



SHE LOVES HER BODY AND SHE IS
CONFIDENT, SEXY, HUMBLE AND
SUCCESSFUL

MISS CHUBBY

MINENHLE NKOSI

PROLOGUE

7 YEARS AGO

“Futhi wake up.” I groan and go back to sleep. I hate it when someone disturbs my peaceful sleep. He shakes me again, this time making sure that I really wake up. “Wake up my love. My parents are here.” Oww shit, I jump out of the bed. I look at him hoping that he will say he was joking. I run my hands through my messed up hair.

Me: “what time is it?”

Him: “it is 10am.”

Me: “shit why didn’t you wake me up early?”

Him: “you are the one who hates being woken up and you refused when to wake up when I woke you

up earlier.”

I roll my eyes and go to the bathroom, brush my teeth and get in the shower. After showering I dry my body, lotion and get dressed in a below the knee tight black dress. I head downstairs and find him sitting in the lounge with his parents. I greet and sit next to him. His mother looks like she is about to bust, I hope I am not the cause but if looks can kill I would've been 6 feet under the way she is staring at me.

His Dad: “son we came to talk to you about something important.”

Him: “you can talk in front of Futhi father, there is no need for her to excuse us.”

His Mom: “what is she to you? Girly this is a family matter. Make yourself useful around the house and stop staring at us.” Wow, she doesn't know me yet she dislike me.

Him: “guys just talk so that you can be on your way. We have plans today with Futhi.”

His Dad: “we found a wife for you to marry. Mathapelo Shabalala, daughter of Thapelo Shabalala of Mshengu Holdings. This marriage will strengthen our business and we need alliances like these. It is a good business move, the coming together of two powerful families.”

Him: “but dad I have my own girlfriend who is sitting right next to me. What makes you think I will agree to an arranged marriage?”

His Mom: “what does she brings to the table? Mathapelo will be bringing millions of her family’s money. Yena?” she says looking at me with disgust. I am tempted to tell her that I am a qualified architect but I just keep my mouth shut.

Him: “mom I will not allow you to disrespect my girlfriend like that.”

His Dad: “son you have two options. Marry Mathapelo, merge Mshengu Holdings and Simelane

Holdings, be the CEO of the multi-millionaire company or lose everything, your inheritance, your position in the company, your cars and houses. The ball is in your court. Think about your move wisely.” He stood up and extended his hands to his wife, “let’s go my love.” She stood up and they left. Sabelo kept quiet and stared at the floor.

Me: “so what are you going to do?”

Him: “why are you rushing me? I have everything to lose here. Can you just keep quiet?” wow. I kept quiet and folded my arms to my chest. 30 minutes passed he finally breathed out loudly. “How about I take you as my second wife? I don’t love Mathapelo but I do love you. I will marry her then marry you.” I chuckled and stood up.

Me: “listen here Sabelo. I am Ntombifuthi Cele. I am a qualified architect and an engineering undergrad. I am not desperate. Just because I love you doesn’t mean I will be second best or settle for less. Your

suggestions tells me you love money more than me. I will make a simple decision for the both of us. It is over. Don't contact me, don't come to my apartment, and don't bother my siblings about my whereabouts. Whatever that was going on between the two of us ends now. I will not beg you to make me your first because you have already made a decision for yourself that will benefit you. This is goodbye."

I breathed out loudly with tears threatening to come out. I went upstairs, packed everything that belonged to me and left him with his house just like that.

That was the last time I saw him. Months later I saw his wedding in a magazine. I was heartbroken and shattered. I loved him and gave him my all. I thought he will come begging for me to take him back. I was wrong. He chose his inheritance instead of fighting for our love. I never really depended on Sabelo for my survival. I was an employee at Hlongwa Architects so I had a job and I was stable and could

provide for myself...

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The beginning of an interesting journey

INTRODUCTION

The name is Ntombifuthi Lwandlelethu Cele I am 29 years old. I have 4 siblings, we are five altogether and I am the second child. My mother is Sijabulile and my father is Siyabulela. The first child is Busisiwe Dumakude (32) (she is married), the third child is Sibulele (24) (the first son), the fourth child is Nothando (21) and the last born is Gcinokuhle (17) (the second son). So it's 3 girls and 2 boys.

My love for drawing, architecture to be precise, started when I was doing grade 8, when I was 12 years old. My mother brought me a diary to write all the things I was going through as I was approaching teenage hood but instead I drew. I drew houses, mansions, castles, bridges, tall buildings. When my

mother saw my diary/notebook she showed it to my father and to say he was impressed would be an understatement. They were in the process of renovating our childhood home so they used one of my sketches to guide them. I was taught EGD from grade 10 to 12.

Hence I studied architecture and engineering in varsity. I am currently the CEO and the only shareholder of Dubandlela Construction Company. It is a mixture of architecture and construction under one roof. So we draw and design buildings and we also build them. We get tenders to build malls, schools, hospitals, hotels, you can name them. There is also a department for interior designing. I also do go onsite and get my hands dirty sometimes, not too often. I own my company, meaning I have no board members.

Well I am a chubby girl by birth. I have never had a slim body. Both Busisiwe and Nothando have model

bodies but me I am your typical Celeste Ntuli body type. I have caramel skin. I do have big ass and big boobs it's just that I am a size 42. Since primary I have been body shamed to such an extent that in high school I attempted to commit suicide when a picture of me naked trended. After a lot of therapy I leant to accept myself for who I am. I have never attempted to exercise or use products for sliming. I have shoulder length brown hair, I style it all the time, and I hardly braid my hair. I am not a weave or a bonding person. I am a very flexible person and I have killer dance moves like Busiswa.

One of the weirdest things about me is that my eyes are turquoise in color. You'd think that I use contact lenses but no I have natural weird eyes. Some kids once spread the rumors that I may have Satanism because of my eye color but it took a statement from an optometrist to put those rumors to bed. I have no cellulite or stretch marks but I respect women who have them because they are part of who we are. In relationships that I have had in the past

most guys would just fuck and pass, they would be embarrassed to be seen with me in public, they wouldn't post me. So basically I am a bed warmer but not girlfriend material. So I decided to stop dating and just have fuck buddies and one night stands.

I live alone in my 10 bedrooms house in Warner Beach. My company is situated in Arena Park. My parents and the two younger siblings live in Morningside. Busi lives in Northwest with her husband and 2 kids. Sibulele lives in Northgate, he is a singer, songwriter and producer. Basically he is a celebrity. As I don't like the spotlight, he tries so much to keep me away from it but we hang out together most of the time so I do make the paparazzi every now and then. Out of all of my siblings he is the one I am closest to followed by Gcino. Busi and Thando never wanted to be associated with me because I am too big for them.

My relationship with my parents is not bad, not good either. We do get along but we are not best of friends however they do support my dreams and they are always there when I need them. Father works in the office of the Mayor of Durban in the finance department and mother is sales manager at SMG in Ballito.

Well I am black successful thick woman and I have learnt that people body shaming me won't make my bank account fatter. So rather ignore them and live my life to the fullest.

CHAPTER 1

PRESENT DAY

I wake up in the morning, wash my face, brush my teeth and connect my phone to my Bluetooth speaker to play my morning jam from Spotify. I love music so almost every time when you come to my house you will find me listening to music. I make the bed, open the curtains and windows while dancing to the music. I take out my outfit for the day from my walk in closet which is a floral umbrella skirt and red shirt with red hot lace-up pointed toe heels. I lay them nicely on my bed and go to the kitchen. I make my cup of coffee drink it and prepare for work.

After I am done with everything I head out the front door and I am met by my housekeeper Kgomotso.

She usually sleeps out on Sundays. We exchange greetings and I head to the garage and drive out my silver grey Amarak double cab with a canopy to work. I am a big girl so I love big cars and I have lots of big cars. I arrive at work and park at my usual parking spot. I take my laptop bag, handbag, drawing storage tube which carries my sketches and get out of the car. I lock it and head inside the building. I am met by my forever smiling gay receptionist. His name is Lindani but he has convinced almost everyone to call him Lindsay.

Me: "morning Lindsay." Ohh I also call him that.

Him: "morning Miss Jill Scott." He always calls me that and he is forever smiling if he isn't being dramatic.

Me: "how was your weekend?" he starts fanning himself, oww boy here it comes.

Him: "girl it was lit. We were there with abo Somizi, abo Stha, girl I am telling you, you missed out shame. Next time I am dragging you to the club. We can't

have you cooped up in that mansion of yours. You must get laid. Who knows maybe you have turned a virgin again.” I laugh so hard. There is never a dull moment with this one. But I think he is right about the virgin part. I don’t even remember the last time I got laid.

Me: “whatever bitch, so where is Bobo?” Bobo if I am not mistaken is his boyfriend or fling, I don’t know.

Him: “I dumped his broke ass for the weekend, he was cock-blocking me Futhy and I couldn’t deal.”

Me: “you know what we will continue this chat some other time and maybe I will take you up on that club offer.” I walk to the elevator leaving him screaming my name. Lonwabo, the CFO rushes to the elevator before it closes. He presses his floor and mine too. I do have my own private elevator which I only use when I am not in good mood, angry, sick or when there is an emergency.

Him: “how are you doing boss?”

Me: "life is good. How are you?"

Him: "I am over the moon. The Mrs. is pregnant."

Me: "wow that's awesome man. Congrats. Who knows, maybe you might earn yourself a paternity leave if I am in good mood." His face lights up.

Him: "really? You'd do that for me."

Me: "I said I might now get to work." I say as the elevator opens at his floor. He chuckles and steps out. It closes again and opens on my floor. Yeah you heard that I have my own floor. I don't like noise when I am working, I prefer my own space. Although I share it with my PA but it's better than sharing with the employees. I enter my office and I find my breakfast and coffee on my desk. I love my PA so much. She gets me, she understands me and she knows me in and out. I sit on my desk and start eating my breakfast. She gets in the door.

Zanele: "morning boss. How was your weekend?"

Me: "same old same old. How was yours?"

Her: "good."

Me: "so what's happening today?"

Her: "you are meeting Prince Kuhle Zulu."

Me: "Thee Prince Kuhle Zulu? The future king of the Zulu Kingdom?"

Her: "yep that one."

Me: "what does he want?"

Her: "for you to design his family home and a home he would stay at once he is crowned King. And for your team to put your vision into action."

Me: "wow that's great. It is such an honor. So when are we meeting him?"

Her: "in 30 minutes."

Me: "okay. Set up the boardroom please. I don't want his cologne intoxicating my office." She laughs and then heads out.

I have never worked with royalty before so for me this is new and exciting. And the fact that I will be

designing the future palace it is so awesome. My inner goddess is doing Thuso Phala. 30 minutes later Zah comes to my office saying he has arrived and he brought his wife along with a few guards. No offence but Princess Zulu is your typical trophy wife who looks like she has snobbish tendencies. I just hope she won't have silly demands. I get to the boardroom with my tablet and sit down after exchanging greetings with them.

Me: "so Prince Zulu my PA tells me you want me to design 2 of your homes?"

Him: "yeah that's basically it and please call me Kuhle." He says with a smile. The wife rolls her eyes. Ohh how I wish Lindsay was also attending this meeting. He'd know how to deal with her. He sounds so polite for a future king, I have no doubt the Zululand will be in good hands under his reign.

Me: "so Kuhle can you give me a clear view of what you want and where exactly will you be building

these homes?" I ask with a friendly smile on my face.

Him: "well the first one will be at eMandlanzini just outside Richards Bay and the second one will be at Kwa Nongoma, Enyokeni."

Me: "so your vision on the first one? You want a dramatic Umhlanga mansion or your homely mansion?"

Him: "well I have live in the city for too long so I am to retire to eMandlanzini and have peace nje. I don't want a dramatic triple story house. I want a hybrid house. A mansion but with a touch of the Zulu culture. You know those Ndebele homes with colorful designs outside?" I nod. "Yeah something like that but the Zulu culture. It must also have a rondavel but not your old fashioned rondavel, a modern one." The wife clears her throat.

Her: "can we discuss the rondavel issue honey? I am not disputing it but can we put on hold the maybe we can build it years later?"

Him: “who is paying for these houses?” Nya.

Awkward. “Thought so. So MaCele do you see my vision?”

Me: “yes and I already have a picture of your house in mind.”

Him: “it must have about 10 bathrooms and a garage that can accommodate 8 cars.” Ohh wow so many cars. “yah I have many cars and I know they won’t fit in this garage so others will be transported to Nongoma.” He smirks and I nod and jot down a few notes. He is very charming, I wouldn’t mind being his 2nd wife, just kidding. “I need it to be a double story. I also want a basement, man cave like, but we will discuss all its features once the house has been built.”

Me: “and the second one?”

Him: “yes, I want it to have a huge main house also with a touch of our culture. It must have about 20 bedrooms. 1 ancestors’ rondavel in the backyard and another one just for control. Also isibaya for the

cows and also the goats. A fence that covers everything. I actually want an African castle, after all I am to be King.” So many bedrooms, this is a hotel not a house. I have never designed a castle before so this is a great challenge for me.

Wife: “what’s with you and rondavels honey? What happened to old fashioned flats or maybe 2 bedroom flats? Why are you loosing yourself babe?”

Him: “I have a meeting across town in an hour. I don’t have time for your whining. You said you wanted to be present to this meeting not to make your presence to be heard so please don’t waste my time and her time.” He says pointing at me. “So when can I get the sketches Nkosazana?”

Me: “next week Tuesday. Set up a lunch meeting with Zah.”

Him: “will do.”

Me: “What’s your budget?”

Him: “no budget.” Mmm abo 8 figures madoda.

Me: “okay I guess that concludes our meeting. If you feel like you have left out some details on your explaining feel free to contact me during the week to add also feel free to come and check on the progress. Please do send me the measurements of the sites where we would be building.”

Him: “will do.” I stand up and they also stand up.

Me: “I will be waiting for them.”

Kuhle: “I am trusting you ngekhaya lami. Your work speaks for itself. I hope after you’ve done with my houses then we can maybe in the near future work together.”

Me: “that would be awesome Kuhle. Nihambe kahle.”
We shake hands and they leave. Zah and I head back to my office.

Zah: “damn Mr. K is tense. He puts his wife in her place. Phela that woman has no manners and has no respect for anyone. I am actually surprised that

she is this obedient to his husband.”

Me: “how do you know her?”

Zah: “my sister works as their maid. She says all the Mrs. Does is just sit and drink champagne with her friends, go to clubs. She does whatever she lives. She lives a life of a single woman and she is a terrible boss.”

Me: “well I am glad I won’t be working with her.”

Zah: “me and you both boss.” We both laugh.

She heads to her office and I start with today’s work. Noma, my best-friend, texts me telling me about lunch. I continue working and when lunch time approaches I take my handbag, phone, wallet and head out to meet her at McDonalds. I find her already there and I take a seat after exchanging greetings and hugs. She ordered before I arrived because she knows what I like. The waiter brings our food to the table. I wonder how much she paid to be served. She is a very punctual person. We met at varsity, we did the same course but she also did LLB

so she is an advocate, Advocate Nomalanga Biyela.

Noma: “yoh Booty you will never believe what happened this weekend?” Did I mention that she is also a party freak? She also calls me ‘Booty’ because I have a big butt. She is very dramatic, there are a very few moments where she doesn’t act like a gay on steroids.

Me: “let me guess, you met your match?” she always go clubbing, meet a guy, fuck for a max of 4 days and she passes on. If the dick is good she can stay for 2 weeks. She hates commitment.

Noma: “how did you know?” we both laugh. “Anyways this one is the one. I can feel it in my bones.” I laugh because it is always the same thing with her.

Me: “how is his dick game?” she starts fanning herself and spreads her legs to fan her cookie. You see, dramatic tendencies.

Noma: “11/10 Booty. Damn that guy broke my virginity all over again. It was like it’s the first time I

am having sex. His machine yoh. The fact that his dick is so long, so thick, it fills me, completes me and the fact that he knows how to use it. The ways he moves his waist, Oh God I just had an orgasm just thinking about him. He ripped my nana apart bruh.” I laugh and she giggles. Damn she has really met her match. “Booty I am telling you, he doesn’t even have that body that drives me crazy, the muscles, the abs. No he is just skinny but not too skinny. Eish I don’t know how to describe him anymore, it would be best if you see him for yourself.” I choke in my shake.

Me: “say what now?!” she has never introduced her flings to me. Mainly because sometimes she doesn’t even remember their names and she knows it is not that serious. I am like a parent to her. To her my approval means a lot.

Noma: “anyways the thing is he is a waiter.”

Me: “so? Do you want a serious relationship with suitor number 147?” we both laugh, of course she

hasn't slept with more than a hundred men but nje.

Noma: "I don't know what a serious relationship is. I don't know if I wanna end my stress-free life a guy I just met. Gosh I have never been conflicted like this before Booty, what should I do?" why is she asking for a relationship advice from a single person?

Me: "you are asking the wrong person nana. Let's go to Lindelwa, she will know what to do." Lindelwa is our friend who happens to be a therapist. We always ask for advice from her when we at crossroads.

Noma: "sounds like a plan."

We get to our cars and head to her office. Luckily we find that her lunch hour will be over in 10 minutes, so we will use this time to our advantage. We barge in her office and find her stuffing herself with pizza.

Noma: "uphangelani? Akekho ozokucela yoh. Speed kills Lee." She wipes her mouth, drinks her juice and sit back in her chair. We sit in the visitors' chairs and

stare at her.

Lee: "let me guess this ain't a social visit?"

Me: "you don't do those so why should we?"

Lee: "gees you won't even comfort me with lies at least. Bribe me with 6-pack nyana ya Flying Fish. The kind of friends we keep." We all laugh. We don't do social visits at work because we are very busy people. We only barge in each other's offices when we have emergencies.

Noma: "it's a Monday bitch, we might be drunkards but Mondays belong to God, right?" what?

Lee: "dude Sundays belong to God. I don't go to church but I do know that."

Noma: "I must get my facts straight. I have just embarrassed myself. I am an embarrassment to the Jargon world." We laugh at her.

Lee: "so what's on?"

Me: "she thinks she is in love." I say pointing at Noma with my eyes.

Lee: "same old same old." She says rolling her eyes

Noma: “no this time it’s different. I am serious, it’s different. He is so good in bed and has a genuine heart. I even remember his name. He is Khanya Mlambo. But he is a waiter Tase.”

Lee: “what’s wrong about him being a waiter?” here it comes. Noma shrugs. “We are in the 21st century Tase where there are independent women everywhere. Although the norm is the man is ‘supposed’ to earn more than a woman in order to be respected but that is not it. Respect is not based on monetary things or iphakethe lomuntu. You choose to respect a person. Don’t suffer from the ‘abantu bazothini syndrome’ Tase. Ufundile wena for that bullshit (you’re educated). Other people’s useless opinions shouldn’t matter. Date your waiter, be happy. I for one approve your relationship and I am happy that you finally found love. Love is a beautiful thing and it can be found in the rarest places. For example a pastor can find love in a drunkard. People may judge and talk all bullshit about them but if it is true love the pastor will stand up for their love. Nawe if you think it’s true love then screw everybody. It is

about you and your happiness Tase.”

Me: “you see? I wasn’t gonna say half the shit she just mentioned.” We all laugh.

Noma: “I guess I know what to do now. I mean who cares if I have 7 figures on my personal account. I must go get my man.” We hype her. “I really have a good feeling about this. So help me God.” After chatting about other things we go back to our jobs.

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PLEASE show some love by liking, commenting and sharing

CHAPTER 2

The next day it is work as usual. After lunch time someone barges in my office while I am busy on my drawing board with the Zulu project.

Me: “the door is there for a reason. You knock, you are given permission then you enter. Simple math.” I hate being disturbed when I am in my drawing board because once I lose concentration it is hard to get back to what I was doing before I was disturbed.

Mrs. Zulu: “I don’t have time for that. I wanna talk business.” She sits down on the visitor’s chair and places her designer bag on my table. I raise my head and look straight in her eyes. The reason why I have my own floor is that I don’t want unexpected visitors. Where the fuck is Zah when you need her? I stand up

from my seat and go sit on the chair behind my desk. I stare at her.

Me: “oww please take a seat, make yourself comfortable.” I say sarcastically.

Her: “you better drop your stinky attitude or my husband and I take the business elsewhere.”

Me: “there is the door, take your project elsewhere I don’t give a fuck. I know I am the best at what I do so I won’t beg.” I hate spoilt housewives. They always make my work difficult when building houses. In fact I hate clients who think I will go hungry without their money. She rolls her eyes.

Her: “anyways I want you to cancel the rondavels and I want you to design a Tuscan mansion. I believe you know what it is.” I really hate her type. I fake a smile.

Me: “anything you want Mrs. Zulu. Now if you may please excuse me I have a Tuscan sketches to draw.” She stands up and takes her bag.

Her: “glad we could come to an agreement.” She says with a smile and heads out with her heels

echoing in the whole office. BITCH! Zah rushes in my office with a worried expression.

Zah: “boss I am so sorry. I was getting your report from the marketing team. I didn’t even go to lunch.”

Me: “no need to apologize Zah. Please organize a dinner meeting with Kuhle. Ungijwayela kabi umfazi wakhe.”

Zah: “on it boss. Here is your report.” She hands me the report and leave.

I continue drawing and when the clock hits 4pm I fold my drawings, take my handbag, phone and car keys and head to Zah’s office. Zah tells me that Kuhle will be able to meet me at 7pm at a restaurant. I head home and take a bath. After bathing I go to my bedroom and sit in my bed. Kgomotso enters my room and serve me my late lunch, which is a chicken and mayo sandwich with guava juice. I eat then take the dishes to the kitchen.

I go back to the bedroom to take out clothes that I will be wearing at the dinner. I take my sketches and gently unfold them in my drawing table (I have one in my room too, in case I get inspiration during the night). I set an alarm for 6:15pm and continue with my drawing. I am very passionate with my job, so even when I am busy I make sure I find time to do it.

At 6:15 I stop working and start getting ready. I do my make-up and wear my curly weave while playing Lizzo- Good As Hell. I wear my black and white stripes dress, denim jacket and nude block heels. I put on my cologne, take my handbag, phone, car keys and head out after locking the door. I head to the restaurant and I arrive there 10 minutes late.

I find Kuhle inside and I must say if he wasn't married I would have him even for 1 night because God the prince is fine. He notices me walking towards him and quickly stands up.

Kuhle: "MaCele how are you?" he says extending his hand, I shake it and he opens the chair for me.

Gentleman much huh. I sit down and he also sits.

Me: "I am okay, how are you Kuhle?"

Him: "I am fine." I signal a waiter.

Me: "if you don't mind I am famished so we will talk while I am eating." He chuckles. The waiter arrives at our table.

Him: "I don't mind."

Me: "hi, I'd like to have ¼ grilled chicken with a peri-peri sauce, and also Greek salad on the side and a mojito cocktail. And for desert I'd like Oreo Truffles."

Kuhle: "I'd like the same main course with Castle lite dumpy."

Waiter: "coming right up your majesty." he leaves us.

Me: "Castle Lite, really? I was expecting the regular 'scotch on the rocks' beverage." He laughs. He has a beautiful laughter. Oww Futhy get your mind off the gutter, he is taken.

Kuhle: "sorry to disappoint." I chuckle and go straight

to business.

Me: "I won't be designing and building your houses Kuhle." His face falls.

Him: "what? Why?" Ncooh he is so cute right now.

Me: "I don't have time to deal with your spoilt wife. I am a business woman. Business come to me I don't go out looking for it. I don't beg a client. I was really looking forward to building your homes but no I don't have time to deal with a real housewife of Durban. I am really good at my job so I hate it when I have to deal with people like her or be disrespected in my work place." He rubs his hands in his head. You can see that he is having inner conflict.

Him: "what did she do?"

Me: "she came to my office, undermined my job. She thinks she can say jump and I'd be like 'How High?' oww please. I am not like everyone."

Him: "I am sorry for her behavior. Just please don't drop the contract. I will do anything." I don't like it when clients beg. I exhale.

Me: “fine but please keep your wife on a leash or she will be banned from entering my building.” The waiter brings the food. “Finally, I was beginning to think you misplaced our food or you didn’t put in the order.” I say in a funny manner so that he won’t take offence. He just chuckles.

Waiter: “please do enjoy your food and if there is anything else you would like, I am at your service.”

Me: “what if I want you on a silver platter?” his eyes pop out and I take a sip of my cocktail. I can see that Kuhle is also shocked. I burst out laughing, gosh you should see their faces. “Yoh I am kidding. We are okay for now, you may leave.” He quickly rushes to where he came from leaving me laughing my ass out.

Kuhle: “wow, just wow.” I smirk at him and start eating my food.

We talk about less serious things while eating. He is a very funny guy. I’d keep him around as a friend if he weren’t married. Phela married men aren’t supposed to have single female friends. They always

raise suspicions and they can make the married women paranoid. But I'd also hate for my future husband to be close friends with a single woman. I am one so I know we get thirsty and hungry sometimes. And that thirst can lead to big mistakes that might break up marriages.

Kuhle: "so do you have someone in your life?"

Me: "nah. This one time I was quarter to getting my happy ending but it all went poof."

Him: "what happened?"

Me: "arranged marriage shit, the asshole chose inheritance over our love."

Him: "wow I am sorry you met a spineless man." I laugh at him. "So you are single?"

Me: "not really. I am married to my job and my company. I dedicate so much time and effort in it that I have no time to worry about not being in a relationship. If I have an itch, I find someone to take care of it, anyone. If he is good fuck buddy material I

keep him around. If he catches feelings I cut him off.”

Him: “wow I have never met a woman like you. Independent, rich and doesn’t give a damn about receiving love from a man.”

Me: “I do receive love from male figures in my life. My dad and my brothers but that’s just it. Your gender can be assholes most of the time, no offence.” He laughs.

Him: “non-taken. I just love your honesty and you are a breath of fresh air. I just wish we can do this more often.”

Me: “no can do your highness. We don’t wish the public to have the wrong impression and your wife attacking me. I do kick ass so you will be responsible for nursing her wounds.” He laughs and even throw his head backward.

Him: “MaCele we have to hang out again. You are funny and fun to hang around with.”

Me: “you know what? We can set up a date where we can just chill at my crib. You can bring your friends

and I can bring mine. That's all I can offer." He flashes his million dollar smile. Guys I swear this prince is a ladies' man and I am pretty sure he knows he has a charming smile. Just 1 night, 1 night bahlali, that's all I ask for from the lord but I don't do married man so his loss for the best sex of his entire existence.

Him: "that's fine with me. I also want you to design a house for me. It is going to be my escape house, an entire man cave, a secret house. It is going to be built on a secluded area. I want it to have a basement and a lower basement. It must also have a safe room or panic room as people call it." I raise my brows.

Me: "are you some kind of a gangster Kuhle?" he chuckles.

Him: "no but I do like some me-time and I am a future king, I have got to have a secret place. When it comes to construction I will need very few guys whom you trust dearly who will build it."

Me: "you are really a gangster. Deny it all you want. I

don't care because I am no cop but wena uyiginsa.”
He laughs and shrugs.

We finish our dinner and part ways. I wasn't really going to drop Kuhle, I knew he'd beg but I wanted him to keep his wife on a tight leash.

I arrive at home and go straight to my bedroom. I undress, wear my short silk night dress and get into bed. I switch off the side lamp and straight to Lala land I go.

****NARRATED****

Kuhle arrived at his house pissed as hell. Luckily his kids were already sleeping. He went to check on them then went to the main bedroom. His wife was on Skype with his mother in law. She continued speaking like her husband didn't just walk in. he went to the bathroom, took a quick shower, came out and dried himself, wore his boxers and joined his wife in the bed. By now she was checking out Instagram. Kuhle cleared his throat.

Kuhle: "Sthabile what were you doing at Dubandlela CC today?"

Sthah: "who? Me? I was never there. Who said I was there?" she said avoiding eye contact.

Kuhle: "so you're saying Miss Cele is a liar? You didn't go to her office and demand that she changes the sketches of the houses into your style?"

Sthah: "she is lying my love. Why would I go there?" she said faking a sad tone.

Kuhle: "If you say so then okay." He turns and face the other way. "We will just go tomorrow and ask for the CCTV footage to see who is wrong." He switches off his side lamp. She panics.

Sthah: "fine I went there. I am sorry my love."

Kuhle: "why do you like poking your head where it doesn't fit? Ayy man why do I have to receive complains about my spoiled wife from time to time? You are tiring shame. You are a company yourself."

Sthah: "I am sorry love."

Kuhle: "save it for someone who cares." He switches

off his side lamp and closes his eyes.

****BACK TO FUTHY****

I wake up the following morning, do the regular morning hygiene process. I do my make-up and wear my 14 inch curly hair. I wear my black slim fit pants, nude long sleeve peplum and black pencil heels. I take my black handbag and head out. I feel so good, like I just got out from a photo shoot. I get into my red Aston Martin DBX and head to work while listening to Yehla Moya Remix by Da Capo. This song makes me wanna fast forward to Friday. I am so going clubbing this Friday and I am going to persuade my friends to go with me, not that they need any persuasion because they are always game. I get to work, park my car in my parking sport and lock it after getting out. I get to the reception and Lindsay is energetic as ever.

Me: “we going clubbing Friday.” The way he screams, he is on a mission to kill my eardrums. I always go

with Noma, Lee, Zah and Lindsay to clubbing. They are a whole vibe nje and what I like is that we drink our own money, we are not stingy when it comes to paying for our own drinks. We get to the club, buy meat, buy drinks and turn up all night long, it's good vibes only.

Him: "honey lemme start by saying you look hot, damn girl that ass." He says and I do a 360.

Me: "I slay all day." He hypes me. I love this guy.

Him: "so we going to Club F?"

Me: "hell yeah. Let me get to work. We will talk later."

Him: "sho boss lady." I head to the elevator and go to my office.

I get to my drawings. I finish the Nanda mall project roof top and 3rd floor then continue the Zulu houses project. The clock strikes 1pm and I take my wallet and phone. I go to the restaurant which is next to our building. I don't have a specific lunch time for myself. I just don't rush to lunch when I have unfinished

work unless I am really hungry. I sit on a table, the waiter comes and I order double cheese burger with fries and coke. I let my friends know about Friday on our group chat and as I said they are game. I can't wait, I am seriously looking forward to clubbing. Hey don't look at me like that, I know I am not the only one who just wishes to fast-forward the week to Friday so that I can get drunk and get laid.

The waiter comes back with my order and I thank him. I start eating and in the middle of my lunch a famous soccer player, Mvelo Mkhwanazi enters the restaurants and there is commotion, people wanting to take pictures with him and all. I just roll my eyes and continue eating my lunch. Once I am done I signal the waiter for the bill, I pay and go back to work. I find Lindsay on my floor chatting with Zah.

Me: "your celebrity crush is next door."

Lindsay: "which one?"

Me: "Shamase." They both scream.

Zah: "Shamase as in Mvelo Mkhwanazi?"

Me: "yeah that one."

Lindsay: "did you greet him? Take a picture with him? Take his number?" I stare at him.

Me: "really now? He is your celebrity crush not mine so I don't go crazy when I see him. Anyways get back to work mhlali." I say then proceed to my office. Zah follows me.

Zah: "the Ntuli brothers are coming in like 10 minutes."

Me: "their appointment is today?"

Zah: "yes girl."

Me: "eyy fine. Is the boardroom set?"

Zah: "everything is on point boss."

Me: "okay, fetch me when they are here." She nods and head out.

The Ntuli brothers are music moguls. They have the biggest record label in Mzansi. The name of the

record label is Blue Diamond Music. They have a very big studio in JHB. It is every aspiring musician's dream to sign with them. Yandisa is the eldest, he is the CEO and automatically the head of the family since their parents died 5 years ago. He is married and has kids. Sandile is the middle brother. He is a producer and can play many instruments. Sakhile is the last born. He acts like a brat sometimes. I think the fame is messing with him because he is a singer. I really don't know why they wanna meet with me but sengiyozwa khona.

Zah comes to fetch me and I follow her to the boardroom with my iPad. At the boardroom door I find 2 bouncers, I roll my eyes at Zah and she just shrugs and enters the boardroom. I follow her inside and find the brothers already sitting. Honestly speaking these guys are hot and they know they are. Their presence is felt everywhere they enter.

Yandisa: "Miss Cele." He says reaching out for a

handshake. I shake his hand.

Me: "you can call me Futhy." I also shake the other brothers' hands.

Sandile: "I have seen you somewhere before." He says squinting his eyes.

Sakhile: "she is Lele's sister."

Sandile: "oww shit, that guy always talk about you. You'd swear you are his wife or something." We laugh.

Yandisa: "so does singing run in the family." I chuckle.

Me: "I guess."

Sakhile: "how about you sing just a hook for us?"

Me: "not today." They laugh. "Anyways let's get down to business. What brings you guys here?"

Sakhile: "dude you are like the best in the game and you come highly recommended. We wanna build a studio here in Durban and also discover new talent here. We have already bought a site in Asherville. We just want someone who will design and build it for

us.”

Me: “so what do you have in mind? You want it to be exactly like the one in JHB?” my brother once me took me to the studio when I visited him so I know what it looks like and I must say whoever built it did an amazing job. It is beautifully built. I am tempted to ask who built it but no I won’t.

Yandisa: “we want a completely different one. This one must have a kasi vibe. Not too formal. There must be of course offices and studios. There also must be entertainment area and a restaurant. If you know anyone who owns a restaurant you can get them to come to us. They can open their branch within our studio. Of course they will rent and pay that certain percentage of their profit but it will be a win-win situation.” This will bring in so much money and I am so happy it will be take time to build. I will have to go to my architect team so that we can come up with the perfect kasi studio.

Me: “so there also must be a studio for photo shoots.”

Sakhile: “yeah.”

Me: “when you say entertainment area, what entertainment are you talking about? We love different kinds of entertainment. I for one, I am thinking of a strip club right now.” Everyone laughs, even Zah.

Sakhile: “damn I was never ready.” He is still laughing.

Sandile: “basically a play room but not too playful. There can be video games there, board games, an in-house bar, a cinema room. A place where everyone will be comfortable to chill in and relax, day dream.” I have noticed that this one doesn’t speak too much. His voice is sending tingles all over my body. He has la voice guys, the voice that gets you wet.

Zah: “there can also be a small concert room where you can have in-house concerts from time to time as a form of entertainment.”

Yandisa: “that’s a great idea.”

Me: “there can also be a quiet room where musicians can sit and write or compose or whatever

musicians do. Like a musical library if there is such a thing.”

Sandile: “that’s great. Sometimes when you are writing you need a quiet place. I don’t know why we have never thought of that before.”

Me: “yeah when you wanna concentrate you need a peaceful place. That’s why I have this floor all to myself. I don’t want footsteps rushing or ringing phones or giggles disturbing me when I am working.” They chuckle. I am serious, my office and Zah’s office are soundproofed. “So how many floors are we looking at?”

Sakhile: “maybe six.”

Sandile: “yeah six is okay.”

Yandisa: “So will you be able to do it?” he asks looking at me.

Me: “yeah. You can come next week Thursday afternoon to see the progress on the sketches and 3D images of what you have said today. You can make alterations anytime you want before we start building.” I take out my business card and hand it to

Yandisa. “You can call me if you feel like you left something out and you’d like to add.”

