

Indoda Mayibe No Mqhele



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~ Prologue

The doctor called me i head to the hospital in a hurry I didn't waste time I got into my car and drove like a mad woman

I'm having so many thoughts but I'm keeping faith and hope that he's okay I cannot afford to lose him I just cant

I arrive at the hospital

I don't even park my car right I run inside not minding the stares I head to the ward and I get stuck at the door seeing his whole family

My mother in law and his brother's and Xhanti the family seer what are they doing here

My eyes drift to the bed he's still plugged on the machines so I guess he's okay he looks okay I fix myself catch my breath and walk in

Me : molweni

They greet back except Mqhele
he's the older brother and well in
this family everyone listens to him

I'm wearing pants no head wrap
they can't blame me I wasn't
informed they're here I'm coming
from work

Me : ma the doctor called me is
everything okay

Ma : Mpilontle does everything look
okay to you

I'm lost

Me : andiqondi ma

Mqhele : does my brother look okay
to you

I look down I can never look
Mqhele in the eye that would be
asking for trouble

Ma : Mpilontle it's been three months my son is not waking up we have given you your time to do things your way we can't anymore

Me : utsho njani ma

Mqhele : we're taking him back home

Me : no

I shout a bit

Me : xolo

Mqhele : go inform the doctor you need him discharged

Me : bhuti please I can't...I can't do that he's not okay

Ntsika : keeping him here is not making him okay either

Ntsikayesizwe is Nqabayomzi's twin brother

Me : please

Ma : you have two choices here

This woman is as cold as all her
son's

Ma : you let us take him or you
switch off those machines

Me : ma...I..I can't do that I'm not
going to kill my husband no I'm...
I'm not going to do that

Mqhele : then get him discharged

I look at these brother's they're all determined their faces say so

Mqhele : you'll hate for us to blame you if anything ever happens to him

Mqhele is a fucking bastard I get out of the ward and go to the doctor's office I knock he shouts come in I get in he offers me a chair I sit down

Doc : Mrs Bangani

Me : uhm doc I'd like to have my husband discharged

Tears form in my eyes he hands me a tissue I didn't want to cry here but my heart is heavy

Doc : I'm afraid I can't do that

Me : please as his wife and...

Doc : Mrs Bangani are you aware that if your husband dies it'll all be in your hands you can't hold me responsible or the hospital

Me : yes

He sighs

Doc : I'll get the forms ready

I wait for him for a few minutes while he prints the forms

Doc : you can sign

I take the pen and sign

Doc : if you're forced to do this we
can ...

Me : I'm not forced

Doc : Mrs Bangani this is...

Voice : you heard her

We both turn and it's Mqhele so he followed me to make sure that I get his brother discharged

I get up and walk towards the door I hand him the papers he takes them and walks back to the ward

I feel like screaming my lungs out I get it's been a long hard three months but I have hope that my husband will wake up and now they've just taken him

~ Bangani Homestead

Nqabayomzi is laying down on the grass mat in Xhanti's hut

Muzi : will he be okay

Xhanti says nothing

He's just burnt his incense and communicated with the ancestors the answer he got he doesn't even know how to say it

Muzi : Xhanti

Xhanti : can someone call your
daughter in-law

Mpande : which one

Muzikayise is with all his son's

Xhanti : his wife

Qhawe is the one that calls her

Mpilontle answers

Mpilo : molo bhuti

Mqhele : put her on speaker

He does as his older brother says

Xhanti : Makoti the ancestors give a message to me regarding your husband I believe you know very well which is the reason he ended up in deep sleep

The Bangani men look at him
confused

Mpilo : I don't understand tata

Xhanti : your husband has to marry
a woman of pure heart the one his
ancestors have chosen for him

Ntsika : what

Mpilontle goes quite which confirms
that she knows about this

Mqhele : what is this

Xhanti : Nqabayomzi was told this
by his ancestors he did not listen
they punished him

Ntsika : who is this wife

Mpande : like another wife you
mean

Qhawe : like a second wife

Muzi : madoda

He reprimands his son's

Mqhele : Xhanti

Xhanti : yes another wife

Mpilo : tata uNqaba didn't want to
do that please

She's so emotional now

Mqhele drops the call

Mqhele : who is this wife

Xhanti : I can consult and ask

Ntsika : this is messed up

Xhanti : he can only wake up when
he marries her

Mqhele : he will marry her

~ Mpilontle



The call left me distraught I know
Mqhele is hot head

I can't stay here in Joburg while my
husband is back in the village who
knows what they'll do

I pack my bags and get ready for
the road I will fight for my marriage
because he wanted this just us and
no one else I know that Nqaba
loves me there's no way he'll
approve of this marriage

I open the door only to be met by
Nolitha she's Mqhele's wife

Me : Nolitha

Nolitha : Mpilontle hi sisi you look
like you're leaving did I come at a
bad time

Me : I'm going home

Nolitha : home

She asks confused

Me : eastern cape

Nolitha : oh

I'm sure her husband already told her their plans there's no way they don't have any

Nolitha : let me not delay you greet them for us back home I hope bhuti gets well soon

~ Ziphozendalo



I'm at the river sitting on my rock as usual lazy to draw water

Suddenly I feel a presence behind me it's dark and heavy such dominating energy and aura

Voice : siphwo se zinyanya zam

Says a cold masculine voice it carries no emotions I've never heard of such a voice before it carries so much authority

I turn my head back my eyes land
on his left hand

A red and blue beaded wrist band
catches my eye it suits him it's
perfect a silver wedding band
shines on his ring finger

I feel hands shaking me

Voice : Ziphozendalo

I open my eyes gasping for air

Bhelekazi : breath sana lwam
iphupho

I swallow the saliva in my mouth
until it actually feels dry

Bhelekazi : have some water

She hands me water in a glass I
take it and drink the water all of it
like a camel

Me : enkosi Bhelekazi

She smiles

Bhelekazi : what was it

I close my eyes and try to
remember the dream it plays like
I'm watching a movie

I narrate it all to her when I'm done
she gives me eyes full of pity I
wonder why but I won't ask she
might take it as an offence while I
don't think it's one

~ Mpilontle

I arrive at home tired as hell I go to our roundavel put my bags in

We all have our roundavels then it's the main house my mother and father in-law use that as well as the grandkids

I walk into the main house I hear voices from the lounge sounds like everyone is here

Ntsika : can we do that

Mqhele : I'll do anything to make
him wake up

I stop on my tracks

Mqhele : Xhanti has to find that
other woman

No he's not about to marry my
husband who's in a deep sleep
right now

Me : bhuti you can't

They all look at me he gives me a
blank stare

Me : if Nqaba wanted to marry this
woman he would have done it but
he didn't so please

Mqhele : do you see him here

What the hell he gets up and walks
towards the door

Me : please don't toy with my marriage bhuti he's my husband

Mqhele : you're right he's your husband not mine

My jaw drops he walks past me like I'm nothing

Me : ma please tata ...

No one says nothing so they agree with Mqhele

~ Bangani Homestead

In Xhanti's hut

Mqhele : please tell me you've
found her

Mqhele is becoming so impatient all
he wants is to find this woman so
his brother can wake up

Xhanti : I have

Muzi : who is she do we know her

Xhanti : I'm not sure we do but ...

Ntsika : we can find her right

Xhanti : how hard can it be she's
from right here at Isilo she's unique
one of a kind with white grey eyes

They all look at each other a white
grey eyes woman here at Isilo
they've never met one

Muzi : that's all

Xhanti : I'm afraid so yes

Mqhele : we'll go house to house in the whole village if it needs be so we can find her

Mpande : that's extreme

Mqhele : unless you have a better idea bawo

~ Mpilontle

I can't believe the whole family had turned their backs on me not even one person supports me

Today they've gone around the village to look for this woman for her sake I pray and hope they don't find her

I'll make her life a living hell Nqaba is mine and mine alone I don't do well with sharing what belongs to me the reason why he didn't do this in the first place

I've endured a lot in this marriage
and I doubt I can anymore he will
choose when he wakes up

I grab my phone and call Amahle
she's Ntsika's wife out of all the
wives she gets me better

Amahle : sisi

Me : I'm sure you've heard

She sighs

Amahle : yes Nolitha told us how
are you holding up

Me : she couldn't wait blabbing I'm
bad very bad Mqhele is playing god
with my marriage

Amahle : you know how he is

Me : Nqaba will not agree to this

Amahle : even when he's awake
after three months of deep sleep

Me : what do you mean

Amahle : I mean he will be awake
and it'll all be because he married
her will he still not agree

Me : well if he still sees me as a
wife then he will not agree

~ Ziphozendalo

Bhelekazi : that looks beautiful

She means the wrist band

Me : I woke up today and felt like
doing it

She sits down

Bhelekazi : the dream

Me : I haven't had it in two days

Bhelekazi : oh sana lwam

Me : do you maybe know what it means the dream I mean

Bhelekazi : you will know soon
sana lwam finish your band so you don't be late home

Me : don't do that riddle thing with me does it mean anything

She laughs now I know she's avoiding me I finish the wrist band I even used the red and blue beads like I saw in my dreams

Me : all done I'll see you tomorrow

I get up and hug her I go home
strange cars welcome me at the
gate very expensive

I walk in my mother welcomes me
at the door

Mom : go change into a suitable
dress hurry

I don't even get a chance to ask or say anything I go into my hut and change into a long floral strap sleeve dress I cover up with a shawl and put on black flip flops

I walk inside the house so much masculinity in one room my head looks down the second I notice Xhanti the Bangani family seer

Dad : sit down Zipho

I do as told and sit on the grass mat

Dad : Mr Bangani along with his family seer Xhanti and his son's have come here for a request

My heart is beating so fast like it'll pop out of my chest

Dad : one of his son's has been on a deep sleep by ancestors because he has to marry you he cannot wake up unless he marries you so he has come to ask for your hand

in marriage it's a unique situation
we understand but a life is at stake
here my child

See I lost him there when he
mentioned me and marriage in on
sentence

Did we all gather that he's already
telling me and not asking but that's
my father he doesn't know how to
ask or say please

Tears stream down my face

Mr Bangani : I understand you're still young I promise we won't take anything from you your dreams and all my son has been sleeping for three months I've even lost hope

They want me to marry a man that's sleeping I've heard it all

Dad : my daughter has a heart of gold Bangani there's no way she'll

be selfish and not help you and
your family

Wow

Mr Bangani : Ntabeni if you allow
us we would like to come tomorrow
morning to claim our bride

Dad : we would be honoured we
understand the urgency of this

~ Mpilontle

I look at them as they walk out with two vans filled with gifts heading to this home wreckers home

The other wives arrived late last night they were called to come by Mqhele

He was so happy when they came back with news that they've found her and her family agreed

Bloody blood sucking leeches
thinking they'll milk my husband dry
they have another thing coming

Lazola : what are you thinking
about

I look at her Lazola is married to
Mpande

Me : this family is messed up

She laughs and I'm serious

~ Ziphozendalo

Dad : you will be a wife to your husband a sister wife to his wife and a mother to his kids I never want to hear any complaints about you while you're there I hope I make myself clear

Me : dad please...

