must be my step dad?

WTF! Where is she getting that nonsense from ,does she see that this guy is obviously younger than me

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The smile Brandon gives her .Mnx he is as crazy as her .

Me: Sipho

I say to her as a warning . Brandon just smiles .

Sipho: this is nice us driving together it's like we are a family .

This kid!

Leo calls I answer.

Leo: hey so I need some help over here .I just realized there are some documents that are due tomorrow like shit you should come type them otherwise Brandon will have my head for breakfast tomorrow .

Brandon looks at me ,damn my phone it's on loud speaker .

Me: okay .

Brandon makes a U turn . Why?

Me: and then?

Brandon: we are going to Leo's .

Oh okay I won't say no to free transport.

Mihle

Brandon's dad just called me ,he tells

me the problem with Brandon is spiritual not physical whatever that means .His adding more issues to my problems instead of giving me solutions .

I app him.

So baba what should I do since the problem is spiritual?

He answers ...

*Come clean makoti it's the only way

out.*

Haa come clean he's crazy this one .l will make a plan he doesn't know Brandon .

You know what let me move the wedding date and push it to this month we were supposed to get married in three months but no the more I wait the more I lose Brandon.

Insert 8

Leo

I'm looking out the window.

What is Brandon doing here? Isn't he supposed to be with Dad at Ndiweni's place, Dad had said they are sleeping over there.

Fuck I see a young version of Gugu like OMG she's so fucken sexy and flawless.

The way I rush to open the door.

Brandon's face is the one I see first mnx .He should just stay at his house ,why did he even buy it when he's going to be here most of the time?

Brandon: hie big bro

Since when do we greet each other?

I just nod my head he should move out of the way a want to see Gugu junior.

Finally he does ,how come he's the one who came with them .

Gugu: I hope I'm not late

She's so dedicated, I realised one thing she's really bright and she's a fast learner I wonder what happened to her studies.

I should get time and teach her a thing or two about business ,maybe

she might open her own thing I might invest in her.

Me: hie Gugu junior I'm Leo

Lord I swear I saw her blush.

Gugu laughs.

Gugu: Gugu junior like really?

Me: you guys look alike .

They both smile ,damn she's beautiful .

Gugu: the work I'm supposed to do?

Me: right it's in my office come with me .

Brandon follows is where is he going?

I show her the work she has to do and she gets it what did I tell you .I saw it when we were at the market place that that wasn't her destiny and I'm glad I'm helping her out as she's helping me out .

Brandon is just standing here as I'm showing Gugu what to do .I wonder what his problem is .

Me: I will leave you to it you can handle it right?

She nods already she's behind the desk, powering on the laptop.

She's looking around the sitting.

Me: nice place right

She just nods.

Okay how do we do this .

Me:my mom has great taste right?

She smiles.

Me: so what's the beautiful lady's name?

G.junior: which one

She asks blushing.

Me: you

She's looking at the floor .l lift her face with my finger .

What do you know she puts her arms around my neck ,stands on her tip toes and kisses me .I kiss her back .Her lips are so soft jeez .

Voice: ehhmmm

Shit!

We untangle from each other .Phew it's my dad .I thought it was Brandon or Gugu .What is Brandon still doing at my office ?

The shock that's on my dad's face as he looks at Gugu junior. He knows I like them young so why is he that shocked.

Dad: ummmh hie

G.junior: salibonani

Dad: hie what's your name.

G.junior: Sipho

Oh that's her name .Nice name .She's my gift .

Dad: oh okay

Why is he sweating so much.

Me: dad are you okay?

He just nods and walks away.

Why does everyone do that to me .l ask a question they just nod .

Sipho looks at me and smiles .I like her confidence .I'm going to keep her around for a while .

Nkosilathi

Don't panic ,calm down ,breath ,breath breath . That's what I keep telling myself .But it seems not to be working .

I swear that kid at the dinning must be Brandon's sister .She reminded me of twenty eight years ago.

I wonder where Leo got her .I will have to buy him an apartment cause I can't tell him to stop fucking her knowing Leo he won't ,he will find a

way to sneak her in and then I will have to run into her every other day .An apartment is an amazing idea .I won't have to see her ever again.

I drink some water to calm myself down jeez on this rate I might die of a heart attack let me take a chill pill nje and relax.

Gugu

He looks so lost .I'm done with the work Leo gave me and he was just standing there the whole time looking

as lost as I don't know.

I stand up and give him a hug.

He hugs me back and holds tightly unto me .

Okay whatever is bothering him must be too deep .

Him: it doesn't make sense what I was seeing ,dad wasn't even seeing it .It was creepy like what kind of a person is he .These are things you

see in movies or read in novels ,not in real life like this .I'm wondering just wondering how dad couldn't see all that .

Me: it's going to be okay ,you will figure it out just take it one day at a time .Be sober and focused you will find a solution I promise you .

I don't even know what he's talking about neither does it make sense but I hope he figures it out because he's a nice man really ,even Leo .Janet really did raise her sons well .She

deserves an award.

I untangle from him ,that is enough hugging for a day ,my baby and I need to go back home and cook our supper ,she has to prepare for school

I will let her finish off this team then we decide with her dad what to do about her. When I told him what happened last night, I heard him cry, like he was literally crying over the phone. He really does love his daughter.

Mihle

I'm shopping with future mother inlaw .She wants a new set of couches for her lounge .I don't know why she didn't use the internet .

But this is perfect I hope my plan works.

Janet: what do you think of this one makoti .

She asks pointing at a set with her long finger which has beautiful manicure nails.

Me: it's beautiful.

She moves and go looks at other options.

This is it .One two three go .

Me: ahhhhhh

I scream holding my stomach .l pinch

the little packet that I have hidden in my trousers .I purposely wore a white skin jean for this .

The chicken blood starts flowing down my thighs.

Janet: (shouting) get out of the way she's pregnant can't you see she's losing the baby.

insert 9

Mihle

Me: mamaloooooo!

People are just staring at me some are even taking videos ,what's wrong with them?

But noo this is working to my advantage ,they should take their time so that I lose "the baby".

Janet rushes to me.

She holds my shoulder.

Janet: baby breath please breath the ambulance will be here soon .

Me: I want to go to Krudes hospital that's where my doc is.

Janet: okay babe they will take us there .

She's such a nice woman really .lmagine getting along with your mother in law to that's evey woman's

dream.

The ambulance comes and they take me to Krudes .I'm crying and pretending to be in so much pain .

They rush me to a ward and they call Aneliswa my doc friend .She's like a sister to me .We grew up together .

Janet

I hope she doesn't lose the baby otherwise I won't be able to forgive

myself .What was I thinking ,it's blazing hot and I took a pregnant woman shopping ,we have been going from one shop to another ,she didn't say anything about being tired or something but I must have known better .

For the first time in my life I pray .I hope my Maker hears me .

The doctor comes I stand up.

Me: how are they?

Doc: Mihle is fine we sedated her she needs rest.

Me: and the baby .

She shakes her head.

Doc: unfortunately we lost it ,I'm so sorry .

Oh no oh no .This can't be happening .I can't believe I just lost my first grandchild .I was so looking forward

to raising it .I feel my heart shattering I should have known better I should have done something .

The doctor leaves me there with the water works doing their job .I have to tell the families damn this is going to be so so hard.

Sipho

I'm tired I'm from school .Jeez it's so hot .I make myself something to eat .

I can't stop thinking about that Leo hunk like OMG he's so so hot.

I can't believe his dad saw us but never said anything ,he just asked my name ,I can already see myself as a Mrs Ndiweni that just has a nice ring to it .

Sbu: I hope that smile is meant for me .

Why on earth didn't I close the damn door?

I stand up and give him a hug.

Me: daddy

He gives me that smile .Well let me make some money ,I know mom is at work .

What she doesn't know won't kill her .

Brandon

My mom is doing all the crying .My dad looks angry ,I wonder who he's angry at miscarriages happen every other day .

Mihle is numb she's just sitting on her hospital bed staring at nothing but you can see the hurt on her face.

I don't know how I'm feeling .Like I didn't want to her kids with Mihle but she was pregnant with my baby and I was I don't know eish maybe getting used to the fact that very soon I was going to be a father .

Leo pats my shoulder .When did he get here .

Leo: you are a dick and all but you don't deserve this little bro I'm so sorry I really am I was so ready to be a babomdala (uncle) spoiling that baby rotten.

My mom cries some more I can't do this I honestly can't .I get out of the room .

I find myself calling Gugu ,she answers .

Gugu: I heard about the baby ,how are you ,how are you taking it .

Me: can I see you

She doesn't say anything but the line is still connected.

Me: I just want someone to talk to someone who's not involved into this mess, I mean who's not affected by it

.I hope you get what I'm saying .

Gugu: okay how's six I'm at work.

Me: cool

She drops the call there's just something about her that makes me feel at peace when we are together. I'm sure we were meant to be.

Nkosilathi

This Mihle chick I told her to come clean and what does she do she fakes a miscarriage ,as much as I wanted them to get married she took me it too far now my family is hurt ,my wife is so heartbroken it while take a while for her to get over this .Baby things are a sensitive topic to her .

Mnx she took it too far even Leo is affected Leo out of everyone.
Brandon is nowhere to be seen I'm starting to get worried about him I still haven't spoken to him about the drama he did at Ndiweni's place.

INSERT 10

Gugu

We are silently walking down the park
. Amazing I'm comfortable around
him like I'm relaxed nje ,all my stress
my problems they just seem to
disappear .Weird right?

Brandon: what are you thinking about ?

Me: nothing

He raises his eyebrow.

Brandon: how is that possible?

Me: I don't know its just happening nje .

He chuckles.

Me: what are you thinking about .

He looks at me.

Him: you will think I'm crazy if I tell you Gugu.

I realized one thing him and his brother like calling me by my name.

Me: try me.

Him: so umm when I try thinking about the baby I just lost something ,like it's a voice that keeps whispering to me

He keeps quiet .I let him be I mean I'm not rushing to anywhere Sipho can take care of herself .

We sit down in one of the benches here .He still isn't saying anything .

Leo

Okay so this baby thing hit mum real bad .She called some nyanga to come do some cleaning rituals at our house ,she said she's chasing away evil spirits .Aii I think she's just overreacting I mean we are all hurt but she's taking it too far .

I can't get hold of Brandon.

Let me call Gugu I hope she's done with all the work I gave her .With Brandon distracted like this this is my chance to step up my game prove to dad that I can be a responsible

someone.

Brandon: hello

What is he doing with Gugu's phone? I wonder ,is there something going on between them?

I drop the call ,he calls back I don't answer .

Well if Gugu is with Brandon that means Sipho is on her own .Let me contact her ,I will use her to relieve all my stresses.

Brandon

She has fallen asleep on my shoulder .I don't see myself driving to her place or anywhere else .

Luckily there's a hotel room nearby.

Shit it's almost full they only got one room available .It will have to do I'm just too drained ,I didn't sleep last night I kept dreaming of Ndiweni's

things.

I carry to the hotel room .I put her on the bed remove her shoes and pull the blankets over her .Damn she's so beautiful .

I take a few snaps of her .Then I undress, I get into the blankets in my briefs. I hope I get some sleep tonight . Hopefully tomorrow will be a better day .

Mihle

Noone can get hold of Brandon, I'm being kept overnight in the hospital cause the doctors want to "monitor" my health .My parents didn't even come .I asked my mum why she replied and said it's not like I was really pregnant so why should she bother about putting on a show for the Ndiwenis .

Lies I know she didn't want to come cause of Janet she's bitter that Nkosilathi left her for Janet and the public during the first days of their

relationship would make fun of mum saying nasty things some would even say Janet is more beautiful ,she's more classy ,she's humble stuff like that .So she never really liked her .

I'm sure she didn't even tell Dad, knowing him he will be here fussing over me .But come think of it that's good cause my dad would have been demanding numerous tests to be done then my lies would come to light.

I try Brandon's phone again dololo

straight to voicemail ,how could he do this to me ,his supposed to be here supporting me .We should be mourning our "baby" together .

It's a crazy idea but I just take my phone type on Google, Brandon Ndiweni's recent pictures. He's a well known business man maybe someone snapped one.

What do you know there a picture of him carrying that Gugu granny .I hate that woman .Guess what his wearing today's clothes and she looks like

she's sleeping .l will have to discharge myself and go over there that looks like All Joy Hotel .l'm definitely going over there tonight mnx I won't lose Brandon to a granny ahh over my dead body.

Mihle

Aneliswa let me go .I have hired a car

I'm driving like a mad woman to that hotel . Brandon can't do me like this like he can't .

I ask the girl at the front desk for Brandon's room number .She tells me he ain't here even if he was ,she wouldn't tell me .I put some money on top of the desk don't ask me where I got it I got my ways .

Her eyes light up and she gives me the room number ,302 .

300, 301, 298, 298, at the landing

,303,304 and the numbers continue where on earth is 302 .

I go back to that girl and she confirms that the number is 302 how it's not on its landing .I'm not in a rush .

I look for the room ,two hours later
I'm still here and no luck how can this
be happening how can a booked
room just disappear in a hotel how is
it even possible .I can't even go ask
again at the front desk I have
embrassed myself enough .I will just

go back to the hospital so that the Ndiwenis find me there tomorrow .As for that Gugu granny she hasn't seen the last of me I'm going to fix her up by the time I'm done with her she will curse the day she met Brandon mnx she should play with her agemates .

Nkosilathi

I had to drug her for her to get some sleep .Mihle is such a devil yazi I love money but I love my son more I won't let him marry such an evil person .I will just have to find a way of getting those shares.

I can't sleep let me go get a glass of water.

Is it her? What is she doing here? I feel my chest closing in does she know my face did she see it? What if she had been looking for me get whole life so that she gets justice.

Sipho: baba please breath should I call an ambulance .