Yandisa: “we will be in touch Futhy and please don’t forget about the restaurant idea.”

Me: “okay. I guess that will be all.” We all stand up and shake hands. The older brothers leave, Sakhile comes and stands next to me.

Sakhile: “come let’s take a photo and I will show it to Lele as a proof that I saw you live.” I laugh at him. Why is he treating me like a celeb whereas he is the one who is here? Nonetheless I pose as he snaps pics. When he is done he hugs me and run out to catch up with his brothers.

Zah: “damn those brothers are hot. My clit be throbbing. It is torture to be in one room with them. One night with either one of them then I am good.” I laugh at her as we go to my office.

Me: “the throbbing clit helped though because it gave you an idea.”

Zah: “tsek.” I continue laughing at her and she eventually joins in. I sit down in my chair and she sits

in hers.

Me: “schedule the general meeting to 10 am. I will need all hands on deck for the Blue Diamond Music project. I know they are busy with the Nanda mall project but there are nearly done so there won't be a problem.”

Zah: “how far are you with the Zulu houses?”

Me: “I am close to finishing it. I started with the eMandlanzini house. I am nearly finished. By tonight I will be finished and then start the Nongoma house.”

Zah: “sure boss.”

Me: “I have a project for you.”

She freezes. Zah is a very great architect. She has a degree and she is very great at what she does. It's just that she came when there was a surplus of architects in my company. I hired her as a PA but I do pay her the full architect salary because I sometimes give her projects. She always excel so I

love giving her projects. She is also very resourceful and organized.

Zah: “ohh okay, I am listening.”

Me: “Sibisi is rebuilding his pub in Umlazi. He has demolished the existing one. He wants a Cubana inspired club. Here are the notes.” I hand her my notes. “I expect the sketches Tuesday morning.”

Zah: “sure boss. I won’t disappoint.” I nod and she exits my office.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 3

Last night I finished the eMandlanzini house and started with the Nongoma castle. Some may be amused or not believe me but I am very fast and very passionate about my job. When I start drawing I go to my own place where the pencil, hand and mind become one and I just go with the flow. Sometimes I may not produce exactly what the client specified but the client always end up happy with the outcome.

The next morning I wake up and take a shower. I lotion my body, do my make-up and comb my natural hair nicely, I just let it free and down. I get dressed, collect my things and head out after greeting Kgomotso. I arrive at work and head straight to the designers department. These guys

are always early and I admire them for that. I greet them and hand them the first Zulu house sketch and tell them I need it by tomorrow. I then head to my floor. I seriously need a receptionist in this floor who will assist Zah in her job because it is too much for her. She may not say it but I can see that it is too much. I peep into her office and signal that she follows me to my office and she does. We both get seated after greeting each other.

Me: "I started at the designers' department before coming here so you don't have to worry about that. I have another task for you."

Zah: "I am listening."

Me: "I need a receptionist for this floor, you guys will work closely together. Get Muhluri (who is my employee and also an interior designer) to set up his/her desk. Nothing out of the ordinary. It should be smaller than the one in the main lobby."

Zah: "noted."

Me: "and also contact the Dibbers Agency. I need 2

bodyguards, a male and a female, and a driver.”

Zah: “finally boss. What changed your mind?”

Me: “it was about time bakithi Zanele and with me on the verge of expanding DCC we need security because rivalries will not be happy.”

Zah: “I will get right in it boss. I will conduct interviews on Monday and they will be ready to serve you on Tuesday, Wednesday morning latest.”

Me: “you really need someone who you will share responsibilities with because I don’t want you overworking yourself. You also need ‘me time’.”

Zah: “okay. I will start looking for the receptionist after Muhluri is done with the desk.”

She updates me about other stuff and then she goes back to her office. I call Lindsay and ask him to order breakfast for me at the restaurant next door. They deliver it in my office and I start munching. After eating I lazy around in my office. I decide to call mom and check up on her. It rings and she answers it.

Mom: "Lwandlelethu." She always calls me by my middle name. She only calls me by my first name when she really is angry at me.

Me: "mawami how are you?"

Mom: "I am fine my angel. When are you going to come and visit me?"

Me: "how about I take you out for lunch today? What time is your lunch time?"

Mom: "1pm baby."

Me: "okay I will see you then mama."

Mom: "see you soon. Bye." She hangs up.

The time for the General Thursday Meeting (GTM) comes, Zah and I head to the 1st floor which has a boardroom big enough to accommodate 80% of my employees. We arrive there and find everyone seated. I take my sit and the meeting commences. Each departments give their reports and how far they are with the projects. After there are done I introduce the new project, the Blue Diamond Music project.

Me: "I want you guys to be in teams of 3." I say referring to the architects. "I want you guys to take different parts of the studio that I have mentioned. I want the sketches and the 3D pictures ready by Wednesday afternoon." I sit down. "I am happy that the sketches of the Nanda mall are finished. The way you guys are going I am very proud of you and continue with the good job. Please do make sure we meet the deadlines for the current projects. We have so many clients who want to work with us. About 20 clients are still on the waiting list for appointments, for the whole thing; designing, building and furnishing; so we don't have much time really. I wish that we can be done with half of these projects. We are good at what we do that's why we are high in demand. Zah please do set up a meeting with the owner of the mall so that he can view the sketches and tell us when we can start building." She nods.

Zah: "a bridge collapsed just outside PMB. The mayor of PMB has approached us to redesign and rebuild it."

Muhluri: "that's huge."

Lonwabo: "yeah and it will bring in a lot of moola."

Clara (Interior designer HOD): "and we are hoping for bonuses at the end of the year." They all giggle and nod in agreement. I don't give out fix bonuses at the end of the year. It is determined by the profit generated during the year, so huge profits, huge bonuses.

Me: "we will see guys. Bob (architect) I need you to design the bridge and you can show me the sketches as soon as you're done or anytime really." He nods. "Okay meeting adjourned." I stand up and head to my office.

I take my phone, car keys and handbag, and I go to the parking lot. I get in my car and drive to Ballito to the restaurant I am having lunch at with my mother. I find her already waiting for me. Mom is a very punctual person. She stands up and hugs me, I hug her back and we sit down. The waiter comes and take our orders and leave.

Mom: “how have you been? You hardly come see us.”

Me: “yoh mom. My job is so demanding. I have so many clients from all over the country. I am really considering branching to JHB and Cape Town next year.”

Mom: “I think you should set out a time frame for yourself. Don’t just say you wanna branch out. Do research on these cities and find good sites and buildings for your company. I think you also need an assistant outside work who would help you organize your life. You hardly have time for yourself, you’d swear you are still starting up this company.” I keep quiet. The waiter comes back with our food and we start eating.

Me: “you’re right. So where can I get this personal assistant ma? I want someone who is very trustworthy. Who will be my confidante and I may have to live with her.”

Mom: “I do have someone in mind. Nomxolisi. That girl is very humble and very organized.” Nomxolisi is

their 3rd housekeeper. They have a very big mansion so they have 4 housekeepers.

Me: “okay. Bring her over Sunday noon. Thanks mom for this suggestion. I was never aware that my work is consuming me this much. Anyways how’s dad?”

Mom: “he is fine. He went to Pretoria for some official business. His business trips can be tiring sometimes. I miss him and I can be so horny at times yoh mtanam.” Sijabulile is so unfiltered bahlali. At some point the way she loves sex I thought she would cheat on dad but she has proven me wrong.

Me: “you are lucky you have a husband. I don’t know when was the last time I got laid. I am pretty sure I am a virgin now.” We both laugh.

Mom: “there is no need to commit if you’re not ready mtanam, just find someone who is going to help you with the frustration. Salt is not good for you baby.” I laugh very hard. She always tell it like it is. We finish our lunch and we go our separate ways.

I drive to Gateway, I have been wanting to do

shopping but I have been postponing it because of work. I now have spare time. I start at Foschini and take formal clothes. I head to Cotton On for casual clothes. I go to Aldo for 2 pairs of heels and 2 pairs of sandals shoes and Totalsports for 2 pairs of sneakers. I go to Truworths for Mac make-up and cosmetics.

After I am done I go pack the bags in my car and go to Galito's with my phone, car keys and bank card. It is already late afternoon. I order, pay then go and sit down waiting for my order. I call Sibulele and we talk like always. He tells me he will be visiting me month end and he has a line-up of gigs this side. While talking to Lele, Shamase sits on the empty chair on my table. OKAY. I say my goodbyes to my brother then hang up.

Me: "I am pretty sure there are empty tables around here. You could have sat anywhere."

Shamase: "but I chose to sit with you. I hope you are

here alone.”

Me: “and what are you exactly hoping for?”

Shamase: “that I get a chance to know this beautiful woman in front of me without any interruptions.”

Flattery won't get you anywhere Mr.

Me: “so Mvelo what would you like to know about me?” this idiot grins like a kid seeing ice cream. And then? “What?”

Shamase: “you are the first person outside my family to call me Mvelo and the way you say it ntokazi yoh.” whatever dude. I am tempted to roll my eyes but I don't wanna seem rude. “Anyways what is the name of the beautiful woman in front of me?” the waitresses bring our food to our table and leave after at starrng at Mvelo longer than usual.

Me: “Ntombifuthi Cele.” We start indulging on our food.

Shamase: “MaNdosi.” I blush, guys every time a person says my clan names I melt from the inside. “Inkosazane ibhizi ngani empilweni?”

Me: "I'm an architect."

Him: "wow okay. I don't see a ring on your finger so I will just go ahead and assume that you are single."

Nami ke ntokazi kade ngisanda kugilwa obeyingoduso yami. Ungibona nje bese ngiphonse ithawula othandweni kodwa ukubona wena kungibuyisele ithemba."

Me: "I am flattered, really, but relationships are not really my thing."

Him: "what's your thing then?"

Me: "besides the fact that love never loved me I am a workaholic and my job is my life. Getting into a relationship will make me lose focus on my legacy."

Him: "talking about legacy, the money that you are working for, who will inherit it if you don't have for relationship? You will die with no kids?"

Me: "when I feel like it's time for me to have a kid I will adopt or go to a sperm bank."

Him: "your kid will grow up with one workaholic parent. How sure are you that he/she will receive

enough love from you?" I keep quiet finishing my food. "I think everybody needs love Magaye. You may have been betrayed by a man before but that doesn't mean give up on your happiness."

Me: "maybe in the future I might consider getting into a relationship but now I am fine as a single woman. Akucosuki ndawo."

Him: "maybe we can be friends who are single together."

Me: "being friends with a celebrity will give people the wrong impression. I live a very private life. I don't want my affairs to be known by the public except for my work." I finish eating and wipe my hands with the serviettes. I stand up taking my phone, card and car keys. He also stands up.

Him: "can I at least accompany you to the parking lot?" I shrug and head out, he follows me. We get to the parking lot. Today I am driving the bronze BMW X1. I loved this car when I first saw it on TV and as soon as it arrived at SMG mom was like 'honey your car has arrived' and I went and purchased it. "Nice

wheels.” I smile. “Can I at least get a hug?” he says opening his arms. I hug him and God his cologne. I break the hug and get in the car. I open the window.

Me: “thanks Mvelo and it was nice dining with you.”

Him: “even though you rejected me.” He says placing his hand in his chest faking a hurt expression. I laugh at him.

Me: “better luck next time.” I start the car, drive out and hoot at him.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 4

Tonight we going clubbing, Dj Zinhle - umlilo as my mood starter. I am super excited, it has been ages since I went out with my friends. My work has me by the washings so much that I sometimes don't have time for myself. I finish putting on my make-up. I wear a knee length denim short, white loose vest, peach coat and peach sneakers. I comb my hair and tie it into a neat bun.

I take my handbag which contain of everything I will need and head to the kitchen. I put my handbag in the counter. I open the fridge, pour wine in a glass and drink it and as soon as I wash it the buzzer rings. They are here. I buzz them in. I take my car keys, handbag, house keys and head out. I find them in the

driveway near my white Fortuner which we usually go clubbing with. In total I have 6 cars, 4 SUV's and 2 sports cars which is the Lamborghini Aventador and a Bugatti. We share hugs.

Me: "motherfuckers!"

Noma: "we here and we wanna turn up!" I see Noma brought her driver. I hand him my car keys. "Can we firstly take pictures?" I hand the driver my phone and he take tons of pictures. We do crazy poses and even dance. We finally finish and we all get in to the car and I sit at the front.

Lindsay: "I must say y'all bitches look superfly." I connect my phone with the car via Bluetooth and play Vula Vala by Nokwazi and the Scorpion kings. The ladies scream and make videos. By the time we arrive at Club F it's already 10pm. A bouncer escorts us to our table in the VIP section. We get settled and summon a waiter.

Noma: "can we please start with shots?"

Lee: "yes girl. Waiter please bring us 10 tequila

shots.” The waiter disappears and come back with the shots. We drink them all at once. Yey mood starter.

Waiter: “what would you ladies like to order?”

Me: “cela inyama ka R300 I pork, wors lika R150 nepapa dali.”

Zah: “for drinks can we please have a bottle of Tanqueray, ele Belvedere, 24-pack of Flying Fish pressed lemon and 2 2l of cranberry juice.”

Waiter: “coming right up.” he disappears again. I look around.

Me: “lemme search for my next victim.” The ladies laugh. “Who’s on the line-up today?”

Lindsay: “Sho Madjozi, Dj Hallelujah, Dj Gukwa, Ddn Gogo, NaaqMusic and others.”

Lee: “well I wouldn’t mind grinding on Naaq’a abs.” she bites her lower lip. We all scream and hype her.

The waiter comes back with our drinks and we start with the ciders. Dj Gukwa starts playing and we

stand up and dance. While we dancing I feel hands on my waist, strong hands for that matter. I turn to stare at this man who has the nerve and you won't believe who it is.

"MaNdosi" he flashes his smile and I just giggle.

Me: "Mvelo what a coincidence." We talk as we are dancing closely to each other.

Him: "I am so glad I could meet you again." I turn and find all these bitches sitting down and their eyes glued to me and Mvelo.

Me: "who did you come with?"

Him: "3 of my colleagues and a childhood friend."

Me: "why don't you join us in our table?" I point at our table. He agrees and goes to his gents. He comes back and they join their tables with ours. Mvelo introduces his friends as Andile, Cebo, Nzuzo and Khaya. I also introduce my friends. Nzuzo looks so familiar, I swear I have seen him before.

Lindsay: "boss lady usifake ezintweni today. We

drinking with celebs.” We all laugh.

Andile: “what do you own boss lady?” he asks with a charming smile.

Nzuzo: “Dubandlela CC. I was one of your clients 3 years back.”

Me: “ngisho your face looks familiar.”

Shamase: “you own DCC?” he asks with a shocked expression.

Me: “guilty as charged.” I say and shrug.

Our meat arrives just as theirs arrive also. We all dig in. one of the things I dig about Club F is their well cooked meat and secret spices. After we done eating we continue drinking. We return to the dance floor and Mvelo is so close to me I keep grinding on his crotch, I feel it poking my butt. He excuses himself and returns to his seat. I’m out by Ciara and Nicki Minaj plays and I remove my coat. I love this song. I start twerking not noticing that I am left alone in the VIP dance floor. By the time the song

ends most people have circled me and are taking videos.

MC: "SHOUTOUT TO FUTHY OF DCC IN THE VIP DANCEFLOOR!!" the crowd screams. OMG. I rush to my table and quickly sit down. I open a new cider and down it on one go.

Me: "what the fuck just happened?"

Noma: "damn girl I last saw those moves in varsity."

Lee: "Ciara provoked her." we laugh.

Lindsay: "babes some people were taking live videos so you are trending."

Me: "I am pretty sure it will die down in an hour."

Shamase: "you sure do know how to move your waist and ass. I salute you." I laugh at his ambiguous statement. I know his statement is two sided.

The night continues without any dramatic video

taking. The clock strikes 2am and Mvelo suggests that we take the party to his house, we all agree. We buy a 48-pack of flying fish and head to Mvelo's crib. We arrived at his house which is in Glenwood. It is a beautiful glass mansion. We get inside and he ushers us to the lounge. We get there and put our drinks in the coffee table, the guys put some of the drinks in the fridge. They put on the music and we chill. We drink and talk like old friends, the conversation is flowing there are no awkward moments.

Andile: "so Futhy how does it feel to own such a successful company?"

Me: "it feels good because I started it from scratch. I did have about half the amount for the capital which were my savings. The other half, well I asked for funding from big companies and they were more than happy to donate."

Nzuzo: "you're lucky. Many people apply for funding but they get rejected most of the time."

Me: “the problem is they rush success. They want everything to be chop-chop. When starting a business and looking for funding people must remember that patience is a virtue. It may not happen today but that doesn’t mean it won’t happen at all. And no I am not lucky but I am blessed.”

Lindsay: “yes Nicki!” the girls hype and we laugh.

Zah: “so you guys how does it feel to have your life in the spotlight?”

Cebo: “it sucks really because you can’t even move freely. You can’t take a vacation with your main or side dish because there will be pictures of you the next morning in every newspaper and every social media. Some people on the net are always looking for stories so sometimes they see us with girls and they come up with a false conclusion.”

Me: “that’s how my brother always feel like most of the time. He even doesn’t sleep in hotels because his fans are everywhere.”

Khaya: “who is your brother?”

Me: “Lele.”

Khaya: “that guy is so cool and so real. I love his music.”

Me: “I will tell him you said that.”

Lee: “he was once my crush.”

Noma: “and remember how you’d embarrass yourself whenever he comes to our apartment, not forgetting that you’re way older than him.” we laugh.

Lee: “yoh, I’d have panic attacks and collapse every time he said something to me.”

Zah: “you had it bad girl.”

Me: “awuna picture.”

I feel myself getting wasted. I ask for a bathroom and Mvelo pull me to one in the second floor. He actually pulls me to the main bedroom en-suite. After I am done doing my business I return to the bedroom and find him shirtless. If he is trying to seduce me then it is working because damn his muscles dear God. I walk up to him and wrap my arms around his neck. I stand on my toes and kiss

him, he responds to the kiss pulling me by my waist with his strong arms. One thing leads to the other and before I know it we are done with the second round. He immediately passes out.

I use this time to escape. I never share a bed with one night stands and I am not going to start today. I get dressed quietly and head out. I find my bitches downstairs. We swore that we never sleep at a man's house after drinking there. They stand up when they see me and we quietly exit the house giggling lightly. We get into the car and drive out of the yard.

Lee: "so Dubandlela struck again?"

Me: "kanti who am I hhe? Ngithi who am i?" we all laugh out loud.

Noma: "you are the dog of dogs."

Lindsay: "so how was he?"

Me: "better than expected."

Lindsay: "how big was he?"

GIRLS: "HHA LINDSAY!" they exclaim. He shrugs.

Lindsay: "what? I wanna know."

Me: "honey that's for me to know and for you to never find out." The rule is that we don't share a dick, unless that guy is serious about you and you are also serious about him which has never happened. The driver drops all of us at our homes. I get to my bathroom, take a warm shower, dry myself and get under the covers naked.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 5

My phone rings, waking me up from my deep slumber. I take it under my pillow, answer it and places it on my ear. I do not even check to see who is calling.

Me: “mmm.”

Lele: “what? You’re still sleeping? Have you seen your video? You are trending sisi. Over 1 million viewers on YouTube. The twitter is buzzing. People on Instagram are sharing it, my fans are going crazy about my dancing sister.” I sit up and yawn stretching my arms. Sbu’s voice is so high so it wakes you up itself.

Me: “Sbu wait. What are you talking about?”

Lele: “your video twerking last night at Club F. people

love you. I am even thinking of featuring you on my next music video.”

Me: “did you say 1 million viewers?”

Lele: “yeah. My publicist posted it on my YouTube channel so most of my fans saw it there and started tweeting and sharing it.”

Me: “OMG. This is going to attract unnecessary spotlight. I was just having fun. I only realized that I was being recorded when I was done dancing. Please control this shit. I don’t need any crazy publicity.”

Lele: “okay I will try. See you in a week.”

Me: “bye bro. I love you.”

Lele: “I love you too.” He hangs up.

I stand up and head to the bathroom. I wash my face, brush my teeth and take a warm shower. After that I wrap my body in a towel and go back to my bedroom. I sit on the bed and take my phone. I go through all my social media accounts and it’s true, I am trending.

God I pray this video doesn't reach my parents. I stand and make my bed. I lotion my body, wear my yellow short dress and head to the kitchen. I find Kgomotso preparing lunch, I greet her and then sit on the barstool.

Me: "K please prepare on the guest bedroom. We will be having another person who will be living here full time. She is coming tomorrow evening."

Her: "what is her job?"

Me: "she is my second assistant. Mom said I need her to organize my day to day life outside work."

Her: "downstairs or upstairs?"

Me: "downstairs." She hands me the food and I start eating. The front door opens and Lee gets in followed by Noma. They both have spare keys to my house and I also have keys to theirs. They are wearing shorts, crop tops, big hats and sunglasses. "If I didn't know better I'd say you are going to the beach."

Lee: "well the sun is out, the wind is flowing. It is a great day to visit the beach."

Me: "K please pack everything that I will need at the beach. Place my orange bikini on top of the bed."

Kgomotso: "okay."

Noma: "and you will be joining us. You know I don't take no for an answer." She giggles and head upstairs. These two help themselves with the food on the table. Kgomotso always makes extra food just in case I don't get full.

Lee: "let's go with the Amarok today so that we can pack the camp chairs nicely and also the booze and the food."

Me: "I am not driving."

Noma: "fine I will drive and I invited bhut bae to our outing."

Me: "we are finally meeting him?"

Noma: "yes"

Lee: "can't wait. I just hope there will be hunks at the beach umuntu angazitholi esebambe ikhandlela."

We laugh. We know how Noma gets phambi kwendoda. Uyikonoshela akubukise ngabantu. I finish eating then head upstairs. I put my bikini on and put on the dress I was wearing again. I take my phone, wallet and car keys and go back downstairs. Noma is busy tapping her phone with a frown on her face.

Me: “what’s up?”

Noma: “pictures of you and Shamase dancing and sitting looking cozy are circulating on social media. His bitches are shading you and some of his fans are excited that he is dating an independent business woman. Some are calling you a cougar.” Well Mvelo is 27 years, so 2 years difference.

Me: “fuck this is the shit I was running away from. I told him and Kuhle that I don’t wanna associate myself with celebrities because they attract drama.”

Lee: “who is Kuhle?” fuck I don’t remember telling them about K.

Me: “prince Kuhle. He is a client and he wanted us to

hang out because I am fun.”

Lee: “just get Lele’s publicist to control this.”

Me: “the thing is Mvelo is interested in me so I might dismiss these allegations of us dating and he might say another thing.”

Noma: “we need to get to his place. I am pretty sure he is still nursing his hangover.”

Me: “yeah let’s go. Come Kgomotso we will start at Glenwood then we will go to the beach.”

We all get in the car and I drive out. We arrive at Mvelo’s house, the gate is opened and there are cars parking outside. Is this dude having a party? We get out of the car and get inside the house because the door is wide open. OMG so many male species in one place. Most of them are his team mates, there are also girls which I suspect are the girlfriends or wives. We stand at the door awkwardly.

Me: “good afternoon everyone.” They all turn their

heads to our direction. Holy fuck all these eyes staring at me are giving me creeps. It's like they are seeing aliens, all of them aren't saying a thing. Mvelo stands up and come to us. He gives me a hug and a peck on the lips. Isn't that how normal couples greet each other? Then why is he treating me like his girlfriend?

Him: "I knew you'd come back. Gents this is u Ntombifuthi but I call her MaNdosi." We all exchange greetings.

Me: "can we talk in private?" he nods and leads me to the kitchen.

Him: "are you okay?"

Me: "considering the current news I am fine. I am just not happy about the allegations made by people, that you and I are an item."

Him: "aren't we an item?"

Me: "Mvelo having sex does not automatically

change my views about relationships. I don't do relationships. Yeah we vibed and connected yesterday but that was just it, nothing more. You're a great guy and you deserve someone who is on the same page with you not me."

Him: "but I want you." He say pulling me to him by my waist. His touch send tingles all over my body but that's not why I am here.

Me: "Mvelo please." He doesn't listen but he goes straight to sucking and nibbling my neck. I try to stay strong but I find myself moaning. He kisses my chin and comes to my mouth to smashes his lips on mine. I also respond to the kiss because he has defeated me. He finally breaks the kiss and stare straight into my eyes. I clear my throat.

Me: "Please fix this. Call your publicist Ndonga. I don't need bad press."

Him: "you saying my clan names makes me hard. By the way you look beautiful and super sexy in that

dress.” He says quickly carrying me and placing me on the kitchen counter. I scream out of shock because nobody has ever carried me that quickly.

Me: “can you be serious just for a minute?” his hands rub my thighs up and down. Dear God can he please stop seducing me because I am already soaking wet?

Him: “if you want to keep this between us then I am game.”

Me: “there is nothing going on between us. I have somewhere to be, please take me down.” He picks me up but doesn’t put me down, forcing me to wrap my legs around his waist. “Mvelo I have to go. The girls and I are having a girls’ day out at the beach. I don’t wanna keep them waiting.” He carefully places me down.

Him: “okay. I will sort this out. When am I seeing you again?” uyanya, Andizi. I walk to the doorway and look at him.

Me: “never.” I rush out to the living room where

everyone is seated before he can reply. He comes running behind me and holds me from behind. He whispers in my ear.

Him: “we will see about that.” I turn and look at him.

Me: “you don’t know where I stay, you don’t have my number so good luck.” I smirk. I turn my attention to his friends. “Guys it was nice meeting you but we have to dash. We have a party of our own to go to.”

Cebo: “Lee has already invited us to your outing so we were just waiting for you guys. Let’s go.” What the fuck? I was expecting that from Noma not her. I stare at Lee and she avoids my eyes and clears her throat. Great, just great. What could possibly go wrong?

Khaya: “we will buy booze to add on this and buy meat at Bluff so that we can have a braai.”

Noma: “okay. That’s settled. Let’s go.” She says excitedly getting up and everyone stands up.

Mvelo: “where are we going?”

Kgomotso: “warner beach.” they all head out leaving

me and Mvelo inside the house.

Me: “me and you in public together again? Lord have mercy on my soul.” I head out.

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We go buy booze, meat and snacks and go chill at the beach. It’s actually not as bad as I thought it will be. Although Mvelo is sitting next to me, he is not being a nuisance. We are all just chatting like friends and even though there are couples here they are not acting all lovey dovey as if they started dating yesterday. Noma’s boyfriend arrives. He is cute and shy, a complete opposite of Noma. But people do say opposite attracts. Yoh she is blushing like a teenage and I am happy that my friend is in love.

Me: “so Khanya how old are you?”

Khanya: “I am 26.” My friends and I are the same age.

Lee: “you have no problem with Noma being a bit older than you?”

Khanya: “love has no barriers. Whether she is older or I am older doesn’t matter. What matters is what we feel for each other and I do love her.”

Me: “ncooh when I grow up I wanna be just like you and find my soul mate.” I say in a childish voice and everyone laughs.

Cebo: “but Futhy your soul mate is right beside you.” I don’t comment on that. Instead I stand up and take off my dress.

Me: “I came here to swim and chill. I don’t know about you guys but the ocean is calling me.”

Noma and Lee laugh and they also take off their clothes. Kgomotso follows pursuit and we all go and swim. After a minute or two the guys join us. We are not really swimming but we are just playing with water. It is cooling our bodies with its perfect temperature. We finally get out of the water and go back to where everyone is sitting. I go to my car to take a towel, I wrap it around my body and go back to the crew. I find someone sitting on my camp chair,

this is awkward. Mvelo indicates that I should come and sit on his lap. I roll my eyes and go sit on top of him. I am a big girl so if he finds me heavy I don't care, he offered.

The other guys are braaing the meat and we are munching on the snacks and drinking. A lady who was introduced as Nolwazi looks at Mvelo and I and smiles.

Nolwazi: "you guys make a very beautiful couple. You complement each other's skin and personalities."

Khutso: "you're right and Futhy I love your skin. It's so beautiful and flawless. What products do you use?"

Me: "you can consult my dermatologist, Dr. Nokukhanya Mnguni. She is good at what she does and she can refer you to products you can use according to your skin because you can use the products that I use and later find out that they are

harmful to your skin and then come back and blame me, uyayibona leyonto.”

Khutso: “okay. Where is her office located?”

Me: “in uMzimkhulu. You can find her contact details on Google.”

Nosisa: “why don’t you hit the gym and burn off that fat on your body? I mean you are rich, aren’t you? You can afford any gym membership. I am pretty sure guys love your pussy not you.” Noma chuckles bitterly, wait for it. I am not even going to entertain this chick.

Noma: “how long have you known Futhy?” she asks looking at Nosisa. She doesn’t answer. “What makes you think she will take your stupid, idiotic advice? What is wrong with her weight? Who said women should wear size 26 to 34? Not everyone was born to be skinny. Some of us were born to be chubby and we really don’t care what everyone thinks about our weight because our parents loved us as we are. I am a size 36 mna and I am so fucking proud of my

weight and so is Futhy. Your comment to her is like a drop of water in an ocean. It won't make any difference because she is not depending on you to put food on her table. She is perfect, curvy with a flawless skin. If I start dissing your body you will wish you stayed in bed today so let me tool." She takes a long sip on her cider. "Nxa bitches with low self-esteem." We all laugh. I know how Noma talks when she starts with chuckling bitterly so that's why I didn't bother opening my mouth.

Nolwazi: "relax ladies. She is just bitter because she cheated on Shamase with his friend and he dumped her. Now that Shamase is showing interest in someone that pisses her off." Noma just rolls eyes.

My phone rings, I stand up and go answer it in a quieter place because where we are seated there is a car playing music. It's Zah. Mara I told this girl to rest and have some 'me time' bakwethu.

Me: "I hope this is not about work." She laughs.

Zah: "yoh I am finding hard to choose a male bodyguard boss. Most of them are so fuckin handsome, they are panty droppers shame." I laugh at her.

Me: "yey wena what is important is my protection. I don't care whether the bodyguard is handsome or not."

Zah: "mara boss this person will be with you most of the time. Imagine having to watch u Mulimisi from Muvhango nje day on day out. Yoh you will end up ugly yourself." I burst out laughing.

Me: "you do make a point though."

Zah: "yeah plus I need a good view myself." I continue laughing. This girl bafethu.

Me: "hire anyone who is perfect for the job and comes highly recommended. We will talk later."

Zah: "sure boss." I hang up.

I get back to the others. The meat is finally ready so

we eat and drink. The Nosisa girl has somehow disappeared because I don't see her anywhere. Anyways who cares about her? We chill and continue drinking and talking. We, the girls, finally decide to leave so Mvelo and Cebo help us carry our stuff to my car. Lee, Khanya, Noma and Kgomotso gets in and they wait for me. Mvelo pulls me to him and hugs me. I think I enjoy being in his arms. He kisses me briefly and then perks my forehead.

Mvelo: "can I please have your number?"

Me: "Mvelo what happened between us was a once-off. I don't want you getting the wrong idea. I told you that I don't date the first time we talked. What do you think has changed right now? You thought your dick had power to change my mind?"

Mvelo: "why are you breaking my heart?"

Me: "I never asked for it and truly speaking you never gave it to me. Please don't make this harder than it already is. See you around." I perk his lips and get in the car. I drive out of the beach, leaving him standing

there like a statue.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 6

Mom arrives on Sunday afternoon with Nomxolisi. No this word is so long. Will have to give her a nickname, something short like Lisi or Xoli. She is a very shy and polite girl but that will end soon. My assistant should be like Zah. Open, active and fun. I must set up a meeting for both of them. I want them to know each other well. Mom is in a hurry because she is fetching dad from the airport so she just drops her off and leaves. Xoli joins me in the patio and Kgomotso brings us drinks. She says goodbye and then leaves.

Nomxolisi: “you have a beautiful house Miss Cele.”
Lord bury me now. Only clients and business associates call me Miss Cele.

Me: "Xoli, is it okay if I call you Xoli?" she smiles and nods. "Okay. I am more like a big sister to you than an employer. Even employees at DCC call me by my name so please call me Futhy."

Xoli: "okay sisi Futhy." That's better than nothing, right?

Me: "did mom tell you what job you will be doing?"

Xoli: "she just said I will be assisting you. I thought maybe with cleaning."

Me: "you will be my second assistant Xoli. Personal assistant not helper. You will be organizing my life outside work not my house. That's Kgomotso's job. She is the housekeeper here. Your job is to make sure I have time for myself. In your room you will find a phone, laptop and tablet. Those things will make your job a lot easier. How much did mom pay you?"

Xoli: "R4500."

Me: "okay I will be paying you R8000. Your first task

is to search for places where I can branch DCC at. It's either vacant sites or buildings for sale. Preferably in the CBD. The environment around must be safe and easily accessible to the clients hhay indawo ecashile. You can first look for those places at Johannesburg and Cape Town for now. What you will do is search for the vacant places, take contact details for people to contact, call them and hear how much they are willing to sell the property for. Sell not rent. I am not looking for a cheaper place but a good place. You will jot down 3 places which meet my requirements in each town then you will come to me with your research."

Xoli: "okay sisi. Manje where will I be staying because there aren't cottages here?"

Me: "inside the house, downstairs. It's only me and Kgomotso here so there is enough room for you too. Another task I want you to do is search for restaurant owners here in Durban, preferably black women. Mina I am all about women empowerment. Look for about 5 owners and you will submit that list

to me. Not to rush you but it will be good if you start with this research as soon as possible.”

Xoli: “okay sisi. Can you please show me to the room I will be using?” I take one of her bags and lead her inside the house to her room. I place the bag on top of the bed.

Me: “there is a closet and an en-suite in this room, all yours. If you have any questions or problems you can talk to either me or K. and remember Xoli you are not a helper but my assistant so please stick to your job.”

Xoli: “okay sisi and thank you for this job. I promise I won’t disappoint you.”

Me: “I hope so.”

I leave her room and head to the kitchen. I take a bottle of wine and a glass and Doritos and go to the TV room. I place the wine and glass on the coffee table. I browse through the channels and finally settle for BET Black-ish. Xoli comes to the TV room and I tell her to take a wine glass and any snack in

the pantry, she comes back with the glass and pringles. She sits next to me and she pours the wine for the both of us.

Me: "so tell me about your family."

Her: "mom is in the navy and dad is a police officer. I am the only child."

Me: "yey your parents are heroes." She laughs.

Her: "yeah they are and I am proud child."

Me: "how is it like not to have siblings?"

Her: "it can be boring but dad is my best friend so I never felt much of a void."

Me: "what did you wanna be growing up?"

Her: "I never had any dreams or inspirations but I wanted to be something that won't require me to study because I am not gifted academically." She says and looks down.

Me: "hey you don't have to be ashamed of that. You

are not stupid or whatever word anyone has ever called you. Not everyone is supposed to go to university in order to get a job. Look now you are inexperienced and you have a job that will pay you more than 5k. You don't have to pay bills or rent or send the money to your parents. It's just for your own enjoyment. Don't look down upon yourself because you don't have a degree and don't be intimidated by graduates. There are people who go to varsity, graduate and don't get jobs afterwards. Consider yourself lucky."

Her: "thank you sisi."

Me: "so how old are you and do you have someone in your life?"