Dad : I'll be in the car MaZulu don't keep me waiting

He walks out I look at my mother
and she has her head bowed

I've never felt so lost so alone and
unloved like I do right now

My mother is so pathetic nodding
and agreeing to everything that this
man has been saying

I cried all night begged them but it
all fell on deaf ears who marries
off a 17 year old

Mom : let's go before we upset him

She gets up and takes my bags I
look around one more time at these
walls I used to call home

I walk out making peace with my
reality I get in the car my father
drives off

The whole ride I'm looking out the
window I'm torn between words I
don't understand this at all

I'm only 17 they're marrying me off to a married man with a wife and kids what nonsense is this how old is he he's even sleeping

I wish Bhelekazi was here only she would make sense of this but my father didn't even allow me to go see her

The whole morning I was so absent minded wanting nothing to do with this whole thing

They just couldn't wait the villagers also came to my home to celebrate so I heard some saying

I'm sure now they've all headed to the Bangani homestead since Mr Bangani said there's a feast

We finally arrive at the Bangani homestead this place is huge like 10 families can build homes here there's about 9 roundavels then the double storey mansion

My father gets off first my mother looks at me looks like she's been crying as well

Mom : I'm sorry

Me : it's too late

I walk out and the people here start ululating Mr Bangani comes with his family as I see the women my heart beat fast which one is his wife this is just so wrong

Mr Bangani : before we introduce you to everyone Xhanti would like us in his hut

He leads me and my parents there we get in walking barefoot the Bangani brothers are all here

Xhanti burns incense he calls the Bangani ancestors and does his incantations the way the incense is burning is not right and he can see that as well he looks worried now

Mqhele : anything the matter

This man is too controlling

Xhanti : it's taking a while

Mqhele : maybe she should just sign the marriage certificate

A whole marriage certificate with a sleeping man mxm he hands it to me and I sign with no emotions nothing at all

Xhanti : let's give it a while

Argh I close my eyes I don't feel
okay I don't feel like myself

Me : where are his traditional cloths

Xhanti : they're here

Me : tie the maroon njeti on his
waits the red one on his chest the
blue one under his head cover him
with the palo cloth

I open my eyes and everyone is looking at me while Xhanti is busy with the cloths on him he's laying down on a mattress

The man is a traditional healer but he doesn't even look like one I took a glance at him he's too handsome

Xhanti lights the incense again and it burns the way it's ought to he calls the ancestors and does his incantations again

I take the wrist band and put it on his left hand seeing his wedding band ring gives me chest pains

Xhanti : livumile icamagu oJola are pleased now we wait for him to come back

They all look so happy including my parents who just bagged 80 000 of bride price except me

It's festivities at the Bangani's

~ Mpilontle

Me : a child

They all look at me

Me : a whole fucking child

Mqhele : watch your tone

Me : you don't get to tell me
anything bhuti you married my

husband to a child what nonsense
is this I swear Nqabayomzi is going
to loose his mind when he wakes
up I'm telling you

Its been two days since they
married him off to that child

She's beautiful I won't lie if Nqaba
can look at her there's no way he
won't fall for her

Ntsika : we will see

~ Ziphozendalo

The stares I was getting at school today I even cried at some point the way they were pointing fingers at me and whispers

Ndalo : Ziphozendalo Ntabeni
Bangani

I laugh

Ndalo : here is that annoying laugh

Me : Ndalo be a friend today please

We both laugh

Ndalo is my friend my only friend
she's the only one who doesn't find
me awkward

Ndalo : don't let them get to you

Me : it's not that easy I hate my
father for doing this to me Ndalo
and my mother for agreeing

Ndalo : oh chomam

Me : I wish I can go see Bhelekazi

Ndalo : don't let your father see you

Bhelekazi is like a grandmother to me I love her so much my parents aren't very found of her

We walk in silence until we part ways I go to the Bangani homestead

I see a bit of chaos arriving I walk
inside the house

I live in the main house Mrs
Bangani didn't want me outside not
that I care

Walking up the stairs I hear one of
the helpers saying he's awake I
guess that means Nqabayomzi is
awake I caught a glimpse of his
name on the marriage certificate
the man is 11 years older than me

~ Nqabayomzi



I look at them and they have so many questions on their faces like am I really awake do I have any idea of who I am

Me : where is she

They look at each other Mpilontle is not pleased by that

Ntsika : who

I ignore him Ntsika is an idiot

Me : there's no way I can be awake
unless she's a Bangani wife now

Mvelo : oh mkhuluwa you mean
uZiphozendalo wam she's at school

He's trying to piss me off i won't
entertain my crazy brothers that
woman is mine not ours

Me : school as I'm varsity

They laugh

Mvelo : mkhuluwa I'm in varsity and we don't call it school I literally mean school uniform and all

They laugh more I look at Mpilontle she looks like she's about to burst

Me : can I talk to my wife please

Dad : it's good to have you back son next time just listen the last thing we want is angering the ancestors again and for what

I guess they know I knew about this
and refused

They all leave

Me : undiqumbele

Mpilo : what do you think Nqaba
another wife huh a fucking child at
that really

Me : you will not shout nor swear in
Xhanti's hut

She looks down

Me : I told you weeks after I came back from initiation you said no I listened to you and disobeyed my ancestors now you tell me would you rather had me asleep until the day I die

Mpilo : no but.....

Me : no buts it's done now we learn to live with the situation

~ Mpilontle

He gets up walks to the bathroom
to discard of the condoms

We use them because I don't want
to have kids everyone here has
kids except us I don't see myself
being a mother never

He comes back and lays down on
the bed next to me I get on top of
him he caresses my back

Me : it's good to have you back

Nqaba : so you're not angry
anymore

Me : don't make me lie

He chuckles

Me : just don't fall for her promise
me that in fact you're awake now
you can leave her she's not needed
anymore

Nqaba : mmmm Mpilontle khame

Me : no babe for real ...

Nqaba : I'm okay because she's my wife what do you think will happen the second I leave her the consequences will be dire worse than the deep sleep

Me : fine but that kid stays here I don't want her anywhere near my house

I turn my back on him he doesn't even bother to touch me it hurts

I was against this whole thing of him being a traditional healer I grew up in a home that's all God all the way nothing else

One night I woke up and he was gone he disappeared for a whole five months only to find out he went to initiate under water I still don't like him being who he is

~ Nqabayomzi

Me : is she avoiding me

They laugh

I haven't seen her like not even once I get she has school but she doesn't sleep there

She doesn't eat with us when she's called she always says she's not hungry

Ntsika : I don't think she likes you very much

Me : what's there not to like

Mpande : everything

Me : fuck off

We are in the city I want to buy her a ring people need to know and see that she's taken and not available because she's not

One ring catches my eye I hold it

Mpande : no shit

Me : what it's cheap

Qhawelomzi takes it

Qhawe : cheap mkhuluwa hayhiii
my wife's ring was what 12 000

Ntsika : mine was 17 000

Mqhele laughs

Mqhele : you have money to waste

Me : how much was yours

Mqhele : 7 500

Mpande : mine was 8 000

Ntsika : whoa guys imagine when
your wives find out their rings didn't

even cost a mere 10 000 while
Nqaba has just bought his wife a
45 000 ring

Mqhele : I'm sure Mpilontle's ring
didn't cost this much

Me : it was 32 000

They laugh

Mpande : she will burn you alive
when she finds out

Ntsika : my wife better not find out

Me : Mpilo is happy with her ring
this is not a competition but if she
wants an upgrade she can get it

Qhawe : I foresee drama coming
your way mkhuluwa

I shake my head take the ring to
the till to pay the lady is busy flirting
with me I'm so annoyed right now I
have two wives for heaven's sake

Her : she's one lucky lady

Me : mmmm uyandipha nempundu
kalok I'm the lucky one

She pops her eyes her jaw drops I
take the ring my brother's burst out
laughing following me outside

Ntsika : what the hell was that

I ignore him before he goes on and
on about nonsense

~ Ziphozendalo

I'm avoiding everyone in this house
I haven't seen Nqaba since he
woke up and that's fine by me

Those people don't care about me
they're all going on about their lives
like nothing happened

I guess they got what they wanted
now they have no use for me they
should just send me back home

I want to see Bhelekazi today I
miss her so much and only she can
make me feel better

Ndalo tries but she's not Bhelekazi

I knock there's no answer I look
through the key whole and it's
locked she's not here

Voice : heh Ziphozendalo

I turn back it's MaJana

The nosey neighbour

Me : molo ma

MaJana : unjani kodwa

Me : ndir....

MaJana : wayenza nganton ukuba
ikutshate indoda etshatileyo

I'm the talk of Isilo village

Some say I fed him some say I
bewitched him they all have their
sayings

Me : ma awukamboni uBhelekazi

MaJana : use town i'pension

How can I forget I thank her and
leave before she says anything
more

I walk down the river sit on my rock

I feel a presence behind me it's
dominating commanding and
demanding

It's a dark aura with powerful
energy

My head is suddenly stiff to turn
back I just look forward

Voice : siphwo se zinyanya zam

Says the cold voice

Can it be him I turn back slowly my
eyes land on the wrist band it's
even matching his red and blue
beads that he has on

Then the wedding band shines my
heart sinks

I look forward again he comes
closer I feel his eyes piecing
through my skin

He sits next to me on the rock

Lord he smells so amazing he puts his hand over my shoulder and brings my head to his chest he's that tall I'm that short

Nqaba : I've been looking for you

I wasn't lost now was I but I can't say that to him

Nqaba : enkosi MaJola omhle vha I promise you that you'll never be second best nor come second you

have your own place in my life
never doubt that because this is not
even a competition don't watch
what I do with her focus on what I
do with you

Spoken like a true polygamist man

Nqaba : I got you something

I move my head from his chest
even though it felt so right being
there having his arm around me

He takes out a red velvet small box
he opens it and a beautiful single
diamond ring pops out

Nqaba : now this is my symbol of
devotion to you

Tears stream down my face why
am I crying okay maybe because I
thought he didn't care

Nqaba : sulila kalok yifake so I can
see ukuba it fits

He puts it on my ring finger and it's
a perfect fit

Nqaba : awusemhle ke sisi
nomkitha

Lord this man

Nqaba : uncumo olungaka sisi
endincamisana naye

When did we get there good people
but whatever I am happy

~ Nqabayomzi

My wife is beautiful no shade there she's not exactly my type but damn after seeing her right she's my type by force

Those white grey eyes they're creepy but damn they enhance her beauty more

Her tiny little voice that's annoying it irritates me but I wouldn't mind to

listen to it all day long and night
she's fucking unique in her own
way

Mqhele : day dreaming

I sigh he sits down next to me

Mqhele : marital problems already

Is it or maybe this whole marriage
itself it's a problem it doesn't help
that Mpilontle is always

complaining about it like everyday
she never gets tired honestly it's
tiring me out because I love
Mpilontle in a way that she has her
own place in my life

Me : I don't think she's happy here

Mqhele : who

Me : MaJola

He smirks

Mqhele : and that would be

I laugh

Me : fuck off there can only be one

MaJola that name holds power in the Bangani family not even a single wife has ever been called by it like ever

Mqhele : she's young she doesn't understand this

Me : she's pushing us away or are we the ones not including her

He looks down that can only mean one thing that he's conflicted

Me : what is it

Mqhele : all I wanted was for you to wake up how you deal with your relationship between them it's your business but I doubt you'll even fall for her

~ Mpilontle

If there's one good thing about this whole freaking sham of a marriage is that the little tramp knows her place

She plays far from everyone more especially my husband

I walk in our roundavel he's in bed with his phone he's been trying to catch up with work he missed

Me : babe

He puts his phone and looks at me
I love how I'm still his number one
actually his only one

Me : can we please go back home

I sit besides him

Me : I mean you did what you
needed to do so I think it's time we
get back to our lives now

Nqaba : okay

No argument wow

Me : can we leave tomorrow

He looks at me

Me : I've taken enough leave days
and I'm sure you can't wait to get
back to work as well it's been for
too long Clive is not CEO he's just
holding things for you

~ Ziphozendalo

Wonders never cease to amaze I
know I've been avoiding them for a
reason that is

The promise that he made me
meant nothing because even after
that he never paid me any attention

Worse this morning I woke up and
heard they were gone just like that
no goodbyes nothing

Some husband he is

Even Mvelo is gone back to varsity
only me Mrs Bangani and Omuhle
Mvelo's daughter are here

I don't know where Mr Bangani is at
the man is hardly home

I haven't seen Bhelekazi in so long
I've decided to go see her today
and to my luck she's home I knock
she shouts come in

I get in the smile she puts on as we
look at each other it melts my heart

Bhelekazi : you haven't forgotten
about me

I laugh

Me : you're not funny

I hug her and sit down she keeps
her eyes on me it's even
uncomfortable now

Me : what

Bhelekazi : you're tiny

Me : wow shade really

Bhelekazi : what size are you now

Me : what...28 as I've always been

Bhelekazi : soon you'll be 26 are
they not feeding you there

If only she knows I eat when there's
no one in the kitchen

Me : they...do

Bhelekazi : lies don't suit you

I look down

Me : those people don't care about
me they just wanted their married
son to wake up and my father was
a fool to sell me off

Bhelekazi : he's still your father

It brings tears to my eyes I haven't
seen nor talked to my parents since
the day I left home

Bhelekazi : he bought a car

I laugh with tears streaming down
my face

Me : I have 5 dresses 3 pants 2
pairs of shoes

She looks down

Me : my school uniform is worn out
my shirt is tearing on the neck and
he bought a car a father he is

Bhelekazi : sana lwam ...