Oh it's the daughter for a moment I thought it was her. She helps me stand properly, I was leaning against the counter for balance.

Sipho: Are you okay?

What is she doing here at this time?

Me: I will be good thanks .

Sipho: should I pour you some water .

Can you get out of my house.

I shake my head no get she get out of the kitchen already .

Sipho: okay goodnight baba.

Finally she's leaving.

Heeh baba , does she see herself marrying into this family .

I don't know how she misses her step but I catch her .Great this is exactly the moment Leo had to enter the kitchen with his girl in my arms.

Leo: wow this looks cosy !!

Me: sonny listen she fell okay l caught her we can even go check on the CCTVs.

Why am I explaining myself to him?

He just takes the Sipho chick with him .

I have to get that apartment I can't do this with them .

Brandon

She has her head on my chest .Do ask me how we got on that position I don't know it just happened .

I'm watching her sleep I wonder when she will wake up it's around six am .l don't wait for long she opens her eyes . At first she does nothing she just continues lying of my chest then suddenly she jumps out of bed.

She looks at me with shock written on her face.

Gugu: this wasn't supposed to happen.

she says pointing at me then at herself.

I want to laugh she looks funny when

she's overreacting.

Me:it's okay we didn't have sex if that's what you are worried about .

She then looks at herself and sees that she's fully clothed.

She relaxs just a little and sits on the bed.

She loudly exhales.

Gugu: My daughter is alone.

Damn I'm such a dick why didn't I think of that .I get my car keys I will drive her .

Me: I will drive you home but let me take a piss first okay?

She nods by the time I'm back in the room I see a little note.

I had to rush am worried about her

Shit I'm such an asshole how could I

forget about Sipho.

Let me just go home .I bump into Mihle at the hotel lobby what is she doing here .

Me: babe?

Her: where is she?

Who?

Me: let's go home.

Mihle: are you ignoring me .

Me: that's cause I don't know what you are talking about .

She takes out her phone and types something.

Mihle: then explain this .

There are pictures of me in the net
.But I don't know what she wants me
to explain like duh obviously I'm in the

net I have made it in life.

Me: explain why my pictures are on the net?

She looks at her phone.

Mihle: but it was right there like the picture of you and ...

I think this miscarriage has done something to her brain.

Mihle: you were with Gugu in room

302.

I was with Gugu but not in that room ,how did she know we came here though .

Attendant: can I help you guys .

Mihle: yes please call Belinda
Maphosa for me she works at the
front desk she was the one attending
to me last night.

The attendant looks at her as if she's

crazy.

Mihle: don't you have stuff pictures on some wall or something .

He doesn't answer us he leads us to a room .

Mihle: this is her

How ,this is a young picture of my dad's mom , Belinda Maphosa my grandma ,I didn't know she once worked here .

Attendant: ma'am this woman is late .l think you are mistaken .

I can't place the look that's on Mihle's face.

I hug her.

Me: babe you are just stressed okay ,come down ,sorry I just disappeared I was dealing with this the way I saw fit ,I didn't want to be around people .

I can't explain it it's some voices in my head that are telling me not to bother about mourning my baby cause it wasn't there in the first place .Weird right?

We go to the car and drive to my place .We where going to go to my parents house but no I know mom won't be okay .I can't deal with two crying women.

^{*}Gugu*

We arrive at the same time at home she's in her track suits.

Me: and where are you coming from?

Sipho: running ,I thought why not start running to keep fit .

She does look like someone from running I guess I'm overreacting but it's all her fault I mean she's the one who brought a guy home so for me to

trust her again it's hard.

Ben's wife has driven here what does she want?

Me: Nomsa

She sadly smiles.

Nomsa: Gugu

We get into the house with her .l give her a bucket to sit on .l must buy chairs .

Nomsa: sorry to bother you this early in the morning ,it's just that this couldn't wait .

Me: I hope everything is fine .

Sipho: is dad okay?

She sadly shakes her head no with tears streaming down her face.

Nomsa: his kidney problem just got worse he's hospitalized .They have to remove the only he's left with.

Ben has a kidney problem ,this is news to me .

Nomsa: we can't find a match and time is running out .

Oh my God this can't be happening.

Sipho: I will give him mine.

Me: Nooooo!

Nomsa looks at me ,what? This is my daughter we are talking about she's just thirteen.

Nomsa: please there's no harm in testing if she's a match or not ,she might not be a match like the rest of us .

Sipho goes to her room to change ,it's like her mind is made up. Don't call me evil but I hope she's not a match, I can't have my daughter live with one kidney who knows what

might happen to her in the near future, what if she needs it years later?

INSERT 11

Gugu

We arrive at the hospital .We first go see Ben he's really bad like I feel for him .I wonder why they hid the sickness from us .

Sipho is a mess .She's crying so bad I feel my heart going out to her .

Ben: shhh baby it's going to be okay ,I didn't tell you cause I know how emotional you are .

Sipho: don't worry daddy I'm going to do the tests and see if I'm a match.

Ben: thank you baby I hope you are I'm not yet ready to die .

Sipho: I also don't want to lose you daddy .

I see Nomsa wiping her tears this is so sad ,but I hope she won't be a match cause knowing Sipho if she is she will donate .

The nurse takes her away to the test .This is me sitting with Nomsa in the waiting room .I have nothing against her really it's just awkward ,this is the woman that ended my marriage knowing very well that the guy she was dating was married .

I get a message from Brandon .

I don't know what's going on with me ,but I have this strong feeling I don't know what it is neither can I explain it ,but don't let Sipho donate ,I hope you understand what I'm talking about cause mina I don't know what I'm talking about, if it doesn't make sense to you it's okay you can just ignore this message

Geez okay I will make sure she doesn't donate even if the results

became positive.

Me: Nomsa how long do these tests take it's been three hours and noone is telling us anything.

Nomsa: haa I would lie I don't know how long they are supposed to take but let's be patient I'm sure they will come inform us soon.

It's not until after another hour that we are approached by a doctor.

Me: where is my daughter I don't want her to donate .

Doc: ma'am ummh I....

Me: you what?

Nomsa:how is my husband?

WTF? So is she saying that what I'm asking it's irrelevant.

Doc: the surgery was a success he's responding well to the kidney .

She smiles

Nomsa: thank you so so much .

I can't believe this I asked a question and I'm being ignored.

Me:l asked about my daughter ,where is she?

Doc:I'm so sorry but she didn't make it .

Why is he sorry if the results came back negative, I mean didn't he just say that Ben is okay.

Nomsa: you mean she died on the table ?

What is she talking about?

Doc: yes I'm sorry but we came across some difficulties during the surgery .Excuse me I got some other patients to attend to .

Can someone please explain to me what's going on .

Nomsa: I'm so sorry you lost your daughter she was such a good girl .

Lost her I feel tears blinding my eyes .What is she saying?

Me: Nomsa please explain to me what this is about .

Nomsa: babe isn't your daughter wanted to donate her kidney so

before she went to test Ben signed the forms ,so that when she was a match they don't waste anytime they do the surgery .Don't be too hurt l mean she wanted to give her dad the kidney it's a pity she had to die though but don't worry you not that old you can still have some more babies you might be lucky and get a girl .Let's go see Ben we should throw him a welcome back home party you know invite DJ Flex buy some meat and lots of alcohol . You can invite your friends too....

I leave her standing there .l can't

believe I lost Sipho like this feels so unreal, it must be a dream it's definitely a dream I know when I wake up Sipho will be well and healthy.

Janet

To say I'm shocked would be an understatement and to think that I wasted my tears for nothing to think that I was blaming myself for nothing how could Mihle do this to us.

I'm at a nyanga's place I was here for

a consultation, I wanted to know what I had to do to make sure that my grandchild spirit is safe that it won't come to haunt us phela I have heard such stories.

Only to find out that Mihle wasn't pregnant at all .What kind of wickedness is this .To think she was just watching me cry for nothing .Manje she hasn't seen the last of me ,there is nowhere that wedding is happening over my dead body shame

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Brandon

Me: another one

The barman gives me a look . Why is he looking at me he should just do his job and pour me another one .

Barman: sir I think you have had enough .

Me: another one .

He pours me another one .l ain't drunk not yet ,l just don't know what's going on with me around four this afternoon I felt my heart breaking into pieces and my spirit falling down to the pit of my stomach .

Isn't that Gugu waht is she doing here ?

Me: Gugu

She turns and comes to my table.

Gugu: next time you should be more specific .

Me: Gugu

I whisper

Her lips are trembling .Her eyes are so red .

I embrace her.

Me: II didn't know okay what it meant like

I also break down .If you had told me before this that I would be crying in front of a woman I would laugh at your face .But Gugu is not just any other woman ,I love her I love her so much I feel like I have known her my whole life .

Gugu: I feel like it's a dream I want to wake up from it ,she's my whole life I can't leave without her ,what will be the point what will be the purpose .

Me: shhhhh it's going to be okay .

Gugu: no no when huh? When is it going to be okay? I thought this was it, this was when we make it in life, I thought our lives would only get better.

Me: I know

She shakes her head wiping her tears with her hand and sniffing.

Gugu: why are my kids always being taken away am I that bad as a mother don't I deserve to be a mother ,am I such a terrible person that I don't deserve some happiness in my life huh?

This is so sad, amazing part I feel her pain I didn't even know Sipho like we never even had a one on one conversation but the pain I'm feeling it's so severe it's like I lost a piece, a part of me how? Is it cause I was supposed to be her step father?

This is us sitting on the bar late at night mourning a dear person to us .Death be not proud .

Mihle

Janet comes in without knocking ,okay she looks angry her face is a little pinkish .I wonder what the problem is ?

Me: mah

Janet: why are you still here?

What does she mean?

Me: mah?

Janet: you and Brandon are not married yet ,we haven't even paid for your lobola so basically you are a girlfriend. *Me*: mah Brandon and I are engaged ,I'm his fiance not girlfriend .

Janet: you are engaged (she claps once) dear as long as the lobola is not paid you are nothing of ours so may you please respect our culture and get out of my house and don't even think about going to Brandon's house I already told the stuff not to let you in .

What? How can she kick me out.l used to sleep over here before we even got engaged with Brandon what

has changed now? I know there's more to this but what is it?

Is it possible that Nkosilathi talked but what are the chances?

Here I am picking up my stuff from the yard Janet threw it outside when I wasn't showing an action of leaving their house .What do you know she went into her son's closet packed my stuff for me and threw it outside

Now what ? My future parents in law are no longer team Mihle .How do l

get Brandon to love me? I will have to figure it out ,he's mine we are meant to be .I will wed with him even if it's the last thing I do .

Ben

Me: you said what?

Nomsa: she didn't make it .

She rolls her eyes.

Me: and I'm being told now after I

ask you about it .

She turns and looks the other side .She sneaked into my hospital room I will be discharged soon .

Me: what was I thinking I shouldn't have let her go through it I can't believe I listened to you when you said that I should sign those forms before she went to do the tests.

She ignores me like she doesn't care that I just lost my daughter to save my life this is all wrong,I should have

just waited for a donor or I should have just died .I wonder how Gugu is taking it .Oh Lord why though why !!!!! She was such a lovely soul yes she made some mistakes sometimes but she was just being a kid .I can't believe I lost my first born baby .The plans I had for her .I can't believe I won't see her graduate ,walk her down the aisle ,see her have her first job first baby .There's so much we never did together I just wish that I had been a better father . Maybe just maybe she would still be here.

I hear the machines beeping ,the way

Nomsa sprints to call someone ,my chest is closing in .Maybe I'm thinking too much .

She comes in with a nurse and I see her injecting something into my drip .I feel my eyelids getting heavier then lights out .

* INSERT 12*

Nomsa

I'm now scared of answering unknown calls I keep blocking that doctor's calls but he always finds a way to call me again and again I have even changed my number but he keeps calling.

Ben:For goodness sake woman answer your damn phone!!

Things have changed between Ben and I .He's so cold towards me .Ever since Sipho's funeral he's been like this .

I don't know how her mother pulled it off .She gave her a very dignified funeral .Thina we didn't contribution anything ,I refused we can't be spending money to bury a dead child when we have three kids who are alive .

Amazing thing the Ndiweni brothers were there .How do they even know Gugu .She's just a nobody nje .But hmm they looked really sexy in those black suits , especially the one they call Brandon .What shocked me was the way they looked hurt and all which means they knew Sipho but

how ,that I must find out .Gugu can't be playing with the big boys while I'm busy with Ben the ungrateful son of a bitch .Like he's alive cause of the but he's treating me like trash .

Me: hello

Doc: my money it's been three weeks .

He's crazy he's not getting a cent from me .Yes he did the job well ,made it look like Sipho's death at the table was a mistake .But he ain't

getting a cent from me.

Me: you should stop calling me and just get it in that big head of yours that you are not getting a cent from me.

He laughs.

Him: Nomsa you don't want to play that game ,I have all your phone records I will get you arrested .I know we will go down together but since I would have gone with the evidence the coppers will make sure I get a

light sentence.

It's my turn to laugh.

Me: of course they will ,but think about it ,I'm just a normal person once I get out I can find a job ,but you my friend are a doctor your license will be taken from you ,no hospital will touch you and you will make the headlines *doctor gets arrested for killing a patient on the table* .

He drops the call on me .Mnx he thought he would get money from me

•

Leo

She's looking as beautiful as she has always been ,her dress is so so white I've never seen such a white dress before .She's got tears streaming down her face .

Me: Sipho?

She looks at me at first she doesn't recognize me as soon as she does

she wails.

Me: Sipho babe why are you crying .

I'm scared of touching her what if she cries some more.

Sipho: cause you are my brother I can't believe I slept with my brother that's so wrong on many levels I'm disappointed in myself.

Me: Sipho I'm not your brother it's impossible like come-on stop crying

okay.