Her: "I am 21 and no I don't have a boyfriend. I dated in high school and when I was doing grade 12 I lost my virginity. But now I am just single and not looking."

Me: "you and me both sister. Cheers to singleton."
She giggles and raises her glass so that we can

toast. We continue chatting and getting to know each other. She is not that shy it's just that she needs to be comfortable first before she can be free.

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The next morning I get ready for work and head downstairs with all my stuff. I find K and Xoli making breakfast together. They seem to get along, which is exactly what I need. I can't have housemates who hate each other. That would make living conditions unbearable. I greet them and sit on the barstool placing my things on the free space in the counter. K hands me a bowl of wheet bix and I start eating.

Xoli: "so sisi will I be going with you to work or will I be working at home?"

Me: "K please fix the pool house and turn it into her office. I will get furniture to make it a complete office or you guys can go shopping today. You just need a desk, 2 chairs, just staff nje needed in an office."

K: "you can give us the money Futhy so that we can go shop." I take out my phone and transfer 15k to K.

Me: "I hope that will be enough. If it ain't please send me a message so that I can add. Please buy a 4 in 1 printer. Don't forget A4 papers and ink. You can Google other stuff that is needed in an office." I stand up and collect my stuff. "See you later." I head to work.

I just get into my private elevator to avoid noisy employees who will be asking me about the scandals that happened over the weekend with Mvelo. I get to my office and Zah follows soon after. We exchange greetings and she sits down. I hand her the sketches of the Nongoma palace which I finished last night. I slept around 2 am because today I wanted to start on Kuhle's secret house. It won't be a hassle because there isn't much detail when drawing it. His expensive features will be done by the builders. Zah heads to the 3D department and I start with the secret house project. It's just about lunch time when the door opens and my brother

Gcino walks in. I last saw him last month and I have missed him. I stand up and attack him with a hug.

Him: "good to know I have been missed." I giggle and hit his shoulder playfully. I lead him to the couch and we both sit down.

Me: "to what do I owe this pleasant surprise visit?"

Him: "I figured you're busy so I just wanted to stop by and say hi because I was in the neighborhood."

Me: "neighborhood yani? Awuzenzi mdala." We both laugh.

Him: "and I also wanted you to take me out for lunch at this restaurant downstairs."

Me: "you and food." I laugh before taking my phone and wallet. We head to the restaurant. We order and wait while chatting. "So besides free food, what else brought you here?" he laughs.

Him: "there is a meeting at home on Friday. So I wanted to inform you about it face to face so that you don't forget. Also the rents want you to spend

the weekend with them.” I exhale loudly. A whole weekend? That’s too much.

Me: “what is the meeting about?”

Him: “umemulo ka Nothando with is 29th this month.”

Me: “umemulo how kubanda kanjena? Bafuna ukugodolisa izingane zabantu?”

Him: “she was born in August so she wants everything that concerns her to happen in her month.” The waitress brings our food and we start eating. “Busi and Lele are also going to be there.” I sigh. I just hope there won’t be any fights this time around. Busi is so childish sometimes, she acts like a last born. I mean who wouldn’t accept and love their siblings because they are plus size? She is the one who is supposed to be more accepting of us as the first child so that Nothando can take notes from her. Instead she acts like being chubby is a disease sometimes. That’s why I prefer Lee and Noma over my own sisters.

Me: “so how much money do you want?” he gives me an innocent look. “I know you Gcino. You could have sent a voice note or let mom tell me this. The fact that you came all the way here just to inform me means you also want money or something.”

Him: “fine. It’s not that expensive. I will only need R2000 for it.”

Me: “what is it?”

Him: “a Bathu Moja Edition brown sneaker. It’s not R2000 but I also need change sisi.” I roll my eyes and transfer the money he wants. He jumps from his seat and hugs me. After the excitement has died down he returns to his seat.

Me: “just so you know I won’t be buying you the outfit that you will be wearing ememulweni.”

Him: “sisi the devil is a liar. Don’t make him use you. Don’t allow him in. fire! Fire! Fire!” I laugh hysterically.

Me: “you’re asking for money now while you still want me to buy you clothes again this month. You are abusing me.”

Him: "I am pretty sure 2k is nothing to you sisi. 2k to you is like unwele ekhanda. Noma luwa olulodwa akubonakali nokuthi liwephi futh akunamehluko. Wena you're the black Bill Gates. You are not in the making but you have already made it. You got into the Forbes 30 under 30 last year. You own 6 cars. Why uzokhaliswa zimpahlana nje?" I laugh. All this praise just for clothes. Hhay bakwethu, lastborn exploitation is real.

Me: "thula Gcino, thula."

Him: "you know I am right." We finish eating and we go our separate ways, of course after promising that I will find an outfit for him.

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I get back to my work and finish the secret house sketches. I already had a picture of it in mind so it was so much easier to put it into paper. I take the sketch and head to the 3D department. Its 5:30 pm so most of the staff have left but I find the new girl

Melody still working.

Me: “why are you still here?”

Her: “I had a family emergency this morning so I came in late. I just want to finish today’s work first before rushing home.” I place the sketches in her desk.

Me: “I need those done by tomorrow 10 am. Please don’t show it to anyone else and you must submit them to my office personally.”

Her: “okay boss.” She nods several times.

Me: “and next time don’t work so late. Rather arrive earlier than usual the next morning than working your butt off so late and alone.” I turn on my heels and head out.

I arrive at home, take a shower and head to the dining room to join the ladies for supper. K cooked rice and lamb stew with salads. She is a good cook, she deserves to be a chef. We all sit around the table

and eat. After eating K brings desert and we munch on it. After that she takes the dishes to the kitchen and Xoli asks if we can go to the pool house so I can see her new office. She seems excited and nervous at the same time.

We enter the pool house and it looks so beautiful and cozy. Honestly if I knew it had this much potential I would have made it my office.

Me: “you guys outdid yourselves. This looks beautiful. Yazi after building and settling in at Jozi and Cape Town I was thinking of renovating my house.”

Xoli: “why would you do that sisi? This house is beautiful and the fact that you designed it from scratch makes it have a significant meaning to you. If you wanna design another house I’d suggest you buy another site.”

Me: “I will think about it. So any research you did today?”

Xoli: “yes but it’s not enough to present it to you now but by tomorrow evening I’d be done.”

Me: “don’t rush yourself. You might end up getting me something I may not like. Take your time.” I say as we are heading back inside the house. “Good night.”

Xoli: “good night sisi.”

Me: “K my brother is coming this week, I don’t know which day but please prepare his room in case he shows up earlier than expected.” She nods. “Good night.”

K: “night boss.”

I head to my room and get under covers. There is no need for me to sleep past midnight today. I am dreading Friday because the relationship I have with my sisters doesn’t allow us to be in the same space for a longer period. But I am doing this for my parents and brothers. And I also wanna be the bigger person. Honestly their beef with me is absurd. And I think me becoming more successful than Busi may

have added petrol to the already burning fire.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 7

I am sitting on my office organizing an appointment with Simamiso Mthembu, a very talented designer from Empangeni. She is really good at her job that I don't really mind driving to Empangeni just so I can wear one of her creations ememulweni ka Nothando. The door flies open and Mvelo walks in carrying white roses and a box of chocolate. Kante what does it take to get through this guy? Sidlene kwaphela lapho (we fucked and it ended there). Yoh is this how guys feel when a one night stand keeps forcing themselves into their lives? Hhay shame I regret sleeping with him now.

Mvelo: "sawubona MaNdosi." Him saying my clan names doesn't even excite me anymore because

uyadina (he is annoying).

Me: "Shamase what brings you here? Do we have an appointment maybe?" he places the flowers and chocolate on my desk and sits down opposite me.

Mvelo: "did I maybe do something wrong to offend you or my performance wasn't up to your standard and now you're pushing me away?"

Me: "Mvelo what did I say to you the first day you took your shot?"

Mvelo: "that you don't do relationships but..."

Me: "Mvelo asifani mina nawe (you and I are not the same). You are from a committed relationship and you are looking for stability wherever you are going. I placed my cards on the table the first day we talked now I don't understand why you are behaving like this. We never dated and we never will. What happened on Friday was nothing but harmless fun."

Mvelo: "just so you know I am not going to give up on you. Push me away all you want but I am not going anywhere. By the way your receptionist gave me your number so expect a call from me very

soon.” He stands up and exits my office. I huff in frustration. What would it take for him to back the fuck off? Yoh Thixo.

Anyways I take the flowers and throw them in the bin. I take the chocolate and head to Zah’s office. I find her with Bob and seems like they are busy in her drawing board but I need to vent wethu so they ought to hear me out. Plus I am their boss after all. I go and sit in Zah’s chair behind her desk.

Me: “sorry to disturb guys but there is something inside me and iyangishisa.” Zah laughs and comes to take a piece of chocolate. Bob follows pursuit and they both sit down and give me their attention.

Zah: “so what’s wrong?”

Me: “I will start with you Bob. Have you ever had a one night stand?”

Bob: “yeah.”

Me: “what is the purpose of a one night stand?”

Bob: “to give you pleasure on that night and never contact you again. Actually she doesn’t have to have my number because we find each other in the club or wherever, we are both horny, we don’t know much about each other and that’s the beauty of it. We fuck and forget about each other and only hold on to the memory.”

Me: “so what happens when the one night stand wants more and starts inserting himself into your daily life? What do you do because mina I can’t deal shame?”

Bob: “you are talking about that soccer player you are trending with?”

Me: “don’t tell me we are still trending.”

Bob: “you are. The pictures of you kissing and him perking your forehead went viral.”

Me: “dear God. What did I do to deserve this?” I burry my face in my hands.

Zah: “boss you have nice life problems shame. I really like news but Prince Kuhle is in boardroom 1 waiting for you.” I stand up quickly.

Me: “what the fuck?! Why didn’t you tell me?”

Zah: “relax he just entered the building.”

Me: “dude you nearly caused me a heart attack. He may be a client but he is still royalty and you don’t make royal people wait.” I head out with her following me.

I take all the stuff I need and we head to boardroom 1. We find him looking dashing as always. We sit down after greeting each other. Zah’s phone beeps. She checks the messages and then look at me.

Zah: “I am sorry boss.”

Me: “it’s fine you can go. I got this covered.” She stands up and leave.

Kuhle: “I actually enjoy your company more.”

Me: “pity this is just a business meeting so let’s get right to it.” I hand him the files and stand up. “You will have to forgive me but I love presenting while standing and moving around.” He smiles.

Kuhle: “the floor is all yours.” Luckily the projector is

all set. I open the file with the first house, the Mandlanzini house.

Me: “this house will be built with a lower basement, basement, ground floor, first floor and a rooftop and also a rondavel outside and a pool house. The lower basement is your garage, where you will store the cars. It’s much more safer and convenient because should your house be robbed the pharas will be caught before they can even figure out that the cars are stored in the lower basement.” He laughs.

“Then we have the basement. It will have a bedroom, just for control, and also a bathroom. It will also have a mini kitchen; an adult play room with adult games like i snooker kanje then a cinema room. It will be divided with wall to ceiling glass walls. There will also be a safe room, just in case.” He laughs again. This is a first, whenever I am presenting the client pays attention and hardly blinks but in this case Kuhle keeps laughing like he is at Trevor

Noah's one man show. "Ngiyeke Ndabezitha (should I stop)?"

Kuhle: "no please continue. It's just that you are still insisting that I am gangster MaCele."

Me: "until you prove me otherwise then it's guilty until proven innocent." He chuckles. "We have the ground floor. It will have 4 bedrooms; 3 bathrooms; a separate toilet; lounge with a fireplace; kitchen with an open plan there will be no wall separating it with the dining room. There will also be your study or office then an indoor gym."

"The first floor with have 6 bedrooms including the main bedroom with en-suites and they all will have balconies. There will also be an open space in between just for control."

Kuhle: "you always use this just for control when presenting or unyela mina nje (you're just kidding

me)?" I burst out laughing.

Me: "Kuhle I have 2 more houses to present so please stop disturbing me."

Kuhle: "I already trust your judgment noma unganga presenta nje the other 2."

Me: "hhay, hhay Kuhle I took my time preparing this presentation boh. You can't dismiss me like that."

Kuhle: "awani amanga MaCele (what's with the lies)? You are a pro wena you no longer prepare for a presentation. You just finish drawing and be like 'hhay I know what I drew so presenting it should be easy'." I laugh again because what he is saying is so true. I don't know when the last time I prepared myself for a presentation was. Most of the time Zah does the presenting.

Me: "anyways you have the rooftop with a gazebo and will have couches where you will chill and have few drinks. There also will be a hot tub there. There

will be a staircase inside and outside leading to the rooftop...”

Kuhle: “just for control?” he asks with a smirk. Fuck I was going to say that vele.

Me: “so what do you think of the first house?”

Kuhle: “I love everything about it and the all features you added. I am satisfied.” I nod and move onto the next one.

Me: “your palace my king will have 2 rondavels as you had stated. Also a cottage for your servants or helpers.”

Kuhle: “I like how you say my king.”

Me: “yazini ngizoyeka ngiphinde ngingakwenzeli lezindlu zakho (know that I will cease and do not build your houses).”

Kuhle: “I am sorry. Please continue.” He says pouting. I laugh at him.

Me: “well the basement is the garage. The ground floor has a lobby like hotel; a kitchen; lounge; living room; dining hall; 4 bedrooms with bathrooms and your study room and also a throne room just for control. The first floor has 6 bedrooms with bathrooms; your wife’s study room; an indoor gym and a cinema room. The second floor has 6 bedrooms with bathrooms, a mini kitchen and an in-house bar. The third floor will have the main bedroom; 3 bedrooms with bathrooms; an indoor spa room just for control. Then the rooftop has a helipad because I am pretty sure you do have a chopper. It will also have features like the rooftop from the Mandlanzini house. It will also have an elevator and staircase inside and outside. Any comments?”

Kuhle: “I told you that I am satisfied. Even though my wife isn’t working you did well by considering an office for her. Maybe she will develop a hobby as time goes by.”

Me: “then there is your gangster house.”

Kuhle: "MaCele I am an app developer. My younger sister is a hacker and my younger brother is an IT geek so we like having a secret place. This is our secret place."

Me: "okay I believe you. Anyways it has a lower basement which has a tunnel leading outside somewhere just in case you find yourself in a tight situation. The basement where there is a medic room, a weaponry room and there is also a secret elevator from the basement to the lower basement. The ground floor will be like any normal house with a kitchen, dining room, lounge, toilet and study. It has 4 entrances. 1 front door, back door, the door that leads you inside the house from the garage then a secret hidden door that will be leading you straight to the woods. The 1st floor will have a main bedroom and a guest bedroom and a study. You can change one of the study to be your working room."

Kuhle: "even though I am no gangster I am happy

with everything in this house. I have no complains or anything I would like to add.”

Me: “okay I guess I will have someone send you the invoice so that they can start with building your houses.”

Kuhle: “thank you. So when is our friendly get together?”

Me: “you don’t forget neh?” he nods “well this Friday I am going home for the weekend. So maybe we can get together next Friday.”

Kuhle: “so are you and Shamase really an item?” he asks in a tone I can’t decipher.

Me: “Kuhle I did tell you that I don’t date so that wouldn’t have changed in a matter of few days. Mvelo and I fucked once and that was it. He was a one night stand and now he is acting as if we are dating. What I hate the most is that he is not dismissing the rumors that are circulating that I and

he are an item. This is one of the reasons I didn't wanna hangout with you in public."

Kuhle: "so you slept with him?"

Me: "don't get jealous my king. I am single I can sleep with whoever I want." He rolls his eyes and stands up, I also stand up.

Kuhle: "see you soon. Can I get a hug?" I chuckle and hug him. God why does he have to smell so good and have so comfortable arms? I wouldn't mind falling asleep in them every night. We finally break the hug and look at each other's eyes.

Me: "you smell nice." He giggles.

Kuhle: "you too. Goodbye." He leaves. What the fuck just happened?

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 8

I get to my floor and find Zah with 3 other people. They are wearing all black so I suspect they are the bodyguards and the driver. Yerr the male bodyguard is an entire meal I wouldn't mind eating. Just kidding. I wouldn't sleep with an employee, I am not like that.

Zah: "so guys this is Miss Ntombifuthi Cele but you can call her Futhy because she hates being called by Miss Cele. She is your boss. Futhy this is Mabutho Nzama and Thobeka Ngwenya your bodyguards and this is Zamokuhle Simelane your driver."

Me: "nice to meet you guys." I shake their hands. "I hope their contracts have been set and signed."

Zah: "yeah, everything has been done."

Me: “okay. I guess I will see you guys tomorrow at my house at 7 am bright and early.”

Zamokuhle: “sure boss.” I proceed to my office.

I find architects there and I frown then remember the Blue Diamond Project. We combine all the sketches and I tell Melody to submit the final sketch to the 3D department. She agrees and I dismiss the meeting. After that I head home. I place my stuff in my room, wear sleepers and then head to the pool house. I find Xoli busy typing something on the laptop. I sit on the chair available and clear my throat. She raises her head and smiles when she sees me.

Me: “find any restaurant owners?”

Xoli: “yeah.” She hands me her tablet which has a list. I look at it and choose my pick.

Me: “Samukele Tobo. That’s my pick. Contact her and find out if she is available tomorrow. If she is, set up a lunch meeting with me and her. How is the

search for space coming up?”

Xoli: “I have found a few in JHB but all that’s left is narrowing them down according to their sizes, environment and safety.”

Me: “okay. I am tired so I am just going to take a nap. See you later.”

Xoli: “okay.” I go to my room, take a quick shower, wear my oversized t-shirt and take my well deserved nap.

NARRATED

Mvelo was sitting at his home thinking about the amazing Ntombifuthi Cele. He has fallen for her hard and he knew that there was no turning back, only surrendering to love. He loved her and he swore that he would have to make her his no matter what it takes. He knew that she doesn’t want a serious relationship but he was going to convince her until she changes her mind.

His mind drifted to the night of passion they had. She took him to a place he has never been before. It was the best sex he has ever done in his entire life and he didn't want to have sex with anyone else but her. His heart broke when he woke up the following morning and didn't find her next to him. His ego was bruised. He thought that maybe he didn't perform well.

He was drinking Heineken when Cebo and Andile got in the lounge. Andile went to fetch 3 beers for all 3 of them because Mvelo's beer was nearly finished. He sat down and opened the beers and passed the other two to his friends. He could see that something was bothering him so he decided to ask.

Andile: "Shamase what's up? You don't look good."

Mvelo: "I went to see Futhy and she was not happy to see me. In fact it seemed like my presence irritated her. I love that girl and I don't know what I should do next."

Cebo: “don’t tell me you are giving up on her.”

Mvelo: “no I am not. But I need new strategies on how to approach her.”

Andile: “do a live video declaring your love to her. Already your fans think you guys are together. This grand gesture may make her fall for you. Just say to the video you did something bad and beg your fans to go and plead your case to her. If that doesn’t work then I don’t know what will.”

Cebo: “not bad. And maybe buy her a diamond necklace and earrings and have those delivered to her house. You know diamonds are a girl’s best friend.”

Mvelo: “you think that would do the trick?”

Andile: “you won’t know until you try.” Mvelo nodded.

He took his iPad, went online to a jewelry store nearby. He ordered the diamond necklace and earrings set. He put Futhy’s address so that they can be delivered at her house. He then took his phone

and logged in to Instagram. He was desperate for Futhy's love that he didn't know what the consequences of his actions will be. He started the live video.

Mvelo: "hey guys. This is my first time doing a live video. First of all I wanna thank you guys for the love you have been showing me. I really appreciate it. Secondly there is this amazing, phenomenal and beautiful woman by the name of Ntombifuthi Cele, the CEO of Dubandlela Construction Company. She has managed to capture my heart in such a short period of time. I have realized that I can't live life without her. MaNdosi if you're watching this just know that this heart," he pointed his chest, "it beats for you only. I have fallen deeply for you and sometimes it scares me. Please allow me to love you and treat you like a queen that you are. Nani guys please do put up a good word for me." he chuckled. "Bye guys." He ended the live video.

Andile: “man that was deep.” They all chuckled.

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Kuhle had just finished viewing Mvelo’s live video. He chuckled and shook his head. Truth be told he had fallen for Miss Cele but didn’t want to act out of his feelings because firstly he was married and secondly he knew that if they were to pursue a relationship Futhy wouldn’t settle for being a second wife because she is too independent for that.

Anyways he put his phone down, he didn’t even know what made him view Mvelo’s live video in the first place. Right that moment his wife descended the stairs wearing a short tight dress with 6 inch stilettos. He chuckled in disbelief and clicked his tongue. His wife just had the ability to upset him most of the time and attracting bad press. He wondered if she will ever change her behavior when she has been crowned the Queen of the Zulu Kingdom.

Sthabile: “oww honey I didn’t know you’re back from the office.” She smiled at him.

Kuhle: “where do you think you’re going dressed like that? Do I have to remind every time you go out that you are a princess and you must dress and act accordingly?” she rolled her eyes.

Sthabile: “my love this dress is not even that short.”
Kuhle raised his eyebrows.

Kuhle: “really? Bend over and touch your heels.” She laughed and Kuhle gave her the death stare and she saw that he was serious.

Sthabile: “babe listen...”

Kuhle: “you can’t even bend because you know that your dress is too short and it will expose your behind. Now tell your husband where you are headed to.” he said sarcastically.

Sthabile: “to Cubana with my friends.” Kuhle laughed angrily.

Kuhle: “who are you married to Sthabile?”

Sthabile: “you.”

Kuhle: "and what am i?"

Sthabile: "the prince of the Zulu Kingdom."

Kuhle: "so you as a princess and the future queen, do you think this is the right attire for a future queen?" she shook her head. "So my love if you no longer wanna be my wife, go to Cubana in that dress. You will find divorce papers waiting for you by your bedside." He stood up. "And I will know if you went behind my back." He took his phone and headed out. Sthabile walked back upstairs with her tail between her legs. She knew better than to cross Kuhle because he is not a violent man but once he says he will do something then he will do it and no one can change his mind. He is kind but once you piss him off he can be an animal.

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BACK TO FUTHY

Yazi Mvelo is testing me and he won't like it when I show him my true colours. He doesn't know the consequences of his impulsive actions. I was taking a nap but I woke up after an hour because I don't sleep during the day. And I wake up to find that Mvelo has turned me into a celebrity. I dial Noma's number with hopes that he can find a solution to this. She answers after 5 rings that means she is still at the office.

Noma: "Advocate Biyela speaking, how may I help you?"

Me: "how much does it cost to sue someone for misleading the public?"

Noma: "hey tase, I saw Mvelo's live video. How are you feeling?"

Me: "tase who does that? He may think that was romantic or something and it may have been romantic for someone else but not for me. This stunt infuriates me. He is making me hate him day

by day. Can you just ask one of your gangster clients to eliminate him?" she laughs and I also laugh because she knows I am joking.

Noma: "mngani I am sensing paparazzi tomorrow morning at DCC."

Me: "lucky me I have bodyguards and you should see my driver and male bodyguard. They are so hot tase, their muscles dear God."

Noma: "I am in a relationship Futhy, stop trying to corrupt me." I laugh.

Me: "anyways what should I do with this issue of Mvelo?"

Noma: "ignore it. It should blow up soon and people will move on to another scandal."

Me: "I hope so tase. Anyways Nothando is having umemulo month end. You should come with your bae." She screams, damaging my eardrums in the process.

Noma: "yey I can't wait, we are going to be slaying in matching outfits with bae ninye nyi nokushima

kwenu no Lee.”

Me: “okusalayo it will end in tears.” She bursts out laughing and I end the call. I also call Lee and tell her about umemulo ka Nothando. She is also excited about it.

I wear my sleepers and take my phone. I go downstairs and find K and Xoli watching TV. I join them. They ask me how I feel about Mvelo’s live video and I just brush the question aside.

Xoli: “so I managed to set up a meeting with Miss Tobo. She will be able to see you tomorrow at her restaurant in Durban North. The name of the restaurant is Tobo Buzz. Your meeting is at 14:30. So I may suggest that you finish all your day’s work and after the meeting you just come back home.”

Me: “okay. I want you to come with me to the meeting. You are after all my assistant.”

Xoli: “ohh okay.”

Me: "you will take an Uber to DCC tomorrow at 13:30 so that you can meet Zah and we will leave together to Tobo Buzz." She nods. "Now K have you cooked dinner?"

K: "no I was about to start."

Me: "don't bother. I am craving pizza tonight so please order a large BBQ Bacon for me and you can also order 2 for you guys." She nods and places the order.

K: "so Mayibongwe proposed." Mayibongwe is her boyfriend, the one she always visits on Sundays.

Me: "OMG! That's awesome. Where is the ring?"

K: "he said I will wear it once he is done paying lobola."

Me: "this is great. I am happy for you." I side hug her. "Now after getting married you will quit your job?"

K: "hell no. I won't be a housewife but I will surely move out."

Me: "that's understandable. Anyways I hired bodyguards and a driver. They will be here tomorrow

morning. I don't want you guys confused when they arrive."

Xoli: "are they hot?" both K and I laugh. Where is the innocent single Nomxolisi?

Me: "you wanna ride a muscled bodyguard?" she giggles.

Xoli: "no, I was just thinking about the views." We continue laughing.

K: "views neh?" she gives her a mischievous smile.

The pizza arrives and we eat while chatting. I may not admit it out loud but it's nice to live with other people. A big house can be lonely sometimes. After eating we continue watching TV and at 9pm I excuse myself. I go to my room, brush my teeth and get into bed. I find a message from Simamiso saying I can come next week Tuesday because she will be free. I sent Gcino a text telling him that we are going to Empangeni on Tuesday. He doesn't even ask why we are going there. He just seems happy about the road trip. Kids. I pray my night prayer and then fall asleep after that.

CHAPTER 9

I wake up and prepare for work. I head downstairs and find Mabutho, Thobeka, Zamokuhle, Nomxolisi and Kgomotso around the kitchen counter. K is dishing breakfast.

Me: "I hope there is still some left for me." K giggles.

K: "you usually don't eat breakfast here so I didn't include you in this." I place my hand in my chest dramatically.

Me: "such cruelty Kgomotso. Who taught you this evilness? Is it Nomxolisi?" they both laugh. The new employees look so confused. K hands me a bowl of cereal and I thank her and sit on a vacant barstool. "So how are you guys?"

Thobeka: "I am still stuck on the cruelty part." We all laugh at her.

Zamokuhle: "we are fine Futhy. How are you?"

Me: "besides the paparazzi I am about to face, I am good. Now do you guys think it's a good idea to live in your own spaces? I mean there is so much room in this house, I don't mind sharing it."

Mabutho: "we don't wanna impose. We are okay where we stay."

Me: "you know what? Psek. In fact I am instructing you to come stay with me. In that way I will know even if someone tries to break in at night, I am safe. That is my final judgment." I look at K. "where is the court thingy?" she opens a drawer and hands me a gavel. I bang it on the counter. "Case dismissed. Next case." They all laugh. I actually bought a gavel because most of the time Lee and Noma always disagree and I have to settle the dispute, I am always the referee.

K: "so when will you guys be moving in so that we can prepare your rooms?"

Thobeka: "I guess tomorrow."

Me: "this weekend you are off. I am going home so I don't need guards there. That means you guys can move in on Sunday afternoon. During the weekend go see your girlfriends and boyfriends and serve notice to your landlords."

Mabutho: "sure boss." I finish eating my cereal and hand the bowl to K. I open a drawer and take out the car keys of the Aston Martin and the Fortuner. I hand the AM car keys to Zamokuhle and the Fortuner ones to Mabutho.

Me: "you guys will ride in the Fortuner and Zamokuhle and I will ride in the Aston Martin." I stand up and we head out.

Thobeka: "how many cars do you have?"

Me: "6." She exclaims and quickly collects herself. We all get into the cars and drive out.

We arrive at work and find journalists at the front door. Lord give me strength. Zamokuhle opens the door for me and I get out. The minute my heel lands on the floor cameras start flashing. I wouldn't mind this attention if it was journalists wanting to know more about my company. But because it's about a stupid stunt pulled by Mvelo, it irritates me. Mabutho paves way for me and I enter the building completely ignoring the questions by the press.

We take my private elevator and we get to my office. They put my stuff on top of my table and head out. I sit on my chair and start working. At 10 am Zah brings me my lunch. I can see that she wants to talk about the live video but I just dismiss her. Not everything is about Mvelo bethuna. After eating I check my emails and find out that my application for doing a PhD in Architecture and Planning at WITS has been accepted. At least some good news. Although it might take me 4 years to complete my PhD, I don't care, as long as I am Doctor Cele at the end. Yeah I did my Masters after completing my

Honors.

I take my phone and call my girls through a conference call. They both answers. I talk before they can even say hello.

Me: "guess who you will be calling Dr. Cele in 3 or 4 years to come?" they both scream.

Noma: "OMG they accepted you?"

Me: "yes girl."

Lee: "that's good news. We should celebrate. A night in Zimbali just for control nje."

Me: "who is paying?"

Lee: "I am."

Noma: "then yay. So when are we going?"

Me: "how about tomorrow night because on Friday I am going home?"

Lee: "sounds like a plan. Wait Noma haven't you received your email?" she also applied to do her PhD in Law.

Noma: "oww sorry guys. I received it yesterday. I celebrated with bae and I totally forgot to inform you."

Lee: "I did say the day she gets into a relationship we will be a thing of the past." We all laugh.

Me: "guys I am going to Empangeni next Tuesday to this designer who will be designing my outfit. I have seen her work on Instagram and I must say she is good."

Lee: "maybe I will come with you. I will have to clear my schedule."

Noma: "mina no bae we have found our own designer."

Me: "sasha."

Lee: "sifelani?" we talk more and then we say our goodbyes. Lee did her Masters and PhD while we were doing our second degrees with Noma so she is already a doctor, by profession and by academia. I continue with my work and I am disturbed by a tiny knock. I raise my head and I am shocked to see Xoli standing there.

Me: "is it already half 1?"

Xoli: "yes sisi." I gesture her to come in, she does and sits on the couch. "You have a beautiful office."

Me: "thank you. Fuck I must have lost track of time. ZAH!" I call her and she appears on my door seconds later.

Zah: "boss lady."

Me: "Zanele this is Nomxolisi my home personal assistant and Nomxolisi this is Zanele my work personal assistant. Zah you can show her around while I finish up here." she nods.

Zah: "come." Xoli stands up and they both head out.

I quickly finish up and pack my stuff. I take them and head out. I find Mabutho and Thobeka sitting on chairs outside my office, I am glad Zah gave them chairs. I hand them my stuff and go call Xoli from Zah's office.

Me: "Xoli we have to go. Zah I will see you tomorrow

and do prepare for presenting the Blue Diamond project.”

Zah: “sure boss.”

Xoli and I head out to find the guards already waiting for us. We all head to the cars and drive to Tobo Buzz. We get there and find exactly why it’s called Tobo Buzz. There are so many customers, almost all the tables are full. We stand at the door and a waiter comes to us.

Waiter: “good afternoon. I am Nqalabutho, can I get you a table of four?”

Me: “no, I have an appointment with the owner, Miss Tobo.”

Waiter: “it’s Mrs. Tobo. Please follow me, I will show you to her office.” We follow him to the boss’s office. We get there and find a woman in her late 30s. “Boss these people have an appointment with you.”

Tobo: “Miss Cele of DCC?” she raises her eyebrow.

Me: “that’s me.” I turn to the guards. “You can wait outside guys. It won’t take long.” They nod and do as

instructed. “May we sit?” she shows us the seats so we sit down. “I am sure you’re wondering why I am here.”

Tobo: “yeah.”

Me: “I am an architect and my company is building a new studio for Blue Diamond Music. They wanna have a restaurant inside the building. They asked me to find someone who will be willing to build their branch inside their building. Of course that someone will be renting to them but almost all the occupants of the building will be eating at the restaurant so it’s a guarantee that they won’t be short of customers. When they came to me about this, you came in mind. I am not trying to go all feminist on you but I believe in black women empowerment. If you don’t feel like this is a good opportunity to you then I will give it to someone else.”

Tobo: “where is this studio going to be built?” and just like that, I have won her.

Me: "in Asherville."

Tobo: "this is great opportunity for me to expand. And seeing that I will be working with celebs, I will get more exposure. So how are we doing this?"

Me: "tomorrow I have a meeting with the Ntuli Brothers. After our meeting I will give them your numbers and you guys will communicate directly to each other without me as the middle woman."

Tobo: "thank you for this opportunity and thank you for choosing me. Some women out there want to be successful on their own. They don't help build each other. We need more women like you in this world. Women who fix each other's crowns not crush them."

Me: "thank you sisi. I would love to stay and have lunch but I can see that you're quite busy so I will be on my way."

Tobo: "no please stay. I will have Nqalabutho set up a table for you."

Me: "please make it a table of 5." She nods and heads out.

Xoli: “you really know how to make someone feel special sis Futhy. Mrs. Tobo is right, the world need more women like you.”

I just smile because I don't like receiving praises for something that should be normalized. Mrs. Tobo comes back to tell us that our table is ready, we follow her and I tell Mabutho to go get Zamokuhle. He leaves and comes back with him. We settle in our table and order today's special. The waiter brings us drinks while we are waiting for our food.

Me: “so are you guys in relationships?”

Mabutho: “no, I just broke up with my girlfriend 2 weeks back.”

Thobeka: “well I have a baby whose daddy is the one staying with her. My job is so demanding that I let him stay with her but I make sure that I make time to go visit her.”

Zamokuhle: “well I am what you call a fuck boy or in

my case a fuck man.” we all laugh. “I guess I haven’t found the one who is going to make me settle down and build a family.”

Me: “Thobeka you should bring your princess at the house sometimes.” She nods. Our food arrives and we start eating. Damn this food is so delicious, mouth-watering.

After eating we go home and find K fussing over a gift box. I release the guards and tell them to report for duty tomorrow morning. I go to my room, take off my clothes and wear my sports bra and a cotton shorts with flip flops. I head back downstairs.

Me: “so Mr. Fiancé decided to spoil you?”

K: “no, actually this is for you.” She hands me it. I open the box and find a beautiful diamond necklace with matching earrings. I see a note so I take it and read it.

Me: “To MaNdosi. I love you. From Your Mvelo.” I

chuckle. This guy doesn't give up neh?

Xoli: "so are you going to keep it?"

Me: "yeah. I can't let beautiful diamonds go to waste." They laugh. "Anyways I am going swimming. You can join me if you want." I say and head out through the backdoor.

The sun was out today so it's a little warm. I get inside the swimming pool and do a few laps. The water always have a way of calming down a person and bringing inner peace. It is another form of meditating. I hold my breath and go under water. I stay for about 30 seconds before I resurface.

I continue swimming and a while later K and Xoli come by the poolside with snacks. I get out and K hands me a towel. I dry myself and sit on one of the pool chairs. We eat the snacks while chatting. The wind gets cold so we head back inside. I take a warm bubble bath while sipping on white wine and listening to jazz.