Me : it's okay I'll find a job

Bhelekazi : sugeza what about
school you can't drop out you have
to endure a bit longer

Me : I won't drop out I'll find a holiday job

Bhelekazi : that is wrong

Me : I'm on my own now

She gets up and goes in her bedroom she lives in just an old worn out hut that's separated with a curtain in the middle

Bhelekazi : ina

I look at her she's handing me
money

Me : for what

I count it's and it's R860

Bhelekazi : go buy your uniform

Me : I can't take your money

Bhelekazi : I've been saving money

Me : well you need this money

Bhelekazi : for you ever since we met months ago

I didn't always know Bhelekazi one day I hurt my ankle coming back from the river that's when we met since then we never lost touch

Bhelekazi : wipe those tears off

I hug her so tight

~ Nqabayomzi

I've used the time being back in Joburg to catch up on business and my cases

My phone rings as I enter my office
I answer

Me : mmmm

Mqhele : a whole freaking lawyer of your calibre answers his phone ...

Me : Mqhele ufuna nton

I settle down on my chair

Mqhele : we need to talk

Me : I just got back from court

Mqhele : well then you'll listen to me right now

Me : o-kay

Mqhele : listen because it's about
your wife

Me : okay

I don't even ask which one I think I
know which one so best I listen to
him cause it sounds serious

Mqhele : I hate how we all treated
her back home

Me : oh

Mqhele : you're here today
because of her we kind of used her
to wake you up and disregarded
her it was wrong of us she's family
now we ought to make her feel like
one whether you love her or not

Me : what happened to however
you manage your relationship
between you and your wives I...

Mqhele : bawo please consider
what I'm saying if you can fix it
please do she was not just a pawn

for us to use we are talking about a whole human being here with feelings and emotions it's time we all consider that especially you that's only fair after all the law regards her as your wife

He drops the call on me

Me : that went well

I know he's right

~ Mpilontle

The beauty of having our own home our own lives it's been a month since we came back home and it's been amazing

Tonight we are going out to meet with our friends it's been a while we've been too busy so have they so it's our night

Nqaba : you look beautiful woman
I look at him and smile

Me : help me

He zips my dress

Nqaba : now you're ready we can
leave

He walks towards the door

Me : you're not taking that off

Nqaba : what

Me : the wrist band Nqaba

I say really bored he raises his
brow

Nqaba : why

Me : really you're asking me that

Nqaba : well yes so why

Me : why do you still have it on

He chuckles annoyed

Nqaba : have you ever seen me
take your ring off

Me : no and why would you do that

Nqaba : exactly this wrist band is
MaJola's union to me the same
way the ring band is for you what
are you even asking me

Me : you can't compare our love
our marriage relationship and union
our devotion to that

He chuckles

Nqaba : oh well while we are still at
that I'm going home for a while

I'm being tested for real I walk
closer to him

Me : for what

Nqaba : I have a wife home don't I

Me : what

Nqaba : I'll be leaving tomorrow

He's serious

Me : babe you're hurting me

Nqaba : you're hurting yourself

Mpilontle you know our situation

~ Ziphozendalo

I found work all thanks to Ndalo at some restaurant in the city I work a few hours only because I'm a student

But with June holidays coming in a few days I'll be able to work more hours I'll make more money

My salary is peanuts sometimes even the tips I get are more

I've saved enough to buy uniform
for when schools reopen

Omuhle : Ndalo

She calls me Ndalo she's unique
like that

We are sitting in the lounge
watching cartoons she's got me
hooked on them

Me : Bhabha

Omuhle : phi phone yakho

This child

Me : andinayo

Omuhle : ngoba

Yhoh

Me : andinayo imali yokuthenga
kalok bhabha

Omuhle : oh

She goes back to watching tv
Mvelo walks in with a bowl of chips
he sits down he's so focused on his
phone

We sit in silence he's home it's
already holidays for him

Omuhle : tatam

Mvelo : Nana

Omuhle : tatam

Mvelo : ndimamele

She switches off the tv she hates it when she's not being paid attention when she talks which is understandable though

Mvelo : and then the tv

Omuhle : thetha nawe jonge

Mvelo : xolo ke

Omuhle : nayo imali

Mvelo laughs

Mvelo : ufuna nton nana

Omuhle : yazi Ndalo akana phone

Mvelo looks at me aibo this child
why is she telling him that now

Mvelo : oh

Omuhle : yea hoku zomthengela

Mvelo : ewe

Why is he agreeing to that I hope
he's just joking

Omuhle switches on the tv I feel
Mvelo's eyes on me I try my best to
ignore them it's uncomfortable

Omuhle : Ndalo nayo mali yama
sweets

This child I laugh

Me : ewe

Omuhle : sothenga ke

She gets up I also get up we walk to the tuck shop I give her R10 so she can buy for herself I wait and watch her

She buys a whole lot more than just sweets the lady is even laughing

Voice : yeah wena gqwhirha

My whole day is ruined

Luba : you know I was going to wife
you kodwa

Lubabalo is Ndalo's brother he
makes my life at school a living hell
he mocks me every chance he gets

Luba : but you went and married a
married man what was it huh his

money success because if that's
the case you chose wrong baby girl
because I'm still going to bag it

Me : it was his dick are you still
going to bag that too

He pops his eyes I walk to Omuhle
she bought enough things I add
another R5 we walk back home
she's a happy person

~ Nqabayomzi

I was supposed to go home a few days ago but Mpilontle acted out I stayed just to make sure she's okay

Mqhele : and now

Me : I'll be leaving in a few days I can't keep delaying

Ntsika : well that's if your Mpilontle let's you go

We laugh

Qhawe : you forget who he is

Ntsika : Mpilontle seems to be calling the shots poor Zendalo

Me : why are you calling her that

Ntsika : it's her name

Me : MaJola to you

~ Ziphozendalo

I've just got back from work I'll be writing my last exam in two days and I'm tired I can't wait for holidays pity I'll be working I'm thankful there's no camp though

A knock comes at the door I open the door and it's Mvelo strange what does he want

Me : molo bhuti

Mvelo : hey

Okay very strange

Mvelo : are you okay

Me : yes and yourself

Mvelo : same here

We are standing at the door there's
no way I'm letting him in here

Mvelo : I got you something

He hands me a plastic I open and
it's a brand new iPhone S11 Pro
Max

Me : uhm bhuti sorry I can't I
really can't this

Mvelo : don't say no because I
made a promise to a 4 year old and
babies cry when you break your
promises to them

He can't be serious Omuhle is a
child

Me : I really can't please take it

Mvelo : it's just a phone

And he walks away I close the door
and lock as I take my uniform off I
put the phone on the night stand
another knock comes I take a deep
breath I hope he's not back i unlock
the door

The shock on my face thank god I
still have a vest on top

Me : uhm

Nqaba : let me in

Okay I make way he gets in I sit
down on the bed and take my
shoes off

Why is he here and is he back with
his wife and his brother's

I hope not

Nqaba : MaJola

Lord when he calls me like this I
feel like yes I matter kodwa ke it's
not the reality

Nqaba : unjani sisi nomkitha

I smile he comes and sits next to
me he takes my shoes and socks
off for me

Me : ndiright Jola unjani wena

Nqaba : ndiright ngok nje ngoba
uncuma kanje

He lifts up and tilts my face I look at
him the stare is very much intense
but neither one of us is breaking it

He moves way too close his face is
literally on mine I feel so flushed
right now he cups my face his
touch does things to me I cannot
explain he brushes his lips over
mine I shiver they're cold

He bites my lower lip I part them a bit he wastes no time taking my lips into his and he kisses me

I welcome him just following his lead I fist my hands on his shirt he deepens the kiss his hands trailing down on my waist to my ass

He grabs it like he owns it

I cannot describe what I'm feeling right now

After a while he pulls out and keeps pecking my lips for a few seconds

Nqaba : sisi endincamisana naye

I smile I don't trust my voice his is cold and hoarse makes me feel like a little child with a candy

Me : Jola

Nqaba : enkosi siphiso se zinyanya zam uyandiva

For what now

Nqaba : you gave me life

Our foreheads touch he pecks my
lips a few times

Nqaba : I took that for granted
ndixolele sisi nomkitha ndizoxolisa
nakuzinyanya zam

I hope he's not here to play with my feelings because he's in some trouble with his crazy ancestors

He laughs moving back I give him a confused look

Nqaba : I'm here to work on this marriage on us

He gets up did he read my mind or what gosh I'm so ashamed his eyes roam around the room

What does he mean he's here to work on our marriage

Nqaba : is this yours

He points at the phone that Mvelo bought a few minutes ago

Me : not really

Nqaba : that's no answer so please rephrase it

Me : uhm ubhuti Mvelo bought it for me

His stare is blank emotionless

Nqaba : mmmm

That mmmm is so sexual it's seductive I wonder if he knows that

Me : Omuhle asked him to buy me a phone and he did I thought he was playing when he agreed

He says nothing

Me : I...I told him to take it back because I don't want it I have no need for it but he didn't want to

Nqaba : it's just a phone

Me : that's what he said but I don't want it Jola

Nqaba : I see well can I take it if that's okay

~ Nqabayomzi

Zipho : you can

I take the phone kiss her cheek and
walk out her bedroom

I walk downstairs and find Mvelo
coming in he stops on his tracks as
he sees me

Me : kwedini inton le kaka
uyenzayo apha

Mvelo : Mkhuluwa

Me : Mvelo I'm not incapable of buying my wife a phone if she wants and needs one uyandiva

Mvelo : bendi...

Me : ndilindele uewe okanye hayhiii apha kuwe

Mvelo : ewe ndiyakuva mkhuluwa

Me : do this shit again I swear
kwedini your mother will mourn you

I hand him the phone he takes it I
walk out of the house only to bump
into my mother

Mom : what are you doing here

Me : hayhiii nozala this is home

She laughs I give her a hug she
welcomes it and hugs me back

~ Ziphozendalo

Nqaba came here alone without his wife and brother's I wonder why

I didn't see him all day since I left early for work and I've just knocked off tomorrow is my day off because I'm writing my last June exam

I walk in my room undress and take a shower a long warm needed shower when I'm done I dry lotion

Wear my nightdress it's worn out
but with more shifts I'll be able to
buy a few clothes

I get in bed and try to get some
sleep I'm startled when I feel a
presence in the room

Whoever it is sits down on the bed I
uncover my face and it's Nqaba
what does he want now

Me : Jola

Nqaba : are you okay

I nod

Me : I'm okay

He looks worried or rather
concerned I don't know why it can't
be cause of me

Nqaba : you didn't eat with us
dinner last night and tonight again
why

Shouldn't he be used to this by now

Me : I'm not hungry

Nqaba : MaJola please stop doing this when it's time to eat with the family I ask that from tomorrow you join us

Me : okay I will

So much power just like that did he use his powers on me

~ Nqabayomzi

Leaving my wife's room I went into
our roundavel it's so fucking cold

My phone rings it's Mpilontle she's
been calling me like a mad woman
I answer the video call

Me : Mpilo

Mpilo : babe are you alright I miss
you so much

Me : hence so many calls

The smile on her face turns into a frown

Mpilo : what are you implying

Me : nothing I wouldn't imply I'll just say it

Mpilo : when are you coming back I miss you honestly I hate that you left me

Me : I've been here for two days

Mpilo : please miss me back

Me : mmmm

Mpilo : I see you're in our room let
me let you sleep

I chuckle so that's why the video
call at this time of the night to see if
I'm sleeping in our room or not we
hang up after goodbyes

I toss and turn sleep not coming I
get up put on my sneakers with a
hoodie I still have pants on

I walk into the main house I know
everyone is asleep right now only
my mother comes out of the kitchen
with a glass of water

Can she lack more perfect timing
moments like this one right here

Mom : Nqaba what do you want

Me : what

Mom : what do you want in the
main house it's just after 00:00

How does she even know the time

Me : my wife is in here nozala

I walk up the stairs before she says
anything more I get in my wife's
room I don't like that she didn't lock
the door

We will talk about this

I take my sneakers and hoodie off I
get in bed besides her she moves a
bit I guess she can feel the bed
going down I hold her tightly

Me : shhhhh it's me sleep

I kiss her neck on the back she
inhales my scent only she calms
down and relaxes we doze off
sleeping with her in my arms

~ Ziphozendalo

I wake up my sheets are full of his
scent he's holding me like I want to
run away

I move so he can let me go instead
he deep groans what is wrong with
this man

Me : Jola

Nqaba : mmmm

Me : ndicela uk'vuka

Nqaba : ngoba

Aibo

Me : funeka ndiye esikolweni

He groans and kisses my back
almost everywhere I'm smiling
crazy he finally let's go I get off the
bed walk to the bathroom to pee
first the door opens

Me : what....