She shakes her head.

Sipho: you don't understand.

Me: then make me

Sipho: I can't it's fate it has to happen cause of your father's mistakes.

Her tears are now reddish, is she crying blood.

Sipho: I want to stop it but there's nothing I can do .I'm not allowed to mess with fate but you can do something about it cause someone might get hurt just try to figure it out .

More tears fall from her face I touch her and she just disappears.

I wake up panting fuck it felt so real it felt like she was right here.

I go to the bathroom to slash my face

the guy that stares back at me looks like he's five years older than me .

It's been a rough three weeks. Surprising thing I never knew I was that into Sipho her death has really affected me so much ,I don't remember the last time I went out with the boys ,the last time I brought a lady home .Instead I have been working so much at the company, Brandon is not in right space don't even get me started on Gugu she's a walking skeleton.

Dad: son

Me: bathroom!

He opens the door.

He touches my shoulder.

Dad: I've been waiting for you and your brother to tell me what's going on I thought you would tell me on your own but it's been three weeks ,three weeks your mother and I are worried .

Of course they are ,I'm not misbehaving and Brandon has been in his house since the funeral ,he has missed important meetings I'm the one attending them with Mihle. Speaking of her she's a pain in the ass .First thing she asks when she sees me in the morning it's about Brandon I understand that he has blocked her .He ain't talking to her ,worse thing their wedding is in two weeks time .l don't think it will happen.

Me: you remember Sipho.

Him: y....e....s

What's wrong with him why is he suddenly fidgeting and stammering.

Me: she died.

Him: oh thank goodness

The way he looks so relieved .It's not until he looks at me that he realises what he just said .

I crock my eyebrow at him.

Him: ummm emmm umm sonny
listenit's ...not like that like l
thought ...you would say you
impregnated her....she was so young
....you could have been arrested
....umm for umm... statutory rape
causeshe was ummm....under age.

He's not making any sense why would he feel relieved that Sipho is dead? And my dad is a straight talker he never stammers come to think of it every time we were in a room with

Sipho he looked like he would rather be somewhere else than there .What did he have against her ,she was just a kid .The shock I went through when I heard she was thirteen and here I was thinking she was seventeen .

Dad: son you do understand right I didn't mean it that way ,it's ummm so sad that she passed away but how is your brother affected about it I mean I understand how you are hurt you were banging her ,but as for Brandon ,were they close?

Why didn't I think of that but what does it matter ,the important thing is that he's mourning her .

Mihle

Heeh Brandon is not serious, his security guard is not letting me in his house, I'm outside his gate me his fiance.

I try calling him but my call ain't going through .Does this guy know we are getting married in two weeks . Sad thing I can't talk to his parents they have ghosted.

Well Leo ain't even helpful .That guy never liked me from day one .l wonder what he has against me ,Leo is known as a ladies man .

The small gate opens and what do you know it's Brandon, he's with that Gugu granny, am I seriously losing my man to a granny, why did she not go for Leo that would have been better phela Leo is thirty three.

I jump on her back and start punching her and pulling her hair .I'm screaming and crying I love Brandon so so much I do .I have always did since we were kids when our fathers would met for family dinners lunches or whatever . You know with them being partners we were always around each other, Brandon tolerated me ,he talked to me ,as for Leo he hated me since we were young.

I feel myself being roughly pushed

from her back I fall flat on my butt.

Brandon: kahlekahle what is your problem we mfazindini?

I've never seen Brandon so angry before like he hardly gets angry ,that is Leo's thing that one has anger issues .

Gugu: Brandon no leave her .

Just one look at her and he calms down .WTF is going on between with

these two.

Brandon: zwana (listen) I will talk to you when I'm back let me take a walk with her okay .

I just nod ,he doesn't even help me stand up .Geez my butt is so so painful . *INSERT 13*

Brandon

Me: I'm so sorry about that ,Mihle is psycho .Are you okay?

She just nods.

Me: Gugu...

Gugu: I'm okay was just surprised and shocked at the same time .But I understand if I also had a boyfriend

with your looks I would kill for you.

I smile down at her.

Me: and what's stopping you from having a boyfriend of my looks?

She smiles .At least this Mihle drama is making us smile it's been long .

Me: I want to break up with her I don't think I'm ready for marriage .

Gugu: don't let Sipho's death stop

you from being with the love of your life.

Me: I'm not sure if she's the one you just saw how crazy she is .

Gugu: then why did you propose to her ?I mean that must have meant that you see a future with her you want to build a home with her .

Her eyes are full of love as she looks at me .I can't believe she feels the same way about me . *Me*: things change .A lot has changed .

She takes my hand and holds it and somehow I wish she never lets go of it .I feel like she's my home .

Gugu: just follow your heart it will never lead you astray.

She smiles.

Gugu: I wanted to thank you ,for

being at my corner. Being my pillar of strength .l didn't even know where to start from but I want to thank you for giving my daughter a dignified funeral

Me: it's no problem ,she did say I was her dad.

Gugu: that piece of shit I wonder how he sleeps at night knowing that he killed his daughter.

Conducter: town masalu?

Gugu nods.

Gugu: I will call you .

Me: okay stay safe .

She nods and gets into the combi.

She should learn how to drive I could have given her a car to drive instead of her using public transport.

I should go check on the office tomorrow ,it's time I get back to the

world .I hope I manage it .First things first I need to go to Ben's house that's why I didn't drive Gugu there's some things he needs to explain .

She's still waiting for me by the gate.

Me: Mihle

Mihle: babe

She's got dry tears on her face .I'm such a jerk I'm making a woman cry .

Me: listen babe ,I'm going through stuff .

Mihle: then why are you shutting me out ,let me in let's deal with whatever you are dealing with together.

Me: Gugu lost her daughter .

She puts her hand on her mouth.

Mihle: OMG I didn't know Brandon I honestly didn't I thought that

Me: it's okay so you see I'm not ignoring you I'm also dealing with our baby's death.

She gives me a confused look but it only lasts for a nanosecond then it disappears.

Mihle: yah babe I'm sorry I was being so insensitive I know we all deal with death in different ways but please always know that I'm here whenever you need me. *Me*: okay thanks ,so the wedding ...

Mihle: it's in two weeks everything is set wena you only just need to appear nje that's all .

I thought she was going to postpone it ,she's in a rush to get married ,what am I doing didn't I just tell Gugu I was breaking up with Mihle .

She gives me a tight hug.

Her: I miss you.

I kiss her forehead.

Me: we going to get past this .

I'm now at Ben's place not a bad house really .Thank goodness Mihle had an urgent meeting she had to attend otherwise getting rid of her was going to be hard .

I knock on the door .lt's not a bad place really .l wonder what kind of job Ben does .

His wife opens the door for me .The smile that's on her face .I'm sure she's one of those women who run to open their curtains when they hear a car park in their yard .

Wife: if it ain't Brandon Ndiweni in flesh.

I smile at her she blushes.

Me: is your husband in?

Her face falls a bit.

Her: yes how can he assist you?

Me: can I at least come in?

Her: of course where are my manners.

She leads me to a lounge and comes back with her husband who looks like he has been hit by a train.

Me: Ncube I'm sorry to just come

unannounced.

Ben: it's no problem Ndiweni how can I help you .

I don't like being called Ndiweni it reminds me of my dad's creepy brother.

Me: can we talk in private

I say looking at his wife.

Ben stands up ,I suppose I'm

supposed to follow him.

He takes me to a bedroom.

Ben: this is private enough ,don't mind the little girlish stuff in her it was

Me: Sipho's room.

He looks at me with how did you know look but I won't tell him .I can feel some of her energy in her, whatever that means I think I should

see a therapist or a psychiatrist cause something is definitely wrong with me.

Me: Ncube I only got one question for you .

Ben: okay Ndiweni I'm listening.

Me: where is Sipho's body?

He's got a confused expression on his face ,he's either good at acting or he really doesn't know.

Ben: we buried Sipho what do you mean where is her body.

Me: there was no body do you remember doing any body viewing?

He shakes his head .Noone noticed that there was no body not even Gugu .

Me: no I want you to tell me how it just disappeared from the mortuary .

Ben: with all due respect Ndiweni I think you are crossing the line here ,I know I messed up I know I'm the one who has to be six feet under but thisare you implying that I stole my baby's bodywhywhy on earth would I do that?

Suddenly there are tears in his eyes
.Maybe I'm being insensitive but I
want answers how did Sipho's body
just disappear ,this is a mystery why
would someone want to steal her
body?

Nkosilathi

I'm at the company today just checking out things with Brandon not around I'm afraid things might turn upside down.

Amazingly Leo has everything under control.

Mihle: baba

Oh it's this piece of shit I wonder what she wants .

Me: makoti

I don't even smile at her what for she ain't my friend .

Mihle: we got the tender with the Brazilians .

Me: really?

Mihle: yes they liked Leo's presentation, and we got the deal.

Wow wow wow ,that's the greatest news I have had in a while .

Mihle: so as a celebration ,this Friday night ,every employee of this company is invited to a party I'm going to throw right here and I mean every employee even the cleaners the security everyone .

I just nod it sounds good ,the employees have to feel appreciated once in a while .

Me: okay do it .

She walks away her heels clinching on the tiles she really is good in business I just don't know why she had to be a psycho.

Nomsa

I'm in a call with this seer called Ndiweni .

I guess the Ndiweni surname is common.

Me: Makhosi, someone is looking

for her body.

Ndiweni: don't worry wena Nomsa my muti(herbs) works no one will know you had anything to do with it.

Me: and when will the money start flowing in ?

Ndiweni: soon ,your husband will get promoted and you Nomsa will have to find something to do to cover up where you will be getting the money from .

That sounds so good.

Me: Ngiyabonga Makhosi (thank you)

To me getting rich.

Sponsored

Insert14

Leo

I just barge into their bedroom.

Mum: and if you had found us having sex .

Me: ewwu mum like really.

Mum: it's ten pm Leo what do you want?

Me: to talk

Mum rolls her eyes ,dad is just quiet .l think he's avoiding me these days.

Mum: what is it about?

Mum has always been like this since we were kids, when they got into the bedroom with Dad they don't want us around at all.

Me: it's about Brandon.

That gets their attention he's the golden boy phela.

Mum: what about him?

Me: I think it's time we looked for his parents .

The shock on their faces.

Dad: what has gotten into you?

Me: I think he deserves to know who he is ,where he comes from ,his roots .

If looks could kill I would be six feet under by now.

Dad: that's nonsense!!!

Me: you don't understand.

Dad: get your tiny ass out of here I

don't want to hear about this nonsense again .Stay out of our business .

Me: if I was in his shoes I would want to know about myself I would

Mum: you ain't in his shoes so stay out of it ,was this your plan all along heeh pretending to have changed so that you tell us this nonsense of yours .Get out we want to sleep .

I go like I've been thinking about that dream I had of Sipho ,it doesn't make

sense how am her brother .I even did some DNA tests my parents are my real parents so how are we siblings?

Gugu

It's Friday I'm done cleaning and all ,today I'm going to work I have to work whether I like it or not I just feel so guilty continuing with life without her .

Okay this is surprising Leo is behind his desk and he looks so serious, l didn't know he wore reading glasses

they make him look sexy and educated .

Me: knock knock

He stands and gives me a tight hug.

Me: I can'tI can't breath

Leo: oh I'm sorry it's just so good to see you again ,how are you?

Me: I'm taking it one day at a time.

Leo: I'm so sorry that had to happen to you she was a good kid no cancel that a great one she risked her life for her father.

I don't want to talk about it I just give him a little sad smile .

Leo: I'm sorry I'm being insensitive .

Me: it's okay .So how's business?

He fills me in . Something has

changed about him I can't place it but he seems to care ,he didn't give a damn uLeo but right now he seems to be someone who gives two fucks about this company.

It's around to six in the evening.

Leo: hey did you bring your evening dress?

Evening dress?

Me: umm no what evening dress.

He curses.

Leo: I forgot to tell you ,there's a party everyone and I mean everyone should attend it's a company's thing .

How can they expect me to attend after what happened to me.

He comes to my table and holds my shoulders .

He looks deep into my eyes.

Leo: I know you are going through a lot you don't have to attend the whole party ,just attend for the first hour ,they will be annnouncements and picture taking the real grove will start around midnight when the elderly have left you know what I mean ,so just stay for the announcements and the pictures then you can leave noone will stop you .

Brandon: this looks cosy.

Why does he look angry.

Brandon: really Leo? This is a work place you know that ,you have to lead by example but you are busy touching touching instead of working.

Leo: get off my hair dude .

Next thing I know punches are flying around the office.

I get in between them.

Me: what is this about?

Leo: you

Me?

Brandon curses and walks out .

Somehow when he is hurt or in pain I seem to feel it and my heart breaks I don't want anything bad to happen to him .But I won't run after him he's crazy this is not how he should sort out issues he should talk about them like an adult .

I must say I really look good all those eye bags are gone my skin is flawless ,I also feel good .

Leo: damn it just had to hug every damn curve ,you look beautiful Gugu ,I think I should buy you more dresses I got good taste

Me: oh really?

Leo: yep did you see yourself on the mirror ? I want you to meet my dad .

Me: okay but why like any specific reason?

He nods.

Leo: I think you got potential to do great things dad might help you with discovering your dream and all and he will be financing you .He's all about helping .

Me: he sounds amazing.

Leo: he is but don't tell him I said

that not that he will believe you anyways.

The way I laugh, then I realise it's been long since I did that .

Me: let's go.

Wow this is amazing it's like I have entered another building altogether. There is soft music playing on the background and people are just chilled and talking to each other. I realise that there's no outsider it's just the company's people.

Leo: there he is . Ndiweni!

He says waving his hand.

He turns to face us ,one moment he was standing right there the other he was on the floor .