Jazz and bubble baths are a thing for me. This whole Mvelo shit has actually been stressing. I know I may have not shown it because I have burying myself in work but Mvelo is stressing. I am afraid that when he finally realizes that I am not on the same page with him, he might go psycho on me. I have seen movies of psychopaths and I don't wanna end up having one after me. I hope that he soon gives up on this quest of his to have me as his equal.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 10

Sponsored by Thulisile Simanga

The next morning I am woken up by my stupid ring tone, well it's not stupid, it's actually Jessie J – I got you but when it rings waking me up from my slumber then it's stupid. I take my phone and answer it without even checking who the caller is.

Me: "what?"

Lee: "ohh okay you're still sleeping, that means you haven't seen today's trending picture."

Me: "what trending pic?" she clears her throat and exhales loudly.

Lee: "your high school nude has resurfaced. Someone must have dug deep for your information."

A lady who is Mvelo's ex is the one who posted it." I take a deep breath. Maybe she is going to say she is kidding. I sit up straight.

Me: "what did you just say Lindelwa?"

Lee: "exactly that Futhy. I just called to find out how you're doing. I thought maybe you have seen the posts and comments on social media."

Me: "what have I done to deserve this? Why did Mvelo have to come into my life and turn it upside down? This is the final straw. Do you know how many clients I can lose due to this stunt? FUCK! FUCK! FUCK!" tears stream down my cheeks due to mixture of two emotions: sadness and anger.

Lee: "are you going to be okay? Do you need me to take a day off and just come and chill with you?" I wipe my tears.

Me: "no relax. I will be fine. Tell Noma to find Mvelo's number for me ASAP."

Lee: "sure." She drops the call. Few minutes later Noma sends Mvelo's number and I call him immediately.

Mvelo: “good morning MaNdosi.”

Me: “good morning Mvelo? Really? What’s good about this morning? You went out there and declared your love to me like a fuckin Shakespeare fan and now my private old pictures have resurfaced again. Did you stop and think about the consequences of your actions before actually doing what you did? Did you use your fuckin brain?”

Mvelo: “wait what are you...?”

Me: “fuck you Mvelo, you hear me? Fuck you. I curse the day I laid my eyes on you. Leave me the fuck alone. Your presence in my life has brought back painful memories and opened old wounds. If you ever come near me again or do a live video about me, I won’t be held responsible of what I will do to you.” I end the call and scream out loud.

I remember all the shading I got after that picture trended in high school. Here is what went down. I was a very smart and a fast learner, which I still am. There was this teacher who was young. He was my

math teacher. He was handsome but I didn't date teachers and he also saw me as just a learner. He would give me extra work and sometimes we would stay late and he'd help me practice math.

He had many admirers and many girls were furious that he spent so much of his time with me. At some point they even spread rumors about us dating. They reported us to the headmistress but there wasn't any proof so the case was dismissed. I played sports back then, netball to be exact, so there was this one time at the changing rooms where I took off all my clothes. I didn't have the confidence I have now about my body back then.

They took a picture while I was still naked and I didn't notice. The next morning when I came to school kids were giving me weird stares. A friend of mine showed me the picture and I fainted. I woke up in the sick room and my parents were there. They tried getting to the bottom of this and together with

my math teacher they finally found who posted the picture. Although she was suspended, the damage was already done and I was already subjected to body shaming. I became so depressed that my parents took me to therapy. After a lot of sessions I finally started to accept myself and my body.

The picture incident may have humiliated me but that was the first step to gaining the self confidence that I needed. After that a policy was implemented at school that whoever takes and posts nudes of another fellow learner would be expelled immediately. My parents were there for me through it all. I got to see my father's affectionate side. They supported me and showed me love when I needed it. I really thought the picture was a thing of the past but clearly I was wrong. Whoever posted it will face legal consequences. I take my phone and text Noma telling her that I want whoever that posted the pic first to be sued for invasion of privacy.

I get up, make my bed and go take a shower. After showering and brushing my teeth I head to my closet. I wear my black turtle neck, black high waist jeans, black and white old school vans and a knee length black coat. I comb my hair straight and wear my vans bucket hat. I take my work stuff, phone and head downstairs. I find the guards, driver and my housemates eating breakfast. I put my stuff in the counter after greeting them and sit on the barstool. K hands me a black cup of coffee. I have been staying with her for 5 years so she knows what to give me according to my moods.

After finishing my cup of coffee we head to work. We find more journalists than yesterday at the front door. Just like yesterday I ignore them and get inside my building. We get to the private elevator and head to my office. The guards put my stuff on my desk and as they turn to walk out I stop them.

Me: "the only people you will allow to my office today

are my employees only, no outsiders.” They nod and get out. My office phone rings and I answer it.

“Ntombifuthi Cele speaking how may I help you?”

Mom: “Lwandlelethu are you okay?” she has seen the picture I guess. Something in her voice makes me so emotional that I find myself sniffing.

Me: “I will be fine mom. I have dealt with this before and I came out stronger. Don’t worry yourself about me.” she keeps quiet for a while.

Mom: “you know what? That’s it, I am coming.”

Me: “no mom please I will be fine. I will tell Lele’s publicist to deal with this and Noma is going to sue whoever posted the picture.”

Mom: “okay. If you need me I will come there whenever.”

Me: “thanks mom. I gotta go. Bye.” I hang up and sit down on my chair.

I bow my head and take deep breaths trying to control my emotions. The door flies open and when I

raise my head I see u Ndosini omkhulu standing in the middle of my office. He doesn't say anything, instead he just opens his arms and I rush to hug him. He brushes my back and I just cry silently. After a while I stop crying and he leads me to the couch inside the office. We both sit and he holds me close.

Dad: "uwu Ndosini wena. You are stronger than you think. You are successful and independent. You are beautiful with all your flaws. Many would kill to have a body like yours. Whoever that publishes negative stuff about you is just jealous. You are one of the richest women on Mzansi. Even I am jealous of you sometimes." I giggle. "That's what I wanted to hear. Don't worry about your company. This won't make you lose clients. You didn't publish this yourself intentionally. If you are afraid of losing them then organize a press conference and set the record straight."

Me: "thanks daddy. I don't know what I'd do without you."

Dad: “you’d probably be non-existent if it wasn’t for my powerful sperm.” I burst out laughing and he also laughs in his deep voice.

Me: “I can’t believe you just said that.”

Dad: “I just wanted you to loosen up my princess. I love you.”

Me: “I love you too Dubandlela.” He plants a soft kiss on my forehead. He stands up and I also stand up.

Dad: “I guess I will see you tomorrow then.”

Me: “yeah.” He hugs me once more and then leaves. After a few seconds Thobeka peeps in the door.

Thobeka: “damn boss your father is intense and scary.” I laugh out loud. Many people have said that before. My dad is not scary it’s just that he carries himself with dignity and hardly talks to people he doesn’t know. Kahle-kahle akafuni ukujwayelwa.

Me: “leave my dad alone tuh.” She laughs and closes the door.

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NARRATED

After seeing Futhy's nude, Kuhle knew that he had to do something. He called his younger sister who is a hacker. He knew that due to the different time zones she might not answer the call but luckily she answered.

Lisa: "this better be important Kuhle. I told you not to call me in the morning." Kuhle sighed.

Kuhle: "I wouldn't be calling you if it wasn't important."

Lisa: "whatever. So what do you want?"

Kuhle: "someone posted a nude of friend of mine on social media. I need you to delete that picture and try deleting it on every device."

Lisa: "what is she to you?"

Kuhle: "a friend."

Lisa: "you don't have female friends Kuhle."

Kuhle: "are you going to do this or not?" he said as

he was starting to get angry.

Lisa: "fine, fine. I will do it. Just send me her information."

Kuhle: "done. Please do this ASAP." He didn't wait for her to respond, he just dropped the call and sent her Futhy's information.

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Mvelo on the other side of town felt horrible for the attention he brought Futhy. He wished he hadn't done what he did and maybe he'd still had a chance. He wished he hadn't listened to his friends because it looked like even the diamonds didn't soften Futhy but instead made her even mad. What was he thinking buying diamonds for a woman who probably has everything? After the morning phone call he could hear that she was fed up and wanted nothing to do with her. But giving up wasn't one of his strongest traits. He just decided to lay low for a while and will continue pursuing her after all this has died down.

BACK TO FUTHY

Zah comes to my office to tell me that the Ntuli brothers have arrived. I am only going to the meeting to oversee. I take my phone and Tobo's business card and put them in my pocket. Zah and I both head to boardroom 1 and the guards follows us. We get to the private elevator and descend to the 1st floor. The elevator opens and we all step out. While walking down the corridor someone jumps me landing on my back and wraps his legs around my waist. I giggle. There is only one person in my life who is this childish.

Me: "Sibulele mann." I reprimand him and he laughs in my ear. He climbs down and wraps his arms around my shoulders.

Lele: "I missed you big sis." I turn to face him and give him a proper hug.

Me: "I missed you too lil bro." he hugs Zah.

Lele: "long time no see MaZandy."

Zah: "it's MaZet wena man. MaZandy is Zandile. How many times do I have to tell you this?"

Lele: "well that's the same shit to me." Zah rolls her eyes and gets inside the boardroom. "And who is this sexy mamasita?" he says looking at Thobeka while biting his lip.

Thobeka: "call me mamasita one more time and I will crush your balls." She says in her scratchy voice. Lele becomes serious instantly. I laugh quietly.

Me: "Sibulele these are my bodyguards Thobeka and Mabutho. Guys this is my little brother Sibulele."

Mabutho: "nice to meet you man." Lele nods and clears his throat. I can see that he took the balls threat seriously.

Me: "Thobeka you can tell him now that you were joking." Thobeka laughs and tells him that she was joking. He finally loosen up. "So are you going to attend the meeting? Are you even allowed to?"

Lele: "my sister is the owner of this company and the Ntuli brothers are my buddies so I am allowed." I roll my eyes and get inside the boardroom and he

follows. The guards stay at the door.

Me: “sorry I am late guys.” I say shaking their hands.

Yandisa: “no problem. Miss Zanele has already started the presentation.”

Me: “okay then continue Zah.” She continues presenting and after she is done the brothers give out complements.

Yandisa: “so Futhy did you find a restaurant owner?” I take out the business card from my pocket and hand it to him.

Me: “she will be expecting your call. You should go check out her restaurant in Durban North. Yoh the food there is so delicious you will be licking your fingers all the way.”

Sakhile: “we will surely pass there when we got time.” We all stand up and the others head out but Sandile doesn’t get out instead he comes and stands in front of me. He scratches his head.

Sandile: “are you okay? I saw the picture. I just wanted to know how you holding up.”

Me: “thanks for asking. I am okay.” He clears his throat.

Sandile: “ehm Futhy I know this isn’t the best time to say this but I really like you. I am not good with words but what I know is that I like you and I’d like a chance to get to know you better. I am not rushing you. You can take your time. When you are ready to give me a chance you can give me a call.” Wow I didn’t see this coming. I take out my phone and give it to him. He dials his number and saves it on his phone and then gives me back my phone.

Me: “I guess I will see you around.”

Sandile: “yeah. Before I leave can I get a hug? It’s partially for me as it is for you. When I am feeling down a hug always helps so maybe it might comfort you.” I laugh. What a way of asking for a hug.

Me: “sure Sandile.” He opens his arms for me and we hug each other. The hug lasts longer than it should. We finally break it when we can feel other

emotions rising. We both get out of the boardroom and find everyone waiting outside. Good thing the boardrooms are sound proof.

Lele: “what were you guys talking about?”

Me: “ask me something that doesn’t concern you again and I will allow Thobeka to crush your balls.” Everyone laughs.

Sakhile: “so her name is Thobeka?” he asks wiggling his eyebrows.

Me: “one punch from her will send you straight to ER.” His facial expression changes.

Sakhile: “please be my bodyguard. I will pay you 3 times the money Futhy is paying you, just for the views.” He licks his lips. We laugh and Thobeka steps forward towards him, he takes 2 steps back and we laugh hysterically.

Thobeka: “pussy.” We say our goodbyes and the Ntuli brothers leave. I turn to Lele.

Me: “So where are you headed to now?”

Lele: "I am going to lunch with them then after that I am going home. I will come to your place after the weekend."

Me: "that's fair. So I guess I will see you tomorrow then." We hug and he leaves. Zah, the guards and I go to my office.

Lee asks me if we are still going to Zimbali and I tell her that we should postpone to next week. She replies by saying she understands. I view the designs of the PMB Bridge that Bob left in my office. They are pretty good but I make a few notes where I can see that if he continues with this, the bridge might collapse within 5 years after it has been built. I call him to my office and give him my notes. He takes them together with the designs and heads out. Lindsay brings me lunch personally which is something new, he places it on my desk and sits on the visitors' chair.

Lindsay: "babes uryt kodwa? I know that's a stupid

question but I felt the need to check up on you. I want you to know that I care and I am here for you. Anyways I found who posted the pic and it's Shamase's ex fiancé. Like bitch you cheated, what do you want from Shamase's next?" I laugh. I need people like this who will make me laugh. "Plus she has dry and white ankles, I mean we have Dawn in South Africa which is cheap and yena uzosphaphela whereas she can't even afford a cheap body lotion." I laugh and shake my head.

Me: "she might have posted my nude but that doesn't give anyone a reason to shade her. I am going to get back at her the legal way not by shading her like she did to me. I don't like body shaming other women, if you have twitted about her dry and white ankles please delete that post. I am not a rapper, I don't clap back." He looks at me in disbelief. "I appreciate your support but I currently need emotional support now."

Lindsay: "I hear you and you are too kind. The world needs more women like you. Anyways here is your lunch, enjoy." He leaves.

I eat my lunch and after I am done I continue working. At 15:30 I pack my things and exit my office. I give my stuff to the guards. We head home. After putting my bags in my study they leave. I go to my room, take a warm shower, dry and lotion my body then wear my thong and put my silky gown on top and sleepers. I take my phone and my big teddy bear and head downstairs. I am going to cuddle with it.

I sit and lounge cuddling with my teddy and watching Miraculous Tales of Ladybug and Cat Noir cartoons. They always take my mind off things. The front door opens and my 2 best friends walk in carrying lots of food and bags. They put the food in the kitchen, go upstairs to put their overnight bags there and come back with wine and glasses. They pour the wine and we start drinking.

Noma: "Marinette's crush on Adrien reminds me of Lee's crush on Lele." We all laugh. Noma is right, Lee was just like Marinette. The fact that my brother's

singing career started when he was still in high school is what made him seem like an adult while he was still a teenager and that is what attracted Lee most to her.

Lee: "leave me alone tuh." She pouts and look the other way and we continue laughing at her.

We continue teasing each other and remembering about the old days. We are disturbed by the bell from the front door.

Noma: "give our surprise guest a show and open the door with your gown untied."

Lee: "yeah that will teach them not to come to someone's house unannounced." I laugh and shake my head.

Me: "you guys are crazy."

Noma: "come on, we know you wanna do it and you're going to do it."

Me: "whatever." I stand up and untie my gown.

Lee: "that's what I am talking about."

Noma: "leave the gown behind." I laugh at her.

Me: "now you're overstepping." I wear my sleepers and head to the front door. I open the door and freeze when I see who is there. His eyes pop out and his jaws drop to the floor when he sees my half naked body. I finally unfreeze and tie my gown. "OMG! What the fuck are you doing here?"

Kuhle: "I came to see how you're doing. I went to your office and they told me you left. Aren't you going to allow me in?" he asks in an innocent voice as if he hasn't just seen my nakedness a minute ago. "You have a nice body by the way." I roll my eyes and step aside so that he can get in. I close the door and lead him to the lounge.

Me: "guys this is the uninvited guest and uninvited guest these are the invited guests." They all laugh.

Noma: "are you telling me that you showed him the...?"

Lee: "wow." They laugh out loud.

Me: "you can sit while I get you something to drink."
He nods and sits down. I go to the kitchen and take out a bottle of flying fish, I open it and also take a few snacks that my friends brought. I go back to the lounge and find these three laughing like old buddies. I hand Kuhle the dumpy. "Well your majesty I don't have Castle Lite but I think this will do." He smiles and take it.

Kuhle: "thank you." I sit back to my original place.
"So I called my sister and asked her to remove your picture from most of the devices and from the net. She did it." Noma takes out her phone and checks if what he is saying is true.

Noma: "OMG he is right. There is no trace of your picture anywhere." I look at Kuhle.

Me: "thank you for doing this. But what's the catch?"

Kuhle: "there is no catch."

Me: "come on. You can do better than that."

Kuhle: "I had a female friend in high school. She was very beautiful and kind and friendly but she was also gullible. She dated the school's play boy and he broke her virginity. He made a sex tape of her first night. He sent it to his friends and his friends to their girlfriends. Soon after the whole school had seen it. She couldn't take the critics very well so she drowned herself. I didn't want the same thing to happen to you. No woman should have her nakedness displayed to the whole world without her consent. That's violation of privacy on another level." Lee sniffs and we look at her.

Lee: "I had a teenage client just like her 2 years ago. The same thing happened to her. She tried committing suicide many times but I guess God wasn't ready to have her. People can be so cruel out there. They don't understand how pain they inflict on an individual when sharing their nakedness to the world, especially when the pictures/video are shared by someone you trusted."

Me: “thank you Kuhle. Noma there won’t be a need to sue that woman.”

Noma: “but...”

Me: “no Noma. I will do a live video tomorrow addressing this issue and i will stay the fuck away from Mvelo.”

Kuhle stays for a little while and then leaves. We continue with our ladies’ night in.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 11

Currently I am parking outside my childhood home in Morningside. I am dreading going inside because I have to be in one place with my sisters. Earlier on I did the live video and it trended. Someone uploaded it on YouTube and another posted it on Ladies House. The response I got from women all over the country was very warm and comforting and I was happy to discover that I am a role model to many girls and even young women out there.

This is how the live video went:

Me: “morning guys. I am Ntombifuthi Cele and I am a chubby and thick woman. I have been chubby since

birth. I have never been slim. My parents and brothers showed me love and support as my family. I am proud of who I am and I love my body. This is not the first time a nude of mine has trended and I have received insults and shaming. When I was still in high school this very same nude trended. By that time I wasn't this confident about my body."

"I hid myself from the world because I was ashamed of my body back then and I was humiliated. It took a lot of therapy for me to accept who I am. If I was weak I would've committed suicide or turned to drugs to numb the pain. When you post someone else's private photos you don't only humiliate them but you degrade them and your actions may result in the victim self-harming themselves. I just want to open your minds guys to this. The victims are also someone's kid. If what you do can be done to your child, would you like that? Stop humiliating other people by sharing their private photos and sex tapes. Firstly you may face legal action. Secondly that person may commit suicide. Would taking

someone's life make you feel better? Because if the victim would kill themselves because of your actions then that would mean you killed them."

"Please stop that and stop body shaming women. From petite women to chubby women, all sizes, all races. Stop that. It's not good. I love you all, from Futhy." I ended it like that.

Anyways I open the gate with my remote and drive inside. I take my overnight bag and head inside the house after locking the car. I open the front door and get in. I first go put my bag in my room which is downstairs and head to there I assume everyone is which is in the living room. I greet everyone and hug them. Hugs with my sisters are awkward as always. I sit down next to Gcinokuhle.

Gcinokuhle: "you are becoming a celeb like Lele. You are even a motivation to most people. You have so many people looking up to you. I am a proud big

brother.” We all laugh at his last statement.

Dad: “I did say I have powerful sperms. Although I don’t know what went wrong with you.” We continue laughing.

Mom: “I think my eggs are the one more powerful.” She boasts and father laughs at her with his deep voice and perks her lips. They have been married for over 30 years but they are still head over heels in love with each other, something I want when I finally settle down.

Busi: “when are you going to get married?” she asks looking at me.

Me: “are you suffering from a sickness or something?”

Busi: “what do you mean?”

Me: “I just want to know where it hurts in your body because of my relationship status.”

Nothando: "I think you should've given the soccer player a chance. The guy basically declared his love for you in public. He is the only one who loves you enough to do that. Where do you think you will find another one like him?"

Busi: "Thando is right. Shamase seemed serious about you and you played with your chances."

Mom: "Thando what does your sister's love life has to do with you?" she looks down. "How old is Lwandlelethu?"

Nothando: "29"

Mom: "and you?"

Nothando: "21"

Mom: "now with that huge age difference, what makes you think you can talk to her about her love life when you don't even know how her life is like? Both of you treat your sister like a stranger but you're quick to have opinions about her relationship

status. Wena Busi ngoba you're older, how would you feel if Lwandlelethu and Nothando were close and treated you the way you treat her?" silence spreads out the whole room.

Dad: "we are not here for that because if we were to start talking about your sisterhood we won't talk about what this meeting is about. I really don't know why you two think you're better than your sister. Only God knows." Mom exhales out loud.

Mom: "the way you're so disrespectful Nothando, I wouldn't even bother doing umemulo for you if I was your only surviving parent." Mom never stops once she starts but it won't make any difference because her kids will continue being bitchy towards me.

Dad: "calm down sthandwa sami." He says caressing mom's cheek and she sighs. Only he has the power to control her buttons. "Anyways we are here to discuss umemulo ka Nothando. Since you

three are working,” he says pointing at Busi, Lele and I, “what will you be contributing because the cow, grocery and the catering will be coming from me and umkami?”

Me: “I will buy the booze, hire the tents which will include the chairs and tables, mobile toilets, 2 cold rooms and décor.”

Lele: “I will buy the goats needed for the whole ceremony, how many vele?”

Dad: “three.”

Lele: “yes three goats, I will also hire the program director for the second session as well as all the entertainment for that day and also organize a photographer.”

Nothando: “will you also bring Keela?” Keela is Sakhile’s stage name.

Lele: “anything for you princess.” She smiles.

Busi: “I will hire imvunulo for the ladies who will be dancing with you. I will also buy you a weave and the

whole outfit for second session. I will also do your make up.” she hugs her sister and I am tempted to roll my eyes but u Ndosi omkhulu would literally pluck them out.

Gcino: “and I will be guarding the cold rooms with my life.” We all laugh at him.

Dad: “you couldn’t keep quiet neh?”

Gcino: “I was tempted to but my inner voice was like ‘nah man, that’s not who you are’ and I listened.” We continue laughing and dad shakes his head while chuckling.

Nothando: “so obabomncane won’t contribute anything?”

Me: “as you can see Thando all the costs have been covered. If they wanna contribute they will just come nespheko just for control but other than that we don’t need other people’s contributions just their presence nje bezokunika imali.”

Dad: “she is right Thando.” Thando nods and looks down.

Me: “so will there be umkhwenyana whom we must prepare for on your day?”

Dad: “hhay umkhwenyana wani?”

Me: “dad girls usually show their boyfriends to their families on this particular event, you know that moss.”

Dad: “hhay-hhay” he shakes his head repeatedly.

Gcino: “daddy doesn’t wanna see his little princess grow wings.” He says that sitting at the edge of the couch because he knows that there is a huge possibility that dad might attack him. Dad attempts to stand up and Gcino runs out of the room leaving us all laughing hard.

Dad: “ngizokuthola wena Gcinokuhle.”

The housekeeper calls us to the dining hall because dinner is ready. We all head there and Gcino also comes. We eat while talking more about umemulo.

Thando and Busi seem a little nice but I know how they can be so I don't notice them. We finish eating and then we catch up. After that I head to my room, take a shower, wear my night dress and get under covers with my phone in my hand. My phone rings, I check the caller and I can see that it's Sandile. I answer and keep quiet.

Sandile: "I know that I said I will wait for your call but I couldn't. How are you?"

Me: "I am good, how are you?"

Sandile: "I am okay. How was your day?"

Me: "just a normal day." You can tell by the sound of his voice that he is somehow nervous.

Sandile: "can I take you out on a date any day next week?" I keep quiet for a while then I decide to answer.

Me: "Wednesday night I am free."

Sandile: "cool then, that's awesome."

Me: "aren't you supposed to be in JHB?"

Sandile: “no. I will see you then. And I love the sound of your voice, it’s soothing.” I chuckle.

Me: “flattery won’t get you anywhere.”

Sandile: “you still owe me.”

Me: “what?”

Sandile: “singing. You promised me and my brothers that you will sing for us.”

Me: “ohh okay.”

Sandile: “so when are you going to sing for me?” I clear my throat and start singing. I don’t like owing people.

Me: “inhliziyo, iyophuka, I wonder ubuzophelelaphi, ubuziphelelaphi ukube usaphila, I wonder ubuzophelelaphi, besizophelelaphi ukube usaphila.”

Sandile: “wow, wow, wow. I am impressed. We have to do at least one track please.” I giggle.

Me: “if singing was my passion I would be an award winner by now.”

Sandile: “pretty please.”

Me: "begging doesn't suit you. Good night Sandy." I drop the call and drift to sleep.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 12

Dad woke us up in the early hours of the morning. He likes doing this every time we are home. When he wakes us up at 5:30 am we all know that we are going camping and we will spend our day and night in the woods. After that we will pass by our grandparents' house (from dad's side) tomorrow just to have lunch with them and come back home.

Camping has always been our family hobby. We don't have time to like or dislike it because we have been doing it since we were little. When we were older we asked dad why camping though and he told us that in his family every household has their own family hobby. Some prefer road trips, some prefer fishing, some prefer going to festivals so he chose

camping for us.

When we get to the camping site the men usually go fishing for lunch and dinner so that we can eat. Dad taught us how to hunt and fish for meals. So we arrive there and set up. We have a great family day. Of course Thando and Busi are faking their happiness because of me but I don't care. We eat fish and rolls for dinner and then sleep in our camping tents. Gcino and Lele share a tent with me because I brought a much bigger one and because they love crowding my space.

Lele: "so am I allowed to break Shamase's bones?" I laugh at him.

Me: "he is older than you so I am sure he will be the one doing the crushing of the bones."

Gcino: "if he wants you then he won't fight back."

Lele: "yes bro." they fist bump and I laugh at them.

Me: "u Ndosi omkhulu will skin you alive."

Lele: “yoh that guy shame. Remember when I got arrested for assaulting Sisana’s manager?” we all laugh because dad bailed him out only to beat him into a pulp and he woke up in hospital. Dad is a very peaceful person but once you get involved into a violent situation or a fight he will beat you up until you promise that you will never let another person provoke you.

Gcino: “I remember how he beat me up for trying to break up a fight and getting punched in the process which lead me to slapping the one who punched me. Dad has no chill though.” We laugh again.

Me: “you guys don’t understand that he hates violence and he doesn’t believe that fighting can solve a problem.”

Lele: “sometimes he goes overboard.”

Gcino: “exactly.”

Me: “but you gotta admit that he is the best dad ever.”

Gcino: "true that."

Lele: "good night guys." We all go to sleep.

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We wake up the following day and we bath using the water in the lake. After that we drive to Wimpy for real breakfast. We get there and some ladies go crazy when they see Lele, some ask for pictures and he grants them that. The whole family find a table that is big enough for all of us and we sit there. The waitress comes to take orders and I order for Lele while he is entertaining his fan club. Lele comes to sit next to me and the waitress brings us coffee and tea for mom and her first born, but the waitress doesn't see Lele because he has his head on my shoulder.

Dad: "I just hope your fan club won't be disturbing us while eating."

Lele: "they won't dad." The waitress brings breakfast

and she almost trips when she sees Lele. Gcino stands up and assists her before she falls.

Gcino: "let me help you with that." he takes the tray from her and serve us. The waitress finally comes back to her senses and continues doing her job.

Dad: "see what I was talking about." We all laugh. We finish eating and daddy dearest settles the bill.

We exit Wimpy and we drive to Ndwedwe where the pensioners live. We get there and as usual they have visitors. We get inside and gran-gran screams when she sees her grandchildren. We hug her, grandpa and shake hands with their visitors. The visitors leave and the housekeeper serves us drinks.

Gran: "I hope you are staying for the night because it has been so long since you slept here."

Dad: "what do you say honey?" she asks looking at mom. She melts when dad calls her honey.

Mom: "we don't have any plans so we will sleep

here.” dad may be strict and tough but I love that he becomes a teddy.

Grandpa: “so to what do we owe this visit?”

Dad: “we are making umemulo for Thando month end. We don’t need much from you but your presence. And also please invite your kids.”

Grandma laughs.

Gran: “those ‘kids’ as you refer to them are your sibling.”

Dad: “so?” he shrugs. Dad can be savage sometimes.

Grandpa: “you have everything covered?”

Dad: “yes. My kids will help me out in making this ceremony a success.”

Gran: “so have you contacted makoti’s family?” mom is not on speaking terms with her family. We really don’t know what went down and mom doesn’t like talking about it.

Dad: “no we haven’t.”

Gran: “so where will Thando fetch the spear from because according to tradition she must fetch it

from her uncles from her mother's side?"

Mom: "we will see what we can do ma."

Gran: "don't take shortcuts or else this ceremony won't be a success." Mom nods and the mood becomes sour in the living room.

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NARRATED

Lindelwa was sitting in her house at Kwa Mashu. She may be a doctor and all but she is from the ghetto and she loves it there. Anyways she stood up and went to the kitchen to make a sandwich. While making it Noma barged in and shouted her name. She shouted back stating that she is at the kitchen. Noma came to the kitchen, they exchanged greetings and she sat on the barstool. Lee made a sandwich for her too since she knew that she will complain. When she was done she handed it to her, poured juice for them and sat down opposite Noma.

Lee: "so what's up?"

Noma: "I saw Athenkosi." Lee froze.

Lee: "what are you talking about?"

Noma: "he was with a woman and a kid. I suspect that she was his wife because they were wearing rings and they were acting all lovey dovey."

Lee: "do you think that he will come after me?"

Noma: "I think he has moved on, well I hope so."

Lee: "what will I do if he comes after me? Gosh I can't live like this. Why can't I have peace nje?"

Noma: "he is married and he hasn't done anything yet so it's safe to say all is well for now."

Lee: "yeah for now."

Noma: "anyways bae invited us to his work. They will be introducing new dishes so he was wondering if we could come and support him. Because if he invites a person and they show up, he will get R100 per customer."

Lee: "when is this promotion thing happening?"

Noma: "Tuesday night."

Lee: "I will tell Futhy and Zah and maybe Lindsay."

Noma: "that guy can be dramatic sometimes." They both laughed.

Lee: "when are we going to Zimbali?"

Noma: "I think we can go on Wednesday midday just for control. You still covering the costs?"

Lee: "I don't go back to my word tase nawe uyazi nje." Noma giggled and took a sip on her juice.

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*****BACK TO FUTHY*****

It's Sunday evening and Lele and I are driving to my house. We get there and find Mabutho, Zamokuhle, Thobeka and Nomxolisi playing board games in the lounge.

Me: "hey guys." They all greet back. I take my bag upstairs and head back downstairs after changing to sleepers. I sit on the vacant couch.

Xoli: "can I make you guys something to drink?"

Me: "coffee will do for me."

Lele: "I'd like tea beautiful." Xoli giggles and heads to the kitchen.

Me: "how are you guys settling in?" I ask looking at the guards.

Thobeka: "I love my bed so much and the room is so beautiful."

Lele: "don't you want to share it with me? I promise I won't bite."

Me: "Sibulele stop provoking her or I will let her smash you into pieces."

Lele: "I am just kidding sisi hawu." Xoli comes back with our drinks and she serves us.

Me: "how far are you with the research?"

Xoli: "all done. I can present it to you right now."

Me: "let's go to your office." We both stand up and head to the pool house. We get inside and she turns on the lights. We both sit down and she opens her laptop. I take a sip on my coffee.

Xoli: "I found a vacant building in Johannesburg CBD. It has been free for a long time. There was some piping problem so they didn't fix that, they just stopped doing business there. If you were to utilize it you'd have to start afresh with everything. It has 5 floors. Then there is a building for sale in North Cliff. The owner is moving her offices to Northgate so she is selling this building. It has 7 floors and 3 elevators. It is beautiful and is in good condition. Then there is one in Fourways. That one is a state of the art building. It was built and designed by famous architect Lungakho Mbhele. It has a unique structure and also has basement parking lot. It has about 10 floors. It is the most expensive one between the 3 and it is also in good condition and is in a safe environment."

Me: “the one in JHB CBD will cost a lot for renovations and for the plumbing and there must be another reason why nobody has shown interest in buying it. I will look at the one in North Cliff and the one in Fourways in more detail. But the one in Fourways will have unnecessary space nje because I will only utilize 7 floors. What will I do with the other 3? But I will have to sleep on it. So what did you find in Cape Town?”

Xoli: “I found one in Claremont, it’s in good condition and in a safe environment. It has 4 floors and doesn’t have an elevator, I don’t know why. The second one is on Steenberg. It is also in a safe environment. It’s just that the roof collapsed 2 years ago so it hasn’t been in use for that long. I don’t even know how many floors it has and I know nothing about business but I wouldn’t advice you on buying it. The last one is in Clifton. It was built by Lethukuthula Hlongwa. It has 8 floors and 2 elevators. It has a helipad on the roof. I like it.” Lethukuthula Hlongwa is my previous boss. He is a great architect.

Me: "I'd take the one in Clifton. Please do set up an appointment with the owner so that we can hear how much he is selling it for."

Xoli: "will do." I stand up with my coffee.

Me: "see you inside." I exit the pool house.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 13

It's Monday midday and Lee just barges into my office with a Nandos takeaway. She places the paper bag on my desk and takes a seat opposite me.

Me: "if you hadn't brought the food I would've long kicked you out wena MaNkosi." She laughs.

Lee: "how are you tase?"

Me: "oww won't you look at that? She has manners, she knows how to greet." She continues laughing.

Lee: "stop being dramatic. You and Noma always do this to me." I roll my eyes.

Me: "whatever. So what do you want?"

Lee: "Noma saw Athenkosi this weekend." I stop

what I am doing and give her my undivided attention.

Me: "what are you saying to me?"

Lee: "but we have nothing to worry about because he was with his wife and kid." She chuckles nervously.

Me: "nothing to worry about? Really Lindelwa? That guy was practically chased out of Durban because of his obsession for you. What has brought him back here? Wife or no wife I don't trust him. What if he has an ace up in his sleeve?"

Lee: "let's not overreact tase. If he comes after me then I will move in with you for a few weeks until he crawls back to whichever hole he came from."

Me: "I don't know tase. I have a bad feeling about this." She exhales. "Are we still going to Empangeni tomorrow?"

Lee: "yeah. I rescheduled all my appointments so we are free to go."

Me: "okay. Zamokuhle will be driving us. I am sure we will make it back early because it's a half an hour drive from Durban to Empangeni."

Lee: “anyways we are going to Khanya’s work tomorrow night. There is a promotion there. If 1 customer comes because of him, he will get R100. 3 customers R300. And we are also going to Zimbali in Wednesday midday, we are going to spend the night there.”

Me: “I have a date on Wednesday night but I guess I will move it to tomorrow.”

Lee: “date with who?”

Me: “Sandile.”

Lee: “girl who the fuck is Sandile?”

Me: “Sandile Ntuli the producer.”

Lee: “what’s with you and celebrities these days?”

Me: “I guess they like the big girl’s pussy.” She laughs out loud.

Lee: “it’s your fault that I will be there alone so you will set up a date for me.”

Me: “Lele or Keela, either way they will be both coming because I am going to ask them nicely.”

Lee: "is this your way of torturing me?" I laugh at her. "Laugh Futhy, laugh. Kuyeza nakuwe." I laugh out loud and she stands up and heads out.

Me: "thanks for the lunch!"

Lee: "FOKOF0!" I burst out laughing.