He smiles

Me : I'm peeing

I say with a frown this is creepy

Nqaba : that's fine

He takes toilet paper and wipes me
as soon as I finish he just did that

Nqaba : shower or bath

I look at him confused

Nqaba : shower it is I don't do
bathtubs

He takes my hand we walk into the
shower he puts warm water on
undresses both of us I'm so
uncomfortable he's seeing me
naked it's one thing sleeping
together but this

My eyes can't stop drooling over
his body he's all muscle not too buff
he's just a god of a man

A whole human perfection he's a
gorgeous specimen of a human
being

I let him wash my body like he's
studying a perfect piece of art the
things he's making me feel when
he touches my boobs down to my
coochie it's crazy

I'm biting my lower to suppress my
moans they're at the urge

He finally let's go of me and
washes himself taking his own
damn time

I can't help but stare as he strokes
his dick it's so huge both length and
thickness with veins popping

He chuckles I lift my eyes and he's
looking at me okay I'm caught

Staring at his dick

I open my mouth to say something
but I can't he laughs lord have
mercy upon me

I rinse myself but he stops me and
does it himself when he's done he
rinses himself

He dries and lotions us I put on my
uniform as he wears his clothes
from last night

Nqaba : what time do you leave

Me : now

He looks at the time

Nqaba : it's 06:25

Me : ewe it takes me about 25
minutes to get to school

Nqaba : hayhiii sisi nomkitha

What does he mean hayhiii

Me : nton

Nqaba : school is not that far
sweetheart so who takes you to
school driving that long a distance
of 10 minutes max

Me : driving....what no I walk to
school

Nqaba : what

His amused face changes in an instant

Me : did I say something wrong

His phone rings he looks at it and ignores it I swear I saw Mpilontle written on the screen

Nqaba : let's go eat I'm taking you to school

He walks out I follow

~ Nqabayomzi

Mpilo : I called

My day got ruined this morning
when I found out my wife walks to
school why does she walk

Me : I saw

Mpilo : so why didn't you answer
Nqaba that early in the morning
and during the day

Me : will you be questioning me the whole conversation about this

Mpilo : you're really pissing me off

She drops the call I put my phone away and look at the time I should go pick my wife from school surely she's done with her exams now

I grab my keys and drive to the school only she's nowhere to be found at all

~ Ziphozendalo

I get home after my shift and I'm
dead tired

I walk in my room and surprise he's
on the bed busy on his laptop

Me : Jola

He closes the laptop and looks at
me I can't read his facial
expression at all

Nqaba : is that a work uniform
indulge me because I can see
clearly

If he can see why is he asking

Me : yes it is

Nqaba : you're working

That's a rhetorical question do I
answer it or just keep quite but that
would be disrespectful

Me : ewe Jola

Nqaba : why

I look down and fiddle with my
fingers

I really thought I'll get home and
rest not to be put on a third degree
the exam and my shift worn me out

Nqaba : andithethi ndedwa njalo
MaJola

Me : because I need to

He gives me a blank look

Me : my school uniform is worn out
I need shoes and a shirt

It's so embarrassing saying this to
him I'm poor I've made peace with
that but I don't want to be pitted

Nqaba : iza apha sisi nomkitha

I look at him he's holding his hand out I walk to the bed and take it he brings me on top of him

Nqaba : I'm a shitty husband I've been so ignorant and neglected you so please let me now fix all of my faults and mistakes

I say nothing cause I don't know what he's talking about he just holds me in his arms and I feel at home I feel at peace

~ Nqabayomzi

She fell asleep on me last night the energy I used just to undress her

I've been awake for a few hours now and she's waking up I wonder why she moves so much

Me : stay still sweetheart

Zipho : I have to get up Jola

Me : it's Saturday uyaphi

Zipho : work

Me : hayhiii awuyi apho

This work issue annoys me to the core but what choice did she have looks like she has shitty parents and well me

Zipho : what do you mean I'm not going

Me : nditsho njalo

Zipho : but I.....

I flip her and get on top of her
capture her lips into mine she
doesn't hesitate she kisses me
back I trail my hands all over her
body she lets out soft moans

I pull her panties off that's the only
thing she has on and she doesn't
stop me

I trail to her neck suck hard leaving
wet kisses to her perfectly B size
cups round firm perky boobs

I nibble on her already hard nipples
she moans so softly my dick reacts
I trail down to her coochie part her
coochie lips with my tongue nibble
on her clit

She grabs my head as my tongue
goes in her coochie open I go in
deeper with my tongue

Rubbing on her clit with my thumb

Zipho : oh...myyy ahhh Jola

Me : mmmm

Zipho : Ohhhh

That O out of her mind fucks me
over I rub her clit viciously she
closes her legs I put them apart she
moves her hips

Zipho : I....I need...ahhh

Me : do it

She holds it in for a few minutes
until she lets out a cry
accompanied by pain and pleasure
with tears

I look at her as she orgasms it's a
fucking beautiful sight I take my
clothes off standing buck naked I
position myself between her thighs
I wipe her tears

Me : why are you crying

She shy's away I make her look at
me she can't keep her eyes
focused

I rub my dick on her wet coochie
she moans I groan

Me : I'm clean you're still sealed

She nods I know she is but I'm just
asking I want her to be comfortable

Me : it's going to hurt

Zipho : please make it better

Me : I'll be gentle

I push in and it's a fucking struggle
after a few pushes it tears her up
she cries I take slow thrusts so the
pleasure can surpass the pain

~ Ziphozendalo

I'm in so much pain I feel like crying
but the pleasure I felt doesn't allow
me to

Nqaba : sweetheart

Bawo save me Nqaba is going to
finish me

After the love making rounds he
gave me I want nothing I don't even
want to talk I just want to close my

eyes the whole day and do not be
disturbed

Nqaba : sixabene

I shake my head against his chest
I'm tired he needs to let me sleep
the things he did to me yhoh

Nqaba : ndiyak'thanda vha

Me : uthandwa ndim

He chuckles and holds me tight one thing is for sure he loves me in his own way and I can't deny that I love him

Nqaba : next time don't make me make love to you so you don't go to work again this whole work thing is done sweetheart

What so he did this deliberately to make me miss work and stupid naïve me I fell for it wow

I try to move but he's holding me tight but not too painful

Nqaba : you're Mrs Nqabayomzi Bangani you don't do the work thing you got me to take care of you and you take care of school let's never have this conversation again

I don't even feel like talking right now so I might as well give it up I close my eyes and drip off in sleep

~ Mpilontle

I have been so patient with Nqaba
he's been gone for a week now a
whole week

Every time I call at night he's
unavailable during the day it's fine
I'm no stupid Nqaba doesn't sleep
in our room anymore

I don't want to think the worst but I
fear it

Nolitha : are you okay

We are having tea with all the other wives the last thing I want is talking to them about my marital problems

Me : yes I'm okay

Amahle : when is bhuti coming back

Lazola : wait what so he's still back home

Me : he's coming back soon

Lazola : when is soon

Lazola has a loose tongue that she can't control

Me : can we not discuss me and my husband please

I take a sip of my tea Nolitha is first to change the topic and it's not because she cares she doesn't

~ Nqabayomzi

Mom : Nqaba

She gives me a questioning eye I
walk in the lounge and sit with her

Me : nozala

Mom : what's going on

Me : with what

I'm way too old to be talking about my relationships with my mother but she makes it so easy

Mom : you've been here for over a week and every night you sleep in here since that night I caught you

Me : caught me what am I 5

She laughs

Mom : what is this between you

Me : my marriage is not this ma

Mom : xolo I'm asking ba what are the intentions now

Me : nozala izinyanya zam chose uMaJola for mna some things are beyond what I can control but my love for her that's totally me

I get up as she looks at me shocked guess she did not expect that at all

~ Ziphozendalo

I asked Ndalo to meet today we are at the river I'm coming back from seeing Bhelekazi

Ndalo : what happened

Me : you don't want to know I'm just sorry I lost the job you got for me

Ndalo : it's fine as long as you're okay and well

Yes I lost the job after two days I
went and the manager didn't want
to hear anything she fired me

Guess how happy Nqaba is

Now he spends every night in my
room we make love at night before
we sleep sometimes in the middle
of the night or at dawn or in the
morning when we wake up

He's no sex addict no but damn

He has appetite and energy for
days he keeps on going It's safe to
say I'm the one being addicted

Ndalo : now what

Me : I don't know

Ndalo : you know what we should
really do

Me : what

~ Nqabayomzi

The worry I got when I didn't find
my wife home coming back from
my meeting in the city

I went looking for her only to find
her at the river with her friend
Ndalo I think she said her name
was

Here I am listening to their
conversation they haven't even
seen me being married to this wife

of mine makes me feel like a
fucking teenager

Ndalo : let's go to PE

They keep quite a bit before
laughing

Zipho : with what money

Ndalo : yeah ey we are so broke
like really broke

Zipho : after buying new uniform
and a few clothes I have nothing
like zero nada zilch

I noticed the plastics but never paid
attention to them

Ndalo : you're worse I still have R5

They laugh

Zipho : still won't get us to PE
chomam asiyeke amaphupho

~ Ziphozendalo

Nqaba has made it a norm to just walk in my room

Nqaba : sisi endincamisana naye please put on a dress cover your shoulders wrap your head

Strange very strange why am I doing that now I say nothing but do as told I wrap a scarf on my head as I have no head wraps

We walk out to the back of the main house towards a hut I've never seen it before

He opens taking his sneakers off I look at him he says nothing I do as he does and takes my slippers off

We walk inside he closes the door and it's an ancestral sacred place it's not Xhanti's because I know that one so it must be his it's so clean and really beautiful

With ancestral cloths on the wall

Nqaba : izapha

He takes my hand we walk towards
a grass mat that's covered in a palo
cloth

With 7 different candles water
money snuff boxer matches money
coins and paper laid on it

He takes a maroon njeti cloth

He ties it around his waist we kneel
down he lights the candles and
prays like a true prayer to God it's
unbelievable

So he prays a whole sangoma
prays wow I'm shocked stunned
and mostly amazed

When he's done he lights incense
pours snuff a bit and boxer he calls
on all his ancestors both his
mother's and father's as well as

those he doesn't know and the
ancestors that lives

That's new to me yet fascinating

The way he's calling them clapping
his hands

He calls his old ancestors and the
young ones from the old graves
and the new graves the way the
incense is burning it even feels like
there's a presence in here

Nqaba : ndiyabulela oJola abahle
ngale siphiso esihle nindiphe sona
ewe ndiyawona kini kanye nakuye
ndicela uxolo kini kanye nakuye
ndifunda ngawo lamaphutha
ingakho namhla ndilapha naye
uMaJola wam ndicela kunina
zinyanya zam ukuba nimkhusele
niphinde futhi nindiqinele yena
kukho konke angandipheleli
mandla ngoba nguye ke lo ophethe
intliziyo yam kalok ndibulela kuni
oJola bahle ngaye mna naye
simunye ngok ndicela nimnjonge

By the time he's done I'm crying I don't know if that's even allowed in here or what

But this is the most beautiful thing anyone has ever done for me asking all of this from his ancestors just for me

Nqaba : sisi nomkitha bavumile oJola I should have apologized a long time ago and acknowledged you sooner forgive me for taking time only doing it now but I guess

it's better late than never just know
I cannot lose you

He wipes my tears off

Me : you won't

Nqaba : now you keep this it's
yours from today

He hands me a black card it's his
why is he giving it to me

Me : but it's yours Jola

Or is he bowering it to me for the time being until I can have my own don't know when that will be or if I'll ever get to have my own

I would though if he didn't ruin my job using sex but it doesn't change that I still let him

Nqaba : sisi endincamisana naye I said we are one

He did a few minutes ago

Nqaba : I could make you your own
but no I prefer that you take this
one it means a lot

And I get it to someone it might not
even make sense but the message
behind this gesture is too great

He smiles switching off his candles
with his fingers I wonder if he's not
being burnt

~ Mpilontle

I decided to drive to Eastern Cape since it's a weekend I want to see what's happening there for myself

It's so quite I wonder if there's anyone here I go into our roundavel with my bag and it's open but he's not here

This room feels so cold like no one has been occupying it

I take a quick shower dry lotion put
on a blue floral dress with push ins
I walk to the main house

There's laughter in the lounge I
walk in and all eyes on me

How nice the tramp is now sitting
and laughing with everyone it must
really be nice to play happy families
with my husband

Me : molweni

I walk to him and kiss his cheek

Ma : can we respect my house

What the hell we are married yes
we don't kiss in front of his parents

Me : ma it was just a greeting

Ma : and you do that in your room

Me : oh it's no biggie

Nqaba shoots me a stare he's not pleased but his mother needs to chill honestly

Zipho : may I be excused

This bitch it was all nice fun and laughter with my husband without me now I'm here she's leaving at least she knows her place and with me here it's nowhere

Ma : you haven't eaten

Zipho : I'm not hungry ma

I wonder if she's ever hungry or I just ruined her appetite

She gets up and walks upstairs so she's still staying in the main house I doubt there's any way Nqaba can sleep with her in here

Ma gets up and goes into the kitchen Mvelo and Omuhle follow her it's just me and my husband

Me : I missed you

Nqaba : let's go talk

He takes my hand we walk out to our roundavel he sits down on the bed I squat on him

Nqaba : you didn't call to say you're coming

Me : I didn't know I had to

Nqaba : what were you trying to see huh me and her what together fucking in here maybe

Me : no

I swallow because that's exactly what I expected

He chuckles

Nqaba : you know I'm not cheating on you she's my wife right

He did not just say that to me

Me : I'm your wife not that fucking..