Someone: call the ambulance I think he's having a heart attack.

Leo and Brandon are already by their dad's side I don't know what to do .l

can leave but these men have supported me through my darkest hours I should do the same for them.

Five minutes later an ambulance comes to take him ,that was so fast is it cause when they called it they told it who was down cause sometimes you might wait for thirty minutes with no ambulance .

Me: Brandon

Brandon: go home will talk to you later .

The brothers run after their father ,no matter their differences even if they fight a lot one thing I have realized about is that they love each other .

Nomsa

Ben comes in with a huge ass smile on his face .He's even whistling a tune .

He makes me stand up from the couch and spins around.

Me: okay whatsup someone is in a good mood.

He kisses me all over my face.

Ben: babe after all these years Steven and Steels finally realise my worth they have promoted me.

Me: me to what? General manager?

Ben: hehehe nope you are looking at the new CEO of Steven and Steels

in flesh.

See me jumping around and screaming the house down ,our three babies come running to check things out .

Ben Junior: mummy what's wrong?

Me: daddy got promoted .

They start screaming too .I don't think they now why they are screaming but who cares .

Ben: okay okay everyone calm down ,I want you people to get ready we going to eat at Let's dine .

WTF that restaurant is for the likes of the Ndiwenis not common people like us .

Ben: that smile

Me: did I tell you I love you?

Ben: tomorrow you have to get

busy.

Me: with?

Ben: packing up our stuff we have been given one of the company's houses.

This day couldn't get any better .I wish I knew about Ndiweni earlier I would have been living my best life instead of being just an average person .

Janet

It was a mild heart attack .Phew he has to take it easy ,he scared me liked he scared me a lot .

Mihle's mum: I'm glad he's okay .

I roll my eyes.Really she left her husband at home to come check on mine, pretending to be giving us support as a "future inlaw" when it's no secret even to the public that she never got over Nkosilathi.

Me: yep he scared me there .One minute he was okay the next he was on the floor .

Her: if there's ever anything you need.

What would I need from her stinky ass .

Me: of course thank you it means a lot .

Her: let me leave I will check on him tomorrow.

I guess you are hoping I won't be around bitch.

Me: of course thank you once again .

She walks away I get into his room .He's asleep .

Tears just fail on their own it's Leo's fault he's the one stressing him about

Brandon's family look where he's father is now, I chased them out both of them he needs to rest without being stressed.

Brandon

Damn she's only in a night gown a short one at that .

Gugu: it's almost midnight dude .

She says yawning and rubbing her eyes.

Me: I'm sleeping over .

She leaves me at the door ,at least she didn't shut it on my face that means I guess I should come in .

Gugu: did you close and lock?

Me: yes I did.

I take off my clothes remain with my briefs only I get into the blankets.

Shit what kind of bed is this .As soon as I put on my weight in it it made funny spring sounds .

Okay ,I relax on my side of the bed , honestly I'm not comfortable ,it's going to be a long night .I think a spring just poked me at the elbow .

Gugu: how is he?

Me: he's okay, he's stable it was just a mild heart attack, he needs to rest.

Gugu: ohh

Me: yep and mum chased us out.

Gugu: why?

I just shruggle ,the bed also shruggles with me .

I have to buy her a new one.

Gugu: maybe she didn't want you

guys stressing him.

Me: maybe

Gugu: night

Me: not even a good night kiss.

She kisses me on the cheek .l don't think I will ever wash it again .The way my heart is beating so fast it's like it will pop out of my chest .This is where I belong ,l belong with her even if it means sleeping in this

uncomfortable bed I don't want to be anywhere else .

Nkosilathi

Oh no no no .Did she notice me .ls my dirty laundry going to be hung out there for the whole world to see .l know my wife is sitting here but I won't open my eyes I don't want her to be asking me a lot of questions .

She looked just the same ,she just grew ,even that smile the one that drew me to her in the first place ,with

those nice small Colgate teeth.

But what did I expect if Leo knew the daughter obviously he would have known the mother.

Finally Janet gets out of the room .At least they left my phone in the room ,l take it and dial a number .

Me: I thought you said you will take care of both the mother and daughter when I gave you Ndiweni's number.

I say in my different voice ,she has never seen me ,we just talk on the phone .

Her: yes but I don't have a plan for the mother ,with the daughter I had to make her father sick so that she donates her kidney for him but don't worry I will plan something for the mother I have seen that Ndiweni's things work .Dont worry be patient with me .

Me: don't relax I will be waiting don't do something that will come

back to bite us on the ass.

She laughs.

Her: don't worry I'm an expert in this I will tell you when she's gone .

That's what I want to hear I hope she gets the job done. Even if she messes up I know it won't get back to me. I hope whatever she's planning works I don't want to see that woman next to me

Sponsored

INSERT 15

Gugu

Brandon: umm so I'm supposed to bath using this bucket?

Me: yep

Brandon: umm what if I use this

ugly looking shower?

Me: it doesn't work.

The look he gives me.

Me: are you going to bath or what?

Brandon: nope I will just go to the nearest hotel to get my bath, I will be back.

And what do you know he takes his car keys and leaves .

I laugh on my own .Some people really do have nice life problems .

I just clean around and boil my water for tea.

Thirty minutes later he's back.

He smells fresh and he's cleanly shaven.

Brandon: I'm starving.

I take out two cups and two saurces

from my half broken down cupboard.

I pour the hot water ,put some sugar and tea leaves .

This whole time he's just watching me .I take out some bread put it in our saurces .

I give him his saurcer and cup.

Brandon: is this breakfast?

What does he think it is?

I sit down and start eating .He just looks at his plate .

Me: I thought you said you were hungry .

Brandon: I just lost my appetite ,black tea with dry bread I will pass .

Brandon: I got something to tell you .

I look at him it doesn't sound good.

Me: okay

Brandon: tell me you will take it easy ,it's about Sipho there's something I need to tell you about her

It doesn't sound good at all I wonder what it is .

Brandon: so umm one of our elderly maids had forgotten where she had left her phone, so she went to check the security cameras okay to cut the long story short she discovered something and sent me the video . This is the video .

Tears just fall down my face as I watch the video .The man I trust the man I thought had my back ,the man that has helped me through a lot is the one I see groaning and mourning onto of my daughter ,how could he? How could Leo do this to me .

Brandon: Gugu

I just shake my head ,this can't be happening ,like why why why why would he do this to me ,I thought he paid attention to me cause he saw potential like he always claims instead he was distracting me ,he wanted to gain my trust to hide that he's a monster .

Brandon: Gugu listen I didn't know I like I ...

Me: get out

Brandon: Gugu listen

Me: I said out Brandon.

He goes.

I go to my room and cry myself to sleep.

Brandon

I hit the steering wheel numerous times. How could Leo do that couldn't he see that Sipho was a kid. How could he have been sleeping

with a fucken thirteen year old.

I reach my parents place.

Mum: stay out of Brandon's business, this nonsense of yours has put your father in the hospital and you are still pushing it down my neck!!!

My mum is shouting she never does actually this is the first time I'm hearing her shout.

Me: what is this about?

They look at each and they both are silent.

Me: great I'm talking to mutes .

Mum: Brandon it's nothing.

Me: Leo Gugu knows about you sleeping with Sipho .

The way his eyes just pop out.

Leo: umm Brandon I don't know what you are talking about .

I show them the video .Mum shakes her head in disappointment and disappears I suppose to her room .

Leo: I didn't know she was thirteen I really didn't I thought she was eighteen.

I leave him standing there .I don't think things will be the same between

him and Gugu ever again .I wonder what they were talking about does Leo want to take over the business? I'm not going down without a fight I've invested my whole life in that company cause he ran it well for three weeks he thinks he deserves it ,he must surely be out of his mind .

Ben

Who knew I would own a huge ass mansion with an inside pool .All those years of slaving at Stevens and Steels have finally paid off .

Nomsa: babe what is this nonsense I'm hearing that noone is supposed to enter the second room that's upstairs

Me: yes it's reserved for Sipho.

Nomsa: but she's dead.

Me: to you yes to me she leaves and look I have one of her kidney's in me that counts for something. *Nomsa*: mnx I can't believe she's getting all the attention even on death

She whispers but I heard her.

I won't entertain her my baby might have passed but her memory still lives on.

Nkosilathi

She looks like she has been crying.

Me: babe I'm okay you heard the

doctor she's discharging me tomorrow.

Her: yep okay I know I'm just a little stressed about you you scared me.

Me: you know you are not a good liar I know there's more to this what's up .

Her: I don't want to stress you ,the doctors say you should take it easy .

Me: tell me

Her: Leo was smashing a young girl at our house.

Mnx I thought she was worried about something more serious .

Me: Leo is an adult my friend.

Her: wow just wow did you hear what I just said .

Me: you know that I should not stress so this is me not stressing .

Her: okay babe I'm sorry.

She says holding my hand.

Her: I will have to go meet up with her mum to apologise to her on his behalf.

Kill me now wtf

Me: babe?

Her: I will see you when I'm from there ,my son made a terrible mistake we have to apologise what if she presses charges against him for statutory rape .

I know there's no changing her mind .Shit how did I get here .

Gugu

I'm at the market ,I'm selling my tomatoes there's no where in hell I'm

going back to that office .Not after what I have learnt about Leo .

Janet: I thought I would find you here hie .

I look up to her it's amazing how she always looks good .

Me: MaNxumalo.

I can't help it my voice is cold towards her .

She comes and sits next to me.

Janet: I'm so sorry I heard about what Leo did .

Me: oh so Brandon is going around telling people my stuff?

Her: listen love I know it's hard and

Me: you don't know anything and you don't understand my pain at all you never gave birth to any daughters

•

Her eyes turn red immediately .

Okay maybe I shouldn't have said that
.

Her: listen I came here to apologise in behalf of my son ,this is not how I raised him and I would like to talk to your daughter .

Me: it's too late.

Her: Gugu I just ...

Me: she's dead.

Her phone rings and she looks at me.

Her: I got to go something is up it's the hospital listen why don't you come have dinner with us tomorrow so that we talk about this, please.

I don't know why I'm agreeing to this nonsense is it cause I'm hoping that Brandon is there? He hasn't called me since he left and funny enough I

miss him it's like I last saw him last year .

Mihle

I'm with my girls they are fitting on their dresses. You can tell from their faces that they are so excited phela this will be the wedding of the year.

Aneliswa: wow I can't wait for the big day .

She's my best girl this one.

What do you know Brandon graces us with his presence.

The girls start fanning themselves with their hands .He's that handsome one can orgasm from just looking at him .

I don't like the way Aneliswa is looking at him .Bitch she's my best friend .I poke her with my elbow she comes back to earth .

Brandon: ladies

Girls: hie Brandon

They say in harmony you would swear they practised saying hie to him.

He gives them a side sexy smile.

Brandon: babe can we talk.

I walk with him to the car.

Brandon: I wanted to thank you for who you handled the party after what happened to my pa but that's not what I want to talk about.

There's a lot going on babe I think we should postpone the wedding.

What?

Me: to when

Brandon: say three months I thought it must be best too if we took some marriage counseling before we dive right into it .

No this can't be happening.

Me: but babe I've booked the place called everyone.

Brandon: we not cancelling we are postponing I'm sure people will understand and besides you said that I should not shut you out this is me letting you in .

Using my words against me nice.

I smile at him.

Me: okay babe anything for you .

Insert 16

Brandon

I'm just walking around aimlessly in town, I don't know what to do with myself. I'm so angry at myself that I didn't see what Leo was up to all this time he's a monster like my brother is a monster. How does Gugu get to trust me ever again.

Voice: she's the one she's your

chosen one she felt it but you didn't cause there are things you have to go through.

What is whoever talking to me on about?

I decide to answer back.

Me: what things?

Voice: this and that .

Great just great. But wait is the voice

talking about Gugu cause if she's my "chosen" one then I don't have to worry about anything else cause we will find our way back to each other.

I bump into a woman suddenly the hair on my neck stands, my teeth clatters and I feel my blood rushing what is this? Do we have beasts roaming around the streets in Zimbabwe.

It looks at me and smiles just a little bit wtf are they even supposed to do that .

It: you should watch where you are going next time young man .

It's like numerous voices just spoke at once .What is this?

Everyone else just passes this beast as if they are passing a normal human being am I the only one seeing this?

Voice: Madube hurry up I don't have the whole day we have to be back at

the farm in thirty minutes.

Calls out a man voice, creepy cause when he talks I can hear baby voices wailing.

The beast hurries up and disappears from my sight ,I'm still standing at that spot I'm trying to understand what just happened .

Aneliswa: Brandon are you okay?

When did she get here the last thing I

need is Mihle's annoying friends near me.

I just nod.

Aneliswa: hey hey look at me and breath you look like someone who's about to have a panic attack calm down breath I know what I'm talking about ,I'm a doctor you know right .

I take deep breaths and relax a bit .I'm also calming down .

Aneliswa: where did you leave your car?

Me: I don't know shit I

Aneliswa: it's okay I will drive you home ,you will remember don't put pressure on yourself .

We now in her car.

Aneliswa: directions?

I direct her to Gugu's place. She

looks at me when we reach her fenced wire cottage.

Brandon: it's okay I'm visiting a friend .

Her; okay can I come with.

Why not if Gugu decides to go psycho with me I will have protection but Gugu doesn't seem to be that kind of person but you can never be sure with these people called women.

The look I get when she opens the door for me .lt disappears when she sees Aneliswa .

Gugu: OMG are you somehow someway Bongani's daughter?

The smile that's on Liswa's face.

Aneliswa: Ngubabomdala (he's my uncle) We look alike right .

Gugu:a lot get in.

We do .I notice a half full crate of tomatoes was she at the market? I won't ask her with Aneliswa around .