I text Sandile about the change of plans and ask him to bring his brothers. I also text my own brother about this and he is super excited to eat out with me. He can be childish sometimes.

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The next morning arrives and we are all sitting at the lounge waiting for Lee. Gcino has already arrive and both him and Lele are behaving like crèche kids and causing chaos. Lele is busy teasing Thobeka even though she keeps threatening him. Gcino is busy terrorizing Mabutho with 21 questions and Xoli just keeps on laughing because she knows how my brothers can be. Lee finally arrives and we all get out. Zamokuhle is driving me with Thobeka and Lee. Mabutho is with Gcino and Lele. We get inside the

cars and off we go to Empangeni. We arrive there after an hour and 45 minutes because we had to buy some refreshments. We get there and we find her with her adorable noisy granddaughter. The guards stand outside and we get inside the lounge.

Simamiso: "how are you guys?" she asks shaking hands with everyone.

Gcino: "we are not complaining. Life is good." We all laugh. She offers us seats and we sit down.

Simamiso: "how was the drive?"

Me: "shorter than expected."

Simamiso: "I thought I was only meeting you."

Me: "after speaking about your greatness, the choir couldn't wait to see you and see some of your work." She giggles.

Lee: "do you have a catalogue?"

Simamiso: "yes. Would you like anything to drink?"

Me: "juice please." She disappears to the kitchen and

comes back with the catalogue and hands it to Lee. Her daughter comes and serves us juice.

Lee: "damn. I am impressed sisi. This is beautiful."

Simamiso: "thank you." She smiles.

Lele: "how many cows for you daughter?" he asks with a silly smile on his face. We all laugh.

Simamiso: "she doesn't do singers." Gcino laughs. "So what do you guys need?"

Me: "I already know what I want. So I want a mermaid navy dress with a shweshwe flare, it must also have see-through long-sleeves." I show her the picture.

Simamiso: "this will be easy and it will suit your body type."

Lele: "I want a knee length long sleeves shirt with the same shweshwe fabric that sisi will be using on her flare and navy dress pants."

Gcino: "I want navy shweshwe pants, obvious the same fabric since everyone is using it and a navy long sleeves cotton shirt with the shweshwe fabric

highlighted somewhere. I trust you so you will do your magic.” Simamiso laughs.

Lee: “well I want a knee length navy shweshwe princess dress which is a boobtube.”

Simamiso: “okay please stand up Futhy so that I can take your measurements?” I stand up and she does her thing. The other 3 also stands up and she also takes their measurements.

Me: “so how much will all of this cost?”

Simamiso: “long dresses are R800, the shirts are R300, the pants are R450 and the short dresses are R650.”

Gcino: “that will be R2950.”

Me: “can you please send me your account number?” she calls it out and I send the money immediately.

Lele: “the ceremony will be on the 29th of August so will you be done by then?”

Simamiso: “yes. I will start as soon as possible.”

Lee: “can you please deliver the clothes in Durban?”

We will pay for petrol. It's just that we have very busy schedules and during the week of the ceremony all the Cele family will be super busy."

Simamiso: "I have no problem with that sisi."

Me: "great then. We will be on our way out." we stand up, exchange hugs and head out.

Lele: "there is this cool spot which is about 5 minutes from here. It's called Wave café. How about we head there and have some lunch?"

Me: "okay let's go." We get inside the cars and drive to Wave.

We get there and order food and drinks. After a while the food comes and we eat. We finish eating and we head back to Durban. We get there around 16:00. I take a quick nap and set an alarm for 17:30 so that I can wake up and prepare for the dinner thingy.

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We arrive to the restaurant and Khanya quickly direct

us to our table. By the way I am wearing a black loose long sleeved jumpsuit and black heels. We get to our table and find the Ntuli brothers already there. As soon as he sees me, Sandile stands up and he hugs me. He smells nice though but I won't admit it to him. He opens a chair for me and I sit down.

Khanya: "thank you so much guys for coming through for me. Our boss just told us that if I bring 3 or more people the money is doubled so I guess R1800." Since it's the big three, the Ntuli brothers and my guards. The guards are sitting at their own table so that they can have freedom but they know that I will settle their bill whether they like it or not.

Me: "plus tips." He laughs.

Khanya: "yes plus tips." Noma stand up and hugs him.

Noma: "I am so happy for you babe." She sits down.

Khanya: "so what would you guys like to order?"

Lee: "can I choose the starters for everyone?"
everyone nods. "We'd like Kakori Kebabs." Noma and I burst out laughing at the story behind this dish.

Khanya: "coming right up." he leaves.

Sakhile: "so what's funny?"

Lee: "it was our first time on a five star restaurant. We were still doing our first year in Wits. There was this chick called Katrina. She took us to this fancy restaurant and for starters she ordered Kakori kebabs. We didn't even know what they are."

Me: "in my mind I thought maybe it's cabbage or something along those lines." They all laugh.

Noma: "I was honestly blank. So we also ordered the kebabs. We were shocked by the results."

Sandile: "you are not the only ones who have ordered something that you don't know." The brothers laugh. Sandile shares a story about how they ordered seafood for the first time while they had no clue what was it. Sandile keeps looking at me and I must

say he has beautiful eyes. Khanya comes back with the starters and we start eating.

After a while the main course comes and we indulge in it. When we finish it Sandile stands up and indicates that he is going for a smoke outside, he asks me to accompany him and I also stand up. We head to the balcony and he lights his cigarette. He leans against the wall and look at me.

Sandile: "come here."

Me: "not while you're smoking." He quickly throws away his cigarette and open his arms for me. I go to him and just lay my head on his chest with my arms around his waist, his hands are on my butt and I honestly don't mind.

Sandile: "actually I wanted some alone time with you, smoking was just an excuse." I giggle. "You're beautiful, you know that?"

Me: "so I have been told." He chuckles.

Sandile: "confident much Miss Cele. I like. Anyways can I get a kiss before your brother comes looking for you?" I laugh and lean in. our lips meet and we just go with the flow. After a while we stop kissing and just stare at each other. "Has anyone ever told you that you have beautiful unique eyes?" I shake my head no.

Me: "they always say they are weird." He chuckles again.

Sandile: "well I like them and can you please sing for me again?"

Me: "you are abusing me Sandile." I sulk and he bites my lower lip, I just giggle.

Sandile: "just one song, even if it's a hook nje Ntombi." I sigh and start singing.

Me: "I don't know much about algebra but I know $1+1$ equals 2,

And it's me and you,
That's all we'll have when the world is through,
Cause baby we ain't got nothing without love,
Darling you got enough for the both of us
So come on baby make love to me"

Sandile: "why did you stop?"

Me: "a hook is a hook Sandy." He pouts and I perk his lips. "You look so cute right now." He blushes.

Sandile: "please leave me alone." He folds his arms in his chest dramatically and I just giggle. "Let's head back inside before you get cold." I nod and we head back inside. We sit down.

Lele: "what were you guys talking about?"

Me: "wena 6 figures, mina 8 figures so asilingani little bro. sukuthanda izindaba." They all laugh and Lele pouts.

Sakhile: “when did you reach the 8 figure status Futhy?”

Me: “about 3 years ago. When I was still an employee I was already earning 6 figures.”

Yandisa: “so do you have any shareholders in your company?”

Me: “no. abantu bayedelelela and they like being in charge on something that is not theirs. My word is the law e DCC and I don’t need approval from the board to make major decisions. Anyways this business talk iyomisa. Noma tell bae to bring me a very cold dumpy yafishi ondizayo.” She laughs and signals for u Khanya. Khanya brings us drinks. I ask for the bill.

Lee: “it’s on me.”

Me: “no it’s on me, remember you still have Zimbali.” Khanya brings the bill.

Noma: “no you came to support me so this bill is on

me.” I exhale and ask Khanya to bring me the guards’ bill. He does.

Sakhile: “so Dr. Lee are you in a relationship?”

Lee: “no but I do ben 10s so you will do.” She says looking at him while biting her lip. We all laugh.

Sakhile: “you really do ben 10s?”

Noma: “yeah, her age mates have proven to be assholes from time to time.”

Yandisa: “maybe you haven’t met the right guy.” He says looking at Lee sternly. I have noticed that Yandisa has been looking at Lee a bit longer than normal. Lee clears her throat and just chuckles.

Me: “I think I will call it a night. I have a busy morning tomorrow.”

Sandile: “let me walk you out.”

Lele: “dude I am still here moss.”

Sakhile: “you will go home later. I still want us to go to that club.” Lele sighs and stands up. We all stand up and share hugs.

Lele: “see you tomorrow because I am sure I will get home when you are already asleep.” He side hugs me and sits down.

Lee: “babes kusasa ke.” I nod and walk out, the guards also walk behind me but Mabutho is walking in front of me. We get to the parking lot and Zamokuhle get inside the car. Mabutho and Thobeka stand a bit far from Sandile and me.

Sandile: “so when are going to spend quality time together?” he asks pulling me to his body.

Me: “how old are you?” he chuckles.

Sandile: “31.” My eyes pop out.

Me: “dude what the fuck? I thought you were 25 or something.”

Sandile: “yeah I know. I look younger.”

Me: “How come you are not married or don’t have kids? I mean you are old enough.”

Sandile: “How come you are not married or don’t have kids?”

Me: "I don't date."

Sandile: "what do you mean?"

Me: "I don't do relationships. The last time I was in a serious relationship was 7 years ago. Shit happened and I gave up on them." he cups my face and perks my lips.

Sandile: "maybe you were unlucky but I am here now and I am pleading for a chance."

Me: "I don't know Sandy."

Sandile: "please." He pouts and blinks his eyes rapidly. I just giggle.

Me: "fine, whatever."

Sandile: "so when are we spending quality time together?"

Me: "sometime next week because this week is very busy for me." he exhales.

Sandile: "I understand, you are a very busy woman."
He kisses me and I respond to the kiss. After a while he breaks it and perks my lips and my forehead.
"Good night."

Me: "night." I head to the car and Mabutho opens the door for me. I climb inside and he closes the door. They get inside their car and we drive out.

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#SandyLvsFuthy

#MissChubby

CHAPTER 14

'Athenkosi: "oww please do you really think I have stopped loving you? You are my soul mate, my ride or die, my forever. I just married that woman because she was pregnant with my baby." He says while pulling her to him.

Lee: "Athi please leave me alone. I want nothing to do with you. You bring nothing but pain in my life. Let me go." He laughs.

Athi: "you really think I am going to let you go? Just like that? You and I belong together and nobody will ever come between us." he carries her in his shoulder like a sack of potato and exits the door.

Lee is screaming and kicking but that doesn't seem to faze Athenkosi.

Voice: "you need to help her MaNdosi before it's too late. Help her." The voice speak in a calm manner.'

I wake up panting and gasping for air. My pillow is soaking wet with my sweat. I don't know when the last time I had a dream like that was. I always have warning dreams when a tragedy is about to strike and my friends learned the hard way never to ignore my warnings. I check the time on my phone and I curse under my breath when I see that it's only 4:50 am. I know that I won't get any sleep after this so I might as well get an early start.

I get up, make the bed and take a warm shower. After that I dry and lotion my body and head to the closet. I wear my matching nude lace underwear. I wear a black vest with green tight suit and black heels. I comb my hair and style it into a neat bun. I

check the time and see that it's 5:30. I take my work stuff and head downstairs. I place my bags in the counter and make coffee for myself. While drinking coffee Mabutho walks in the kitchen barefoot wearing only a vest and sweatpants.

Mabutho: "am I late or are you early?" I laugh at him.

Me: "I couldn't sleep so..." I shrug.

Mabutho: "by the way good morning Futhy."

Me: "good morning Mabutho."

Mabutho: "give me 10 minutes to get ready and I will drive you to work." I nod and he rushes to his room. After exactly 10 minutes he comes back looking dapper in a black suit. I place my cup in the sink.

Me: "did you bath?" he laughs and takes my belongings from the counter.

Mabutho: "I don't take 2 hours to get ready unlike another gender which I won't mention." I laugh and roll my eyes.

We get out and head to the Aston Martin. He opens the door for me, I climb in and he closes it after me. He gets on the driver seat and drives out. We arrive at work and use the private elevator just for control. We get to my office and he places my stuff on my desk.

Me: “when Zah comes in please tell her I want a full English breakfast and tell her to order for you too.”

Mabutho: “sure bozza.” He exits the door.

I check my notebook and see that I have about 5 designs that I must design. I sigh and set up my equipment in my drawing board. I start with the university residents designs. I have designed residents before so this should be easy. I just have to include new elements here and there. I start drawing. Time flies when you are doing something that you are passionate with. Zah barges in my office with a paper bag. She greets me and sets up the food in my table.

Me: "has Thobeka arrived?"

Zah: "yes boss."

Me: "what time is it?"

Zah: "10:20 am"

Me: "damn. I didn't even realize that I was hungry."

She comes near my drawing table and examines the drawings.

Zah: "wow. What inspired this design?"

Me: "it just came into my mind nje."

Zah: "it's beautiful. I can already picture it once it's done." I chuckle and stand up.

Me: "how was your meeting with Sibisi?"

Zah: "he was super excited and he said when he buys a building for another club in Port Elizabeth he will let me design it."

Me: "that's what I am talking about dear. Anyways I need you to hire about 3 additional construction workers who will only help with the Blue Diamond project."

Zah: “sure boss.”

Me: “please request a financial report from Lonwabo. I need one by the end of tomorrow business day. All the profits we have made, losses, all that financial shit nje.” She nods and heads out.

I sit down and eat my food. After eating I continue with my designing. I add an open space stylish rooftop with benches because I know how students love chilling in the roof. We also loved chilling at the roof when we were still at wits. We would sometimes smoke weed there but not all the time. Once in a while when one of us wrote a difficult exam. After a while I am disturbed by my ringing phone. I answer without even checking who the caller is.

Me: “Ntombifuthi Cele hello.”

Noma: “exactly how busy are you?” I giggle.

Me: “30 minutes tase then I am done here. I started

a project this morning and I wanted to leave the office at least halfway through it.”

Noma: “I am giving you 2 hours to get to Zimbali.”

Me: “what time is it?”

Noma: “1:30 pm tase.”

Me: “okay. By 3:30 I will be there.” I drop the call and send a text to K asking her to pack an overnight bag for me and also work clothes. I set a 29 minutes timer and continue working.

The timer lapses and I stop working. I roll my sketches and put them in the tube. I put them inside the safe. I collect my stuff and head out. I find Thobeka and Mabutho laughing and hand them my stuff.

Thobeka: “are you having lunch somewhere?” she asks as we make our way to the elevator.

Me: “no. I have a girls’ night out today at Zimbali so I have to prepare.”

Mabutho: “your friends are cool though and down to

earth. I like Lee the most.”

Thobeka: “well I like Noma the most. I love her personality the most.”

Me: “I will tell them you said that.”

Mabutho: “when you tell Lee don’t put it as like I am interested in her... not that I am not interested in her... it’s just that... you know what never mind.”

Thobeka and I laugh at him. We get to the parking lot and find Zamokuhle laughing with Nelly who works at the 3D department. She greets us and quickly rushes inside the building.

Me: “Mr. ladies’ man neh?” I wiggle my eyebrows and he laughs.

Zamokuhle: “evening boss.”

He opens the door for me and I get inside. He drives out of the parking lot. A video call comes through on my phone and I chuckle when I see who is calling. I answer it.

Me: “Mphemba.” He giggles.

Sandile: “can you please call me that every time?” I

laugh and shake my head.

Me: "this was a onetime thing." He pouts and sulks. "For a 31 year old man you sure are acting childish." He laughs.

Sandile: "you are hurting my feelings so I am allowed to sulk." I roll my eyes. "Anyways how is your day so far beautiful?"

Me: "very busy. I started working at 6 am. I am super tired right now but I have other commitments."

Sandile: "I wish I was there to give you a full body massage." I giggle.

Me: "kanti where are you?"

Sandile: "I am in Jozi. There was an emergency so I had to rush there this morning but I will be back tomorrow in Durban." A sadness emotion surfaces but I don't show it. I don't know why I am sad because of the fact that he left without telling me. Am I falling for him?

Me: "what was the emergency?"

Sandile: "there is a collabo we are working on with

Tiwa Savage and our very own Flexy. So the producer who was supposed to working with them fell ill. I had to replace him.”

Me: “Flexy is working with Tiwa Savage?”

Sandile: “yeah. Tiwa is a very cool lady. I love her personality and accent.”

Me: “so why don’t you ask her to be the future Mrs. Ntuli?”

Sandile: “wait are you jealous Ntombi?”

Me: “jealous? Who? Me? No. anyways I have to go. Talk later.” I hang up.

Zamokuhle: “FYI you are more beautiful than Tiwa.”

Me: “yey! Hi 5.” We hi 5 and then laugh.

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We are chilling by the pool and the sun is already setting. We are from the spa where we did full body massages and waxes. A waiter comes to where we are seated and smiles.

Waiter: "it's getting cold right now here so I'd like to accompany you to the hot tub."

Noma: "that's what I am talking about." We all stand up. "Lead the way my love." she chuckles and leads us to where the Jacuzzi is at. We get to the Jacuzzi and dive inside. The temperature of the water is just perfect. The waiter serves us our drinks and then leaves.

Lee: "so what's up with you and Sandile? We saw how lovey dovey you guys were last night. Are you falling for him?"

Me: "girl I am a player. Have been one for 7 years. You know when you are looking for a new dick you don't just go to a guy and be like: "hey, I am a player and I wanna use you for your dick"." they both laugh.

Noma: "so you have no feelings for him?"

Me: "a little bit of them because I am also human and he is a good guy but he is not the one God sent for me." Noma laughs.

Noma: “your soul mate doesn’t announce his arrival. He just shows up and make you change your ways.”

Lee: “talking from experience.” She wiggles her eyebrows and we laugh at her.

Me: “honestly I am just after Sandile’s dick. If he is good then I might keep him around for a bit. But if he is bad ngizomshaya nge red card.” They both laugh.

Lee: “yes girl.” She hi 5’s me. I am actually serious. I just want Sandile’s dick and I know that if I treat him good and like a human, he is going to make sweet love to me and it has been so long since I have made love. I just only fuck these one night stands.

Noma: “and you,” she points at Lee, “what’s up between you and Yandisa?”

Me: “yeah girl. I saw how he was staring at you. It’s like you have a history together or he would like you to have some history.” I lick my lips and she laughs.

Noma: “exactly. I felt his eyes piercing through my

skin but the stare was directed to you but I felt it.”
We both laugh.

Lee: “well we don’t have a history together and we are not planning on having a present.” We laugh at her. “But I wouldn’t mind being fucked by the serious brother, even if it’s a one night stand.”

Noma: “but he is married.”

Lee: “I didn’t say he should divorce his wife. I just said I’d love to have him for just one night.”

Me: “I’d love to have Prince Kuhle in my bed even if it’s for one night.” They both look at me with their eyes popped out and they burst out laughing.

Lee: “damn I was never ready. But girl I am a hundred percent behind you. That man is fine as fuck. His dignity and his muscles. I can already imagine his size.”

Noma: “you guys are unfair. Now I must fantasize seeing another man’s 6-pack while having my own man.” she whines and we laugh at her.

We continue drinking and chatting and we later head to the restaurant for dinner. After that we head to out room. We are sharing a room which has king sized bed. Not that we can't afford separate rooms, we just wanna bond and talk about sex, men and money the whole night.

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NARRATED

Kuhle's younger brother got in his study and found him just sitting and staring into space.

Sibongiseni: "earth to King Zulu." He chuckled and snapped out of it.

Kuhle: "to what do I own this visit?" he asked sitting up straight.

Sbo: "I accessed a security footage to a restaurant where your special friend was at last night and this is what I found." He passed him his tablet. Kuhle

took it and played the video. It was a video of Futhy and Sandile kissing at the balcony. He clenched his jaws and placed the tablet down. "So what's next?"

Kuhle: "she did say she doesn't date so maybe this is another Shamase saga."

Sbo: "are we still going to the chillaz at her house on Friday?"

Kuhle: "she hasn't said anything so I guess it's still on."

Sbo: "what's stopping you from making her yours?"

Kuhle: "she is not a flower type of woman and she doesn't get charmed easily. What makes you think she would agree to being in a polygamous marriage? Already she hates relationships plus she is super independent and rich."

Sbo: "gogo did say that your other wife is on her way. Maybe she will agree to being your second wife

when the time comes. Plus our ancestors work overtime so she won't have a choice but to give in."

Kuhle: "whatever dude."

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 15

We are preparing the house for the get together. Lee, Noma, Zah, Lindsay and Xoli are helping. Lele isn't here. He has 3 gigs tonight so he will only come back tomorrow morning. I gave K a weekend off just to bond with her fiancé. I tried giving the guards a weekend off but they were convinced that I will need security because there will be strangers in my house. Noma cooked pap and the others prepared salads. Kuhle and his friends will be the ones braaing the meat.

They arrive after 30 minutes. We are just wearing simple clothes, jeans with tees and sneakers and others boots and sandals. Kuhle's friends bought booze that can last a group of friends partying the

whole weekend. Amongst his friends, I see his younger brother Sibongiseni. We all exchange hugs and we all go to the kitchen. He brought 6 of his friends excluding his brother. He introduces them as Phiwayinkosi and Philasande who are twins, Mbuso, Thomas, Phumudzo and Isaac. I also introduce my friends.

Noma: "this has officially turned into a house party."
We all laugh.

Me: "you guys can start braaing the meat. Lindsay pass the bucket." He gives the bucket with marinated meat to Sibongiseni. "Mabutho please show them where the braaing area is."

Mabutho: "sure boss. Gentlemen please follow me."
Lindsay screams.

Lindsay: "damn Butho, you should speak more often. Your voice is such a turn on." Mabutho rushes out and the men follow him. Thobeka burst out laughing and Mabutho gives him the look, she laughs harder.

Lee: “damn those are some fine brothers right there.”

Zah: “you can say that again.” We all giggle. “Where are we going to eat?”

Me: “it’s cold outside so we are just going to eat at the dining room and chill at the lounge.”

Thobeka: “let me put the booze in the fridge.”

Xoli: “I will help you.” They start packing the booze.

Lee: “girl you’re still here. I thought you weren’t in the room anymore.”

Xoli: “I just couldn’t believe that I was in the presence of royalty.”

Lee: “if you stick with her,” she points at me with her dumpy, “even being in the presence of Barack Obama won’t faze you because she is also a celebrity herself.” I just roll my eyes..

Me: “drama.” She chuckles. I take a flying fish can

from the fridge and start drinking. “Why don’t we join the guys for now outside? After all this is a get together and they shouldn’t be outside alone. We should be mingling.”

Noma: “good idea.” They take their cans, Xoli takes a glass of wine and we head to where the guys are. I go and stand next to Kuhle.

Sbo: “you guys couldn’t stay away from us?”

Lee: “I love ben 10s so if you don’t shut up I might give you some matured pussy.” All the guys’ eyes pop out, Noma and I laugh hard. Sbo clears his throat.

Phiwayinkosi: “you have a beautiful house Miss Cele.”

Me: “please call me Futhy. Miss Cele is my unmarried aunt.” Lee and Noma laugh because they know this aunt I am talking about.

Philasande: “what do you guys do for a living?”

Lee: "I am a psychologist."

Noma: "advocate."

Lindsay: "receptionist."

Zah: "Futhy's first assistant."

Xoli: "Futhy's second assistant." The guys laugh.

Mbuso: "you have 2 assistants?" I nod.

Kuhle: "she has a very busy schedule. I had to make an appointment for discussing this get together." I look at him.

Me: "you're lying Kuhle." He laughs a little.

Phumudzo: "how busy is your life?"

Me: "I hardly have time to chill alone nje. I need someone who is going to fix my life for me."

They finish braaing the meat and we all head back inside. We dish up and eat. After eating we head to the lounge and chill while drinking. Lindsay suggests that we play party games and we all agree. What's more exciting is that they aren't that sexual. Spin the

bottle includes taking shots together and not kissing. This will definitely speed the process of us getting drunk but I am happy that I am in my house, in my comfort zone. I stare at Lee and remember the dream. I ask to speak with her aside.

Mbuso: "girls always have something to talk about."
The guys laugh.

Me: "I just remembered something that I need to discuss with her and it's important."

Lee: "let's go." She pulls me to the kitchen. "What's up?"

Me: "I had a dream."

She knows my dreams are very serious because sometimes when danger approaches I warn them. They started taking them seriously when I warned Noma about an accident that left her paralyzed for months. I dreamed of the accident and I told her

about it in full detail. She didn't listen and when it happened she cried, not because she was injured but because she ignored my warning.

Lee: "what did you see?"

Me: "Athenkosi. He was taking you against your will. He said he only married that woman because she was carrying his child. He said you belong together and no one will separate you guys. Khokho said I must help you before it's too late."

Lee: "wow." She exhales loudly and her eyes become glassy. I bring her closer and hug her. She sniffs and I brush her back. "When will I get peace in my life? Why can't he leave me alone?"

Me: "I will borrow Mabutho's gun and I will put a bullet between his eyes. Maybe then he will finally leave you alone." We break the hug and she giggles.

Lee: "you always know what to say."

Me: "I know. Anyways we are family and we always

protect each other. You will move in with me tomorrow until we find a way to deal with him and that's non-negotiable."

Lee: "I don't know what I would do without you." She says wiping her tears.

Me: "girl please don't talk as if your life is depending on me. You are strong and fierce and I hate that you have to shed tears because of that fucker."

Lee: "let me go reapply my make-up."

Me: "sure." She disappears to one of the rooms. I return to the lounge.

Sbo: "where is my sugar mama?" we all laugh at her.

Noma: "keep calling her a sugar mama and she will surely give you some sugar."

Sbo: "I ain't scared of her."

Zah: "how about you say that to her face?"

Lee: "say what to whose face?" we all look at Sbo.

Sbo: "say to your face that you're beautiful." We all burst out laughing because Sbo's face is hilarious

right now.

Lindsay: "guys let's play truth or dare."

Mbuso: "I am game, just don't make extreme dares you guys." We all agree.

Lindsay: "I am starting. Boss lady truth or dare." I hate dares so Imma go with truth.

Me: "truth."

Lindsay: "craziest place that you have had sex at." I laugh and cover my face with my hands.

Me: "a hotel balcony while there was a wedding by the poolside." Yoh that weekend was lit. We were in Drakensberg Sun Resort 4 years ago. Someone hooked us up with the drug called molly. We had to put cameras in our room so that we will see what we did because we knew that the possibility of us remembering what had happened during the weekend was slim to none.

Isaac: "what the fuck?"

Me: "I was high on molly and I was horny." They all laugh.

Noma: "that was the most entertaining weekend I have ever had. Having sex for 8 hours yoh." we all laugh at her because she really had so much energy that the guy she hooked up with complained.

Zah: "my turn. Phiwayinkosi truth or dare."

Phiwa: "dare." We all hype him.

Zah: "I dare you to take off your shirt and show us them abs." he stands up and takes off his shirt.

Damn he got the 8-pack. Zah fans herself with her hand. "It's getting hot up in here." we all laugh. He wears his shirt again and sits down.

Phumudzo: "okay Noma truth or dare?"

Noma: "dare." She is not scared of the unknown this one.

Phumudzo: "I dare you to dance to Beyoncé's dance for you for 10 seconds."

Noma: "hit the music. Don't get hard boys." The

music starts playing, she gets on top of the table and starts dirty dancing. 10 seconds lapse and all the men's jaws are on the floor.

Mbuso: "I feel like 10 seconds was too little." We all laugh. The game continues, some have kissed and someone has given another a lap dance. Ku hot, ku rough, ku sweaty. And Noma's turn comes.

Noma: "prince Kuhle." He chuckles and look at her. "Truth or dare."

Kuhle: "dare." She gives me a sinister look. She is not thinking what I think she is thinking. Lord have mercy.

Noma: "I dare you to kiss Futhy for 30 seconds without your hands touching her body, just your lips doing the work. If you fail to keep your hands off her then you owe us a holiday to any 5 star resort in Mzansi."

Lindsay: "that's the lawyer in you talking. Always negotiating."

Kuhle: "what happens when she touches me?"

Noma: "nothing, the dare is on you not her." He stands up and helps me stand up too. We face each other.

Me: "just don't catch feelings." The guys laugh. Kuhle looks at Noma.

Kuhle: "I can't even bring her closer by her waist?" noma laughs.

Noma: "you can bring her closer to you now because the kiss hasn't began." He brings me closer to him and then put his hands in his pocket.

Me: "guys we really deserve a holiday neh?" they all agree and Kuhle just chuckles. I am so going to make him touch me and even crave me afterwards.

He brings his head down and starts kissing me. His lips are so cold and his breath is that of alcohol. It turns me on. I put my hands underneath his shirt and

slowly caress his abs. I then take them out and wrap my arms around his neck bringing him closer. He grunts and puts his arms around my waist and then lower them to my butt. The gang cheers, which means we have a trip ahead. We stop kissing and then stare into each other's eyes. He mouths an 'I love you' and I look at him shocked. I sit down, take my drink and take a sip.

Thomas: "do you give kissing lessons? Because that was the most passionate kiss I have ever seen. You definitely watched bold and the beautiful and days of our lives while we were watching cool cats." I just laugh and shake my head. "By the way it's your turn Futhy." I look at Lee and smile, she is going to pay for Noma's sins.

Me: "Doctor Nkosi truth or dare. Before you choose just know that I know your deepest secrets and I can make you spill."

Lee: "bitch you want me to choose dare? Fine

whatever, dare.” I clap my hands like a kid seeing candy.

Me: “I dare you to twerk directly on Sbo’s dick.” She smiles and stands up.

Lee: “that’s easy. Sbo stand up.” he stands up and stands behind her. “Ngicela I Izass. Don’t get hard junior. For how long?”

Me: “40 seconds.” She nods. The songs starts playing and she starts shaking her booty. By the time she finishes Sbo quickly rushes to the bathroom. The guys laugh at him. “Enough with truth or dare. This game is intense.”

Mabutho: “you can say that again boss.” He says with the deepest voice I have never heard him talk with. And then it hits me, he likes Lee. I stand up and head outside to get some fresh air because the temperature inside the house is hot. I go sit by the pool and dip my feet inside.

Voice: "are we boring you?" he asks and then come to sit next to me.

Me: "why did you grab my butt?"

Kuhle: "why did you caress my abs?"

Me: "I was securing a trip for everyone. What's your excuse?"

Kuhle: "I enjoyed kissing you and I wished it could go beyond that."

Me: "Kuhle you are married. You can't just wish to have sex with me like that. I don't knowingly sleep with married men. If I have slept with a married man before it was probably a one night stand."

Kuhle: "I love you MaCele. I have tried ignoring my feelings for you but I can't anymore. That kiss was just a tip of the iceberg." I shake my head no. "Futhy we don't choose who we fall in love with. I know you don't date but please," he brings me closer to him and his lips capture mine. His kiss is hypnotizing. He breaks it but doesn't let go of me. "Please give me a

chance to give you my love.”

Me: “as your what Kuhle? Your mistress?” I remove his hands from my waist. He scratches his head and clears his throat.

Kuhle: “as my second wife.” I look at him looking down and I just burst out laughing.

Me: “you have got to be kidding me. When you see me you see second best? What makes you think I’d give up my freedom of having any dick I want anytime just to be your second wife?” I stand up and he quickly stands up to.

Kuhle: “what I know is that I can’t live without you.” I am terminating this conversation immediately.

Me: “when are we going to the trip?” I ask with my most fake smile ever plastered on my face. He breathes out loud and rub his hands together.

Kuhle: “I will get my assistant to book a hotel for you guys for the first weekend of September. Where do

you wanna go?”

Me: “I have always wanted to go to Fancourt Hotel which is in George.”

Kuhle: “so Fancourt Hotel it is.”

Me: “don’t forget to invite your wife. I will also bring a date.” I head back inside. “Guess what good people? We are going to Fancourt Hotel in George on the first weekend of September.” They all cheer and the ladies scream.

The night continues with me trying to make minimal conversation with Kuhle. He really pissed me off. When he sees me, he sees someone who will settle for the second place? He clearly doesn’t know me. And why would I torture myself by becoming a sister wife to his Barbie wife? And you guys know how royal people are dramatic. They’d tell me to become a house wife, quit wearing pants, quit going clubbing and drinking. Yoh I can’t deal shame..

#MissChubby

CHAPTER 16

It's Monday morning and I am going to JHB with Xoli and Mabutho. Xoli has been in contact with owner of the building, the one in North Cliff and has secured a face to face meeting today during lunch, at 1 pm. Zamokuhle drives us to the airport. We are an hour early so we go through all the airport procedures and then go wait for our flight to be called.

Xoli: "how does it feel staying in the same house with Dr. Lee?" she says looking at Mabutho. They have been teasing him the whole weekend behind Lee's back. He grunts and put on earphones. We just laugh at him. "Where are we going to sleep?"

Me: "at Lele's house."

Xoli: "I think you should include my name and phone number in your business cards so that when people don't reach Zah, they can also contact me."

Me: "I am loving the new you. You are not he shy Nomxolisi anymore. You are free to speak your mind. Tell Zah about the business cards thing."

Xoli: "sure boss."

An idea comes to my mind while sitting there, I take out my notebook and pencil and start drawing. I told you once I start drawing I disappear to my own world. Xoli shakes me and I look at her. "Our flight is being called." I look at the time on my watch, the time to board the plane has arrived. Mabutho is already standing with our bags on his hands. I close my notebook, stand up and stretch my arms. We go board the plane at 7 am and as soon as I am settled in I continue where I left off with my drawing. After an hour or so a flight attendant announces that we will be landing shortly.

We finally land at the OR Tambo airport and head outside. Mabutho leads us to the parking lot. Here I thought we were just going to use Uber. A man hands him car keys and then leaves. Mabutho opens the door for me, i climb in and Xoli also climbs in on the other side. He puts the bags in the boot and get on the driver seat.

Me: “whose car is this?” Mabutho drives out of the airport.

Xoli: “a rental. I figured you don’t have a car here so I rented it.”

Me: “I hope you didn’t use your money.”

Xoli: “well I kinda did. I don’t have access to your money and I don’t want the access.” She speaks so fast.

Me: “please remind me to open a bank account for such expenses.” She nods. “What’s your account number and how much money did you use?” she answers and I quickly make the transfer. “Next time please use your money if it’s an emergency.”

Xoli: "yes boss."

Me: "let me just apply for a card now and will collect it tomorrow."

Mabutho: "boss where are going?"

Me: "just drive to Randburg. I will direct you to Lele's house once we get there."

I love that the lady I am meeting is closer to Lele's place. I continue applying for the card. After I am done applying for it I sit back and just close my eyes. My mind drift back to the conversation I had with Kuhle on Friday. Kuhle is definitely shitting on me. He really thinks I will just agree to be his second wife whereas I haven't even thought of getting married ever since I started DCC. Royal people really think they are entitled or something. While I am thinking I just drift to deep slumber.

'Khokho: "he is near."

Me: "what are you talking about Khokho?"

Khokho: “they have chosen him for you. He is coming.”

Me: “can you please stop talking in riddles? Speak in clear sentences.” She chuckles.

Khokho: “you are just like your great-grandfather. Forever impatient.”