Nqaba : mind your tongue

Me : Nqaba I'll be damned

I smash my lips on his we kiss he doesn't push me off he still wants me he always will I don't want to hear any more nonsense talk about this bitch

I take the dress off

Nqaba : I'm not having sex with you tonight

Me : why not

Nqaba : I can't

I look at him intensely

Me : are you sleeping with her

Nqaba : yes

One thing about Nqaba he can't lie
I don't know if he doesn't know how
to or he just chooses not to

Me : why would you hurt me like
this Nqaba am I not good enough

Nqaba : you're enough but like I
said she's my wife I'm not cheating
on you Mpilontle I've always been
loyal to the core I still am

Tears stream down he's a man I
know and that bitch is beautiful I
fucking can't blame him

I don't want to share my man and I
won't I refuse to I will get that bitch
for this betrayal

Me : you can't sleep in here

He doesn't fight me he gets up and
goes out I scream my lungs out I
guess he won't even beg me

~ Ziphozendalo

Am I hurt that Nqaba went to spend the night with his wife yes sure I am

But is it jealousy hell no I'm number two to him and that's how it'll always be

I wish I had school or still had my job I don't want to be here during the day with his wife here I really don't want to

I get up make my bed clean around the room I take a shower dry lotion wear a peach below the knee tight body hugging dress with white flip flops

My hair is a mess maybe I should visit Ndalo and I'll get Lubabalo to cut it even though he will give me hell about it

I walk downstairs to find Mrs Bangani making tea

Me : molo ma

She smiles this woman is aging gracefully

Mrs Bangani : MaJola how are you my child

Me : I'm okay ma how are you

Mrs Bangani : my husband is coming home today so take a guess

We laugh this woman is a fresh of
breath air just that I'm scared of her
we don't even talk much

Ma : oh Nqaba asked that you bring
him water in his hut

Why me yhoh

Me : what kind of water

Ma : warm water in a dish take
those plastic ones

I do as told and walk to the hut he's leaning against the door

Me : Jola

Nqaba : sisi endincamisana naye enkosi vha

I nod slightly he takes the water walks inside the hut I turn to walk away only he holds my back that was fast I can't even look at him in the eye

Nqaba : sixabene

I shake my head

Nqaba : I don't know what you
heard but I love that annoying voice
of yours

I laugh slightly he tilts my face we
lock eyes he leans down to kiss me
I avoid that

He chuckles

He got that I avoided his kiss

Nqaba : I did not sleep with her I
slept in here

He opens the door wider and you
can even see where he slept on the
floor my heart breaks I really
thought he spent the night with her

He kisses my head

Me : why...didn't you come

He says nothing I won't ask any further

Nqaba : where are you going

Ah

Me : to see Ndalo I'm hoping his brother can cut my hair

He pulls back did I offend him I ask myself cause his look is saying something I don't get

Nqaba : why

Me : why....

I ask confused

Nqaba : just go to town sweetheart
please get your hair cut at a salon
as a husband I'm not really
comfortable with another guy
touching my wife's hair you can
take your friend along use your
card and get some winter clothes

~ Mpilontle

I haven't seen that tramp all day
which is bad because I wanted to
give her a piece of my mind

Me : babe

He looks at me he's in our room

Me : I'm sorry about yesterday I
really am I shouldn't have acted like
that

Nqaba : mmmm

Me : I'm leaving tomorrow

Nqaba : oh

Me : babe please lets not fight I just want to feel you inside of me right now please

I don't even care if he spent the night with that tramp I want him now and I'll have him

Nqaba : can we do this tomorrow

Me : no I want you now

Her pussy can't be that good that
he doesn't want me anymore I get
naked he can't resist me

Me : have me

I take his clothes off while we are
kissing he throws me on the bed on
my stomach

He takes me from the back

Me : babe condom

He inserts his dick without warning
I try to push him back screaming in
pain but I feel the condom on him

I let him have his way with me he's
not making love to me not that he
ever has this is beyond even
fucking he turns me to every turn
he's just ramming in me

I'm screaming in pain and pleasure
it's hard to even tell him to stop
because I want him

That bitch can't win with her high
school pussy this is my man right
here mine and mine alone

I scream as I orgasm and he just
pulls out going to the bathroom I lay
on the bed out of breath tears
stream down my cheeks I gather
my strength get a towel

And wipe myself he takes a while in the bathroom after some time he comes back

He doesn't even look at me and he's dressed I hope he's not leaving me for her

Me : you were rough

Nqaba : I told you I don't want to do this Mpilontle we could have just waited for tomorrow

Me : I'm not complaining

He changes the sheets saying
nothing

Nqaba : come

He takes me to bed and just
cuddles me now this is my man and
I'll forever say that he is mine

Me : I love you

~ Nqabayomzi

Mpilontle is supposed to leave this morning but she's still here so I don't know what's that about

I feel like i paid more attention to her than I have MaJola hopefully I can make it up to her and she'll forgive me

When I'm here my time is for MaJola when I'm in Joburg it's for

Mpilontle that's how I know I'll
make this work between us

I walk in her bedroom and she's
laying down on the bed I just stare
at her

I see she did get her hair done she
got a peach bleach bad hair fade it
compliments her skin tone perfect

Zipho : you're making me
uncomfortable rather get in

I laugh walk to the bed

Me : awusemhle siphwo se
zinyanya zam

She shy's away smiling

Me : uncumo olungaka sisi
endincamisana naye

She laughs I hold her head against
my chest kiss her forehead she
loves it when I do that

Zipho : Jola

Me : ndiyak'thanda kodwa ingathi
wandidlisa idliso

We laugh

Zipho : kalok who's talking

Me : hayhiii MaJola

Zipho : xolo but we know andithi

~ Ziphozendalo

Nqaba left a few hours ago saying he's going to a meeting in town

Apparently Mpilontle was supposed to stay here for the weekend but it's been a whole week and she's here I don't dare ask

I walk downstairs to make food since Mpilontle is here I don't eat with them again

I bump into Mvelo on the stairs he has a bunch of flowers and a gift paper bag

Mvelo : hey

Me : molo bhuti

Mvelo : stop calling me that

Is he crazy he should stop greeting me with a hey like we are friends or something

Mvelo : I got this for you

Not please no not again

Me : I can't take those

I try to walk past him he grabs my wrist and damn I feel his grip it's painful I flinch in pain

Next thing I know Mvelo is pulled off me like he's a piece of paper thrown against the wall

He screams in pain groaning as he falls down

Nqaba is on top of Mvelo beating the shit out of him I'm crying frozen on the stairs

Mpilontle gives me a smug I didn't even see she's in here Mrs Bangani walks in screaming for Nqaba to let go of Mvelo

Mr Bangani walks in as well

He's trying to get Nqaba off Mvelo
but it's pointless

I snap out of it and runs towards
them Mrs Bangani tries to stop me I
pull off her

Grouch down to Nqaba his eyes
are black like that of a demon gone
are the hazel green eyes he has
he's scary I hold his arm

Me : Jola...please....stop

~ Mpilontle

The nerve of this tramp she just holds Nqaba tells him to stop and he does

I fucking hate her because I was loving this chaos that was happening in here

Nqaba beat his brother because of her whoering ways I watched the whole thing happening

Mvelo wants her he can't even hide
it that will get Nqaba to leave her

She takes his hand and they walk
upstairs to her room I presume

Me : really she's going to take my
husband to her room right in front
of me

No one pays attention to me ma is
busy fussing over a battered Mvelo
that's hardly recognisable

~ Nqabayomzi

She's crying busy attending to my
knuckles

One thing is for sure I never want to
see my wife cry ever again her
cries are piercing through my heart

Me : MaJola please stop crying

She doesn't listen I take my hands
away from hers

Zipho : Jola...please...you're hurt

Me : ndijonge

She doesn't look at me I lift her chin
wipe her tears off

Zipho : your eyes

She doesn't even look scared of
them besides my brother's and my
parents she's the only one who has
seen my eyes

Me : they're like this

Zipho : when you're upset

Me : no...it's how they are

Zipho : no...but

Me : I wear eye contacts

She nods and goes back to my
knuckles I let her be

When she's done we walk
downstairs

Mom : Nqaba undibethela umntana
wena ngok

Me : khame nozala

We sit down

Me : kwedini ndathini kuwena the
first time you bought her a phone
uyandiqhela Mvelo heh

Mvelo : xolo mkhuluwa

Me : ikaka lento uyithethayo

Voice : what the hell is wrong with
you boy

Its Mqhele he walks in with all my
brother's and their wives

Me : try this again Mvelo I tell you
right now your mother will mourn
you even MaJola won't stop me

Mom : Nqabayomzi Bangani

Ntsika : you're lucky he didn't kill
you now

Dad : you 6 better sort this out
when I come back I want it solved I
won't have fights in my house

He takes my mother's hand they
walk out leaving us kids alone

Qhawe : what shame is this

Mpande : falling for your brothers
wife

Mqhele : what do you call that

Mpilo : oh Mvelo must have been
tempted by this thing surely she
gave him some hints and he acted
on them she has my husband now
clearly he's not enough

I get up and walk out leaving them
there alone

~ Ziphozendalo

I run out of the Bangani homestead
not knowing where I'm going what
Mpilontle said hurt me and the
worst thing Nqaba just walking out

Does he believe what his wife said
that I gave Mvelo hints

I don't even want Mvelo I don't
even see him like that if anything
he creeps me out

The way he acts around me busy buying me gifts as if there's something going on between us or that we are planning for anything to happen

I end up at the river and just cry my lungs out until my body is tired and I just can't anymore

I get up and walk to Bhelekazi's I can't go to Ndalo's she's my friend my marital issues are off limits

I knock and she opens the door
shocked to see me I'm sure I'm red
like a tomato right now

Bhelekazi : oh sana lwam

She pulls me inside and hugs me
as we sit down I cry telling her
everything that happened

Bhelekazi : don't worry

Easy for her to say

She holds me in her arms until I'm
okay and stop crying

Me : can I sleep here

Bhelekazi : this is home why are
you even asking me

I chuckle going to the bedroom I
change into my nightdress that I
have here I hear a knock at the
door why would she have visitors
this late at night

I hear that hoarse voice it's Mqhele
what does he want here I listen to
their conversation

Mqhele : xolo Makhulu ufika
ebusuku njena

Bhelekazi : nton ingxaki

Mqhele : besihambe sifuna
uMaJola uMakoti wethu oBangani
savela ukuba ulapha ngok uNqaba
bekacela uthetha naye nje

uzophinde a buye ndiyathembisa
Makhulu

What does he want maybe to scold
me about what his wife said

Bhelekazi : Ziphozendalo Bangani
phuma apho

Yhoh that's no way to call me aibo I
grab a towel and walk passing
Mqhele at the door saying nothing
to him

I walk to the car the second he sets his eyes on me he engulfs me into a bone crushing hug

Nqaba : don't ever do that to me again if there's anything that I fear in this world is loosing you I almost went crazy turning Isilo upside down looking for you

Yhoh mna I cry he's hurting me with his words he sounds really pained I didn't want that

Nqaba : don't cry you're hurting me

I don't get this statement of his

Me : xolo Jola

Nqaba : I even went to the river

Me : I couldn't stay there after you left

Nqaba : look at me

I look at him

Nqaba : I didn't leave because I believed that nonsense Mpilontle said I left because I didn't want to beat her