She makes us her famous black tea with dry bread what do you know Aneliswa eats it like she's having the best meal of her life ,that's one humble person I thought of her as a snob since she's friends with Mihle.

Aneliswa: so mah you want to meet up with Bongani?

Gugu: what umm no we just we to

school together a long long time ago .

Me: how long ago

Gugu: like thirty years or so .

Sometimes I really do forget that she's that older than me I guess it's true what they say love has no age.

They are done eating ,I passed I didn't want her food ,I think I should buy groceries in this place cause I might die of hunger eveytime I visit .

Aneliswa: then don't

She says looking at me did I say that out loud .I'm sure it was just a thought .I look at my beautiful Gugu and she's busy clearing out the little table they used ,she didn't hear me .So how did Aneliswa know?

Aneliswa takes the dishes and goes to wash them .She knows how to do that?

Their house overflows with maids that's why I'm surprised .

Me: Gugu can we talk .

Gugu: I'm sorry I shouldn't be mad at you you discovered about what your brother and Sipho were up to instead of keeping it from me you told me the truth ,you chose me over family that's amazing noone had ever done that for me .My parents always chose people before me they lived a life of impressing people like what happened twenty eight years ago I won't ever forgive them for that .So thank you for choosing me over your brother ,your own flesh and blood it means a lot it really does .

I want to ask her what happened twenty eight years ago but I won't today not when it seems like she wants to get past this.

Me: if I had to choose again it will be you all over again cause what I feel for you is real.

Gugu: what do you feel for me.

She whispers.

Me: this is not how I planned to tell you, but ever since I lay my eyes on you I knew you were the one ,I promised myself that I would wed you .I know you might say that I'm too young what will people say but I don't live my life to impress anyone .I don't care about people who talk behind my back because they are in a good position to kiss my ass .l just want to be with you Gugu ,it's only you that I want .l love you ,l love you so much

that it hurts .So please may you think about this I want a relationship with you .

She nods, why is she nodding?

Me: Gugu?

Gugu: yeah let's umm let's try it, let's try dating and see where it takes us.

I wish I could kiss her but I can't with Aneliswa in the house ,I have to break

up with Mihle so that I get to love my woman with no distractions .Dad will just have to forgive me .He will have to find another way to get those shares

Aneliswa: there's an emergency at the hospital I need to run .

She says with so much urgency in her voice.

Me: Gugu bye I will call you, please drop me in town you going that route right.

She doesn't answer I find myself running after her .I now remember where I left my car I will get it and come spend some time with my woman .

Nkosilathi

Janet must be out of her mind she wants to invite that Gugu to dinner tomorrow night .She should have said so earlier I wouldn't have agreed to getting discharged today .

Me: does the dinner have to be tomorrow night .Babe I should be resting not having dinner and what nots .

Janet: it just will her ,Leo , Brandon and I relax ,she knows you were in hospital I know she won't expect you to be there ,you will have your dinner up here and rest .

Oh okay at least that's better ,I don't want to meet her at all she gives me goosebumps .

Aneliswa

My surgery was a success my team and I were able to save both the mother and the baby .

I sit on my chair ,phew it's been a long day .I check on my message ,the screen lock is a picture of us ,we have been best friends since we were young .I could die for her .

I've also known Brandon for that long we ain't friends but he has never had that effect on me .So I don't

understand the sudden pull that draws me to him ,I don't understand why I'm getting goosebumps when I'm talking to him ,why my stomach will be full of butterflies why my heart skips a beat .What is going on with me?

Can that fortune teller be possibly real .I went to her last week and she told me I was soon to meet my chosen one .

Honestly I haven't had so much luck with guys ,at twenty six I'm still a

virgin ,I actually have never been kissed .Yep it's that bad .

I have been that kid, a nerd you might say who's only focus was on her books. Growing up with three overprotective brothers and a worse dad while that became my reality I was always shut indoors. The only person who was allowed to visit me was Mihle thus our tight bond.

I won't do her like that me out of everyone knows how much she loves Brandon I will ignore this sudden interest in him ,will bury myself in work do this and that I'm sure it will disappear cause I know Mihle would have done the same for me.

INSERT 17

Gugu

I don't even know why I agreed to this meeting, I guess I will always have that soft spot for him. Everyone saw a tomato woman at the market place but he saw more than that.

Leo: listen I'm ashamed of my self so is Sipho .

Me: Sipho?

Leo: yah she said something in my dreams some of which don't make sense but I will figure it out.

Oh so she's talking to her sugar daddy and not me .

Leo laughs.

Leo: wow sugar daddy really?

Oh did I say that out loud .He's face becames serious again .

Leo: Gugu I honestly thought she was around eighteen ,when you came with her to my place that day I just felt something for her and I pursued it wanting to see where it will take us .I'm so so sorry I can't ,I don't think I can express how sorry I am . Brandon and my mom ain't even talking to me I know I messed up big time I should have know better .l just asked a lady out and she agreed I'm so so so so sorry Gugu please find in your heart to forgive me.

This is hard like real hard but there's something that my therapist said to me during those years I was taking therapy.

Me: I will forgive you but I'm not doing it for you I'm doing it for myself and my own sanity.

Leo: thank you so much it means a lot I will forever be in your debt .

He really means it like his apology it's from deep down ,he's not a bad guy really he's just someone that makes

bad choices in life.

He texts me *don't cook bringing dinner, spending the night there*

Leo: that smile

Me: it's umm nothing it's just nothing don't worry about it.

Leo: it's a guy right ,who is he ,is it someone I know?

He's crazy this one , doesn't he have

friends?

Me: a girl doesn't kiss and tell

Leo: hooo lala

Me: you sound so gay right now.

Leo: it's Brandon isn't it ,OMG it's him look at the way you are blushing and smiling I should have known it explains why he doesn't want to see us together.

Can he stop talking already.

Me: stay out of my business.

Leo: okay fine but I know if things get serious you will be apping me and telling all the details makoti.

How did we get from Gugu to makoti.

Leo: what do you think of this coffee shop.

Me: they make nice coffee and

wow the place is relaxing really.

Leo: I bought it it's mine.

The way I scream and hug him.

Me: wow I'm so happy for you.

He smiles.

Leo: wow thanks no one has ever been that happy for me when I achieve something makoti. I guess makoti is my new name now.

Me: that's what friends are for right .

Leo: we will soon be family makoti so that's what family is for .

I wonder will my relationship with Brandon get to marriage?

Leo: that's not all there's more.

I hope it's good news and he won't be apologising again I don't want to think about his thing with Sipho.

Leo: I noticed how good you are at leading, I can't seem to think of anyone else who can safely run this place, I personal can't cause I'm working in the family business so may you please be my eyes and ears this side.

OMG what?

Me: really?

Leo: yes now don't cry see how people are looking at us.

I laugh he's crazy really.

I can't believe he asked me to run his coffee shop for him ,me with zero qualifications .Wow I'm grateful maybe this time around this is a new beginning for me .

Me: so I suppose the dinner is cancelled .

Leo: of course mum wanted to apologise on my behalf nothing else you and your boyfriend have the night to yourselves don't make babies .

I laugh

Me: I'm not doing this I ain't having a conversation about my sexual relationship with your brother.

Leo: of course you won't I have never seen a woman who goes around talking about a man who has a dicklet. We laugh geez he's getting too comfortable with me not that I'm complaining it's nice to have people who just care about you and they don't expect anything in return.

Aneliswa

Brandon: knock knock I brought muffins .

Why would he bring me muffins?

I smile at him

Me: come in how did you know I like muffins?

He sits on one of the chairs we are in my office.

Him: Mihle you are all she ever talks about .

Ncoah ain't she sweet and here I am allowing my heart to flip flop when I'm around Brandon ,like right now my

office has suddenly become small ,his cologne is filling the whole room he really does smell nice .I'm even noticing that he has dimples .

Me: so how can I help you?

He pushes the muffins to my end of the table we are sitting opposite each other and I somehow see how his muscles move as he makes that gesture what is wrong with me?

Him: I know I don't have an appointment doc but I needed to see

you.

Me: Are you pregnant ,you know I'm a gynaecologist right?

He laughs.

Brandon: I want to ask about possible contraceptives for women like I don't think my lady would want to have kids soon she just lost her baby so I want us to be safe, we will have babies when she had gotten over the death of her baby and when she's ready you know.

He will never love me look he's getting married to Mihle soon ,he sees a future with her ,here he is family planning for them pity he doesn't know he can't have kids and that Mihle didn't lose any baby .

I give him a card and start explaining contraceptive methods they can use with the "future wife" after this I need to do my rounds go home and drink myself to sleep I can't honestly deal with this heartache I'm feeling.

Ben

Fuck my white shirt all ruined.

Me: watch where you are going !!!

Her: I'm so sorry I didn't see you Ben like I will wash it .

Me: forget it

She looks good for someone who lost her kid recently I thought she would look like a living skeleton.

And this is coffee she poured over me is from Relax and Smile coffee shop, hmm what is a person of her kind doing in such places.

Me: you lucky my meeting is not until three.

She opens her eyes.

Her: meeting?

Me: yes I'm the CEO of Stevens and

Steels ,and yah when you are looking for me I don't know Maybe if you want to talk to me ,you can come to Burnside I live there .

Gugu: wow how did all this happen in such a short space of time .How did you get from Zero to Hero are you using umuti (herbs)?

What? Black people they never want to see a person succeed, they will always blame you for using muti or having a snake they can never celebrate your success with you.

Me: mnx I can't believe you are being so hateful ,I'm here today cause I got an amazing wife something that you failed to do !!

She mockingly laughs.

Gugu: you call that a wife ,she's going to be your downfall don't say I didn't tell you .

Me: mnx get away you are just bitter wena Gugu ,here is fifty dollars

buy yourself something.

She looks at my money and spits on the ground and walks away ,heeh she just left fifty dollars okay her bad I know she will regret when she gets to that pigsty of hers .

Brandon

She's just sitted in the kitchen busy on her phone .I should buy a TV, we do need some entertainment in here . She seems to be concentrating in

whatever she's doing in her phone, she really looks cute when she's concentrating.

Five minutes later she looks up ,she got a surprised expression wn she sees me .

Gugu: how long have you been standing there.

Me: long enough ain't you going to give your men a kiss .

She stands up and gives me a check kiss I wonder why she never gives me a lip kiss but we will get there it's still early days anyways.

She helps me unpack the plastic bags that have our dinner ,she warms it up using a stove ,we need a microwave around here . She dishes up we now eating .

Me: so what were you busy with?

Gugu: researching about how to be a good manager ,what's expected

and all that.

Me: why?

Gugu: cause you are looking at Leo's manager I will be managing his coffee shop for him.

So Leo has a coffee shop now and he didn't tell anyone about it except
Gugu who happens to be his manager and when did they fix things ,why is he so nice to her is it possible that he's my competition? I hope not I don't want to fight with my brother

cause of a woman.

INSERT 18

Mihle

*Why....did you leave me here to burn How? We too young to be this hurt I feel doomed in hotel rooms staring straight apart wall

Counting wounds and I'm trying to numb them all

Do you care do you care

Why don't you care I gave you all of me

My blood ,my sweat ,my heart and my

tears

Why don't you care x2

I was there I was there when noone was

Now you gone and I'm here

I got questions for you

Number 1 who do you think you are you got some nerve trying tear my faith apart

Number 2 why would you try to play me for a fool I should have never ever ever trusted you

Number 3 why would you that swore that you would be

I have questions I got questions haunting me*

Camila Cabello's song *I have questions* blasts on my speakers .I'm drinking wine and eating some chocolate damn who knew this combination is just what I need .He's a coward really how could he break up with me through a phone call.

I don't need to be told I know it's that Gugu granny cause he ain't even hiding it after his phone call he immediately posted her on all his social media platforms .He didn't write anything under her pictures he just put some heart emojis .

My heart is broken really how could he do this to me .I gave him all of me , sacrificed everything for him .A bloody Russian billionaire wanted to marry me take me to Russia buy me my own multi million company but no I chose him I chose him over that .

I was always there for him how can he do this to me .

It's okay I mean clearly I have been wasting my time with Brandon it's time I pick myself up ,do me ,focus on myself cause clearly this love thing ain't working for me .Look at Aneliswa she's single and happy so it can't be that hard .

But that Gugu granny I need to deal with her, I know the only way I will heal is when she's out of our lives. I happen to know just the person I need in my team.

I check her on Facebook ,wow nice

house that she has posted there .Oh I find what I'm looking for her phone number .

I dial.

Her: hello

Me: hie I'm Mihle ,I believe we got a common enemy ,Gugu I know she's your husband ex wife she's a threat to you I can even send you recent pictures of them together just outside Relax and Smile coffee shop .

Her: what that bitch! But what has she done to you.

Me: oh well I guess you will see it soon on social media Brandon Ndiweni has called off our engagement cause of her.

Her: the bitch!!

That's the kind of venom I need.

Me: so are you team Mihle

Her: oh yes tell me what do I need to do .

I tell her ,goodbye Gugu your time in this world is up kkkkkk.

Aneliswa

I drive over her place . Funny I just met her once but I miss her she's a nice woman ,I also brought her some fruits and vegetables you know I couldn't just come empty handed .

Who is she ,why is she snooping around .With the way she's dressed I can tell she's not a neighbor .

Me: hie can I help you?

She smiles.

Her: oh no l just wanted to pay Gugu a visit ,she's a friend of mine but since she ain't in l will visit her some other time . *Me*: and if she comes who should I say was looking for her.

Her: don't worry about it I will call her.

She walks away.

Weird who was she.

Let me wait for her in my car.

Nkosilathi

I can't calm down I'm still waiting for Nomsa sms that will tell me that the job is done.

She called and told me she was doing it today. I wonder what pushed her but I hope she succeeds, I can't wait to sleep in peace, I have difficulties in sleeping cause I will be trying to think what's happening in Gugu's brain, I know she noticed me I haven't changed at all, why ain't she coming for me.