Me: “how can I not be impatient? You are supposed to warn me and deliver messages not proverbs and riddles.” ...

Voice: “Futhy wake up.” the person shakes me hard and I open my eyes.

Me: “what’s up?”

Xoli: “we have arrived in Randburg.”

Me: “ohh okay.” I sit up and direct Mabutho. We get to Lele’s house at 9 am and head inside. It looks clean and there is no dust meaning maybe he hired someone to clean his house. “I need to finish something quickly. You can make yourselves comfortable. You can even order or cook. You can

also rest in any of the rooms downstairs.”

I head to my room. I place my bag on the bed. I take off my coat, heels and also place them in the bed. I take out my notebook and pencil. I have a drawing board with a stand and tracing paper here. I also have that combo at home, in Morningside. I sit in front of the desk and start sketching what I have already started on my notebook. Someone knocks on the door while I am halfway through the sketch.

Me: “come in.” Xoli peeps in.

Xoli: “it’s 12:30. Come eat so that we can leave.” For me time stands still when I am sketching.

Me: “thank you.” She closes the door.

I stand up, put on my coat, heels, take my bag and head downstairs. Lele’s house has 3 bedrooms upstairs and 2 bedrooms downstairs. I get to the kitchen and find these 2 eating. Xoli gives me food

and I also eat. We finish eating and then drive to the meeting venue. The meeting is actually at the building I am interested in buying. A young lady meets us at the entrance and leads us to the boardroom which is at the ground floor. We get and get settled. 2 minutes later a lady who looks like she is in her early forties gets in followed by whom I suspect is her assistant.

Mrs. Collins: "Miss Cele." She smiles and stretches her hand. I stand up and shake her hand, she also offers Xoli a handshake. She then sits down. "Can I offer you something to drink?"

Me: "water is fine Mrs. Collins."

Mrs. Collins: "please call me Grace." She says with a polite smile.

Me: "can you also call me Futhy?" she chuckles.

Grace: "fair enough. So you are interested in buying this building?"

Xoli: "yes we are."

Grace: "how much are you offering?"

Xoli: "name your price."

Grace: "okay. R6.5 million." My eyes nearly pop out.

Me: "why?"

Grace: "you still have to furnish it, change paints, renovate if you like. My line of work is not property so I don't see a need for me to charge too much for a building. I am also human. The previous owner also sold this building to me at an unbelievable price."

Me: "wow okay. You can set up the paperwork and contract and you can forward it to my lawyer."

Grace's PA: "what's her email address?" I exhale out loud. I still can't believe this.

Grace: "you better believe it Futhy. This is the chapter I wanna close in my life right now." She pronounces my name like Footea. I chuckle.

Me: "it's advnbiyela1@gmail.com" the PA jots it down.

Grace: "I guess that concludes our meeting. She will send the contract as soon as possible. You will receive the title deed after the payment has been made. It was nice doing business with you Ms. Futhy and Ms. X." she stands up and we exchange handshakes.

Me: "it was a pleasure meeting you Grace. I hope we can work together in the future."

Grace: "me too. Please do invite me when you finally launch this branch."

Me: "you will be the first one to receive the invite."
She smiles and we all head out. We get to the car.
"Did you guys buy groceries?"

Xoli: "no. we only bought takeout."

Me: "Mabutho drive to Northgate. We will buy food there. And also one bottle of champagne to celebrate just for control." Xoli giggles.

Xoli: "Grace is generous. Like I was expecting her to say R13 million. That's where most of the buildings I

have seen range at, some range higher. R6.5 million, that's the value of your parents' house."

Me: "I know right. I am still shocked. I feel like this is some kind of a prank."

Xoli: "you were just lucky boss. You should thank your ancestors."

Me: "definitely. They deserve a fat goat." They both laugh. I really need to appease my ancestors before I open both these buildings.

We get to the mall and get inside. We shop for grocery and then head to the restaurant to grab a bite. We enter and I see a man who is about to exit. His eyes are on his phone, he doesn't see where he is going. I just stand and when he is about to pass me I tap his shoulder. He just says sorry and continue walking. I chuckle. "Dr. Hlongwa!" he raises his head and turns. He just laughs when his eyes land on me.

Hlongwa: "My favourite student." He comes and hugs me. "Long time no see."

Me: "you also wouldn't have seen me if I didn't call out your name." he laughs again.

Hlongwa: "stop being dramatic. How about you introduce me to your friends?" he says looking behind me.

Me: "aren't you in a hurry?"

Hlongwa: "for you I can spare 5 minutes."

Me: "let's sit down then." A waiter leads us to a table of four. We place our orders and Dr. Hlongwa only orders juice. "This is Nomxolisi my assistant and Mabutho my bodyguard. And guys this is Professor Lethukuthula Hlongwa, my former lecturer and employer."

Xoli: "you hired your own student?"

Hlongwa: "she had so much potential. I couldn't miss the opportunity of taking her under my wing and mentoring her."

Mabutho: “how did you feel when she said she wanted to start her own company?”

Hlongwa: “she is like a child to me. So to me it felt like my child is asking for a blessing to pursue her dreams. I gave her the blessing wholeheartedly because as much as she was doing great things in my company, I knew she was destined for greater things.”

Xoli: “you’re so kind.” He blushes and looks down.

Hlongwa: “I try. So how long are you going to be here in Jozi?”

Me: “why?” he laughs.

Hlongwa: “they are hosting a celebratory dinner to honor me at Wits on Friday so if you’re still here, no you are definitely coming.” I laugh because that’s an order. “I should also flaunt my mentee in front of those haters.” We all laugh.

Me: “I will try.”

Hlongwa: “no don’t try, be there. I will also tell my wife that I saw you.” His phone beeps. “See you on Friday night.” He kisses my cheek and then heads out.

Mabutho: “I have heard about this guy and I have seen him in magazines and newspapers. I thought he was serious and all strict. Guess you really shouldn’t judge a book by its cover.” Our food arrives and we start eating.

Xoli: “so are you going to the dinner?”

Me: “you wanna see Wits?” she smiles and nods. “We are leaving tomorrow but we will come back on Friday midday.”

We finish eating, I settle the bill and then we head back to Lele’s house. I take a shower and just wear a short summer dress. I sit in the lounge watching TV. Xoli comes in and tells me that I have a visitor. A visitor? In Jozi? Yoh news travels fast. I tell her to send the guest in. she disappears and come back

with Sandile. I just laugh and stand up. I meet him halfway and we share a hug and a kiss. He sits down and pulls me to sit on top of him.

Me: “don’t cry to me when you stand up and don’t feel your joints because I am heavy.” He laughs and plants kisses in my neck. I just giggle. “How did you know that I was in Jozi?”

Sandile: “I felt it.” I roll my eyes.

Me: “you stalked me.”

Sandile: “whatever that makes you sleep well at night.”

Me: “you’re brave. What if you found me with another man here?”

Sandile: “I would’ve joined you for a threesome.” I laugh and bury my head in his shoulder. “I am taking you out for dinner tonight.”

Me: “you finally get the dinner date you have been longing for.” He chuckles. “Let’s go chill in my room.”

we head there, he sits on the bed. I see the sketches, I quickly wrap them and put them on the storage tube.

Sandile: "you are even working here?"

Me: "rest is for the dead. My ancestors work overtime and they always give me ideas."

Sandile: "come here."

I go and sit on top of him. He leans in for the kiss, our lips linger for a few seconds, and then I open my mouth and accept his tongue. The kiss is so deep and passionate. I am weakened by it. I squeeze him tight as our tongues dance back and forth, and I can feel his dick growing, I am so wet right now. I break the kiss and push him to lie on the bed.

I take off my dress and the look on his face is exactly what I was hoping for. I take his one hand in mine and move it up to cover my one breast. My nipple is hard as stone and begging for any touch

right now. I grind my hips into his erection and moan, it feels so good. He is wearing sweatpants so I just pull them down and they slide down his legs. He takes off his t-shirt too. His upper body is covered in tattoos. Tattoos are a turn off but his are so hot.

He sits up and take one breast and starts sucking it. I moan loud and grind harder on his erection. He switches on to the other breast. Ohh God, the pleasure I am feeling right now is on another level. I just take his dick and put it inside me, the way it fills me up, Dear God I see the heavens opening. After 2 rounds we finally lay on the bed trying to catch our breaths.

Sandile: "and here I thought I was going to wait for you until you're ready for us to be intimate." I chuckle.

Me: "I am not your 90-day-rule girl or 5 dates before sex kinda girl." He chuckles.

Sandile: "well I know that now." I sit up.

Me: "let's go take a shower and you leave so that I can prepare for the date." We go shower and have

another round. We seem to be addicted to each other. We finish showering, he gets dressed and then leaves.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 17

Since I don't have an appropriate dress I wear my dress again and ask Mabutho to drive me Noluthando Ntuli's boutique. We leave Xoli in the house, cooking. We arrive there and we get lucky because we find her talking to a customer. She finishes the conversation and comes to our direction. She is much more beautiful in person and her style is so sophisticated.

Noluh: "welcome to Noluh's boutique. How may I be of assistance?"

Me: "I am Futhy Cele. I am super excited to be helped by the owner." She chuckles.

Noluh: "well what do you need?"

Me: “a fuck buddy of mine is taking me out on a date and I don’t have anything to wear.” She laughs.

Noluh: “you have come to the right place. Please follow me.” I follow her and she gets to the plus size section. I am amazed. The dresses are so beautiful, elegant, sexy and stylish.

Me: “wow. I am so impressed. I literally love everything here. What do you suggest I take?”

Noluh: “you want a dress or pants?”

Me: “a dress will do.” She picks a sequins mermaid evening dress with short sleeves and turns to look at me with a smile on her face.

Noluh: “what do you think?”

Me: “I already feel like a princess before I even put it on.” She laughs.

Noluh: “well the fitting room is through that door. I will bring you matching heels and jewelry. What’s your shoe size?”

Me: “5.” She hands me the dress and I go to the

fitting room. She comes with black diamante embellished strapped stiletto heels, I thank her and close the door. I first wear the shoes, they complement my toes, so beautiful, and I then put on the dress. Fuck I look like a goddess. I twirl and do a 360 and on the mirror. Sandile's jaws will drop to the floor. I come out of the fitting room and Noluh and Mabutho clap hands for me.

Mabutho: "boss lady are you sure you're not going to the awards?" I laugh.

Noluh: "you look really beautiful. These earrings and purse will definitely match." She hands the things to Mabutho.

Me: "lemme quickly change." I go back to the fitting, change back to my dress and then get out. "Noluh thank you so much for helping me. I also want a dress for Friday night. I have been invited to a dinner in Wits."

Noluh: "I know your body type and your size and shoe size. Leave your address at the till. I will

choose for you and have the items delivered to your house. You will pay on delivery.”

Me: “thank you so much.” I go to the till, pay for the clothes, leave my address there and Mabutho and I head out.

We get to the house. I take a shower and then sit in front of the table. I comb my hair, tie it into a neat bun then put an artificial afro bun. I do my make-up and then get dressed. I am going to a dinner in public with a celebrity. So I have to dress the part. By the way I look so beautiful and I feel beautiful. I take my phone and take a few selfies. I then do a conference video call with my friends. They both scream out loud when they answer the call.

Noma: “bitch you didn’t tell me you’re going to an award ceremony.”

Lee: “mina I even live with her but she didn’t tell me

that she is attending these awards.” I laugh at them.

Me: “I am going on a date with Sandile.”

Noma: “why are dressed up this much?”

Me: “bitch I feel offended right now. Don’t I always dress up?”

Lee: “this is a new dress. I have never seen it before. You are wearing a new dress for Sandile. Am I the only one seeing this?”

Noma: “you’re not. I think this guy has come to take our striker off the game.” I laugh.

Me: “you guys are crazy. Anyways his dick game bahlali, I might keep him around for a while.” I lick my lips.

Lee: “shut the front door. You gave him the cookie before the date?”

Me: “kanti who am I ntombazane?” she laughs.

Noma: “you act like a guy sometimes. How many rounds did you give him?”

Me: "Jesus woke up after how many days?"

Lee: "you need a trophy girl."

Noma: "forget the trophy, she needs a crown." Xoli enters my room.

Xoli: "boss lady your date is here." I turn and look at her. "OMG! You look stunning."

Me: "thank you. I will chat with you later guys." I hang up. I take my purse and head downstairs. Sandile is chatting with Mabutho. My heels disturb their conversation so they turn and stare at me. Sandile clears his throat.

Mabutho: "you look beautiful boss lady. You are going to make our girlfriends jealous for being with you 24/7."

Xoli: "which girlfriends?" she says behind me and I laugh.

Sandile: "you look beautiful my lady." I smile and go to him.

Me: “see you after hours kids. Behave.” Mabutho and Xoli both laugh.

Mabutho: “you have bodyguards Ntuli?”

Sandile: “yes and a driver. Don’t worry she is safe with Me.” he nods and we head out.

He is riding a white Range Rover
SVAUTOBIOGRAPHY Dynamic LWB. What a machine.
He opens the back door for me and I climb in. he
also get in the other door and the car drives out.
There are two gentlemen at the front. I guess it’s the
driver and the guard. He takes my hand and kisses it.
I just look at him and smile.

When I finally decide to end whatever that is
happening between us I can already foresee drama.
We get to the restaurant and we head inside. People
are already starring at us when we walk in, reminding
me of the reasons why I don’t associate with
celebrities sometimes. The waiter leads us to our
table, we sit and she leaves after taking our orders.

Sandile: “you really look stunning Nombedu, Khumbuza, Magaye.” Yoh I blush like crazy. When someone says my clan name guys you know the story mann.

Me: “I am pretty sure you googled them on our way here.”

Sandile: “I am a Zulu man, give me some credit please.” I internally roll my eyes.

Me: “when was the last time you were in a relationship and what happened?”

Sandile: “3 months ago. She cheated, got pregnant and tried to pin the pregnancy on me.”

Me: “damn that’s cruel.”

Sandile: “it is a reality.” He shrugs. He then scratches his head. “We didn’t use protection earlier on.” I laugh internally, shame he was hoping he scores on this first try.

Me: “don’t get excited bro. I have an IUD which stands for Intrauterine Device. I won’t tell you what it

is or what it does. If you wanna know about it then you will have to do research.” He sighs.

Sandile: “I wouldn’t have minded if you were carrying my child.”

Me: “too soon mfethu.” Our food arrives and we start digging in. “So you grew up here?”

Sandile: “no. my family is originally from Esikhawini. Some stay in Mzingazi. We moved here when our father wanted to grow his label but it all started in Esikhawini.” I nod. “Mom is from Kwa Hlabisa though. She came to study at uMfolozi Collage in the Esikhawini Campus and she met dad. Dad was a rapper and a producer back then.” I chuckle a bit.

I have seen their father on some occasions before he died and he wasn’t the type of man who would just rap. He has an aura around him that commanded respect. When he started his label, he never produced a song where he was the one rapping. I guess as he grew up, he didn’t want to be

a star anymore but wanted to help build stars.

Me: “who could have thought?”

Sandile: “he was a mystery as he grew older. What about your family?”

Me: “we have a home in Ndwedwe where our grandparents live. It’s where dad grew up. I grew up at Morningside with my 4 siblings, 2 girls and 2 boys.”

Sandile: “how is your relationship with your sisters?”
I fake a smile.

Me: “we get along.”

Sandile: “I hardly see you posting them or pictures of you guys together. You always post your friends. Don’t they like being posted by their successful sister on her social media?” I decide to shift the attention to him having knowledge of who I post and don’t post on my accounts.

Me: “are you an internet stalker?”

Sandile: “who? Me? No! I am just keeping up with the woman I love.” fuck he loves me. That’s not good.

Me: “yeah right.” I roll my eyes and take a sip at my white wine.

Sandile: “at what age are you planning on getting married?” I am really starting to hate the marriage topic. First it was Kuhle, now him.

Me: “not anytime soon. I am on the verge of expanding my company. I am planning on taking over Mzansi so marriage is the last thing on my mind right now.” His facial expression changes. He is somehow hurt by my response. He will be strong. “When are you planning on getting married?”

Sandile: “when the love of my life finishes taking over the world.” I laugh at him.

Me: “I have had enough marriage talk these days. Can I just rest tuh?”

Sandile: “did someone propose to you?” he asks so

fast before he can even stop himself.

Me: “maybe, maybe not.”

The mood around the table becomes tense but after a few drinks it changes back to normal. The live band is playing soothing jazz. The atmosphere and the vibe in the restaurant is so chilled and nice.

There are 3 couples slow dancing at the dance floor. Sandile looks at them and then looks at me with pleading eyes. No, I am not about to dance with him in public. I am not about to have another Mvelo saga. He stands up and extends his hand. He is drawing attention to me right now.

Me: “I hate you so much.” He chuckles.

Sandile: “Miss Cele may I have this dance?”

Me: “no.”

Sandile: “you want me to kneel in front of you and give people the wrong impression?” I curse under my breath.

Me: “whatever Sandile.”

I stand up and put my hand in his. He leads me to the dance floor and we start moving slowly to the music. We dance slowly while holding each other. I wish I could say this feels heavenly and magical but I'd be lying. It does feel good though and comforting. We finally stop dancing. We go back to the table and he settles the bill. We leave the restaurant. He drives me back home and walks me to the door.

Sandile: "can I complement you for the last time tonight?" I chuckle and nod. "You look absolutely radiant Miss Cele and thank you for agreeing to go out with me."

Me: "it was my pleasure and I enjoyed tonight." He pulls me closer to him and we share a kiss.

Sandile: "good night."

Me: "night Mr. Ntuli." I get inside the house and I hear the car driving out..

#MissChubby

CHAPTER 18

I am sitting in my office, it's a Wednesday morning, when I suddenly feel like going to a site and checking out the work of the construction workers. I always go to site every once in a while but I arrive unexpectedly. I decide on which site to visit and I just take my phone and wallet and then head out.

Thobeka: "boss lady where are we going?"

Me: "to the Nanda mall site. I wanna check on the progress of the workers."

Thobeka: "ohh okay."

We head out and we drive to the site. When we get there we get out of the car. We are handed safety

hats and jackets. We go to the site manager's office and along the way I see a few new faces. I know all my employees, whenever HR hires someone they come to my office to introduce that person.

Anyways I get to the site manager's office and he is shocked to see me.

Me: "morning Siyanda. You look shocked to see me."
I greet with a smile.

Siyanda: "I am not shocked boss lady, I am just surprised."

Me: "you are surprised or you didn't get time to hide your offspring's?"

Siyanda: "I don't know what you are talking about boss lady."

Me: "I am not a fool Siyanda. I know everyone who work for DCC, even cleaners, so don't bullshit me. So what else has been happening under my nose? Where did you get the money to pay your employees?" I sit down opposite him.

Siyanda: "I am sorry boss."

Me: "you are sorry for what? Illegally hiring people?"

Siyanda: "they are qualified boss. I just didn't follow procedure in hiring them. We were short staffed and..."

Me: "who did you tell that we were short staffed? We have about 60 construction workers and we always hire a few when the project is huge. Why didn't you inform HR or your project manager that you don't have enough workers? Why did you take a decision that is not meant to be taken by you? Why are you undermining my authority? You want me to fire you?"

Siyanda: "no, I am very sorry boss."

Me: "I don't wanna see those guys in my site. If I find out that you are related to them or they are your friends also consider yourself fired. You are also demoted with immediate effect. Now get to work."
He stands up hesitantly and heads out. I take out my phone and call Zah.

Zah: “boss lady.”

Me: “tell the Nanda mall project manager to assign a new site manager for this project immediately. The other one was bullshiting me and practically undermining me.”

Zah: “ohh okay.”

Me: “also tell HR to send him a written warning by the end of today for hiring people without the right procedure.”

Zah: “how did that happen?”

Me: “I also don’t know. We will talk when I get back to the office.”

Zah: “okay boss.” I hang up and breathe out loud.

I then stand up and head out. I get to where Thobeka and Mabutho are and we all head to the car. We are riding in one car today. I feel minor pain in my lower abdomen. I just clench my jaws and pray that it goes away. It subsides after a few minutes and I do breathing exercises.

Me: "Zamokuhle we are now headed to Mandlanzini."

Zamokuhle: "sure boss. Are you okay?"

Me: "don't worry about me. I will be fine." He nods and then starts the engine.

After about 2 hours we arrive at Mandlanzini. We head to the site and we are given the safety gear. At least there are no new faces here. I go around inspecting the house. When I am done I go to the container near the gate where the site manager is at. As soon as she sees me she stands up with a smile on her face. That is what I want to see when I get to a site, the manager smiling and greeting me with a happy face.

Rethabile: "boss lady. So nice of you to stop by. To what do we owe the pleasure of this surprise visit?" I sit on the chair opposite her.

Me: "I just wanted to see progress. If you were to

estimate, how long will it take you guys to finish this house?"

Rethabile: "about 4 months and then we will start the Nongoma house. We will lastly build the secret house."

Me: "If you need any help please don't hesitate to call."

Rethabile: "sure boss. Have you looked around?"

Me: "yes. I will be on my way then."

Rethabile: "you came all the way from Durban just to inspect?" I chuckle.

Me: "it's my company, my reputation so you should understand." She chuckles.

Rethabile: "yeah. Let me see you out then." We both stand up and head out. While we are walking to where the other workers are, we meet the Zulu brothers. Great, just great.

Kuhle: "Good day makhosazane." I roll my eyes and Rethabile replies with a smile on her face. She is

forever smiling, I wonder if she doesn't get tired of it.

Sbo: "Futhy, you didn't tell us you were around."

Me: "it was a last minute decision to come here. Plus I didn't announce it because I knew I wasn't staying for longer than I have to." the pains that I had in the car comes back and I quickly hold Rethabile's hand tightly. She turns and looks at me.

Rethabile: "boss lady are you okay?" I clench my jaws and breathe slowly. The pain goes away again and I give her a fake smile.

Me: "I am fine. I just felt a cramp."

Kuhle: "maybe you need to see a doctor."

Me: "don't exaggerate Kuhle. I am super fine. Let's carry on with our journey Retha." She gives me a concerned look and we head to where the workers are at. "Good day guys." They all greet back and some even shake my hand.

Rethabile: "we were very blessed to be graced by boss lady's presence today. She just came to say hi

and she is leaving now.” They all say their goodbyes and Retha escorts me to the car. “It was nice seeing you.”

Me: “same here. When you come back to Durban, hit me up so that we can have dinner together.” We hug each other and I climb inside the car. The pains come back stronger and rapidly this time around. I scream a little and Mabutho quickly comes to my side and opens my door. He holds my hand. I squeeze his hand for dear life hoping that the pain goes away but it doesn’t budge this time around.

Mabutho: “boss lady are you okay?” I see the Zulu brothers approaching the car.

Kuhle: “is everything okay?” I shake my head with tears threatening to come out.

Me: “pains Butho. It hurts so much. Please make it stop.” Tears start rolling down my cheeks. He gets in next to me and Thobeka gets in the front seat.

Mabutho: “man drive to the hospital.” Zamokuhle starts the car and drives off in high speed. We arrive at The Bay Hospital, Netcare in a short period of time. “You are going to be okay boss.” Zamokuhle stops the car and both he and Butho help me out of the car.

Zamokuhle: “you are bleeding.” I turn to stare at the seat I was at and my heart nearly stops. I have a phobia of blood. Seeing a lot of it can make me pass out.

Me: “Oh God.”

They quickly get me inside the hospital and I am taken to a ward. The nurses help me change into a hospital gown. They make me lie on the bed and they put up a drip. A doctor comes in.

Doctor: “what do we have here?”

Nurse 1: “she was brought in here a few minutes ago.

She is bleeding, we suspect uterus bleeding.” The doctor nods and comes to stand next to me.

Doctor: “Good evening. I am doctor Mwape and you are?” I sniff.

Me: “I am in pain. Please make it stop. But whatever you do, don’t draw my blood.” I pass out after that.

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NARRATED

Mabutho was pacing up and down in the waiting room. He was worried about his boss. Ever since he started working for her, she has never cried. Seeing her like that was like someone punched him in the gut. Thobeka was sitting down and next to him was Zamokuhle. Each and every one of them was in their own world. But one thing in common, they were worried about Futhy. She has welcomed them in her home and has treated them like friends not employees. So they were fond of her.

The Zulu brothers made their way in and most of the hospital bowed their heads as they passed. They made their way to the waiting room where Futhy's guards were. After Zamokuhle drove off like that, they were worried so they followed them here.

Kuhle: "what happened?" Thobeka looked up.

Thobeka: "she started feeling pain while we were still in Durban but she brushed it off. We really don't know what happened or what caused the pain. When we brought her in, she was bleeding excessively."

Kuhle sighed and sat down. Mabutho stopped pacing and leaned his back on the wall. His phone ringed and he sighed when he saw who was calling.

Mabutho: "little one."

Xoli: "where are you guys? You were supposed to be here like an hour ago."

Mabutho: "we are in Richards Bay. Futhy has been admitted."

Xoli: “Richards Bay? Admitted? What is going on Butho?” she asked with her voice breaking.

Mabutho: “she was feeling pain and she bled. We don’t know what caused it. We are still waiting for the doctors to update us.” Xoli just hung up and sniffed.

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Lee came back from work and saw Xoli sniffing on the couch. She rushed to her and sat next to her.

Lee: “what’s wrong little one?” that’s her nickname because she is the youngest in the house.

Xoli: “Futhy is at the hospital. She was admitted. Butho said she was feeling pain and bled.” Lee’s heart nearly stopped, not believing what was being said to her.

Lee: “what are you saying to me? What hospital is she at?”

Xoli: “in Richards Bay.”

Lee: “what was she doing in Richards Bay?”

Xoli: "I don't know."

Lee: "what caused the bleeding?"

Xoli: "the doctors haven't updated them." Lee stood up and took out her phone. She dialed a number.

Voice: "Lindelwa."

Lee: "Sawubona baba. Futhy has been admitted in a hospital at Richards Bay. They say she was feeling pain and she bled."

Ndosi omkhulu: "how is she now?"

Lee: "we don't know."

Ndosi omkhulu: "okay. I am heading there now."

Lee: "I am also coming with you baba. I will call Noma."

Ndosi omkhulu: "I will be waiting for you in my house." Lee hung up and also called Noma notifying her. After that she took the Fortuner keys and she drove out with Xoli.

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BACK AT THE WAITING ROOM

Ndosi omkhulu got in followed by his wife, his two sons, Noma, Lee and Xoli. He looked around his eyes landed on the Zulu princes. He frowned but didn't say anything. Thobeka stood up.

Ndosi omkhulu: "and where are you going?" she almost shivered because his voice was scary.

Thobeka: "the doctor couldn't update us on what is going on because we are not related to her. He told us that when her family comes, he will give us an update." She quickly rushed down the corridor not waiting for a response. They all sat on the chairs.

Sijabulile: "you shouldn't have talked like that babakhe. You can already see that she is scared of you." Lele laughed, his father gave him a death stare and he kept quiet immediately. Thobeka came back with the doctor.

Doctor: "are you Miss Cele's family?"

Ndosi: “you think she would’ve called you if we weren’t the Cele family?” he asked with an annoyed tone. The doctor swallowed hard.

Doctor: “well we don’t know what caused the bleeding. She refused for her blood to be drawn. We really can’t determine what is wrong with her until we do some tests.”

Noma: “well you should have asked. She has very low blood. Whenever she bleeds, she passes out. When you want to draw her blood you must also donate another amount to her. It’s a take and give type of situation.”

Doctor: “but she is...”

Lee: “don’t go there.” she looked at the doctor with a threatening look.

Lele: “you will draw her blood and I will donate the blood needed. We have the same DNA and the same blood type.”

Doctor: “okay please follow me.” they left. Noma took her phone out.

Noma: “let me make some calls mama so that I can get us accommodation because it seems like we will be spending the night here.” Sijabulile nodded and Noma left the waiting room. Ndosì omkhulu turned to the Zulu princes.

Ndosì omkhulu: “and what brings you here young men?” he didn’t care if they were princes or not. Kuhle rubbed the back of his neck.

Kuhle: “I am Futhy’s client and she was at my site when she got sick. We were worried about her. That’s why we are here.” Ndosì omkhulu raised his eyebrow but didn’t talk any further because his wife squeezed his thigh.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 19

I wake up and look around. Okay I am in a hospital ward. I wonder what is wrong with me. I remember bleeding and feeling excruciating pain in my lower abdomen but I don't know the cause of it. I know for sure that it wasn't period pains or I wasn't miscarrying because there is no way that I was/am pregnant. I look on the desk next to me and I am relieved when I see my phone there. I take the time and see that it's already 7:30 am. A nurse from yesterday gets in and she smiles when she sees that I am awake.

Nurse: "good morning Miss Cele. I am nurse Sabatha and I will be at your service should you need anything. For now let me help you bath so that the

doctor can see you and also your visitors. They have been here since last night and they are dying to see you. Some of them even slept here, inside the ward in the couch, another one slept on the bench just next to your door.” I know for sure that she is talking about my guards. I chuckle a bit.

Me: “I know exactly who you are talking about and I am not surprised. Does the doctor have some news for me?”

Nurse: “yes, he drew your blood yesterday but don’t panic because your brother donated his blood.” I look up and see a blood drip which is almost empty.

Me: “my family is here?”

Nurse: “yes, and the Zulu princes.” Fuck! Dad is going to get the wrong impression and I am pretty sure he is going to grill them with endless questions. Dad doesn’t care whether you are a celeb or not. When it comes to his second princess, he doesn’t joke around. “Let’s go.” She helps me stand up.

We head to the bathroom and she helps me bath. I wear a new sanitary pad and new pajamas which I suspect was bought my family. After I am done we head back to the ward and I settle down on my bed. Few minutes later the door opens and my family walk in with Noma and Lee. They all take turns in hugging me. Dad is the last one to hug me and I just break down in his arms. He rubs my back, calming me down. He then breaks the hug and wipes my tears.

Dad: "you are going to be fine, okay?" I nod and he kisses my forehead. I turn to look at Lee.

Me: "where are my kids?" she giggles. I always call my guards my kids when we are at the house.

Lee: "they are outside, they wanted to give you some time with family."

Me: "well tell them to get their asses over here because they are also my family." Lee leaves and comes back with them. They stand awkwardly at the door with Xoli. "Aren't you guys going to hug me and

ask me how I am doing?" they all rush and hug me. They finish hugging me and stand near bed.

Mabutho: "you scared us yesterday and we all felt useless. Our job is to protect you and watching you in pain like that was hard."

Thobeka: "it was like you were under attack and we were just sitting there and watching you being assaulted."

Me: "guys please. There is nothing you could've done. I am fine now. Stop worrying."

Zamokuhle: "we don't even know what made you sick."

Xoli: "I am just happy to see you awake. I was worried when the doctors didn't allow us to see you last night."

Me: "I am sure it's nothing to worry about, just period pains." I am also hoping and praying that it's nothing serious. The doctor gets in. his eyes widen when he

sees the number of people in my ward. But he quickly masks his shock with a smile.

Doctor: "I am happy to see my patient awake. I have some of the test results but we will need to do more tests because what we have now is just assumptions. I would like to read the report to you but it's personal." Dad looks at my brothers and they leave without thinking twice. My kids also leave and that leaves us with my parents and my best friends.

Dad: "ready when you are doctor." Dad can be very unfriendly to someone who he is not used to. That's why Thobeka said he is scary. He only shows affection to his wife, kids and my friends.

Doctor: "can we please wait for..." the door opens and a female doctor gets in.

Doctor 2: "I am sorry I am late. I was stuck in traffic. Good morning everyone by the way." We greet back.

Dr. Mwape: “don’t worry we haven’t started yet. Anyways this is Dr. Qhali, she is a gynae. This issue involves your womb so I thought it’s best that I call her in.”

Me: “okay doctors. What is wrong with me?”

Dr. Qhali: “I think you have uterine cancer. Well we need to do more tests so that we can determine if it’s really cancer or it’s just abnormal uterine bleeding. And before you ask, uterine cancer occurs in a woman’s reproductive system. It begins when healthy cells in the uterus change and grow out of control, forming a mass called a tumor. A tumor can be cancerous or benign. A cancerous tumor is malignant, meaning it can grow and spread to other parts of the body. A benign tumor can grow but generally will not spread into other tissues.” My heart sinks to my stomach and I start breathing slowly. I have cancer.

Dad: “when can you start examining her?”

Dr. Qhali: “as soon as possible so that if it is cancer, we will start treating it before it spreads.”

Dad: “Doctor we stay in Durban, my daughter was here for business. Is there a possibility that we can transfer her to a hospital in Durban first and then we can start with the tests and examinations?”

Dr. Mwape: “that can happen. We would then have to handover the results we have over to them.”

Dad: “great then. I will start making calls.” he heads out.

Dr. Qhali: “we will be right back Miss Cele. Please don’t worry. I am assuming that should you have cancer, it’s on its first stages. You are going to be fine.” They both head out.

Me: “I have cancer. I am going to die.” I say in a low tone and mom quickly hugs me tight.

Mom: “don’t say that. They don’t know for sure if it is cancer my love. It is just assumptions for now. More like allegations. Even if you have it, you are not going

to die. We will make sure that never happens. You are going to be fine.”

Noma: “yeah you are going to be fine babes. We will go through this together, as a family.” She also hugs me.

Me: “I am scared.” Tears start falling when I think about my current situation. “It’s my fault. If I didn’t sleep around, if I had settled down and had one partner none of this would’ve happened.”

Lee: “stop, just stop. This is not an STI Futhy. It is cancer and it’s not your fault that you may have it. And please don’t talk like you have already been diagnosed.” I keep quiet while sniffing.

Me: “can you please hand me my phone?” Noma passes it. “Can you guys please give me some space? I need to make a few phone calls.”

Mom: “sure. We will be in the waiting room and we will get you something to eat. We are sorry we didn’t

bring it now, we were just rushing to see you.” I fake a smile and they get out.

I call Zah and inform her about my current situation. I also call Hlongwa and Noluh. I, however don't cancel my order. I just tell her to deliver in Durban. I text Sandile and tell him I am in the hospital but I tell him not to come because I will soon be transferred to Durban. I then go online and search about uterine cancer. This is too much to read. Maybe I should have asked Xoli to read it for me and summarize it.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 20

NARRATED

Sijabulile, Lee and Noma got to the waiting room and sadness was written all over their faces. Sijabulile went out to get some fresh air while Lee and Noma sat down. In the waiting room there was the Zulu brothers, Futhy's brothers, her guards and Xoli. They all looked at Lee and Noma waiting for them to tell them what the doctor said. Lee was the only one who wasn't emotional, Noma was holding back her tears.

Lee: "the doctors said there is a possibility of her having uterine cancer, they think that's what caused the bleeding. They are still not sure, they have to do some tests. But she will be transferred to Durban

later this evening if I am not mistaken.” Noma stood up.

Noma: “let me book us flights back to Durban.” She left the waiting room.

Xoli: “what is uterine cancer?”

Sbo: “uterine cancer occurs in a woman’s reproductive system. It begins when healthy cells in the uterus change and grow out of control, forming a mass called a tumor. A tumor can be cancerous or benign. A cancerous tumor is malignant, meaning it can grow and spread to other parts of the body. A benign tumor can grow but generally will not spread into other tissues. My ex-girlfriend had it. She dumped me before she started treatment. She believed that she won’t be able to conceive after the treatment. Even though I told her that there are many possibilities of conceiving she just gave up on us.” Thobeka looked at Sbo.