That's crazy

Nqaba : and don't laugh

He shouldn't have said that because i laugh

Letting the laugh i've been holding
in out

Nqaba : fine but please come back
home tomorrow

Me : you're letting me sleep here

Nqaba : only because I know you're
safe in the morning come home

He captures my lips into his I
welcome him I'm glad he's here

Morning I'm first to wake up I clean
for Bhelekazi even boil water for
her to bath when she wakes up

Bhelekazi : did you see the time

I laugh she's still in bed I'm getting
dressed in my clothes to leave

Me : I did

Bhelekazi : some men are very
lucky and blessed

Me : huh

Bhelekazi : that Bangani boy will cherish you until he takes his last breath

Me : o-kay

She laughs I'm so confused

Bhelekazi : go because you can't wait anymore I'm glad you came to me and not anywhere else

I leave and run to the Bangani homestead it's just before 06:00 I really don't want people to see me because I'll be the talk of this village

I arrive it's still quite just seeing the cars of the brothers dims my mood because I wonder if they all don't think I really did what Mpilontle said I did

I walk inside the house

And Mrs Bangani is awake I'm so embarrassed right now

Me : uhm molo ma

Mrs Bangani : MaJola

She says nothing this is awkward I go up to my room and it's locked why is it locked oh my word am I kicked out

I turn to walk away

With tears blurring my eyes the
door opens his scent fills my
nostrils

Nqaba : uyaphi

I turn and look at him slowly

Nqaba : mmmm why are you crying

He asks annoyed I wipe my tears
before I can answer him he pulls
me inside

Me : the door was locked...I
thought maybe....that I'm kicked
out

Nqaba : that will never happen
come let's go to bed I couldn't
sleep all night

Me : why

Nqaba : the bed was cold

Me : there's a blanket in there

Nqaba : I needed body warm

I laugh he leads us to the bed
taking my clothes off he's just in his
briefs

Nqaba : but my bride ran away
from me imagine

Me : I feel for you

Nqaba : and now I want to feel you
so bad

He positions himself in between my thighs I part them further for him he smiles I feel his hard dick pressed against my coochie

I move my hips a bit he groans I missed him I just want him to make love to me

Nqaba : when we wake up we're going into the hut okay

Me : okay

~ Nqabayomzi

We lock lips and kiss she doesn't
waste time taking my briefs off I
love how she's become so free
around me

I flip her over she gets on top of me
my hands rest on her waist

Me : take what's yours

Zipho : will you help me

She's so flushed

Me : I will

She moves her ass up a bit takes
my dick into her soft tiny warm
hands the day she gives me a hand
job and a blow job I'll make love to
her all day and night

She rubs it on her wet coochie her
expression is fucking priceless as
she slides it inside of her slowly

Me : fuck

I guide her hips on my length she gets the hang of it

And goes up and down giving me front strokes the way she's moving her waist she has me groaning like shit

She sways her hips side to side moves her waist in circular motion I thrust underneath her

Zipho : Ohhhh Jola.....shhhhh

She meets my thrusts with her
pace throws her head back her
hands lay on my thighs

I rub on her clit viciously she
screams out in pleasure as she
orgasms I don't let her calm down

I flip her over to the side raise her
one leg slide my dick in her coochie
she moans so softly

~ Mpilontle

I can't stay here for this nonsense
my boss is so upset with me for
staying a week unplanned

I have to leave so I can catch up
with work I'm hoping after this
Nqaba follows me back home I
can't stand him being here with this
high school kid

Me : ma where is Nqaba

She looks at me and says nothing

Mvelo : in his hut

Me : oh can you please call him for me I have to leave now

Ma : he's with MaJola and you know how he hates to be interrupted in there

All I got was that he's with MaJola nothing else

Me : what...I thought Nqaba
doesn't allow women in his hut
unless it's clients I have never been
in that hut

Ma : MaJola is the chosen wife by
the ancestors of course she's
allowed in the hut

Me : I can't stand this

Okay that's it I walk out and head to
my car I drive off fuming with anger

~ Ziphozendalo

Nqaba is leaving today I can't believe he stayed here for a whole month

But he told me that he'll stay two weeks in Joburg and stay another two weeks here that's fine by me

His brother's are still here with their wives I don't know who they leave their kids with

Nqaba : let's go have lunch

Me : you're leaving

Nqaba : my flight is at 17:00 I still
have time

Well I can't say no we get into his
car he drives to the city I don't
understand why we couldn't eat at
home it was fine

Me : so I'm taking a taxi back

Nqaba : Ntsika will come to fetch
you

Me : on that thought I'll take a taxi

Nqaba : why

Me : anyone but your brothers Jola
I already had encountered drama I
don't need no more

Nqaba : Ntsika is not Mvelo

~ Nqabayomzi

I can see MaJola is not comfortable with being alone with my brother so I've gotten her a taxi to take her back home

Only I've decided that we spend the night in the hotel I moved my flight tomorrow

Our lunch went great we even did shopping

She's already in bed now after we made love she just dozed off

I'm struggling to get sleep every time I close my eyes I see the vision like it's a video clip being played for me

I can't believe Mpilontle my wife of 8 years is going to betray me like that I see it but I don't wanna believe it our situation doesn't change that I love her

~ Ziphozendalo

He's been so restless tossing and turning depriving me of my sleep as well

I feel him get off the bed I uncover myself and look at him he's standing by the window

He looks really bothered I sit up straight rub my eyes so I can see clearly in this darkness

Me : Jola

He has his back turned on me

Nqaba : go back to sleep

He doesn't sound okay

Me : are you okay

Nqaba : I said go back to sleep
Ziphozendalo not now please

The hostility and anger in his voice
sends me shivering

The pain I'm feeling in my heart is
new I cannot explain it but damn it
hurts I actually feel it physically

I lay back down not knowing how I
feel or how to feel at all

Nqaba : sweetheart

I feel him walking towards the bed

Nqaba : no please.... look at me

Why am I feeling so much pain in my heart it's physically I feel it it's like I'm being stabbed literally by a sharp something

Nqaba : I'm just disturbed by something I shouldn't have taken my emotions on you like that please siphwo se zinyanya zam forgive me it'll never happen again just know that I can't lose you

What is he talking about lose me
when what happens

He gets in bed behind me and
holds me so tight planting so many
kisses on me

Nqaba : I can't lose you I won't be
able to make it you're my life I
apologize for snapping at you my
ancestors are saying Mpilontle is
going to betray me and there's
nothing I can do to change it

I have no idea what he's talking about

She's going to betray him how but I don't dare ask what if he shouts at me again for asking questions

Nqaba : forgive me no matter what I see about anyone else personal or not I'm not to ever shout at you again like that

I say nothing and no I'm not angry

~ Nqabayomzi

I didn't sleep even with my wife
right next to me I couldn't because I
felt so bad about what happened

I'm hurt by what I saw but I
shouldn't have taken my
frustrations on my wife

She's been quite all morning the
same way she was last night and I
can't bare it

I won't leave until she forgives me

Me : MaJola

She looks at me

Me : please come here

She walks towards me I engulf her
in a hug

Me : xolo I'm sorry okay

She nods

Me : I will never do that again

Zipho : it's okay Jola

Me : no it's not okay

We hold each other for a few minutes before letting go

Me : please buy a phone

Zipho : why

Me : you need a phone now so we
can keep in contact

Zipho : let's go buy it before you
leave

Me : okay am I forgiven though

Zipho : yes you are I wasn't even
angry to begin with you're human I
can't always expect perfection

~ Ziphozendalo

Its been a week since Nqaba left
we communicate on the phone
everyday

Schools are reopened and I got my
June exams results I did well very
well better than I even imagined

I've applied to a few universities I
hope one of them will take me with
the hopes that I'll receive funding

Ndalo : why do you have a phone
but you don't have all the social
media accounts

Me : for what

Ndalo : why do I have them

Me : ndazelaphi mna

Ndalo : okay just have Instagram
and WhatsApp because Facebook
is a bit overrated

I laugh

Me : I don't want those

Ndalo : come on friend

Me : fine

I hand her my phone she installs
the apps even creates the accounts

Me : did you have to say Bangani

Ndalo : you're a Bangani through
and through wena

I frown

Ndalo : done now all we need is a
few snaps for the gram we are
good to go

I shake my head

Ndalo : even your sexy husband is
on WhatsApp

We laugh

Me : it's not like I'll talk to him

Ndalo : I'll ask you...go change into something cute so we can take the pictures

Me : what's cute

Ndalo : come on your wardrobe is full of cute clothes I'm sure you'll find something

I walk upstairs change into blue
knee ripped high waist skinny jeans
white sports bra crop top with pink
sneakers

I walk back down and she squeals
when she sees me

Me : really

Ndalo : give me your best poses

I hope Mrs Bangani doesn't walk in

~ Nqabayomzi

Mpande : ngu Makoti wasekhaya lo

Me : ndiselapha

Qhawe : ngok

Me : it's creepy you're gawking
your creepy eyes on my wife

Ntsika : they will take her

They laugh

Me : I will leave a trail of blood

Mqhele : when did you become so
found of her

Me : since the beginning

Qhawe : you're doomed

Me : I'm in love with MaJola

Ntsika : what the hell

I think this is the first time I admit
this to anyone besides my
ancestors

Mqhele : and Mpilontle

Me : I love Mpilontle

Ntsika : the difference there you
love Mpilontle but you're in love
with MaJola she holds your heart

Me : and it's safe with her

I trail back to the vision

Mqhele : are we missing something

Me : I'll rather not say

Mpande : must be huge

Ntsika : well when you're ready to
we are here

~ Mpilontle

Our lives are back to normal I have my husband back to me and it feels amazing

But he ruined all that after saying he's going to Eastern Cape he hasn't gone there in what over a month and a few weeks

I didn't even put on a fight he will come back he always does

I decided to go have dinner by myself in our favourite restaurant

It's not nice being alone but it's also not nice being in that house alone without him

Voice : still beautiful as the first time I laid eyes on you

I lift my eyes I cannot believe this

Me : Kevin Williams

My first love my first boyfriend my
virgin breaker

I get up and we hug he still smells
so amazing that has always been
my weakness when it comes to him
the way he smells

Kevin : look at you all stunning

Me : not bad yourself

Kevin : well can I join you

Me : of course

We sit down

Kevin : it's been a minute

Me : indeed

Kevin : I heard you got married

I wave my hand in front of him he
holds it looks at my ring

Kevin : and not cheap either

We laugh and his laugh sends me certain feelings there's just something about the way Kevin carries himself

He's not Nqaba no but he has his own charisma that he holds well and it's good for him makes me look at him somehow still

Me : hell no the husband has taste

Kevin : indeed he does I can give him that much he got you

Me : well you got married as well and had kids so I heard

Kevin : yes and divorced now the kids stay with their mother in London

Me : oh

Kevin : I'm not sorry

Me : wow just wow

We laugh for a divorcee he looks pretty good and well

Kevin : your husband brave enough to let you come here alone

Me : he...he has work

Kevin : even work wouldn't keep me away if I had a wife like yourself

~ Nqabayomzi

I couldn't stay in Joburg knowing what Mpilontle was going to do I didn't want to be there when she does it

I walk into the main house go upstairs to my wife's room she's not in sight

I put my bag and walk down into the kitchen

She looks to be making food for herself her back is turned on me

Me : I hope those Instagram men know you're married

She turns back almost dropping the plate in her hands the smile she gives me warms my heart

Me : fuck I swear I can't lose you

She looks at me confused

I walk towards her we hug

Zipho : I missed you

I smile like a child

Me : I missed you more sweetheart

I think going to PE this weekend
will be good for the both of us

We pull out not letting go

Me : awusemhle

Zipho : enkosi

Me : you even changed your hair
style

Zipho : hayhiii Jola just the colour

Me : still

I lean down capture her lips

She welcomes me we kiss I pick her up in my arms

Zipho : if your mother sees us like this we are both kicked out of her house

She mumbles through the kiss I chuckle put her on the counter get in between her legs

Me : speaking of houses when are you getting your own

Zipho : my...own house...why

Me : you're a married woman and just because our union is slightly different doesn't mean you are forced to stay here at home

Zipho : oh okay

I walk with her to her room still in my arms I close the door lock and place her on the bed I take her clothes off she helps me

I take mine as well

Me : something is different with you

Zipho : ma said the same thing

I smile because I can see what's
going on here

Me : and it's perfect

I position myself on top of her

~ Mpilontle

Me : Ohhhh my word ahhhhh

He pounds in faster he has made me cum three times already I can't take it anymore