I'm just browsing through Instagram

.Oh no what is this .Why would Brandon post Gugu on his timeline, how does he know her .Does he know she's his mom .

Or is this her plan getting close to my sons then she strikes.

Well well I will beat her to her game I think it's time she met her maker.

Gugu

Me: ain't that Aneliswa's car .

I ask him

He mouths a shit.

Me: don't be like that she's nice

Brandon: yeah yeah of course she is ,but I wanted to spend some lone time with you ,I will just drop you off and go get some work done in the office .

I pout

Me: babe don't be like that I want you there

Brandon: so that we all talk about kids ,hair ,nails ,men and panties nah I will pass .

Mnx he's crazy.

I'm still pouting, making my cute face I hope it works so that he stays. He tries to kiss my lips but it's like a force pushes him backwards ,that was weird what just happened .

Me: what just happened .

He looks at me.

Brandon: so I'm not the only one who noticed it .

She knocks on our window.

Brandon: tell me when she's gone.

I just nod ,I'm a little freaked out .

He drives away .We first go get some stuff she said she bought for me .Oh ain't she sweet .it's a basket full of fresh fruits and vegetables .

We walk into my yard talking about this and that .We get inside the house ,we are laughing at some stupid joke she just shared .

Aneliswa: should I close the door

mah?

I love the way she respects me ,she's a sweet lady really .

Me: yes ,we will just open the windows ,and plug the fan Brandon bought it .

She laughs.

She closes the door and that's when we hear the click sound .We still staring at each other trying to figure

out what just happened when we hear a loud boom and flames surround us.

Is this a fire ,how how did it start .I'm so shocked I can't even move .

Aneliswa runs to the door trying to open it ,it doesn't burge .We locked inside with no way out. She runs around trying the windows but there's no luck . Everything is now in flames and we are crying clinging unto each other .

Is this the day we die I just hope that

it won't be a painful death ,we now got nowhere to stand the fire is reaching us .At least when I die I died a happy woman Brandon has been such an amazing boyfriend.

INSERT 19

Leo

I knock in his office .He jumps a little as I enter I wonder what he was doing

Dad: son what do you want?

Oh wow nice right.

Me: I wanted to tell you something .

Dad: I'm all ears .

He keeps looking at his phone is he expecting a phonecall or something I wonder.

Me: I bought a coffee shop downtown.

He looks at me, I have got all his attention now.

Dad: what? And you are telling me

after you bought it?

I knew he was going to make this about him .

Me: Dad I'm not saying I'm leaving the company ,I'm still working for you but I needed something in my name like after this I want to buy a house ,I want to have things of my own and stop to depend on you guys .

He suddenly looks so emotional.

Dad: I waited for this day ,the day you grown up and man up I'm proud of you son .

It's my turn to get emotional he has never ever said that to me .It's the first time . Goodness knows how much I needed to hear those words being uttered by him .

Me: thanks dad it means a lot .

He comes to my side and pats my shoulder .

Dad: I know I never say it a lot but I love you son .

Nah he's lying he has never said it before.

Dad: Now can you excuse me I got a conference call I have to make .

With who? Why is he being weird?

I just nod as I'm about to open the door .

Dad: Leo who will be running the coffee shop since you said you not leaving the company?

Me: Gugu ,Sipho's mom

Dad: oh you might want to look for another manager .

Me: why

Dad: it's nothing I'm just saying nje .Close the door behind you . I get to my room .I dial the number I found .

Me:Hello am I talking to one of Gugulethu's Nkomo parents?

Woman: yes but she uses Ncube her husband surname.

Husband? What husband?

Me: what husband? I know her as an umarried woman .

Woman: She must have lied to you she's married to Benjamin Ncube .

Isn't that Sipho's dad .So are you telling me that Gugu's parents don't know that she's divorced don't they know that Sipho's dead .

Me: but they are divorced ma'am .

Woman: it's all lies my son ,I'm guessing you are her boyfriend ,it's all lies she's a married woman with kids . She's a bad person that one you better let her go and find someone better, do you know at fourteen she threw away a child ,it was a boy the neighbors saw her throwing him away in a dustbin I'm told she had put him in a black plastic bag ,we don't know who picked him up can you imagine and you want to associate your self with such a woman run with your life when it's too early she's bad news that one ,she's a witch too I'm her mother I know her best.

Is she really her mother she seems to hate Gugu .

Me: mah are we still talking about the same woman cause the Gugu l know would never throw away a baby

Woman: then you don't know her I will send you her pictures when she was fourteen, I will even send you the name of the hospital that she gave birth in .She's not a saint get out of the relationship while it's too early she might end up bewitching you .

Is it really possible that this woman is

telling the truth? I hope not cause I can't have a heartless person running my coffee shop.

Nomsa

It's a job well done .I'm watching the news, nothing is left of Nomsa's cottage. Everything is burnt beyond recognition.

Who should I call first?

This calls for a celebration.

Me: Linda !!!!Lindaaaaaaaaaa!!!!

She comes running.

Linda: ma'am

Me: mnx I dont pay you to laze around didn't you hear me calling your name?

I give her two slaps she's lazy this one ,I should get another maid .

Oh maybe I shouldn't fire her I should

get her a helper it's not like I can't afford not to .

Me: go get me some wine hurry up .

She goes of running.

I decide to call the mystery man first .

Me: it's done

I hear him celebrate in the background ,this guy really needed Gugu dead .I wonder why?

Him: I will send you a thank you gift ,you are an amazing woman Nomsa .

I just had to get married to my Ben I guess this guy and I could have made a power couple .

I cut and call Mihle

Me:it's done

Mihle: that looks like my friend's car in the background.

I guess she's watching the news.

Me: Aneliswa?

Mihle: you know her?

Me: who doesn't know Aneliswa Ndimande .She was there looking for Gugu but I don't think she spent so much time there ,she looked like a person in a hurry .

Mihle: then why isn't she answering

her phone?

She's now crying ,what's this mina I did what she told me to do .

Mihle: do you think maybe she waited for her and they went together into the house.

Me: it might be possible I don't know okay .

Mihle: oh noooooo

She starts screaming and crying ,well that's not my problem mina I played my part .I can't believe that Gugu is out of our lives wow it feels so unreal ,I hope that this is not a dream shame .

Madube

He looks at me.

Ndiweni: you said what?

Me: I think he saw my real form

cause the way he kept staring at me .He also looked freaked out .Like angazi (I don't know) .

He takes a mirror ,says a few words and that guy's picture appears in the mirror.

Ndiweni: is this him?

Me: yes

He shakes his head.

Ndiweni: I think his the one in the prophecies .

Me: what prophecies?

Ndiweni: that the Healer will be assisted by the seer the guy with the supernatural eyes ,the one that can see angels and demons ,devil's and serpents nothing can escape his eyesight .

Madube: then we should kill him .

Ndiweni: no he won't be a problem isn't Prince is dead .

Yah but he's right maybe I'm just overreacting, it's just that I know it doesn't hurt being too careful I don't like surprises.

Me: so does he have a name?

Ndiweni: Brandon Ndiweni.

Me: Ndiweni?

Ndiweni: yes he's my brother's son .

Me: your brother how??

Him: it's complicated you wouldn't understand ,but we not sparing cause he's family ,we are sparing him cause he's no threat to us .

He has never lied to me before .So I guess I will have to trust him .

Me: I feel like human liver.

He gives me a jar.

It's liver ,that's why I love him .

Me: who's this one?

Ndiweni: an unfortunate thirteen year old girl who was hated by her step mother.

Oh shame poor girl ,at least the step mother hated her cause look I'm now having her liver as a snack ,ain't nothing like a teens liver hmmmmm

yummy.

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Brandon

This has to be a dream or should I say a nightmare it can't be real .No there's no where this shit is real .

Reporters ,police and the forensic team are all over the place .There's a yellow tape surrounding what I knew as Gugu's house now it's just some ash with wires. Wow I think I should wake up before I cry in this dream of mine.

Police are questioning the neighbors ,no one seems to know how the fire started from what I gather ,they went in (Gugu and Aneliswa) then a few minutes later the place bust into flames ,by the time the fire truck came there was nothing to pour water on everything was burnt .

Cop(to his friend): noone could

have survived this I think they are dead.

What is she doing here? As soon as she notices me she throws herself into my arms.

Mihle: where is she? Where is Aneliswa? What was she even doing here?

Who is she asking .I remove myself from her hug .I'm stressed about my woman she shouldn't be blubbering nonsense to me .

A familiar hand pats my shoulder .Somehow I feel a little better his support is what I need right now .We might fight a lot , sometimes we don't even understand each other but one thing I know is that this guy will always have my back .

Me: thanks for coming .

Leo: don't lose hope she might be alive ,she ain't dead till proven otherwise .

I hope he's right cause I ain't feeling anything even the strange voices in my head are quiet.

Now I see why the forensic team is here and why there are busy at the burnt house ,this has Leo written over it .He's a dick has always been one but he's an amazing brother I wouldn't want anyone to replace him .

Gugu

I'm feeling cold ,why is it cold in here .I'm busy rubbing my arms with my

hands just to generate some heat to warm me up .

Aneliswa: should I start a fire?

Me: don't even think about it I'm still trumatised .

She chuckles.

We are in a forest sitting on logs .Don't ask me how we got here .Just know that I'm now a little scared of this woman sitting across me .

Aneliswa: don't be scared of me.

What did I tell you she seems to be able to read minds .

Aneliswa: look I didn't have a choice I had to do something I didn't mean to freak you out .

She did freak me out .Is she even human? No normal human being would do what she did .

Me: how do we get home?

Aneliswa: we will go tomorrow let's spend the night .

She must be out of her mind. Spend the night here ,there might be lions ,rhinos even buffalos I'm not sleeping in this forest. We might even get attacked by a snake.

Me: Brandon must be worried about me .

Aneliswa: Brandon

The way she says his name .Wow it's filled with so much love ,if I'm not mistaken she's Mihle's best friend so did she have feelings for her best friend's guy .

Funny thing I don't hate her or what I still love her all the same even if she's crushing on my guy.

Me: can we go?

Aneliswa: hold my hand .

Does she want to do her creepy things?

I'm hesitant maybe sleeping her ain't such a bad idea after all .But I think of Brandon and Leo I know they would have heard about the house and they will be sick and worried about me.

I find myself holding her hand.

Aneliswa: relax and close your eyes.

I do .

Aneliswa: open them .

Didn't she say I should close my eyes a second ago?

I open them .Holy shit we are in my neighborhood .

Aneliswa: don't look at me that way

She says.

Me: what just happened?

She shruggles and walks in the direction of my house .I follow her .

Damn this place is full of people .l spot my man ,he's looking all stressed and worried .Leo is holding his shoulder .

Me: Brandon!

He quickly turns and when he recognizes me he runs to me and gives me a tight hug.

He whispers to my ear.

Him: I was so worried about you babe what happened ,how did you get out?

Aneliswa: we didn't get in ,we took a walk ,what happened?

The way her face is so serious! So

do I have to act too.

I look at my house as if I hadn't seen it when we came to this street with Aneliswa.

Me: what happened to my house ?where is my house ?Who did this ?

I start shouting and wailing with my hands above my head .

I must be good at this everyone has

stopped what they are doing and are looking at me with eyes full of pity some are even crying.

I hear someone say

Someone: so sad ,she didn't have much ,she lost her only daughter now she has lost her house when will she get a break .

Somehow those words really get to me and I'm crying for real right now.

The reporters run to us as soon as they notice who we are .I guess from now on every Zimbabwean will know my name and my story .

Aneliswa

Leo being Leo just made us answer a few questions and chased the reporters away.

They drove with Gugu I don't know where to but I know she's safe with them.

Mihle: I thought I had lost you .

She's says looking at me from the steering wheel .She's driving me home ,she didn't want me to drive myself .

She has been crying ,her face has black streaks running down it , disadvantages of mascara she now looks like a witch from an African movie .

Me: I'm good babe don't worry .

She holds my hand. The love that we share. People don't understand how we get along cause we are the opposite of each other. But we do we understand each other.

Me: you and Brandon are you guys good

Mihle: why ask

Me: just ,l didn't see you guys talk

or anything.

Mihle: we good don't worry you are still my best girl .

Somehow I don't believe her ,why is she lying to me?

We have arrived ,I say bye to her .My family is waiting for me by the door ,they are dramatic these ones .

Dad: MaNdimande are you okay?

Even my three elder brothers are here ,l know their wives are inside cooking up a storm and my nephews and nieces have turned the house upside down .

This is what I need a distraction.

They form a circle around me and hug the living daylights out of me. Yep this is my family I couldn't ask for a better one.

I'm now in just a towel I'm from taking a shower I'm about to sleep

.My brother Zibusiso the first born just gets into my room without knocking ,he thinks he's my father this one .

He sits on the bed.

Me: I'm naked

Zibusiso: I used to change your diaper so what's amazing about you today .

What did I tell you ,he thinks he's dad .

Zibu: you know you ain't supposed to use your powers till you meet with your chosen one.

Me: it was an emergency ,I had to get her out of there .

I smile as I remember how she opened her eyes when I held her hand and transported us to the forest .She was asking me how we got there and all.

Zibu: I totally understand ,but next time don't just use them powers ,you are stronger with your man ,you are the chosen one .

Chosen to do what? They never tell me sometimes I get a feeling they also don't know .Now you know why I have been overprotected while growing up .

I don't know if I should tell him I think Brandon is my man .

Me: what if my chosen husband

has a woman in his life.

Him: it won't work between them ,till you guys meet .

So maybe I'm wrong maybe Brandon ain't the one cause I have known him since we were kids. Zibusiso is talking about meeting him I guess I'm yet to meet him ,that makes me feel better cause I don't know what Mihle would do if Brandon happened to be my chosen one.