Thobeka: “so she is going to be okay?”

Sbo: “yeah. If it’s still early ages of the cancer, she will be okay. Can we go see her?”

Lee: “sure.” The Zulu brothers stood up and went to Futhy’s ward. They passed her father on the corridor who was talking to the phone.

FUTHY

They enter the ward and Sbo is carrying a McDonald’s paper bag. He places it on the table near the bed and comes to hug me. After hugging me, he gives Kuhle a chance to also hug me, his hug lasts longer but I am not surprised, this is Kuhle.

Me: “thank you for the food. My family was so worried that they forgot to buy me food.” I start eating my breakfast.

Sbo: “so how are you feeling future queen of the Zulu kingdom?” I look at Kuhle in disbelief.

Me: “your stupid brother told you about his stupid

proposal?”

Kuhle: “it’s not stupid. I love you and love is not stupid.”

Me: “well it is stupid if you think a successful independent woman will give up her freedom just to become a submissive second wife who will endure insults from your Barbie doll.” He clenches his jaws and walks to the window. He puts his hands in his pockets and stare out the window with his mouth shut. “Anyways I am fine Sbo, even though there is a possibility that I might die, I might not have kids and i might not live to see my company expand and go global.” I shrug and continue eating.

Sbo: “you are going to be fine. My ex-girlfriend had uterine cancer. She treated it and she is now living her life to the fullest.”

Me: “your ex? Meaning you dumped her because of it?” he chuckles.

Sbo: “no actually, it’s the other way around. She dumped me because she didn’t want to disappoint me by not giving me kids. Whereas there is a possibility of getting pregnant after the treatment.”

Me: “you should set up a meeting for me with her. I wanna know more about this cancer treatment. So I won’t be able to drink during this whole treatment period?” he laughs and Kuhle chuckles. Ow I forgot he was even here.

Sbo: “every treatment requires you to be sober, even when it’s flu or headache. So there is no exception to this.”

Me: “the SAB is going to make a huge loss.” They both laugh. Kuhle turns.

Kuhle: “Sbo can you give us some space?”

Sbo: “sure bro. get well soon my future wife.” I laugh. He hugs me and leaves.

Me: “Kuhle please. Stop talking about this second

wife shit.”

Kuhle: “would you marry me if I divorced Sthabile?”
my eyes pop out.

Me: “Kuhle, if it’s sex you want then I will give it to you. You don’t have to throw away years of marriage because of my chubby pussy. I know it has that woza-woza but don’t divorce your wife. Think about your kids. Kuhle you haven’t known me for even a month but already you are thinking of destroying your family because of me. Come on.” He chuckles and shakes his head.

Kuhle: “you are worth it. You are worth every sacrifice Futhy. I wouldn’t want to sleep with you if I can’t have all of you.”

Me: “well I do want to fuck you and I will do that. Soon as I recover.” His eyes pop out. “Phela nami I want some royal dick.”

Kuhle: "so you wanna use me?"

Me: "don't act all innocent. You know very well that there is nothing you will more than eating my pussy until I come and me riding you black cock until you shoot all your seeds inside my pussy." He starts sweating. Good to know I still have that effect. "By the way I'd suck your cock so hard that you will find yourself reciting my clan names and giving me all your bank pins. I would suck all of it and massage your balls and also suck them."

Kuhle: "stop talking." His dick is already hard and I must say the size is impressive which makes me want him even more.

Me: "then I would swallow your cum. After that I would lay on the bed and allow you to have me your way. I love missionary style by the way because I would grab your ass forcing you to go deeper and fuck me harder."

Kuhle: “bye Futhy.” He rushes out and I burst out laughing.

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Dad gets in the ward followed by the doctors.

Dad: “we have sorted out all the paperwork. You are going to be transferred to Durban in an ambulance because this is not an emergency. The doctors have sorted out the blood issue and they will hand over the rest to the Umhlanga doctors.”

Me: “what if I want Dr. Qhali to continue with me through this journey? Not that I don’t trust the Umhlanga medical team, I just want her.” Dad sighs and turns to Dr. Qhali.

Dr. Qhali: “I don’t have a problem with working at Umhlanga. I will sort everything out and I will report for duty tomorrow morning.”

Me: "thank you. When am I leaving?"

Dad: "now." Lee gets in.

Lee: "I will pack your bags."

Me: "bag you mean?" she chuckles.

Lee: "yeah that."

Me: "daddy I am hungry. Can I eat before we leave?"

Dad: "there is KFC and McDonald's nearby. Which one do you want?"

Me: "streetwise 2 with large chips and 2 mini loafers. I also want 1 liter of cranberry juice." He takes out his phone and sends someone a message.

Dr. Mwape: "I guess this is goodbye for me because I have to see other patients."

Me: "bye doctor." He nods and he gets out with Dr. Qhali. Dad also gets out.

Lee: "Kuhle and Sbo are gone."

Me: "I traumatized Kuhle so I am not shocked that he left."

Lee: "what did you say to the poor king?"

Me: "I told him how I'd fuck him and suck his dick. I gave him the details hun and he ran out of here." Lee laughs out loud. "He was busy telling me shit about wanting me to be his second wife. I had to shift his focus." Lee's eyes pop out.

Lee: "second what?" fuck I don't remember telling them about this. She runs out and comes back with Noma. "Tell me what you told her."

Me: "Kuhle wants me to be his second wife." Noma screams.

Noma: "when did we get here? I thought he was going to be another hit and run."

Me: "he caught feelings and fell hard."

Noma: "what are you going to do?" I shrug.

Me: "fuck him."

Lee: "that will make him want you even more." The pain comes back hard and I release a small scream while clutching on my lower abdomen. "What's wrong?"

Noma: "shall I call the doctor?" the pain fades away.

Me: "no I am fine."

Noma: "you're not. You were screaming a while ago."

Me: "relax. It's nothing." She looks at me with teary eyes. "Please don't look at me like that. I will be fine."

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 21

We get to the Umhlanga Netcare and I get admitted. A few hours later the Ntuli brothers graces me with their presence. Yandisa is with his wife. They are carrying flowers and food. The wife is carrying balloons. I don't like balloons guys. I feel like they belong to kids and people may bring them when visiting someone if that person have just given birth. Anyways they sit down after greeting me of course. Yandisa introduces his wife and Mandisa. So cool, their names rhyme.

Sakhile: "what are you here for?"

Me: "I might be dying."

Sakhile: "what's up?"

Me: “the doctors think I have uterine cancer.”

Mandisa: “what are your symptoms?”

Me: “I just had excruciating pain in my lower abdomen and then I bled heavily. All my life, never even for once have I ever had period pains, so I wouldn’t have started now.”

Mandisa: “sometimes it happens that doctors make a misdiagnose. I think I should take a look at your file.” I look at her suspiciously.

Sandile: “don’t worry, she is a doctor.” I nod. She takes the file below my bed and pages it.

Me: “so what did you guys being me? I am starving.”

Yandisa: “fruits, meat and rolls, burger and fries.”

Me: “can you please hand me the burger and fries?” he nods and passes it to me. I open the takeaway and start eating. “Are you guys thinking about building another studio? Maybe in Cape Town or PE or Limpopo?”

Yandisa: “maybe after 5 years. As much as it creates more job opportunities for other people, it leaves a mark in our pockets so we are not rushing on building another studio soon.” I nod and continue eating.

Me: “Sakhile when are you planning on settling down?” I know I am asking a personal question but they are here now, so they have to entertain me with news. He laughs.

Sakhile: “why don’t you ask Sandile that question?”

Me: “if I do, he will start professing his love for me, turning all William Shakespeare Neh.” They all laugh and Sandile sulks.

Sakhile: “well I wanna marry my first baby mama. The thing is I broke her heart with my mentality of being entitled to some things. I let fame get into my head and it destroyed our relationship.”

Me: “when did you realize that you wanted to marry

her?”

Sakhile: “few months after she left me.”

Me: “don’t mind me with these 21 questions. I am just keeping myself entertained by playing Sis Dolly.”
They all laugh. “Is she dating anyone right now and are you dating anyone?”

Sakhile: “no in both questions.” I finish eating and wipe my hands. I place the takeaway near the bed and Sandile takes it and throws it in the bin.

Me: “between Sandile and Yandisa, who intimidates her the most?”

Yandisa: “me.”

Me: “give me your phone.” he hands me his phone and I pass it to Sakhile. “Put on her phone number.”
Hu quickly punches it. I take the phone back and video call her. “What’s her name?”

Sandile: “Sivelile.” I nod. She answers after a few rings.

Sivelile: "hello Babomdala."

Me: "hi sisi. I am sure you were expecting Yandisa Neh." She nods. "I am Futhy Cele and I have been diagnosed with lung cancer stage 3. I have a few months to live. Life is too short sisi. You might be wondering why I am telling you this. Well the thing is Sakhile is a friend of mine and he has been there for me every step of the way. He has supported me and showed me great love and care. While he was showing me this affection, I asked myself who is there for him because as much as I need a shoulder to lean on, he also does. I am not trying to guilt trip you into getting back together with him. Just call him when you have time and check up on him. You know that he might have a bubbly personality and sometimes bottle things up. Please just get him to speak out or even see a shrink if he doesn't talk to you." I cough and place my hand in my chest. "Please think about what I said." She sniffs and nods. "Bye"

Sivelile: “bye sisi and May the lord be with you and heal you from all the pain you are going through.”

Me: “thanks sisi.” I end the call and hand Yandisa his phone. I turn to Sakhile. “You owe me a holiday when I get out of this place.

Sakhile: “consider it done. Do you want me to tell Tyler Perry to include you in his next movie? Because damn girl you can act.” I laugh.

Sandile: “I am also impressed Ntombi.”

Yandisa: “mina I am still shocked sis we lung cancer.” We all laugh. Mandisa clears her throat.

Mandisa: “I will like to do further tests on this. I have to do a pap smear on you and go test your blood in my lab at home.”

Me: “if you are going to test my blood, please take a little amount of it because I am one of the few chubby people in Mzansi who have low blood.”

Mandisa: “who is the doctor in charge of you?”

Me: "Dr. Qhali. She is coming in tomorrow. She is from Richards Bay."

Mandisa: "tell her to not come. I will take over your case. I am still not sure about the cancer so you're not off the hook yet until I do my tests. Any doctor you were introduced to here when you arrived?"

Me: "a certain Doctor Grande."

Mandisa: "let me quickly go find him and then I will get back to you." I nod and she heads out.

Me: "does she work here?"

Yandisa: "no. she is a cancer specialist, any type of cancer, so most hospitals ask for her when they are at cross roads."

Me: "thank you for bringing her." The two brothers leave, leaving Sandile behind.

Sandile: "do you feel any pain now?"

Me: "nope. It comes and goes. But when it comes, it

hurts like a bitch.”

Sandile: “you are going to be fine. You still need to fill the Ntuli yard with our babies.” I clear my throat.

Me: “Ndile I did tell you that I don’t date. Please stop planning about the future in your head. I don’t want you to be disappointed when you find out that we are still not on the same page. Mina I’d like a no strings attached type of relationships. Just sex here and there, a few dates maybe if you need a date on an event or a holiday. But no ‘I love you’s’ and shit.” He bows his head.

Sandile: “what am I supposed to do with the feelings I have for you Ntombi?” I shrug.

Me: “I don’t know but I am asking you to not be another Shamase. I don’t need any more attention from the public and you being the second guy to confess his feelings for me in public will make me look like a slut and jeopardize my company name.”

Sandile: "I wouldn't do that to you, but I am not going to give up on you."

Me: "I hear that but please stop with the 'I love you's' for now."

Sandile: "fair enough. But I won't stop taking you out on dates and complementing you." I chuckle.

Me: I never said you should. I am glad we had this chat."

Sandile: "can I please have a hug?" I nod and he hugs me. "I will see you tomorrow."

Me: "bye."

Sandile: "bye Ntombi." He heads out.

That seemed easy. I just hope he won't be giving me troubles in the near future. I have so much on my plate right. I can't even find time to start a relationship.

'I just think that I just have so much on my plate that

I can't even find the time to entertain or start a relationship or anything serious or even a text.' – Sal Houdini feat. Rihanna

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 22

It's Friday midday. Mandisa has already did a pap smear on me and drew very little amount of blood. She said she will come with the results soon but the latest will be Monday morning. She cancelled Dr. Qhali. She is such a bully but I am glad that she is on my case because I know it will receive her undivided attention. I sent Xoli to come back with the sketches I did in JBH. She was very concerned, saying I should be resting because I don't feel well but I know that if I sit and don't do anything, I will go crazy. They brought my whole drawing set and set it up in my ward. Right now I am finishing up this sketch. I also have a new sketch idea in my mind.

Voice: "yaz when you told me that you were sick, I

thought I would find you resting. But I should've known better because rest and you don't mix." I chuckle and turn to face the door.

Me: "how long have you been standing there?"

Hlongwa: "long enough to see one of the greatest buildings being drawn from scratch."

Me: "come on." He gets in and sits at the visitors' chair.

Hlongwa: "now be a good patient and go lie on your bed." I laugh and pack up my equipment. I fold my sketch and place it on the tube. I then go and sit on the bed as instructed. "What is wrong first born?" I shrug.

Me: "at this point I don't know. My first doctor said I may have uterine cancer and the last one said it's farfetched because I only have one symptom."

Hlongwa: "well whatever it is, I know you will conquer it because you are a fighter."

Me: “thank you baba.” He takes out an envelope from his pocket and hands it to me. “What is this baba?”

Hlongwa: “just open it.” He says with a smile. I open the envelope and take out the letter. I open and read it.

Me: “baba it says here I have been invited to a dinner where I am a guest speaker and they are honoring me. Wait, how is this possible?”

Hlongwa: “baby you are an amazing architect. This is just nothing. They should be giving you an award for raising their flag higher. You are well-known and your work is extraordinary.”

Me: “that means a lot to me. Thanks dad.”

Voice: “hey don’t be calling another man ‘dad’ while I am still alive.” We all laugh and look towards the door. Dad gets in and they exchange greetings with

Hlongwa.

Dad: “so what are we celebrating?”

Hlongwa: “WITS is doing an honor dinner for Futhy next month.”

Dad: “that’s good ndodakazi. I am happy for you.”

Me: “I am also happy dad. I can’t wait. But they want me to speak. What will I say?” they both laugh and their laughter vibrates in the whole yard because of their deep voices.

Hlongwa: “you will just tell them how it was being a student. Don’t invent stories. Just tell them the challenges you faced, how you overcame them, your best and worst moments. Don’t include bombastic words because your English bundles will be depleted quickly.” We all laugh.

Me: “hhay baba, I am a Masters graduate, isingisi siphuma ngamakhala.”

Dad: “kunjalo Magaye.” Hlongwa laughs.

Hlongwa: “asinamona ke Mandosi Amahle.”

Me: “that’s like a maskandi name.” they both laugh.
Ncumisa Hongwa and mom make their way in.

Ncumisa: “yoh niyanxola nina makhehla. Ndinive ndise reception. (You are making noise. I heard you from the reception. They laugh and they all exchange greetings.

Me: “I hope you bought me food. Unlike your husbands who were feeding me laughter.”

Dad: “aibo, you didn’t say you are hungry.”

Mom: “when you are at the hospital you need to eat every hour because you are just bored to death.”

Hlongwa: “well not her.” He points at my drawing board.

Ncumisa: “yoh, birds of the same feathers.” She shakes her head and her husband laughs.

Mom: “here you go my love.” she hands me fruits

and yoghurt. Ncumisa places the paper bag she is carrying on my shelf. I start eating the fruits.

Me: “how are the preparations for umemulo going?” she looks at dad and then looks at me.

Mom: “we were thinking of postponing it because of your condition.” I shake my head.

Me: “you can’t postpone it ma. It means a lot to Thando.” I take my phone and transfer R30k to her account. Her phone beeps and she looks at the message. That money should cover the expenses that I said I will do. Please make it possible mama. If I am not out by Friday, I will ask the doctor to release me so that I can make an appearance on the event.” She opens her mouth to speak but dad shakes his head.

Ncumisa: “when are you visiting us?” I scratch my head and they all laugh.

Hlongwa: “there is no rest for the wicked my love.”

she laughs.

Ncumisa: “but you have to time off and maybe spend the weekend with us.”

Me: “a weekend sounds doable.”

Dad: “yazi when I supported her dream, I wasn’t aware of the fact that I might have to make an appointment to spend time with her.” I pout.

Me: “that’s not true dad.”

Dad: “it is.”

Mom: “she is right love.”

We continue chatting with the pensioners. Their company is fun. They don’t act like stuck up adults who are always serious. They even talked about having a dinner date tonight. I guess Hlongwa is not going to his honoring dinner tonight. I take my afternoon nap.

‘Khokho: “mzukulu.”

Me: “Khokho am I going to die?”

Khokho: “lutho. There is a lot that you still need to do in this world. You still have to reach your destiny. This disease you are facing is nothing, you are going to conquer it and come out stronger. But the worst is yet to come. There are going to be people who will befriend you in the near future who do not have your best interests at heart. Stick with your current friends.”

Me: “what is the worst that is yet to come Khokho?” she doesn’t answer my question.

Khokho: “I want you to pray when faced with tough situations. You don’t have to go to church, but make God your therapist. I know you don’t know how to pray, but just close your eyes, call upon his name and tell him what you want. Also trust your instincts. They are never wrong.”

Me: “you are not going to answer any of my questions?” she laughs.

Khokho: “mzukulu I am not your student. I don’t owe you answers, just guidance and advice and warning when there is danger.”

Me: “you are full yourself yazi.”

Khokho: “so I have been told.” I laugh at her.

Me: “what about the chosen one theory?” she rolls her eyes.

Khokho: “what have I just told you mzukulu?” she stands up and disappears.’ I sigh and wake up.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 23

The following morning my girls come and visit me. They spend half the day with me and leave in the afternoon. Later on Mvelo comes to visit me. I really wasn't expecting him. I guess news about me being at the hospital travelled very fast. He hugs me and places the huge bouquet of Morning Glories, which are blue flowers with a touch of yellow and white. He sits down on the visitor's chair and asks how I am doing.

Me: "I am fine Mvelo. It's just that whatever it is that I am suffering from hurts like a bitch sometimes, but overall I am really fine."

Mvelo: "you still aren't dating?"

Me: “don’t start on that please. I told you I don’t date and I am sticking on that.”

Mvelo: “there are pictures of you on the net with the Ntuli producer and rumors are circulating stating that you guys are actually an item.” I get frustrated immediately and sit up straight, ignoring the sharp pain that shoots like an arrow on my abdomen.

Me: “I thought you came here to check up on, not to boost on your ego. I guess I was crazy thinking that you actually care about me.”

Mvelo: “don’t spin this around on me Futhy. You are the one who said you don’t date and you don’t like to associate yourself with celebrities because they bring drama. But here you are again being all lovey dovey with Mr. Producer.”

Me: “I don’t owe you shit and better him than you because he didn’t go and confess his feelings to the

whole of fuckin South Africa.” He scratches his head furiously.

Mvelo: “I wasn’t thinking straight that day.”

Me: “just like you aren’t thinking straight now. Confronting me like you’re my boyfriend or husband.”

Mvelo: “I am confronting you because I feel like I am the one who should be with you, not him. I deserve you. He doesn’t. He is a player. Don’t be fooled by his looks and his calm demeanor.”

Me: “how do you know about his player ways and his demeanor?”

Mvelo: “we celebrities, we are like a community, we know each other’s news, scandals, past and shenanigans.”

Me: “you know about each other’s shenanigans or you did a research about him because you’ve seen us together? Which is which Mvelo?”

Mvelo: "I didn't do a research on him Futhy, I just knew about him and he is not right for you."

Me: "what is it that I have that drive you men so crazy and you find yourself losing your senses when it comes to me?"

Mvelo: "you are amazing, you are a bomb in bed, and you are beautiful, sexy, and successful. Successful women, hard-working women and hustling women are more attractive because they know what they want in life. You are not a nuisance. You are perfect and an ideal girlfriend or wife."

Me: "that's just it Mvelo, I am not perfect. I make mistakes, I can't commit to a relationship because I have been burned before. I can't also keep a relationship because I don't invest my feelings in it. I am not an ideal girlfriend because I am married to my work. Look," I point at the drawing board in my ward, "even when I am in the hospital, supposed to be resting, I can't because I feel like my head will

explode. If I spend a few hours away from my drawing board, my mind gets filled with hundred or ideas. One day I know I will go crazy. All in all I am not perfect and I am fine with myself but I know no man will stand a woman like me.”

Mvelo: “but I am willing to try.”

Me: “just leave Mvelo because you will end up compromising your happiness trying to keep me and please me. Plus I don’t feel the same way about you. I don’t even like you. Please don’t ever come back here.” he stands up.

Mvelo: “if you think I am going to just give up on you, then think again.” He turns and heads out leaving me defeated. I wonder what it will take for him to understand that he and I are never happening.

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I finished my drawing yesterday after Mvelo left. I started on a 24 hour library. It has 2 floors and a

basement. It has a place where you can discuss things in groups, a quiet place where you can read novels if you want, a place where you can access computers and printers, place where you can sit and just write. I am thinking of building one and own it myself. I will ask dad to set up a meeting with the mayor to discuss my idea. If he doesn't give in, then I will make it private and make people actually join and have membership cards and they will pay for services like using computers, printers and Wi-Fi.

In this library I also plan on having a bookshop which will be outside the library but on the same building. I am only going to sell books by African authors. I have no problem with authors from other continents but I believe that charity begins at home. Well maybe I can fit overseas books in one isle. The way I am looking forward to this library, I even finished the sketches this morning and started with the interior designs also in the morning. I have a lot of time here so I intend on spending it wisely.

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In the evening my family comes to visit. Thando is with them. I am pretty sure dad forced her to come because if Busi was here, she would've stayed at home. If Busi was here, they would've gone shopping or gone to the movies, or the spa or salon. They all greet me and she also greets me in a low tone. If I was a rude person I would've laughed at her because the main lady is not here and her as a side kick looks lost. I tell my other siblings about the dinner at Wits. My brothers invite themselves and dad just laughs. Time arrives for them to leave and I ask to speak with dad. They leave us alone in the ward.

Me: "so dad, the thing is I am pregnant and I miscarried one twin. That's why I bled so hard." He frowns looking at me.

Dad: "what did you just say?" I look at him looking at me waiting for an answer. I just burst out laughing because his face is hilarious.

Me: "gosh dad, you should've seen your face. You really think I'd be this cool if I was pregnant and

deliver news straight to you, not asking mom to deliver them on my behalf?" he finally snaps out of it and chuckles.

Dad: "you guys are unpredictable and pregnancy hormones can make you do really crazy things."

Me: "talking from experience?" I look at him raising my brow. He laughs.

Dad: "you have no idea. Your mother showed me flames when she was pregnant with you. In all of our children, you were more troublesome while in her womb. She'd sometimes wake up in the middle of the night and wear her gym gear. She'd be like 'babakhe I am going jogging, do you wanna join me?' I'd be like 'aybo wemfazi have you seen the time?' she'd cry as if I was hitting her and I would end up accompanying her to her midnight jog. Lapho she didn't even jog. We just walked around the neighborhood and she would gossip about her stokvel friends." I burst out laughing. I can't imagine mom with such crazy hormones.

Me: "how long did that last?"

Dad: "about a week. The following weeks, her obsession was baking. She baked almost every day. She'd force me to eat her cakes. They were delicious, but baby girl imagine eating cakes every single day." I continue laughing.

Me: "Yoh you went through the worst." He also laughs.

Dad: "now what did you want us to talk about?"

Me: "I am thinking of building a library. Actually I wanted to give the Mayor this idea initially, but right now I just want it to be mine. I need you to soften him up so that he won't talk much when he discovers that I have built a very beautiful library."

Dad: "what kind of a library?"

Me: "a state of the art library. One in a million. It will also have paintings by local artists and they will also be sold at the library. I also want a bookshop opened there but separate from the library. I will donate

some books to some school kids at the beginning of every year.”

Dad: “it’s a great idea and I will support you. If the Mayor doesn’t like the idea, I will convince him to let you renovate the Municipal Library.”

Me: “thanks dad.”

Dad: “don’t you need sponsors for your library?”

Me: “should I need them, I won’t use external sponsors because they will somehow think they have a say in what happens at my library. I have friends who will be more than willing to invest to this idea.” He looks around the ward.

Dad: “I know I shouldn’t be saying this, but thanks to the uterine bleeding. You got to get such a great idea.” I laugh.

Me: “really now?” he kisses my forehead.

Dad: “bye baby. Let’s hope the Ntuli girl will come with good news soon.” Dad doesn’t care whether

Mandisa is a doctor who is married. He is busy calling her 'the Ntuli girl.' The kind of dad I have bahlali.

Me: "see you soon dad." He leaves.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 24

NARRATED

Kuhle dressed up in track pants with a long sleeved t-shirt and sneakers. Sthabile watched him getting dressed and she finally asked the question that was burning inside her.

Stha: “where are you going dressed like that my love?”

Kuhle: “I am going to the hospital to see Miss Cele.”

Stha: “you are spending so much time with her. I can see that she is more than just a business associate. Is there something I should know Kuhle?”

Kuhle: “what are you accusing me of Sthabile?”

Stha: “I am just saying these days you seem to spend so much time together. If I didn’t know better I’d say you are having an affair with her.” Kuhle chuckled angrily and turned to look at his wife.

Kuhle: “she is sick mawabo. She is friend and I wanna be there for moral support because this is a difficult time for her. Shouldn’t I show her support because you are threatened by her?”

Stha: “I am not threatened by her.”

Kuhle: “then what is it?” he tilted his head to the side with his hands on his waist staring at her.

Stha: “you are falling for her Kuhle. I can see it in your eyes every time her name pops up.” he took his phone and wallet.

Kuhle: “I don’t have time for this.” He walked out of their bedroom. Sthabile shouted after him.

Stha: "YOU KNOW I AM TELLING THE TRUTH, THAT'S WHY YOU ARE RUNNING AWAY." Kuhle ignored her and rushed downstairs. He found his car already ready on the driveway. His bodyguard opened the door for him. He climbed inside and the driver drove out.

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FUTHY

Zah: "will you be able to attend umemulo?"

Me: "it will depend. If I won't be discharged then, I will ask the doctor to give me an hour, just to show my face and then come back here. Noma please go to Cape Town with Xoli and have a meeting with the building owner of Clifton."

Xoli: "I don't think we will be lucky this time around."

Me: "well I don't care, as long as we secure it."
Someone knocks at the door and moments later Kuhle comes in. dear God ngifelani?

Kuhle: “evening ladies.” These idiots are smiling from ear to ear.

Noma: “we will go wait in the waiting room and give you guys some privacy.” She wiggles her brows and I just laugh. They leave, leaving me with the prince. I take the wings that Lee bought for me and start eating them.

Me: “you just don’t give up neh?” he smiles and places the paper bag he is carrying in the table. He sits on the bed and stare at me. “Unescefe Kuhle yezwa.” He laughs. God what’s up with him today? “Why are you dressed like this?”

Kuhle: “I wasn’t going to the office, that’s why. I also wanted to hear what your doctor’s report says.” I roll my eyes.

Me: “you didn’t have to come. You could’ve called nje or texted me.”

Kuhle: "but I feel like I had to." he comes closer to me and kisses me, I stop him while giggling.

Me: "stop. I am still eating."

Kuhle: "I don't care. I just wanna kiss you." I finish eating my wing and wipe my hands. I pout and he kisses me again. I pull him closer and deepen the kiss. Gosh his kisses leave butterflies on my stomach. The first time we kissed I was just thinking about the holiday. Now I am actually enjoying the kiss. I don't want it to end but it has to. After a while we break it. I look at him straight in the eyes.

Me: "you can go now, I will text you."

Kuhle: "why are you chasing me out? Are you afraid that I am going to tempt you?" I laugh and shake my head.

Me: "get over yourself." He stands up and kisses me again and then he leaves. Few minutes later Sandile

and Sakhile comes in. if I was dating Sandile my heart would have beaten out of my chest. I just smile and they hug me. They also brought meat, fruits and yoghurt. "Please pass me the yoghurt." I say with a childish tone and Sakhile laughs while passing me it and the spoon. I start eating.

Sandile: "how are you feeling baby?" I shrug.

Me: "I don't know. I am scared that it might really be cancer. I am just hoping and praying that it's something less scary and treatable."

Sakhile: "you don't have to be. We all know that you are going to be okay. We are praying for you. We serve a living God and we are hoping that the results are not that bad." I nod and turn to look at him. I then burst out laughing.

Me: "man I never pictured you as the religious type."
They both laugh.

Sakhile: "who said rappers don't believe in God?"

Me: "Lil Wayne doesn't."

Sakhile: "your brother does. That should put you at ease."

Me: "whatever."

We continue chatting and they also leave. A few moments later Mandisa gets in with a nurse. I call my parents and they get to my ward quickly because they were in the waiting room. Mandisa greets them and only dad greets back. My mom is biting her nails, which means she is nervous. I hope that what Mandisa has to say won't stress mom that much. Mandisa takes off her glasses and puts the file in the bed. She clears her throat.

Mandisa: "well the good news is that you don't have cancer." I breathe out loud and mom also stops biting her nails. "You have what is called a Polycystic Ovary Syndrome."

Mom: "is it not deadly as cancer?"

Dad: “mkami let her finish talking.”

Mom: “I feel like she is talking in slow-motion.”

Mandisa chuckles.

Dad: “you can continue nkosazana.” She nods.

Mandisa: “Polycystic Ovary Syndrome is a disorder involving infrequent, irregular or pro-longed menstrual periods, and often excess male hormone, which is called androgen, levels. The ovaries develop numerous small collections of fluid – called follicles – and may fail to regularly release eggs. I discovered that you have anemia. So what caused the POS is short and light menstruation in your case.”

Mom: “can it be treated?”

Mandisa: “yes. We will have to remove the IUD and you have to use birth control pills to regularize periods. You also have to take statins to control high cholesterol.”

Dad: “can she have babies in the future?”

Mandisa: "having POS doesn't mean you won't get pregnant, if you don't ovulate then you can't get pregnant."

Mom: "when can she start treatment?"

Mandisa: "as soon as she removes the UID. I have set an appointment for tomorrow with a gynecologist here. Relax, you will get well and you will be out of this place before the end of this week."

Me: "that's good to know."

Mandisa: "I will see you tomorrow." She takes the file and puts back her glasses.

Me: "thank you so much Mandisa. Without you I would've have had my lower abdomen cut open and they would've removed something that is not even there."

Mandisa: "I was just doing my job sisi." She smiles.

Mom: "no you are our hero. Please come to dinner at our house next week Wednesday with your husband.

Please accept this invite. It's the least we can do."
She smiles again.

Mandisa: "okay ma. I will definitely come. Take care." She leaves with the nurse. Mom kneels down and prays. Dad also prays with her. I just do a silent prayer thanking God for remembering me. They finish praying and dad helps mom stand up.

Me: "please update my friends in the waiting room and also tell them that I will see them tomorrow. I need to rest. I feel tired." They come and hug me.

Mom: "okay baby." They leave.

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*****NARRATED*****

Sijabulile and Siyabulela got to the waiting room and everyone stood up when they saw them. Kuhle wanted to ask but he didn't wanna appear as forward. He had seen how Futhy's father is like so he doesn't wanna be subjected to his intense gaze.

Noma was brave enough to ask first.

Noma: “ma, baba. How is she? What did the doctor say?” the rents sat down.

Sijabulile: “she has Polycystic Ovary Syndrome. It’s a disorder and in her case, it was caused by short and light menstruation because she has anemia and also because of the IUD.”

Lee: “is she going to be okay?”

Sijabulile: “yes. She just needs to remove the IUD and take birth control pills to regularize her periods. She also have to take statins to control high cholesterol.” Kuhle had a question he wanted to ask but he knew it would raise many suspicions, but because his ancestors work overtime, Gcino asked the question for him.

Gcino: “will I have nephews and nieces in the near future?” everyone chuckled.

Siyabulela: "yes you will."

Lele: "thank God."

Xoli: "can we go see her now?"

Siyabulela: "she said she needed to rest. But she said you guys can come tomorrow." Lee and Noma sighed loudly and left the waiting room.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 25

Later that evening Lee and Noma came back to visit Futhy. They entered her ward and she just chuckled.

Futhy: "I should've known that you two won't stay away."

Lee: "well you aren't chasing us that easily." Futhy rolled her eyes.

Noma: "shouldn't you be ecstatic that you don't have cancer?"

Futhy: "I am fine. I am happy."

Noma: "you sure do sound happy." She said sarcastically.

Futhy: "any news on Athenkosi?"

Lee: "it's still quiet. If I didn't believe in your dreams, I'd say you were only bluffing but I know better."

Futhy: "maybe he has been to your place before but didn't find you. I will tell Butho to go to your place and check if there is something out of the ordinary there."

Noma: "yeah, maybe that psychopath have been there but didn't find you. I think I should dig some info on him that might be strong enough to have him locked up for a while."

Lee: "he once had shady dealings with some politician but I don't want you getting involved because they might do something to harm you or silent you for good."

Noma: "honey I have took down gangs before. He is just a small fish."

Lee: "don't underestimate him."

Futhy: "I feel like you are giving him more credit and more power over you. He is not that powerful if he was able to marry a woman just because she was carrying his child. That means he can be easily persuaded." Lee rubbed her forehead furiously.

Noma: "anyways what's new?"

Futhy: "I wanna build my library and I want you guys to invest in it."

Lee: "you are not even asking, you're commanding." She laughed and they also laughed. She went on to tell them about her idea and they loved it. They were on board and they couldn't wait for it to start being operational.

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It was a day after Futhy removed the UID. The doctors said they will release her on Friday because she is okay but she will have to continue taking her

meds regularly. Lee was at Perfume Garden shopping for her cologne. She paid for it and headed out. She was putting her plastic bag on her handbag when someone bumped into her. Luckily the perfume was already in her bag so it didn't fall. However the woman's phone fell. Lee quickly picked it up and handed it to her.

Lee: "I am so sorry, I wasn't watching where I was going." When the woman saw Lee's face, her face turned into a frown. She recognized Lee because her husband kept many pictures of Lee in his basement, study and personal bedroom. She looked at Lee with a face full of disgust.

Woman: "You." It was like she spat that word.

Lee: "I am sorry but do I know you?" she asked with a confused face. As much as she has seen many people in her lifetime, she never forgot a face.

Woman: "what muthi did you feed my husband?" Lee looked at her and then she laughed.

Lee: "girl I don't know you, I don't know your husband. I thought maybe you had something more interesting to tell me but I can see that you are delusional. Bye." She turned and was about to walk away when a voice she has wished she would never hear again in her life spoke from behind.

Athenkosi: "looking beautiful as always Lwah." She turned and looked at him.

Lee: "the devil is a liar." She walked away and Athenkosi ran after her leaving his wife furious as hell. Lee quickened up the pace when she felt that someone was following her. She quickly got to the parking lot and before she could climb onto her car, Athenkosi grabbed her arm. Her whole body shivered with fear. "What do you want from me?"