Me : Ahhhh Kevin stoooooop

He goes in deeper my legs shake as the orgasm takes the last strength that I have left

I fall on the mat and it all comes
crushing down I just fucked another
man in my husband's house

Kevin : fuck you're still good

Me : Kevin leave and never come
back here again please

Kevin : what

Me : this was a mistake please
leave this shouldn't have happed

He laughs

Kevin : you're fucking with me right

Me : Kevin leave

Kevin : a fucking whore that's what
you are thinking you can just use
me for sex

He puts on his clothes and leave I
cry what have I done if Nqaba finds
out about this I'm dead

~ Nqabayomzi

I wake up panting and wet

Zipho : Jola

She looks terrified

Me : I didn't hurt you did I

Zipho : no calm down you didn't
hurt me I'm okay I'm fine

I take a deep breath

Zipho : can I get you anything

Me : no...let's sleep

I should be shattered I know but I
guess knowing before time just
made me numb

I hold my wife we lay back down
she caresses my chest with her tiny
hands I smile kiss her head

Me : if you dare betray me MaJola I
will leave a trail of blood
everywhere I can loose everything
and everyone just not you

Zipho : I don't know what you're
talking about kodwa Jola I will
never do you bad anyhow
intentionally or unintentionally I will
never

Me : indoda mayibe no mqhele
bear that know that you're mine

~ Ziphozendalo

Nqaba is not okay but I'm letting him deal with whatever is bothering him he will talk once he wants to if he ever wants to talk

Nqaba : have you found a house

Is that his greeting today

Me : must it be here

Nqaba : hayhiii anywhere you want

Me : okay can I wait to see where I get accepted first

Nqaba : accepted for what

I did not tell him about this or even ask if I'm allowed to continue studying

Me : for...uhm for university I sent out applications a month ago

Nqaba : phi

His voice is still the same

Me : a few like UJ UFS UCT and
NMU

Nqaba : pray ba you get accepted
at UJ or NMU I won't let you go
anywhere else far

Me : I hope I go to NMU that would
be great

I don't want to go anywhere near Joburg to him and his wife I want my space and distance from her

Nqaba : then I say we go to PE this weekend and you can start looking

Me : but I haven't gotten accepted

Nqaba : I saw your report it was pleasing to the eye

He's so sneaky

~ Nqabayomzi

I call her it takes everything in me
to even do this the phone rings for
a while I'm sure she's
contemplating her sins are eating at
her

She finally answers

Mpilo : baby

Me : are you okay

She goes quite

Me : Mpilontle

Mpilo : yes I'm okay and you

Me : I'm fine I'm actually taking
MaJola to PE for the weekend we
are leaving in a hour or so

She's still my wife I'm decent
enough to be honest with her I'll
push everything to the side

Mpilo : oh

Me : yeah so do bare with me if you call and I don't answer

Mpilo : it's okay I understand

She's really feeling guilty the Mpilontle I married and know would be screaming her lungs right now

Mpilo : be safe and I'll see you when you come back

~ Ziphozendalo

Port Elizabeth is great I'm loving
this place pity Ndalo is not here but
I'm loving every second with my
husband

Nqaba : come on

We are at the beach and he wants
us to go in the water

Me : ndoyika

Nqaba : it's just water

Me : scary water Jola

He laughs

Nqaba : but you love going to the river sweetheart

Me : it's different I see the other side and it's not this big and I never go inside the most important part I stay on the rock

Nqaba : I initiated in water

Me : kalok I've heard and that's
even more scarier

Nqaba : so come trust me please

Must he be this sweet I take his
hand and we walk to the ocean he
walks in the water I watch him he
pulls me I scream the second my
feet touch the water creating stares
at us not nasty but cute and smiles

Nqaba : I did not marry a coward
mna yhoh

I hit his shoulder

Nqaba : jonga you're clinging on
me like the world is coming to an
end

He says laughing and I'm really
clinging on him

Me : masambe Jola torho

~ Nqabayomzi

Today we are house hunting and we've looked at three houses so far she hates them apparently they're too expensive and too big

Me : all three houses pho

I'm talking alone the estate agent smiles

Her : there's another one

Me : where

Her : by the coast

Zipho : near the beach

She asks smiling and I'm confused

Her : the beach is right at the
backyard

Zipho : when can we see that one

Her : right now it's available

My wife looks at me giving me
puppy eyes

Me : since when do you love the
beach

Zipho : I don't but I won't mind the
morning breeze

We leave going to the house and
she falls in love with it

It's twice bigger than the other houses it's triple expensive than the other but guess what my wife wants this one

Me : what my wife wants my wife gets

She squeals like a little child seeing her this happy makes me more happy and content

Me : I'll make the payment

I say to estate agent

Her : bank or cash

Me : cash

They both smile

Me : when can we sign the papers

Her : right now right here I came
prepared not to waste your time

Me : the house should be in her name

Her : okay the deed will come in her name you can expect it in a day or two

Me : good

We sign the paper work I make the transaction for the house paying it cash and it's hers now we just wait for the deed

~ Mpilontle

Talking to him somehow made me feel better because he didn't sound like someone who knows anything

I decide to call him I hope he answers if he finds out what I did that bitch would have won

Me : my love

Nqaba : you sound so down

He hasn't called me any pet names
as of late no babe or love none

Me : undiqumbele

Nqaba : no and that's my line

I laugh a bit

Me : how's PE

Nqaba : it's good

Me : having fun

Nqaba : don't do that to yourself

I sigh

Me : what

Nqaba : hurt yourself like that

MaJola is my wife not a girlfriend
not a side chick or a one night it's
not cheating we don't discuss you
with her lets not discuss her now

~ Ziphozendalo

Being back at Isilo I wish we stayed a bit more in PE but I have school and Nqaba has stayed his two weeks so he has to go back to Joburg

Nqaba : you know I'll be back right

Me : I know Jola

Nqaba : sixabene

Me : hayhiii

Nqaba : ndiyak'thanda

Me : nam ndiyak'thanda

We share a kiss he walks to his car
strange he's leaving with his
parents since Mvelo is at school I'm
left with Omuhle

I don't mind babysitting at all she's
a great child

~ Mpilontle

Me : Ohhhh Kevin harderoh
yesss yess just like that ah fuck

After seeing how happy Nqaba is at
PE with his wife by his pictures and
posts on Instagram

I called Kevin grovelled back to him
and we've been fucking since then
Nqaba has never posted me not
even once 8 years of marriage

But 4 months of marriage to that
tramp he posts her

Kevin : shit baby I'm cumming

He thrust in deeper shooting his
load in the condom

He gets off me I get on top of him
he laughs

Kevin : damn woman don't you get
damn tired

Me : hell no

I take the condom off and put another one I straddle him insert his dick inside of me

I ride him like there's no tomorrow I only hear his groans my moans and screams nothing else

I'm startled when he pushes me off him I fall almost hitting the coffee table he grabs his clothes

He's scared

Me : Kevin what the fuck

I feel a hot slap on my face it
leaves my nose bleeding I turn only
to be met by my fuming mother in
law

The Bangani brothers standing at
the door with Mqhele popping veins
while Nqaba is calm as ever Kevin
runs out only Mqhele holds him

Me : ba...baby

I cry I'm so hurt so ashamed I can't even describe how I'm feeling right now

Ntsika : ndoda what's this

Nqaba : I knew she was going to do this when I left for home that's why I left because I saw she was going to betray me I didn't want to be here when she did

I'm such an idiot he's a seer what
did I expect

Nqaba : only she continued I was
going to divorce her peaceful
without any precarious but I didn't
want MaJola to be blamed for our
fall out it's because she did this

Me : it's her fault...she took you
from me

I'm crying screaming

Nqaba : I always told you this she's my wife I did not cheat on you and you know what our contract says the one who commits adultery will forfeit every asset in the marriage now do me a favour sign this contract let me be done with you and leave

His mother shoves the divorce papers on me I beg him and cry instead he goes out the look his mother gives me scares me to the core I sign the papers

We are done we are divorced the contract we made was very specific it won't even take days for the divorce to be finalized

The second we both sign it it's done it's over I can't believe how stupid I am

Ma : good you know what's good for you

Me : ma

Ma : unje ngami umamakho
uyandiqhela wenza amanyala apha
in my son's house have you no self
respect and dignity you're a sham
of woman now the Bangani name is
stripped off on you let's see how
you do it

She drags me to the door where I
see blood no doubt it belongs to
Kevin Mqhele's knuckles look hurt
he's the one who beat him I'm so
ashamed I'm naked with nothing to
wear I'm shamed

I run out not knowing where I'm going I run the streets of Joburg until I find myself at Kevin's door knocking

I can only hope he's home after a while he opens the door he looks so bad with a black eye and busted lip he looks disgusted by me

Kevin : what do you want

Me : they kicked me out

Kevin : so you came here

He's whispering and looking behind
him

Me : I have nowhere to go I have
nothing Kevin

Kevin : you can't be here you have
to leave right now and don't ever
come here

Voice : honey who is that

What says a female voice at the
back

Kevin : it's a stray...

What the hell I'm a stray like a dog

The woman comes to a view and
she's beautiful so flawless she pulls
me inside and hands me a throw
from the couch I cover my body

Me : that...thank you

Her : oh my god what happened to you

What do I say because it seems like Kevin also played me for a fool he said he's divorced

Her : oh silly me you look traumatized we should call the cops an ambulance or someone

Me : no...please I just...need a place to...to sleep for the night

Kevin : I'm sorry Ms whoever you are you can't sleep here

Wow the guy he's pretending like he doesn't even know he's that good at this

Kevin : clearly you need help we can't give you that

The woman nudges him he smiles he looks like a man in love he fucks around but knows home

Her : don't mind my fiancé you can use the cottage

Kevin : my love

Her : please we will never forgive ourselves if we send her out there and she doesn't make it

Me : I promise tomorrow morning I'll be out of your hair

Her : I'll show you the cottage

I hardly slept the shame and
embarrassment I brought to myself
my in-laws seeing me naked like
that how will I ever face them

Worse now I've lost everything I
walk out of this marriage with
nothing it's what I signed up for

Kevin's fiancé gave me a change of
clothes at least I look clean now
I've just showered I made the bed
and get ready to leave

I walk in their house Kevin is busy
on his laptop

Me : you said you're divorced

He looks up annoyed

Kevin : yes and not that I owe you
anything Kelly is my fiancé

Me : you should have told me Kevin
I slept with you because I thought
you were single

He laughs

Kevin : look at me there's a billion women in this universe

Me : you're a fucking....