Nkosilathi

Her: nooh... please please stop please you are hurting.... me please please I will do anything please please stop I beg of you!

She's screaming and trying to untangle herself from the rope I tied her with .

I don't stop I keep thrusting into her ,in and out in and out .Lord knows how much I have paid for this pussy ,I couldn't wait for it ,I keep quickening my pace ,damn she feels so good ,what drives me crazy is that noone knows how it tastes like besides me .

It's after I release myself deep inside her that I notice that the cries have ceased .I look at her and she's unconscious .I try waking her up but she ain't responding .I check for her pulse it's weak very weak .I quickly get dressed .I untie her hands from the bed post , remove everything of mine in the room .I then leave .

I wake up from my dream .I don't

know if I should call it that cause why would I dream of something that happened twenty eight years ago.

Janet: where are you going?

Me: I'm going for a walk.

It's just past one .I can't sleep after this .I don't know why she can't just die .How did she escape the fire? They told the news people that they didn't enter the house but they were lying I know they were.I had cameras inside of that house .I was watching

them as they got in .I saw them trapped in that house looking for a way out .Well the camera ended up being burnt too as I was watching them.

Janet: it's late

Me: I need air babe okay go back to sleep.

I give her a kiss and leave. Initially I wanted to take a walk then come back home but I miss my son it's been long since I last saw him.

Luckily he lives a street away. Which made us wonder why he moved in the first place.

I open the gate ,the door .I don't make noise he might be asleep .Let me just go to the pool room just swim to keep my mind of things .

Imihlolo kaJosefa (wonders never cease) what is this?

There they are with their feet dipped

inside the pool .She has her head on his shoulder .

Breath breath I tell myself .I mean if she was harmful she would have said something to me .

A voice says but look at her she's with your son .What is she trying to do .ls this her master plan .

Brandon: dad what are you doing here?

He looks so surprised to see me ,who wouldn't it's one a.m .

I just faintly smile I don't think I can talk ,she's now looking at me too the way she's smiling at me .

Her: come on that's no way to talk to your biological father now Brandon

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I feel my chest starting to close in .What does she mean by that?

Her: salibonani (hello) Ndiweni.

Is sheis she t..

Brandon

My dad is down the first person I call is Aneliswa before I call the ambulance .I don't know why.

And guess what she told me not to call an ambulance and I listened to her .So here we are with Gugu with my dad lying flat on the floor and we

are just watching his motionless body.

Aneliswa arrives twenty minutes later .She doesn't look like someone in a hurry .

Me: my dad is dying and you are modelling!!

Aneliswa: don't tell at me this is not an emergency he did this to himself.

What does she mean?

Me: what's that supposed to mean .

Aneliswa: this is spiritual open your eyes .

My eyes are wide open what does she mean.

Aneliswa: great he can't see yet

She murmurs to herself.

Aneliswa: mah please go to another room please .

Gugu: you be good?

She asks me .I'm not sure my dad is dying and Aneliswa isn't behaving like someone who wants to save him .

Aneliswa: you the one who's wasting your own time answer her so that we start working.

I just nod.

And what does she mean by "we"?

I didn't notice she was carrying a bag till now .She takes out white candles and puts them around dad .She lights them ,what on Earth is she doing isn't she supposed to be a medical doctor not this .

Aneliswa:relax ,you are panicking that's why you can't use your powers .

It's official this chick is nuts what

does she think this is a movie? A novel? Where people have powers and all that shit.

Aneliswa: just relax .

Well I want my dad to be okay so let me relax .

I take a deep breath.

Me: what do I have to do?

She just looks at me a take a few

more deep breaths ,okay I know what to do .

We take the white string she has and tie our hands together .We kneel before him, speaking in a weird language. She keeps blowing upon his nose a few minutes later I see his fingers moving. We stop the next thing he coughs, opens his eyes and tries to sit on his own.

Me: take it easy dad .

I help him sit he balances his back on

the wall.

Aneliswa: baba you know what you have to do tell the truth ,ask for forgiveness ,reunite them that's all that the ancestors want from you they said this was a warning .I don't know what mistake you made that angered them but I beg of you apologise cause you are playing with people's lives .They said at the end of the day the ones you love will get hurt so just tell the truth please.

Dad: Aneliswa mntanami (my child)

when was the last time you had sleep ,what you are saying to me makes no sense don't ever utter such nonsense to me again siyezwana(am I clear)

She just nods .l know she disagrees with him but she's just nodding out of respect .She's a rare type .

Aneliswa: okay baba lisale kahle (take care)

Leo

So Gugu's mom sent me Gugu's pictures when she was pregnant .She said she was fourteen then .I did the math her baby should be around twenty eight if he's still alive .Did she really throw away a baby in the trash .

I'm on my way to the hospital that she gave birth too. I want to understand this thing. Brandon seems to be serious about this woman so I don't want him discovering buried skeletons after they are married or something.

I bump into dad at the door .Where is he coming from ? Didn't he sleep at home ?

Me: dad

Dad: hie

He looks like someone who had a rough night .

Him: where are you going?

Me: where are you coming from?

The look he gives me.

Him: I asked a question I expect an answer .

Me: well there are some things I discovered about Gugu, I heard she gave birth twenty eight years ago and threw away the baby boy so I want to confirm with the hospital she was in.

Dad: okay

Just like that he leaves me standing there .What's going on with him?

I arrive at the hospital.

Me: hie beautiful ,we talked on the phone ,you said you will give me the information I needed .

Receptionist: sorry I can't anymore the information is confidential the parents of the boy just called they told us they will sue us if we share that kind of information .

What kind of is Gugu's mom playing ,so she informed the boy's parents .l will get to the bottom of this.

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MaNkomo

What on Earth is he doing here? It's been years since I last saw him.

Me: Nkosilathi?

He just pushes the door open comes in as if he owns the place. Luckily my husband is out of town.

Nkosilathi: what game are you playing Cynthia?

What is he talking about?

Me: tea or pussy?

Nkosilathi: I'm not here to play

games .Tell your daughter to stay far away from me and stop giving people information that has nothing to do with them .

Me: the guy that called me wants to marry her ,that good for nothing bitch

Nkosilathi: he wants to marry her?

The shock that's on his face.

Nkosilathi: I paid you enough

money for that day actually it was more than enough over eight hundred thousand dollars.

Me: you impregnating her wasn't part of the plan .

He chuckles

Him: it's not like I didn't send money for her during the pregnancy and it's not like she raised the baby herself .I raised my son so tell her to stay far away from him . *Me*: what are you scared of he's a grown ass adult now .He deserves to know the truth .

Him: you and I both know that you hate your daughter with all of you.

You don't want to help at all.

She damaged my womb after giving birth to her I couldn't have other kids .I couldn't give my husband a son which resulted in him taking a second wife ,noone knows about her but I do ,they have three kids together and

right now he should be here at home with me but he's in Kwekwe with his other family .I love him with all of me that's why I'm still in this relationship .if it wasn't for Gugu I would have my dream family .

Me: I was just making sure the guy who wants to marry Gugu doesn't she doesn't deserve a good life ,she's the one who put me in this misery .

Nkosilathi: if I didn't know better with the way you hate her I would have thought you were a step mother

of some sorts. Anyways it's none of my business. Let this be the last time you tell people about Gugu's pregnancy all those years ago otherwise

Mnx is he threatening me, I ain't scared of him. I have proof of him raping her, and the bank account details where he deposited the money. It's just that I can't take him down without me falling with him otherwise I would be blackmailing him.

He leaves mnx idiot .

Gugu doesn't deserve happiness that's why I made Ben fall inlove with Nomsa so that I break her happy marriage .I will just have to make sure this guy that wants to marry her doesn't .I can't let her live a life full of love while I'm living in misery ahh that won't happen not when I'm still alive .

Mihle

Okay so what do I do? Do I just get into this yard. He has a lot of huts I

wonder what he uses them for .I hope he is as powerful as they say he is .

Guy: mntanami (my child) ngingakunceda ngani (how can I help you?)

Is he the guy I was directed to I thought he would be some cracky old looking man but he's not like that at all yes he has aged but he looks quite handsome.

Me: ngidinga uNdiweni baba (I'm looking for Ndiweni father)

He tells me to come in .l guess he's the Ndiweni of it .

We enter one of the huts I guess this is his work station.

Him: remove your shoes .

I remove my sneakers and get in with my socks only .

I sit on some mat he has provided.

Ndiweni: ukhala ngani (how can l help you)

Me: I want to consult with my elders, I want to know why they have forsaken me.

He looks at me .Why is he doing that isn't he supposed to be using his bones or something.

Ndiweni: the ancestors will never forsake you my daughter .The problem is you were using all your energy on the wrong brother ,you are

supposed to be with the other one .l know you now think I'm crazy but that's what your elders whispered to me .There will be a time you think that your friend has betrayed you but you know that she loves you and she will never do anything intentional to hurt you ,it's just fate .lf only your future father in law didn't think that he was clever, a lot of hurt and heartache would be avoided.

He's crazy in capital letters ,there's no way I will date Leo ahhh ngeke (I won't) shame .

I thank him and stand up ,now what do I do do I give him money or what .

I hand him some notes.

Ndiweni: I don't make family pay makoti drive safely and don't be stubborn you and Mamfana are meant to be .

Holy shit Ndiweni .I hit my head ,why didn't I think of it ,how are Brandon and Leo related to this guy? Brandon

never said anything about having a powerful seer in the family, okay now that I think of it Brandon hardly said anything personal to me. It was always about business even the jokes were business based. What kind of relationship was I in?

I can't believe I wanted to kill a human being for someone who never really paid attention to me.

He opens the door ,I was in luck today I made it past the security guard at the gate .

Brandon: what do you want?

Me: May I please talk to Gugu is she around .

He gives me a surprised look as he opens the door for me.

Him: she's in her room ,the one on the left side on the second floor .

Oh so she's got her own room .l wonder why?

Gugu: Mihle right?

She asks smiling at me . I sit on the couch .She was watching some Korean drama .

Me: my all time favorite.

I say pointing at the screen.

Gugu: Aneliswa recommended it ,it's not bad .

I laugh

Me: come on admit it it's that good

She giggles .I now see why Aneliswa is spending some time with her ,she's a nice woman .

Me: I have got something to tell you

I got her undivided attention ,she has even put her drama on pause .

Me: I'm the one who set fire on your place ,I'm sorry I was so bitter when I got dumped for you by Brandon .l thought that you dying would make me get over him. When I realised that my sister was also on that fire I saw how stupid I was ,I know you might have died and believe me I was already regretting it when the person I sent to set the fire up told me the house was burning .I know you might never forgive me but I'm sorry I really am .If you want me to hand myself over to the cops I will do that.

Tears are glistening in her eyes . This

is when I really am grateful that Aneliswa was there otherwise I wouldn't have gotten this chance to apologise.

Me: I also will buy you a house as a way of apologising cause I burnt yours .

She's now crying I'm also crying .l have put my head on my knees .l can't look at her .

After a few minutes I feel her arms around me.

Gugu: wow I can't believe you did that ,that you wanted me dead to the extent of setting my house on fire but that's not what is important what's important is that you realised your mistake and you confessed .

I'm now a crying mess.

Gugu: I forgive you ,let's forget about it right ,it's in the past now but you my friend are still buying that house I'm tired of cohabiting .

I find myself laughing through my tears .l guess this is a new beginning for us .l won't mess it up .l will now focus on being a better version of myself I know with Gugu on my side I will achieve it ,l don't know she has motherly love that she exerts and I will soak up all of it cause will all know what kind of a person my mom is .

Brandon

Me: wow

Her: what?

Me: come on babe this is not cohabiting, we just stay together, we don't even sleep together.

She continues packing .Oh great really ,Mihle just had to buy her a house now she wants to kiss my ass good bye .

I don't think I can live without her again, sometimes in the middle of the night I find myself in her room just sitting on her couch watching her sleep. I never thought I would love a woman like this. My love for her it's so unconditionally damn I love her. I think I love her more than mom but don't tell Mom that.

Gugu: stop being a baby knowing you you will have your own closet at my house.

Obviously I will also pack a bag I will be spending my most of my time there .

Dating Gugu is amazing really ,no one gets me like she does and I like the fact that we are also best friends ,ever been best friends with your lover?it's the most amazing relationship ever .

I hear some giggling downstairs.

Gugu: oh they are here .

Who's here?

I just follow her downstairs .Great we got company I wanted to spend our last night together ,just chilling eating and talking . Amazingly I haven't had the urge to sleep with her , something always stops me when I want to make a sexual move on her ,weird right ? Not that I'm complaining maybe I will just have to marry her first .

I haven't asked for her ring size .l

want to propose before the end of next week .I'm ready I know she's the one .I want to make her my wife the mother of my kids .I want to live the rest of my life with her .

Guess who are here .Mihle , Aneliswa and Leo great talk about kill joys .

Gugu: okay guys let's go to the dining area our meal is already set .

Mnx if I knew they were coming I would have told the chef not to cook.

Me: you look stressed dude are you okay .

The ladies went to the dining I had to pull him aside he looks like he hasn't slept for days.

Leo: how well do you know Gugu?

What is this about?

Me: well enough to want to propose to her next week.

He runs his hand over his locks .He has had them since we were kids .

Him: listen can you slow down a bit ,there's some things I'm researching about her ,I have heard things.

Like always he's looking out for me, he really does love me I don't know why he pretends otherwise in front of our parents, family and friends.

Me: sometimes you don't have to

look had for answers ,I mean why don't you just ask her about what is bothering you .

Leo: you think she might tell me the truth?

Me: she has no reason to lie to you ,I personal think out of everyone she trusts you more that's why when she found out about your relationship with Sipho she was heartbroken cause she trusts you so much ,so see she has no reason to just lie to you .I also trust you ,so please sort whatever it is you want to sort out before next week I want to marry that woman.