Kevin : says the woman whore who slept with a man in her husband's house

That hits home he closes his laptop and stares at me

Kevin : you know I thought you married an idiot who couldn't even control his wife only to find out you're just a fool

Me : what are you talking about

Kevin : your husband you underestimate him too much he got charges I opened last night for his brother dismissed like they didn't even happen what a powerful man he is if only I'd known

He reaches his pockets takes out a few hundred notes

Kevin : here for the part I played but after this stay far away from me and my fiancé I don't ever want to see you again

I take the money and leave one thing about laying your eggs in one basket it's idiotic my family hates me I turned my backs on them when I married Nqaba

~ Ziphozendalo

Things are so tense in this house
since they came back from Joburg
Ntsika is even here with his wife

Nqaba : singathetha

He's leaning against the door frame
his maroon njeti cloth on his
shoulders

Nqaba : lets go to the hut

I smile don't ask I've grown found
of going to the hut with him
somehow it makes me feel more
closer to who he is

I put on a doek wrap on my head
cover my shoulders and we walk to
his hut

We take our shoes off we walk
inside to his sacred place he lights
his candles as always and prays
when he's done he lights incense

And does his incantations I don't know if it's wrong to say he looks so good doing this ancestral stuff

I hear him chuckle I look at him and he's staring at me

Nqaba : even in the hut you drool over me

I shy looking away he takes my hands into his the way he burns incense but he doesn't even smell

Nqaba : I divorced Mpilontle

Okay somebody wake me up

Nqaba : she cheated on me when I took my parents we found her in the house we used to live in busy having sex with her high school sweetheart

Is this a joke like I don't get this at all Mpilontle cheated and they caught her having sex

Nqaba : uright

Me : andaz Jola

Nqaba : why....why are you crying

I wipe my tears they keep falling

Me : I don't know ...are you okay

He hugs me so tight and assures
me that he's okay I feel so bad for

him he loves Mpilontle she was his wife they've been married for years he must be hurt somehow

Nqaba : I want us to go spend the weekend at your house

Me : really

Nqaba : yeah after that I'm going back to Joburg work awaits me

Me : it's okay

~ Nqabayomzi

The weekend in PE was great my wife is so clingy and the way she's eating now without a I doubt I know my suspicions are right

Mom : where were you all weekend

Me : in PE

Ntsika : and you left me like really left me why

His wife looks at him

Ntsika : xolo babe I mean us

We laugh

Mom : where is your wife

Me : sleeping she'll wake up before
I leave later

Ntsika : she does that a lot

Dad : she's been doing that since she got here

Ntsika : hawu tata

Dad : ewe it's not suspicious

I laugh

Me : it's not suspicious

Ntsikayesizwe Bangani izapha so thetha uyeke uzenza udetective without qualifications

Ntsika : mama umntanakho

Dad : anisebadala for lento
niyenzayo

We laugh and walk out

Ntsika : tell me you're okay

Me : I couldn't be better

Ntsika : she did you bad

Me : and I don't care

Ntsika : come on

Me : we won't fight Mpilontle I don't care about her anymore or what she does it doesn't concern us

Ntsika : she never deserved you

Me : yeah well and I guess that's why my ancestors wanted me to marry uMaJola

~ Mpilontle

I got fired at work my boss couldn't wait to embarrass me in front of everyone

Telling me how I never even deserved the spot I only got it because Nqaba once bailed him out of a sticky situation

I can't even afford to take him to court or anything

I've been living in a shelter I heard that Nqaba sold the house he sold all my clothes even my car and he donated all that money to a children's orphanage

I can't go home my family will never accept me if only I still had money then maybe they would

But now I'll just be a burden to them never burn bridges when you cross you might need them again

~ Nqabayomzi

My phone rings disturbing me it's
Mvelo I answer

Me : bawo

Mvelo : mkhuluwa ubuya nini

Me : why

Mvelo : umnfazi wakho uyalila apha

Me : hayhiii Mvelo ngoba nimenze nton

Mvelo : nothing okay this is getting out of hand we take the remote she cries we eat she wants our food I can't mna

I laugh he drops the call on me I call my wife she answers crying

Me : sisi endincamisana naye bakwenze nton heh

Zipho : ubhuti Mvelo

Me : wenze nton leso sbhanxa

Zipho : akafun ngokutya kwam

Is it really hers

Me : uyandiqhela uMvelo ngok uphi
unozala

What can I say kodwa

Zipho : ukhona

Me : mnike leyo phone sweetheart

I hear some shuffling

Mom : Nqaba

She's holding in a laugh

Me : nozala please thetha
nomntanakho

Mom : and say what

Me : to give my wife the food he
can make another plate

Mom : take outs mchanam

I laugh the way she's saying it now
I know that's Mvelo's food

Me : nozala ndiyacela torho
akazenzi lomntu

She laughs

Mom : so you've seen

Me : yeah she's over three months
going on four

Mom : njani she doesn't show

Me : umntana we zinyanya nozala
ufihliwe she won't show until she's
close to giving birth she's not even
supposed to know now

Mom : aww kodwa Nqaba

Me : and you're not going to tell her
or anyone not even your husband
during pillow talk

We laugh

Mom : you're so nasty let me order
food for my daughter in-law

She drops the call now I have to go
home sooner

~ Ziphozendalo

I feel awful okay that doesn't even
begin to explain how I'm feeling
right now

Mvelo : awusemubi

I look at him and tears threaten to
come out

That's another thing this crying is
making me look like a cry baby I
hate it so much it doesn't help

everything and anything makes me
cry

Omuhle : tatam hayhiii marn

She shakes her head Mvelo frowns
he doesn't like me much lately I'm
just glad he's over that silly crush
he had on me

Me : is this still about your food
bhuti that was a week ago

Mrs Bangani : and you apologized

Mr Bangani : Mvelo just forgive her

He ignores them I ate his ribs and wings last week they were in the fridge I just wanted to steal one or two but I ended up eating the whole lot he was so furious

Me : please excuse me

I get up

Mrs Bangani : see what you're doing

Mvelo : kodwa ma

Mr Bangani : she's your sister in-law just try

I hear them saying as I head to my room I call Nqaba he answers immediately

Nqaba : sweetheart are you okay

Me : uMvelo undiqumbele Jola

He sighs I'm always complaining
these days but he doesn't even
seem to mind

Nqaba : ngoba

Me : I eat his ribs and wings

He laughs like really laughs and
this is a serious issue Mvelo really
didn't like what I did

Nqaba : k'theni uMvelo ingathi
imoffie nje

Now I'm the one who laughs

Me : he has a daughter that tells
you he's very straight

Nqaba : hayhiii marn it was just
food kalok

We talk for a while before we say
goodbye to each other

~ Nqabayomzi

My phone rings and the shock I get
I haven't talked with him in almost
two years he was in Russia I think
so he must be back in South Africa
I answer

Me : Lubanzi Xaluva

He chuckles guess some things
never change the voice is still deep
as I know it

Lubanzi : you're still alive

I laugh

Me : shouldn't I be asking you

Lubanzi : when are you coming home

Me : I'm actually on my way there

We're both from Isilo Kingdom

But he's the Prince and the heir to the throne we are friends always have been since primary

My family being well off I was able to go to better schools in the city where the royal kids attended

Lubanzi : good host me tonight

He drops the call

Me : some things never change

~ Ziphozendalo

I walk in the lounge I always thought that Nqaba carries a dark aura but he's nothing compared to this yummy thing sitting here like he owns us

Me : uhm molweni

Mvelo : yeah

I guess he's still upset with me

I sit down the guy looks at me and I
can't hold the stare I look down

The scent that fills my nostrils gets
me to smile like a baby I look
towards the door and he comes on
seconds later

Nqaba : weh sisi nomkitha sisi
endincamisana naye

Mvelo : aibo niyajola apha kwa
Bangani nton ke le

The guy shakes his head he scares
me the way he is

Him : awusemuncu

Mvelo walks out with his frowning
self

I go to my husband and find
comfort in his arms he gives me a
kiss not minding the scary cute
handsome guy in the room with us I
pull out

Him : niyanyanyisa yhoh

Who is this guy and what does he want here

Nqaba : why aren't you at your father's house wena

Him : ndizakuqhweba unye mna muphi yena utatam

Nqaba laughs so he knows him

Nqaba : so are you back

Him : yeah

Nqaba : for how long

Him : forever

Nqaba : mmmm have you been to
the palace

Him : no I'll be here for a week

Now I'm getting confused what
does he have to do with the palace

Nqaba : right well your room is
always ready for it

Him : I've already settled

Nqaba : mmmm let me go and
settle see you at dinner

We walk upstairs to my room
I guess I can say it's ours now

Me : who is that

Nqaba : that's prince Lubanzi

Xaluva the heir to the throne of Isilo
Kingdom

What a whole prince in our lounge
I've never seen nor met the royal
family

Nqaba : he's my friend

Me : a prince is your friend

Nqaba : he's a human like we are
prince or not

Me : I know that

Nqaba : I missed you

He pulls me into his arms

Me : I missed you more

Nqaba : how much more

Me : don't start with me because
you didn't tell me you're coming

Nqaba : I heard that Mvelo was
giving you trouble

Me : all because I ate his food

Nqaba : and said it was yours wathi
ngo kwakho sweetheart

~ Mpilontle

I don't know if this is karma or what but here I am on the streets of Joburg selling my body for peanuts some men even refuse to pay when they've fucked

I really messed up and shit caught up with me

For 8 years I've been loyal and committed once just once I cheat once get caught and my whole damn life is ruined to a point of no return just one stupid silly mistake

I have thought about going to
Eastern Cape and beg my husband
for forgiveness

Maybe alone he would have but
since his whole family saw me I
doubt they'll want anything to do
with me this is my life now I'm
reduced to a mere cheap prostitute

~ Ziphosendalo

I just came back from visiting
Bhelekazi nothing beats spending
time with her

To think since I've been married I
haven't seen my parents I wonder
how they live with themselves

But it's fine I'm still angry at them
despite the fact that I am happy
now and in love with Nqaba

They still sold me without asking me if I want to do this or not it wasn't my duty to save Nqaba

But they didn't care they got 80 000 of bride price and forgot all about me clearly I meant nothing to them

I'm hardly seeing Nqaba he's been home for a week but since his prince friend has been staying with us at the Bangani homestead he's spending time with him

Or he's either busy in his hut helping clients

Since he's been home I think he's accepting more of his gift because not a day goes by and he's not in the hut or there are no clients coming in

And it was shocker for me that he doesn't even charge the people like it's up to them how much they offer for his ancestors

That's just amazing and it makes me want to learn and know more about African spirituality

Ndalo : you're doing it again

Trailing off while she's right here besides me

I came to see her after I left Bhelekazi's home

Me : I'm sorry

We laugh

Ndalo : so listen it's Luba's birthday
this weekend

Me : okay

Ndalo : just okay...come on I'm
inviting you

Me : hell no so your brother can
torment me I'll pass but do save me
a slice of cake

She laughs

Ndalo : friend please do it for me

Me : no

Ndalo : I'll be all alone there if
you're not coming then I won't
attend you know how he is with his
annoying friends and girlfriends I
need backup

Me : he's your brother don't be silly

~ Nqabayomzi

Being home is great and all but I
won't lie and say I'm not tired
because I am

Working with clients almost all day
it's tiring and then my wife still
needs my attention

Being pregnant her moods are just
all over the place and she's always
crying about nothing

It's a pity I can't tell her what's
happening with her that's how the
ancestors wants it

They don't want to reveal the baby
as of yet and she's already a few
months but she's not even showing
but the glow can't be missed

My phone rings it's Ntsikayesizwe I
answer

Me : Ndoda

Ntsika : when are you coming back

I laugh I sure damn miss my
brother's because when I'm in
Joburg every weekend we see
each other

Me : I don't know

Ntsika : whoa are you even coming
back kodwa

Me : maybe

Ntsika : are you going to be residing that side now

Me : in PE if I decide to stay

Ntsika : why

Me : I bought MaJola a house that side and I don't think she wants to move to a big city like Joburg

He sighs but he needs to get this my wife comes first

Ntsika : you won't believe who I
saw

Me : don't even tell me about
Mpilontle

He laughs

Ntsika : must you always know
everything

Me : well I don't always know but I
know you

Ntsika : she's selling her body

Sometimes I think Ntsika has a speech problem the way he's saying selling her body he says it like she's selling her body like a person that's selling vegetables

Me : she's a prostitute

Ntsika : I could have said that as well you know just that I chose to be respectful

I laugh

Me : the fuck

Ntsika : yeah it's a shame kodwa
naye lamntana after yonke into you
did for her

Me : I'm over it

Ntsika : let's thank MaJola for that
greet her for her I have to get back
to work

~ Ziphozendalo

I walk in my room and find him in bed he must be so tired I take a throw and cover him only he holds my hand

Me : I didn't mean to wake you up

Nqaba : I can't sleep come join me

I take my shoes off and get in bed he holds me in his arms

Nqaba : are you okay

Me : yes are you okay

Nqaba : mmmm

Oh bawo I look at him because his eyes are closed

Me : can I ask

Nqaba : I'm listening

Me : uhm Ndoni has invited me to her brothers birthday party

He opens his eyes my poor husband he's so tired I feel for him he's overworking

Nqaba : ngok ufuna ukuya wena

Me : bendicela Jola

Nqaba : mmmm so uyinton wena kule party

I'm so lost

Me : andiqondi Jola

Nqaba : senditsho ba uyinton wena
kule party uzitulo okanye itafula

Me : hayhiii

Nqaba : nton ke uyidécór

Me : hayhiii Jola

Nqaba : okay kalok awuyi apho ke

I gasps everything he just said and
I laugh

Me : was that necessary

Nqaba : masilale muntu wam yhoh

Me : okay ndiyak'thanda ke

Nqaba : ndiyak'thanda nam

He closes his eyes back and I've never been this happy or content in my life

All thanks to my parents our none existence relationship is broken worse since I haven't seen them for so many months

But thanks to their selfishness I met this man and I've never been so happy in my life it sometimes scares me

What if I wake up and realise it was
all a dream I don't think I would
survive after that

Because I doubt there's any man
that can love me like Nqabayomzi
Bangani does

11 years of age difference but he's
my tattooed sangoma happily ever
after

~The End~