Look at them busy eating my food ,talking and laughing as if I invited them over .

It's after dinner and Leo has disappeared with Gugu I'm left with Aneliswa and Mihle.

I'm expecting Mihle to throw some drama or something but no she's chilled.

Aneliswa:so I'm going to a date tomorrow .

both of us: date?

Aneliswa: yep

Me: you must be out of your mind you not going anywhere ,go to that date with that guy his blood will be in your hands cause I'm going to kill him

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Why am I suddenly so angry and hurt .Why am I yelling at her surely she can date whoever she wants ,what is my problem?

Aneliswa: it's just a date get off my hair dude .

Me: JUST A DATE !!!!

I hear Mihle screaming . Aneliswa holds our hands and we are suddenly in the yard .I watch my house crumble down. What just happened?

Leo

Brandon made it sound so easy but it ain't .How do I even start the talk .

Gugu: are you okay?

I must look really bad hey she's the second person to ask me tonight .We are taking a walk, tonight the moon is full the sky is clear and the stars are shining down upon us.

Me: Gugu ,was Sipho the only child you had?

Well I might as well be straight forward just ask the damn question .

She's quiet for a while.

Gugu: no she was actually my second born .

Me: oh so where is the first?

She exhales.

Gugu: I would lie Leo

She sniffs

Gugu: I don't know ,Iummm I don't know whether his dead or alive whether he eats or not whether he....oh Leo , sometimes I wonder those street hobos I pass in town what if one of them is him .II

Me: shhhh

I embrace her geez I must have opened an old would she's a crying mess right now.

Gugu: I wanted to keep him but my parents gave him up for adoptionI wanted to to tomother him Leo I wasn't given that chance, imagine nine months of carrying a baby of bonding with it of loving it only for it to be taken away from you .All I ever wanted was to raise him and be a better mother to him than my mom was to me.

My heart is going out to her ,the way she's crying makes me feel her pain .

Gugu: he should be twenty eight this year ,yes cause he was born on the twenty fifth of May so he is twenty eight.

Amazingly he shares a birthday with Brandon .Now that I know the hospital he was born at and his birth of date maybe I might be able to track him down .I guess that's the reason Sipho keeps bothering me in my dreams ,she wants her mother to

find her brother.

Me: I'm going to find him.

She lifts her head up.

Gugu: really?

I nod .I will just have to .As for Gugu's mother I wonder why she lied to me .What is she trying to achieve?

Gugu

I think we entered the wrong yard ,I've calm down ,you know crying something out and talking to someone about it leaves you feeling a little better it will be like a weight has been lifted off your shoulders.

Leo: is it possible that an earthquake can just affect one house ?

He whispers.

Why is he whispering. Brandon and the ladies are just staring at the crumbles. What happened?

We reach them.

Leo:what happened did someone just bomb this house.

He's still whispering.

Mihle: no it's Brandon

We both look at her ,what did

Brandon do that destroyed a whole building?

Me: so since you guys don't want to tell us what happened I will just go to my house.

I say .I try hugging Brandon but I find myself crashing on the durahall.

Everyone comes running to me to check on me.

Aneliswa: I'm so sorry Gugu I didn't

mean to, it just happened on its own.

I'm okay I'm not hurt. I stand up with the help of Leo . Mihle is just quiet she looks freaked out . I also am , like I just flew and crashed on the durahall, I think it's a miracle that my bones are still intact .

Aneliswa: Gugu?

I just lift my hand up as a way of silencing her ,she doesn't owe me any explanation ,it's been a long day ,l just want to sleep .

Me: please drive me to my place.

I look at Brandon.

Brandon: no

Wow did he just refuse.

Leo: let's go I will drop you off.

I was supposed to move tomorrow but since Brandon's house is in

crumbles I will just go to my place now.I wonder what happened today ,I will just give Brandon some space I know he will tell me when he's ready to talk .

Final season

Brandon

They both looking at me, why are they looking at me?

Me: what?

Aneliswa: why did you refuse to drive Gugu

I don't know and I regret it .I wonder if she's okay ,damn that crush I wonder

what's wrong with Aneliswa why on earth would she do that?

Mihle: can you come pick me up I'm freaked out .

Who is she calling? Not that it's any of my business. I will have to hire a construction company to come fix this place up for me.

I'm so lost in my thoughts just trying to figure out what happened .I'm confused I don't know what is wrong with me first it was the Ndiweni's

things ,then the Sipho thingie ,the woman I bumped into in town ,my father and now this .Is it even real or it's just one continuous dream that will never end .

He parks in front of us he doesn't look happy not that I expect him to anyways.

Leo: are you getting in or what don't waste my time I got a lot of important things to do .

Mihle: like what?

Leo: I ain't your friend you don't get to ask me that .

She gets into the car .Why isn't Aneliswa going with them?

Leo: Lili?

I don't why he calls her that since we were kids he's always called her that and she only answers to the nickname if it's him using it not anyone else.

She shakes her head no ,he drives away .

Aneliswa: I want us to talk we can't ignore this .

Me: talk? heeh girly you ain't serious ,what's there to talk about ,since when do we talk ,do that shit you did to Gugu again you will see me

Aneliswa: says a guy who got angry

cause I'm going on a date let me tell you something I still am, I won't stop on your accord,I deserve that shit I have never been to one it's time I go out there and mingle.

I'm starting to get angry but no I won't entertain my anger she will think she's that important to me.

So this is me taking a walk to my father's place in the middle of the night. Aneliswa just disappeared after she saw that I wasn't interested in talking to her .I have to try talking

to Gugu tomorrow I already miss her so much .

Mihle

I think that Ndiweni dude got the part wrong about Leo and I being meant to be .The guy can't stand me .Right now he just dropped me by the junction he told me to finish up my journey by foot imagine!

I'm freaked out ,I'm scared , what happened at Brandon's place wow I can't even explain it .

But Leo doesn't do this does he know the statistics of women who get raped on a daily basis.

I walk as fast as I can till I reach home.

Mom: I thought you were sleeping over there .

Yah right in crumbles .

She's carrying a bottle of wine drinking from it.l wonder what the

fight was about today. Maybe dad came back with lipstick on his shirt .

I ignore her . I find my younger brother Dylan sitting on the bed .

Me: Dylan?

Dylan: there's something I need to tell you .

Me: this better be good.

Dylan: I met up with a woman on

my way to school she said something about you .

Me: what did she say?

He starts wiping his tears .I didn't notice till now that he was crying .

Him: you only got three weeks to live (sniff, sniff)she said that if you don't fall inlove with the guy you are destined to be in three weeks you will die.

Wow just wow my night couldn't get any worse.

Nkosilathi

As soon as I get into the the study ,he tries hiding his spreadsheets.

Me: what's this

I say taking them and looking at them .These are hospital records of twenty eight years ago, where on earth did

he get them?

He starts playing with his locks
.When was the last time he did that?
When he was a boy ,when his mother
and I would catch him doing
something he's not supposed to do.

Leo: dad come on ,this has got nothing to do with you I'm just doing some research .

Research? Is he still researching about Gugu's long lost son.

Leo: dad!!

I have "mistakenly" teared the papers .

Me: I'm so sorry son my bad eish sorry .

Leo: get out.

I don't need to be told twice I hope that tear slows him down ,now how do I cover up my tracks ,he's getting closer and closer to the truth.

Ben

Is this what Gugu felt like when I chased her out of my house with Sipho .

I only got a suitcase with a few clothes in it .Some jeans and t shirts ,she kept the suits ,the high class shoes ,my watches even some of my underwears .

Painful part I never saw any of this

coming .Well today to me was just another normal day .Came back home early so that I get to play with my kids and help wifey cook only for me to find myself divorced and fired at the same time .

I know you are wondering how that happened, well part owner of Stevens and Steels, Steven has replaced me. When I started fighting with him telling him that he can't just come into my house and replace me, he fired me, Nomsa chose him over me. The kids remain with them, I can't even dream about taking my case to

court Steven will crush me I tell you .

I guess the gods and my ancestors have forsaken me, I don't have anyone I don't have anything. I have no friends left once I climbed the success ladder I wanted to play with the big boys and I left my homies, lesson learnt never forget the people who always have your back no matter what but I learnt it too late.

Gugu

Doc: you got to talk to me ,why are you back?

I just stare at the wall .Tears streaming down my face ,it can't be no it just can't be .

She passes me some wipes.

Doc: Gugu talk to me I can't help you if you don't talk to me .

Me: I got my memory back .

She puts her hand on her mouth.

Doc: wow! I thought that memory will forever be locked away in your brain forever.

She holds my hands.

Doc: do you want to talk about it .

My emotions are all over the place ,how can my life be so messed up .

Me: I don't know what triggered it

but last night I crashed against a durahall, don't ask me how that happened I won't be able to explain it, I hit my head so when I got home the memories started to....they start to flood my mind.

Doc: oh Gugu

This one ,she's been a friend to me more than my therapist that's why she's getting all emotional .

Me: I was excited ,mom had bought me a new dress .Even though it was

so short and a see through ,I didn't really care my mom rarely bought anything for me so that was a special day for me .She made me bath using her bath salts ,plaited my hair ,even allowed me to put on make up .Even the undies she bought for me were dope I thought not knowing that it was a lingerie .It was my birthday so l never asked why she was making me feel so special .A car came to collect us and dropped us at some classy hotel . We went to some room ,l thought oh shit this is the best birthday ever I'm even being booked a hotel room I guess I will sleep here

today .I hugged the guy that was waiting for us at the other side of the door ,I called him uncle cause I knew him as my mother's friend ,he used to come a lot at our house when my dad was out of town he travels a lot you know .

Me: I was told to sit on the bed ."My uncle" gave Mom a bag full of money .I wasn't surprised by that he always gave us money .Mom gave me a kiss and told me she will come back to get me .Not that I minded like duh I was in a hotel room with my favorite "uncle" that happened once in a blue

moon .So when he said I should go sit on his lap, I didn't find anything wrong about that .We talked about random stuff school, ice cream all those things an uncle and a niece talk about ,it's wasn't until I felt his hand near my pussy that I noticed that something was wrong .I crossed my legs and told him that was wrong ,l was an innocent little girl but I knew what sex was I mean I was turning fourteen .He started sweet talking me and all but I wasn't hearing any of it I wasn't budging .That got him angry and he hit me and tied my hands on the bed posts .The most special

birthday became the worst I ever had .He had his way with me I beg him to stop but he never listened to my cries .I ended up being numb and I think I lost consciousness then.

We now both crying .What did I tell you she's more of a friend.

I look up just to try not to let my tears flow.

Doc: Gugu?

Me: I'm not here for therapy I just wanted to let it out .I'm going to see "my uncle".

Leo

I'm so angry at my dad how could he say that was a mistake I couldn't find some other piece of the spreadsheet while I was sticking the pieces together.

We are having lunch amazingly all of

us are here today .The parents and Brandon and I .

Gugu: sorry for just dropping by uninvited .

Brandon stands up to open up a chair for her.

Janet: no it's okay love you can join us .

Gugu: no I just want to sort out some things . Nkosilathi I want

justice to be served I now remember everything.

What is she talking about ?Dad starts sweating. Mom's eyes are so open I think they will fall out. Brandon's face is expressionless.

Nkosilathi: Gugu let's go talk at my study .

Gugu: what no! So that you rape me again!

What!!!

Janet:Gugu I love you so much and I respect you but you can't just come here and throw accusations at my husband, he might be everything else but he would never rape a woman. Right babe?

We all look at him .He has unbottened the first three buttons of his shirt ,it is all wet ,he's really sweating a lot .

Brandon: when was this?

He asks Gugu .

All eyes on her now.

Gugu: twenty eight years ago ,I lost my memory leading to that day ,when I woke up at the clinic the next day I was told I was raped . My mom wouldn't have them do some more tests on me I think if she had let them do them I wouldn't have fallen pregnant .

Brandon: where is the child?

The way he looks so hurt ,this must be difficult for him ,his dad raped his woman .

Me: I'm looking for him but your dad just had to tear my spreadsheets I got from the hospital she gave birth to. The baby I understand was given up for adoption .I was so close ,he was born on the 25th of May ,if only I had a name. It would be easier .

My mom is now a crying mess.

Brandon has this look on his face I don't understand.

Gugu: I will make sure you rot in prison you scumbag ,you don't get to live a happy life when you ruined mine ,do you even have an idea of the stuff I had to go through cause of you

Tears just stream down her face .Wow this must explain why dad never wanted to be near Gugu ,why he always had attacks and all .

Gugu: right now all I want to do is to reconnect with my son , hopefully he's alive .

Nkosilathi: Janet , Gugulethu please forgive me ,l don't know what came over me .

Gugu: don't tell me that shit!

I have never heard Gugu swear before .

Gugu: I begged and begged for you

to stop but you never did ,so don't tell me you don't know what came over you .

She turns to go.

Brandon: you are going to the police station?

Gugu: no not yet I first have to look for my son ,he's the evidence I need .

Janet: It's Brandon right? It now makes sense ,the child it's BRANDON

RIGHT?

She asks my dad .Wait what?

Nkosilathi: I am so sorry

Gugu screams.

Gugu: oh God noooooo......

Bang

My dad falls down ,with blood coming

out of his chest.

My mom just shot him .She has tears streaming down her face .

There's a lot of wailing in here .l also find myself wiping a few tears .This is just too heartbreaking .

I don't know what's next for us ,how do we move on from this mess .How will Brandon and Gugu and my mom move on from this ? My dad really did mess up our lives .I watch him as he's struggling to breath .No one is

paying any attention to him everyone is lost in their own emotions . Yaah neh it's life .l can't believe Gugu fell in love with her son....

The end

Love you