Athenkosi: "when someone complements you, you usually reply with a thank you."

Lee: "not when that person is you."

Athenkosi: "ahh my love. Still as feisty as always. I must say I missed your fire."

Lee: "let go of my hand and don't ever talk to me again."

Athenkosi: "but how when you and I know that we are soul mates and we were made for each other?"

Lee: "please, I am begging you." He released her with a smile on his face.

Athenkosi: "I am only doing this because I love you. See you soon my love." he perked her lips and went back inside the mall. Lee got into the car and started the car with shaking hands. After a few minutes of driving, she parked the car on the side of the road and called Mabutho.

Butho: "Mabutho hello." He said in his serious voice.

Lee: "please come and get me. I am so scared. He was here, he touched me and he kissed me." she said in her shaking voice while tears streamed down

her cheeks. Mabutho instantly recognized her voice. He got worried because he has never heard her crying.

Butho: "where are you?" she told him where she was at and dropped the call.

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Mabutho told Thobeka that he had to rush to help Lee because he thought she was in danger. They were both at the hospital guarding their boss. They have been there ever since she was admitted. They slept in the car and only went home to bath and get changed. Thobeka said he should hurry and she wished it wasn't anything important because Lee means a lot to their boss and if something bad were to happen to her, it would delay Futhy's healing process.

Mabutho drove out of the hospital and headed to where Lee was. He got there and parked behind Lee's car. He went to her side of the car and

knocked on her window. She raise her head to look at him and his heart broke into a million pieces when he saw tears in his eyes. She opened her door, climbed out and just threw herself in Mabutho's arms. He wrapped his arms around her and she sobbed loudly. After a few minutes they broke the hug and Mabutho wiped her tears.

Mabutho: "wanna talk about it?" she shook her head. He sighed. "Give me your car keys. I will get Zamoh to come and pick up your car." She nodded and then she took out her handbag, phone and car keys. She closed the door and handed the keys to Mabutho. They got into the car and Mabutho drove back to the mall. "I'll be right back." He got inside the mall, left the key to his friend and got out.

He called Zamoh and told him to come pick up Lee's car ASAP. He then got inside the car and drove to Futhy's house. When they got there, Lee went straight to her room. Mabutho went to the kitchen

and made a cup hot chocolate. He took 2 muffins and placed them in a tray together with the hot chocolate. He walked into Lee's room without knocking and found her charging her phone.

Lee: "what if I was naked?" Mabutho chuckled and shrugged.

Mabutho: "I think this might cheer you up." he placed the tray on her bedside table.

Lee: "all though vodka might have took me to certain places, I will settle for this." He laughed because he couldn't believe that she can just switch up personalities like that. Few minutes ago she was crying and now she was being her usual sarcastic Lee. "Thanks though and thank you for coming to my rescue."

Mabutho: "you don't have to thank me. I may work for Futhy but I am kind of responsible for the people around her. So this is part of my job."

Lee: “stop being modest, I am trying to show appreciation moss.” He laughed again.

Mabutho: “you still don’t wanna talk about it?” she shook her head again.

Lee: “not today.”

Mabutho: “you know the saying that goes ‘inyanga ayizelaphi’ (a traditional healer has no recourse)?” She nodded. “You may be a therapist and may be able to help people with their problems and situations but you also need to talk to someone. A problem half shared is a problem half solved, right?” she giggled.

Lee: “yeah. I will open up when I am ready. For now I need to rest. I have a headache.”

Mabutho: “do you need pills?” she smiled.

Lee: “don’t worry. I have them.”

Mabutho: “see you tomorrow.”

He left and drove back to the hospital. He got there and found Thobeka chatting Futhy inside her ward. He got in and took a seat. Futhy looked at him.

Futhy: "how is she?"

Mabutho: "very emotional but she is going to be okay, I hope."

Futhy: "what really happened?"

Mabutho: "she called saying she was scared, he held him and kisses him. She wanted me to fetch her. I drove there as soon as possible. I found her crying and she didn't tell me why exactly she was crying." Futhy cursed under her breath and they both looked at her with questioning looks.

Futhy: "look Butho, I need you to go to her house. Look for something out of the ordinary and report back to me first before going to her." She took her bag and handed him a set of keys. "These are keys

to her place. You can go there now. Leave no stone unturned.” He nodded and took them. They talked for a few minutes and then he left going to Lee’s house.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 26

Mabutho got to the house and started searching all over the place. He found 3 hidden cameras in the kitchen, lounge and bedroom. He also found artificial rose pedals on her bed. There were a few notes from Athenkosi stating how much he loves her and he knows that she also loves him back because by the look of things, she hasn't moved on. There was also a red lingerie on top of her bed with a note saying 'wear me'. Mabutho collected everything and even the notes.

Later that day he drove back to the hospital and told Futhy about his findings. He also showed her all the creepy notes and even the lingerie. He also took pictures of her bed before she could clean anything

up. Futhy was actually afraid for her friend. She called Noma and told her everything. She then called Kuhle and asked to see him urgently.

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FUTHY

I am surprised that it took Kuhle 20 minutes to get here. You'd swear he was waiting for my call. I first tell him about the relationship that Lee had with Athenkosi. I then tell him how things went south and how they ended up breaking up. I lastly tell him about his return to Durban and share Mabutho's findings with him.

Kuhle: "so what do you need for me?"

Me: "you can hack right?"

Kuhle: "yes."

Me: "I need you to hack into his computer or his cloud. Lee did mention that he had some shady dealings with a certain politician. I don't know who is

he or she but maybe hacking into his things will give us the answers we need.”

Kuhle: “after hacking then what?”

Me: “my friends and I will have to gather concrete and admissible evidence that will be allowed to be presented in court. We need to lock him up for good. If we were gangsters we would’ve killed him long ago but we are not. He has to go to jail because he is a danger to Lee and to the community at large.”

Kuhle: “don’t you need my help just in case it gets too dangerous? I don’t want anything bad happening to you.”

Me: “we are not dating Kuhle. Stop carrying too much.”

Kuhle: “I can’t help it. What if the politician you are about to go after is powerful and dangerous?”

Me: “if it gets tough you will be there to save the day.

You are my knight in shining armor angithi?" he sighs.

Kuhle: "should I suspect danger in all this, I will pull you out and take over this whole revenge thing. For now, I will help you. Don't worry."

Me: "thank you."

Kuhle: "you can be stubborn sometimes."

Me: "we are still going to Fancourt right?" he smiles.

Kuhle: "I thought maybe we could postpone and go there when you have fully recovered."

Me: "I am fine Kuhle. I need this holiday to just reconnect with myself. I have been in the hospital for too long."

Kuhle: "it hasn't even been two weeks."

Me: "it's still too long. Don't forget to come with your wife. I will also bring a date."

Kuhle: "having a man touch you in my presence will

make me sick.” He makes a disgusted face and I laugh at him.

Me: “I will bring a bucket so that you can vomit in it. Read between the lips Kuhle, we are never happening.”

Kuhle: “how I’d love to kiss those lips.”

Me: “please go now and do update me on your findings.” He scratches his head furiously.

Kuhle: “fine bye.” He perks my forehead and then leaves.

Later that day, I get a strange visit from the girl from the 3D department. The one who worked late and helped me with the secret house project. I don’t even remember her name, wait I don’t know her name. She enters the ward and places a takeaway on the desk.

Her: “I am sure you don’t even know my name.” I

chuckle and she laughs. "I am Aria Russell. I am 22 years old and I love puppies."

Me: "well I am 29 and I hate pets." She laughs again. "Out of all the people who could visit me, I wasn't expecting you. I must say it's great to see a different face."

Aria: "I have been wanting to visit you but I was scared because I thought you might chase me away."

Me: "I am actually shocked that my guards let you in."

Aria: "they have seen me at DCC before so I guess they knew that I was harmless."

Me: "how is my company holding up?"

Aria: "everyone is working so hard in your absence. It's like they are all trying to impress you." I chuckle.

Me: "as they should." She takes out an envelope from her handbag. She hands it to me. "What it is?"

Aria: "I might have mistakenly submitted your name for the African Architecture Awards for the Best Architect of the Year." My eyes pop out and my mouth goes dry. The African Architecture Organization only nominate you if your work is impressing and if they love it.

Me: "they nominated me?" she smiles and nods.

Aria: "even more good news is that they have submitted your name in a business conference that will be in Brooklyn where you will present some of your sketches in front of a number of business moguls from all over the world. You might gain a lot of clients there because some clients are always looking for architects to build them hospitals, hotels, schools and all." I quickly stand up and go hug her. At first her body tenses but she finally relaxes and hugs me back.

Me: "you are amazing. I have been wanting to get to that conference for a long time but I guess before, it

wasn't my time yet. Thank you so much. When are the awards and when is the conference?"

Aria: "the awards are in November and the conference is in January."

Me: "I literally can't wait. I don't even care if I win the award or not. I am actually more excited about the conference. You are a star. Whatever you want, just say the word and I will grant it to you." She giggles.

Aria: "I submitted your name because you are an amazing architect and boss. I didn't want you doing me any personal favors. You deserve all the recognition in the world."

Me: "thank you again." I hug her. "Expect a dinner invite from my mother soon because she likes inviting people like you to dinner." She laughs. I sit on my bed and she sits on the couch.

Aria: "I will have to polish my Zulu then." I laugh.

Me: “where are the awards going to be held this year?”

Aria: “Libya in Tripoli.”

Me: “you are definitely coming with me and I won’t take no for an answer.” She giggles.

Aria: “okay boss.”

Me: “so do you have a boyfriend?” she shakes her head.

Aria: “I am arranged to marry someone but I don’t love him. I actually am a lesbian but my parents don’t wanna hear any of that LGBT crap. When I was still living with them, they forced me to wear dresses and skirts. I was lucky to find this job because I managed to get myself an apartment and actually get away from their judgmental selves.”

Me: “when did you realize that you were actually a lesbian?” she blushes.

Aria: “I had a girlfriend when I was 16 years old. We

dated for 2 years and then she dumped me when she moved into another city.”

Me: “you are currently single?”

Aria: “well not technically single because I am getting married in December. If I don’t get married to that guy, the folks will disown me.”

Me: “yoh, your life is hard.”

Aria: “tell me about it.”

Me: “but learn to stand up to your parents, even if they disown you. They will regret their actions one day and they will come crawling back to you.” She sighs.

Aria: “I hope so because I really don’t wanna marry that guy.”

We continue talking and after an hour she leaves. I rest and the following day I am discharged. I head to

my house and rest a bit. Later in the afternoon i freshen up. I inform Lee about what Mabutho found in her house and she just breaks down crying. I ask Butho to find a temporary bodyguard for her in his company as soon as possible. I ask Zamokuhle to drive me to my parents' house.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 27

I get to my parents' house and find people busy moving up and down. It really isn't surprising seeing that umemulo is tomorrow. I greet the pensioners and my grandma sheds a few tears when she finds out that I was hospitalized. I understand why dad didn't tell her because she suffers from a heart condition. She hugs me tightly and prays, thanking God for keeping me alive. She also prays for my speedy recovery. She is a prayer warrior so it's nothing new that she prays everywhere.

I go check on Thando and find her with other maidens. I greet and some of my cousins actually come to hug me. I then go in search of Lele and Gcino. I find them in the backyard drinking Zulu

traditional beer. I laugh when I see the Ntuli brothers. I go and greet them all. Sandile stands up to kiss my cheek and Sakhile hugs me while thanking me for helping her reconcile with his girlfriend. I turn and laugh when I see Xoli wearing ibomvu on her face.

Me: "and then?"

Xoli: "it was a last minute thing. One of Thando's friends dropped out on the last minute, so I stepped in."

Me: "you have everything you need for the second session and the after party?"

Xoli: "yes. Lele bought everything for me, he didn't give me the chance to say no." I chuckle.

Me: "that's my brother for you. I will see you tomorrow."

Xoli: "okay sisi."

I see Busi standing on the porch with her husband. I go and greet them. She fakes a smile and I almost

roll my eyes. He husband seems happy to see me. He is a business man. There was this one time he asked to buy shares of my company but I wasn't selling. He took it like a man but Busi didn't seem pleased with that. She called me selfish and whatnot.

When I get to the kitchen Busi's kids rush to hug me. They don't share the same sediments with their mother and they are actually kids.

They wouldn't understand why she hates me, even I don't understand. She has two kids, Thabang who is 5 and Siphosethu who is 2. They speak Tshwana and English most of the time, well Thabang speaks those languages because Siphosethu haven't learned how to talk well.

Thabang: "how are you aunty? What did you bring for me?" I forgot I have a demanding nephew.

Me: "I forgot your toys. They are in my house, I will bring them tomorrow baby. For now you can buy sweets with this." I take out a R200 note from my wallet and hand it to him.

Siphosethu: "Napha." I laugh and also hand her a R200 note.

Aunt Fikile: "you are spoiling these kids too much. What are they going to do with R200? You have money to waste I see." I just roll my eyes and head back to the lounge where the pensioners are at. I can feel that my body is used to resting so I am already tired.

Me: "I will see you guys tomorrow morning. My body is already tired from walking this short distance."

Mom: "you shouldn't strain yourself too much. You were just discharged not long ago. You should actually be in bed resting right now."

Me: "that is exactly what I am going to do mama."
She stands up and hugs me. Dad also hugs me and then accompanies me to the car.

Dad: "if it were up to me, I would carry you to the car but that would definitely give my sisters more to talk about." I laugh because yoh aunt Fikile and Philile are too much and they are always looking for a negative thing to say.

Me: "Fikile has already complained about me giving Thabang and Siphosethu money."

Dad: "see what I am talking about." We both laugh. We get to the car and he opens the door for me. I climb inside and he closes the door. I lower the window because I can see that he has something to say. "Please don't overwork yourself and tomorrow if you don't feel well, you don't have to stay for the whole ceremony. Even 30 minutes is enough."

Me: "but dad..." he gives me his nonnegotiable face and I just nod. "Fine."

Dad: “see you tomorrow.” He kisses my forehead and then head back inside the house. Zamo starts the car and drives off.

Zamo: “he is right boss. You should rest and put yourself first. Your health should be your number one priority. It’s not like the even won’t go on if you’re not there.”

Me: “I hear you Zamo.”

I arrive at home and head to the kids room before I forget. I pack their gifts. I always buy gifts for them when I go shopping. I pack them and place them on top of the beds. I just hope I don’t forget them tomorrow. I then head to my room and remove my shoes and bra. I lie on the bed and send a message to Khomotso. She comes to my room after a short while. She sits on the edge of the bed and I can see that she is worried about me. She looks like she is about to break down.

K: "is everything okay sisi? Do you need something?"

Me: "please cook uphuthu and beef curry with green salad. I am feeling like it."

K: "okay. Anything else?"

Me: "where are the guards?"

K: "Thobeka went to see her child but she will be back soon. Butho accompanied Lee to her house because she wanted to fetch some of her stuff."

Me: "okay. You may leave now."

She heads out. I open my TV and watch Insecure. Talk about a series full of awkward moments.

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NARRATED

Kuhle was seating in the lounge with his father and brothers at the royal house. He and Sbo had come for a weekend visit to the palace. His other 2 brothers from his mother, since the king had many

wives, were staying at the palace full time and they studied at King Bhekuzulu High School.

Nqabayomuzi was doing 15 and he was doing grade 11. Simingezwi was 17 and he was doing grade 12. Mkhululi was 23 years and he was studying at Mthashana College, he was the son of the second wife.

King: “so what is it son? You seem troubled.” Sbo chuckled and Kuhle gave him a death stare.

Sbo: “what? You didn’t bribe me to keep quiet.” Kuhle attempted to stand up to attack Sbo and his father laughed before reprimanding him because he could see that Kuhle had something to hide.

Nqaba: “bhuti we are a family. You can tell us anything right?” he asked in an amused tone. He was the clown of the family, more like Gcino.

Sbo: “since he won’t speak well I might as well tell you what’s bothering him.”

Kuhle: “go ahead Daily Sun, publish my news.” Sbo laughed.

Sbo: “even if you were to call me sis Dolly I wouldn’t mind brother.” Kuhle raised his middle finger and Sbo laughed more.

Simi: “I am really tired of guessing. Talk already.”

Sbo: “he is whipped. He is in love with this amazing woman named Ntombifuthi Cele. She is funny, energetic, kind, loving, she is just the perfect woman and brother here is head over heels in love with her.” Simi took his tablet and went to Google, he searched Futhy and found her.

Simi: “Name: Ntombifuthi Lwandlelethu Cele. Age: 29. Founder and CEO of Dubandlela Construction Company. Architect and Engineer. She is single and doesn’t have kids. She is Lele’s sister, the singer and rapper of Blue Diamond Music. Her parents are Sijabulile and Siyabulela Cele. Bafo this woman is perfect. Here is an interview where she was asked

when she is planning on settling down.” He passed the tablet to his father and his father played the video. They all listened attentively.

Interviewer: “so when do you think you are doing to settle down and start your own family?” Futhy chuckled.

Futhy: “many people are more interested in my private affairs, it’s actually amusing. Anyways I am married to my company. I am still going to go international and global. Note I didn’t include the word ‘wish’. I had wishes when I was still a teen but now I only have visions and I prophesy my future. I don’t know when I will settle down but for now my eyes are on my company and its growth. Should I not find love in the near future, I will adopt children who will carry on my legacy. Having a husband is not really a priority for me.” the king gave the tablet back to Simi.

Mkhululi: “that’s the future queen right there. Wife that woman brother.” Kuhle scratched his head roughly.

Kuhle: “she is not interested. I proposed that she be my second wife. She told me that she doesn’t wanna deal with my Barbie wife.” They all laughed.

Nqaba: “well MaMsimango is a black Barbie.” The brothers laughed and the king just chuckled.

Kuhle: “I even told her that I am willing to divorce Sthabile in order to be with her. She just dismissed me again. What should I do father?”

King: “son this woman is independent, she is successful and she doesn’t care about your fame or wealth or even the throne. All kingdoms need queens like her. Our kingdom would be very lucky to have her. What I can say is that try by all means to pursue her. Don’t stop until her last name is Zulu.”

Kuhle: “what about Stha?” the king shrugged.

King: “I am a polygamous man so I’d advise you to take her as your second wife but she doesn’t want that and we all know MaMsimango won’t make things easy for her. You are the future king. You know what to do son.” He stood up and headed upstairs.

Mkhululi: “so how is her personality?”

Sbo: “she is a vibe bringer. She once invited us to a get together in her house. She made us feel welcomed and treated everyone very good.”

Simi: “can we meet her?”

Kuhle: “no. you will scare her you hooligans.” They all laughed. Nqaba tapped his phone.

Nqaba: “I have just followed her on Instagram and Twitter.”

Mkhululi: “mom is definitely going to love her and Lisa is going to worship the ground she walks on.”

Kuhle: "I will try to pursue her again but she is in a no strings attached relationship with another guy nje. I am not sure if it's called a relationship or not. I am not happy that he is giving my cookie to some guy yaz." Nqaba laughed and his older brothers looked at him.

Sbo: "what do you know about pussy Nqaba?"

Nqaba: "come on, I am a Zulu man. Girls throw themselves at me."

Kuhle: "you know what, tomorrow I am taking the 3 of you to the family doctor. You are all going to get vasectomy. We don't need children born out of wedlock in this kingdom and drama from baby mamas when I finally take the throne. I want my reign to be peaceful."

Simi: "what about Sbo?"

Kuhle: "he is old enough to make his own decision."
Simi sulked but his brothers just gave him the look and he gave in.

CHAPTER 28

The following morning I get up and take a shower. I make my bed and get dressed in a floor length mustard bodycon dress and white Hibacci sneakers. I comb my hair nicely and just put my pixie wig on. I head to the closet and take out a jacket I bought for Thando. I pin R100 notes which amount to R3000 in the jacket. I then put it in the bag that I am going with. The door opens and Lee walks in with what looks like my dress on her arms. She puts the dress on top of my bed and sits down on the couch.

Lee: "I met up with Mami yesterday at Durban Central and she gave me our outfits. Gcino and Lele took theirs last night when they came here. When are we leaving vele?" I shrug.

Me: “when is Noma coming?”

Lee: “she said she will arrive later because she wants to nyisa us with her bae, doing the matching outfits one way.” I laugh. Noma can be childish sometimes. “Don’t worry. Sandy will be there. You guys will also do couple goals.”

Me: “I don’t need another Mvelo saga.” She rolls her eyes.

Lee: “you are going to tell Sandy to write no suspicious caption, should he post your pictures.”

Me: “and who will you pose with?”

Lee: “Butho.” I chuckle.

Me: “uzobulalisa ingane yabantu.”

Lee: “he is my knight in shining armor and Athi would have to go through me first before he can get to him.”

Me: "Thatha wonder woman." She laughs.

Lee: "are you going to eat breakfast?"

Me: "yeah. I need to take my medication and I also need to be strong for the day long. Although dad said there is no need for me to stay until the whole ceremony comes to an end."

Lee: "he was right though. Anyways let's go downstairs. K has already prepared a scrumptious breakfast for you."

Me: "gosh now I have to eat real food every day because of this treatment?" she laughs.

Lee: "yes dear." We head downstairs.

We get to the dining hall and eat breakfast with K, Butho, Thobeka and Zamo. They all seem excited to go to umemulo. If it was up to me, I would've postponed it because I can feel that my body hasn't rested enough but today is about Thando not me, and she has waited a long time for this day. I

wouldn't spoil it for her.

Me: "do you guys think an energy drink won't go well with my meds?" they all stop eating and look at me. "Don't look at me like that. I wanna be there for Thando emotionally and physically. It's just for one day."

Lee: "a sip maybe won't harm you."

Me: "let's hope so. Is there an energy drink in the fridge?"

Thobeka: "yeah. There is a 48-pack of Redbull. You know we should often drink it so that we can be on the lookout 24/7."

Me: "you're trying to tell me that you drink energy drinks every day? Aren't you addicted or something?" they laugh.

Butho: "not every day boss. When we are tired and when you go out at night."

Me: "did you find a guard for Lee?"

Butho: "I found two. If her ex is a psychotic as I saw, then one ain't enough. They said they will start on Monday."

Lee: "meaning I can return to my house right?"

Butho: "yes but you'd have to change your locks and increase security measures."

Lee: "I don't mind. As much as being with Futhy under one roof is a blast, I kind of miss my own space."

Me: "I felt like that when I was at the hospital. You're also going to the event K?" she smiles.

K: "yes I am but my fiancé will fetch me from there. He wants me to meet his siblings. They stay overseas and they are here for the weekend. They arrived today."

Me: "well you can take the Monday off and come back on Tuesday. Xoli and Thobeka will do the cooking."

K: "thanks boss."

We finish eating and I go back to my room. I change to my new dress and wear a matching head wrap carefully on top of my weave. I apply some make-up on. I don't change my sneakers because I am not in the mood of wearing heels today. I pack my stuff in my navy handbag and also take the bag with Thando's jacket, and head out after taking my Lamborghini keys and the X1 keys. I get downstairs and find my housemates ready and looking superfly. I hand the keys to Zamo.

Me: "you are driving the lambo today and Butho," I throw the X1 keys to him, "handle with care." He chuckles.

Butho: "sure boss."

Me: "I packed toys for my niece and nephew. They are in their room on top of their beds. Please get them for me." Thobeka and K quickly rush there.

We go outside and wait for the cars in the driveway. Few moments later they park them in front of us and

we hop on. I text Lee asking her to refill the Beamer tank and I then transfer fuel money to her. I tell Zamo to pass by the garage so that we can fuel up. We drive out and minutes later we get to the garage. The petrol attendants attend to us. I see a bunch of boys singing, wearing soccer uniform. When they see the two cars they go crazy and start taking videos. I get out of the car and head inside the shop. I buy coffee at Wimpy. I head outside and find them surrounding the cars. A few turn to me.

Boy 1: "you are Ntombifuthi Cele the architect?!" I smile.

Me: "yep that's me." I take a sip of my coffee.

Boy 2: "I love your car."

Me: "well thank you. Are you guys' hungry?"

Them: "YES!"

Me: "let's go inside Wimpy so that I can buy food for y'all." they all cheer and we head inside. Lee follows behind.

Lee: "I will buy drinks and snacks for them."

Me: "thanks friend." I turn to the boys. "What do you guys want?"

Boy 3: "burger and fries sisi. It's a better option for everyone."

Me: "how many are you guys?"

Boy 1: "23." I nod and order burgers for all of them with fried chips and 4 full chickens. I then order ice cream for all of them and hand them their receipts.

Them: "THANK YOU SISI!"

Me: "you're welcome. Now 3 of you, come with me so that you can get your drinks." We head to where Lee is at and she hands them the drinks and the snacks. They thank her again and we get into the cars and drive home.

Zamo: "you really are an angel and a local hero. I am pretty sure their coach had a few bucks to buy food for them but you have just saved him big time."

Me: "it's the little things we do that counts. Plus this just gave me an idea but I will start working on it next year."

Zamo: "I wish to be your kid." I laugh. "Because then I'd have a golden heart like yours." I smile.

Me: "thanks Zamo."

We get home and find the guests already moving to the field. We get out of the cars and follow them. Zamo is carrying a camp chair for me and K is carrying bottled water even though I didn't ask her. We get there and we head to where my family is seated. Zamo opens the camp chair for me and I sit down. Thando and the maidens start dancing.

Gogo: "how are you feeling today Mzukulu?" I turn to look at her because she is sitting near me.

Me: "I am stronger today gogo, thanks for asking. How are you?"

Gogo: "I am fine. I remember like it was just

yesterday when you were also dancing like this on your umemulo.” I giggle and look down. I know the question that is going to follow.

Me: “gogo that was some time ago. There is something I should tell you guys but I will come see you in your house maybe on Wednesday.”

Gogo: “why don’t you tell me today? What if I die on Tuesday or Wednesday morning?” I just laugh because gogo doesn’t have a bone of patience in her body.

Me: “today is about Thando gogo, her.” I say pointing at Thando who is coming our way. I laugh when she puts the spear right in front of me. “Oww it’s like that now?” she just laughs and goes back to where she was.

Butho: “we are also going with you so that we can go once and not do ups and downs esigcawini

sengane.” Lee and I laugh.

I stand up and we head to where Thando is. She kneels down when she sees us and the guards together with Lee and K start pinning money on her head. Noma comes with her bae and they also pin money on Thando’s head. When they are done they step aside and I take out the jacket from the bag. I place it on her shoulders and she literally goes crazy, egiya esigcawini.

We then go to Xoli and also pin a few notes on her. She just does voshos and we laugh at her. You wouldn’t say that Xoli is the same Nomxolisi who was shy not so long ago. People do change. I am just happy that she got out of her shell and her kindness amplified. We go back to where we were seated and just watch as the ceremony continues.

Voice: “a moment Miss Cele.” I turn and see Sandy. I just chuckle and stand up. We head aside where there is less people. Some people are recognizing

him and some are just asking to take pictures with him. He tells them that he is coming back. He hugs me tightly and I just laugh.

Me: "missed me that much?"

Sandy: "you have no idea. What I miss the most is being buried deep inside you MaNdosi." Yoh I just turn and look the other way so that he can't see that I am blushing and actually turned on.

A photographer comes our way and asks to take photos of us. By the way Sandy is wearing navy cotton pants and a navy short sleeved t-shirt with izimbadada and umqhele. It kinda looks like we are matching. Anyways we pose for the camera and I know that Sandile is going to post these pictures on his social media accounts. He takes the cellphone number of the photographer and she promises to call him as soon as the pictures are available.

Sandy: "can I take you out maybe on Monday night?"

Me: "there is something I should tell you." His face instantly changes to a worried expression. "Relax. It's nothing intense. I am going to Fancourt Hotel this coming weekend with a bunch of friends for a weekend getaway and I need a date." He breathes out loud and I just laugh at him.

Sandy: "when are we supposed to leave?"

Me: "Friday morning."

Sandy: "I would be honored to accompany you my queen." He says with a smile. My mind drifts to Kuhle for a second and then I turn back to Sandy.

Me: "let's go back to everyone before dad kills you." He laughs.

Sandy: "FYI he likes me, he even called me son."

Me: "if he knew you were shagging his daughter, his love for you will be depleted miraculously." He laughs and I join him.

Later on we head back home and people are served food. The second session starts and I go sit where the usher takes me. Thatha Thando. Who hires ushers at a 21st birthday celebration? The programme starts and people say their speeches. I am shocked when I hear the MC calling my name. I stand up and head to the stage. She hands me the mic. What the hell am I going to say? Let me just not talk about her and just advise her. Yeah that will do.

Me: "Hi everyone. The name is Ntombifuthi Cele, Thando's older sister. I know I am expected to say a lot but I will only take a minute." I turn to face Thando. She looks like a goddess and whoever that did her make-up did a splendid job. She is even wearing a flowery crown on her head.

Me: "you look beautiful Nombedu." She blushes and looks down. "I want to focus on the future and not the past. You are a bright girl. You have that fire in you that just lights up everywhere you go. Don't let

other people tell you otherwise. My gift to you today is very crucial. I know you have passion in designing and wishes to grow more in the industry. That's why I got you enrolled at London College of Fashion for BA (Hons) Fashion Design and Development, and I paid up front. You are to start next year January." She jumps off her chair and rush to pull me into a hug. Tears are streaming down her face.

Thando: "are you sure?" I just laugh at her. Thando was like this when she was young. You'd tell her something and she'd be like 'are you sure?' that is her all time response to shocking news.

Me: "a 100%. I want you to grow more in the industry and raise the Cele flag higher than Lele and I did. This family is full of GOATS and you are now one of them." she breaks the hug and looks at me.

Thando: "thank you sisi."

Me: "you are welcome. Now wipe those tears away because this day isn't about tears." She laughs and

wipes her tears. We both go back to our seats.

The event continues but I leave early than most of the family members. Lee and Thobeka stay for the after party and Noma leaves with her bae saying she is coming back to the party. You can take Noma out of clubbing but you can't take clubbing out of Noma, if you get me.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 29

The following afternoon we are seated at home in the patio. Most of the guests have left. The only people who are here now are my grandparents and Busi's husband and kids. I gave them their gifts this morning and they went crazy. Their mother thanked me but I could see that it didn't come from the heart. It was forced. God I wish one day you could reveal what I did to your daughter Busi.

Gogo: "so what is it that you wanted to tell me Mzukulu? I figured I couldn't wait any longer." I just laugh at her. See what I was talking about. She is the queen of impatience.

Dad: "what are you talking about ma?"

Gogo: “well your daughter has this huge announcement that she wants to make.”

Busi: “maybe she has finally found someone who wants to marry her.” I just roll my eyes.

Mom: “well talk missy. Time won’t wait for you.” If she was gogo’s daughter, I would’ve said like mother like daughter. I look down and play with my hands.

Me: “well I kind of possibly may have been nominated for the Best Architect of the Year for the African Architecture awards.” I say the important parts in a whisper.

Gcino: “volume sisi.” We all laugh. I don’t know why I am suddenly scarred to tell them this.

Me: “I have been nominated for the Best Architect of the Year for the African Architecture awards.” Mama and gogo stand up and start ululating. They know this is a very huge deal for me. Dad just stands up

and picks me up. He spins with me in his arms and I just giggle like a 5 year old. He finally puts me down and the family attacks me with hugs. Even Busi hugs me. They finally settle down.

Dad: "this is very huge baby and I know you are coming home with that award. I already know where to put it." I laugh.

Me: "aren't I supposed to put it in my house?"

Dad: "not this one baby. Maybe some to come." I continue laughing.

Me: "well that's not all. I have found a slot to present my work at the business conference in Brooklyn."

Lele: "yoh sisi you are doing the things and I am so happy for you."

Gcino: "angithi you are taking me with you to Brooklyn?" we all laugh.

Me: "why you?"

Gcino: "I wanna explore America."

Me: "don't you wanna visit Thando in London when she starts studying there?"

Gcino: "I am still going to ask money for that." I just laugh shaking my head.

Mom: "where is she going to stay?"

Me: "on campus. Everything is settled ma. All she needs is to go there January. But if I were you Thando, I'd go in December so that I can familiarize myself with the place, so that when the time comes for you to start studying, you will know most surrounding areas of where you will be studying. Just don't come back with a British baby." She laughs.

Gcino: "please don't come back with Maisie Richardson-Sellers' accent." We all laugh. I love that woman's accent yoh.

Thando: "oww please brother, never would I change

my African accent.” She says in Maisie’s voice and we just laugh.

Well I organized Thando’s gift since the beginning of the year. She might be Busi’s puppet but she is still my little sister and I only want what’s best for all my siblings. When she graduate I will give her capital to start her own boutique. That’s how much I love her. In fact I love all my siblings, even Busi, insane I know.

We eat lunch while talking about umemulo. Thando actually got R16 000 cash plus gifts. The kid is rich. Of course she didn’t bring a boyfriend because dad would’ve surely killed that boy. Dad doesn’t play when it comes to his daughters. I think he would give any man a hard time when it comes to us, even the president.

When Sabelo broke my heart, I went back home and told mom about it. She just lied to dad and made up a shit story. When Busi’s husband asked for her hand in marriage, he made him work for it for a year.

Yep that's how hardheaded my father is. Mother even intervened and to make matters worse, Busi got pregnant with her first child. Dad actually beat the living shit out of him. After that he accepted their relationship.

Dad: "so are you going to spend the night here?" he asks looking at me.

Me: "no I have to go back to my place. I need to prepare for work dad. And before you talk about resting, I am fine now. I feel strong. If I don't feel good I promise that I will rest. My guards will make sure of that."

Lele: "speaking of guards, dad can you please give me permission to ask Thobeka out?" we all laugh at him. This silly crush he has on Thobeka is making him do crazy shit.

Gcino: "brother please. That woman is taken by me. She even called me Gci. Soon she will be Mrs. Gcinokuhle Cele." We continue laughing. I am glad

that she is not here because she would've probably punched them in the face.

Mkhulu: "who is this woman you both seem to be taken by?"

Mom: "It's Lwandle's guard. She is very beautiful so I am not surprised."

Gogo: "a woman that is a bodyguard? Clearly she is dangerous and scary."

Lele: "actually gogo she is fierce and her presence commands attention. Her personality is great. The way she smiles makes you wanna transfer lobola money instantly. I mean gogo have you seen her?" I look at my brother and I can see that he is really taken by Thobeka. I have never heard him speak about a woman like this before. But why did it have to be a woman who intimidates him like this? This will be fun to watch. I fold my arms and sit back.

Me: "I am patiently waiting for the day you finally ask

her out. This is going to be so much fun.” Gcino and Thando laugh. Dad looks at me.

Dad: “and when are you going to introduce a potential husband to us?” my eyes pop out. My own father altering those words? Wonders never cease to amaze me.

Me: “hawu baba” I place my hand on my chest to show him how shocked I am. They all laugh. “Why are you being like this?” he laughs.

Dad: “don’t shy away from the question Miss Independent.”

Me: “ohh it’s like that now?” he continues laughing. I stand up. “Well Miss Independent says bye.” They laugh again.

Gcino: “sisi you prefer leaving instead of answering just one question?”

Me: “I feel like I am being attacked right now. I can’t answer you guys in the absence of my lawyer. I just

can't. I feel like I will incriminate myself." They continue laughing, dad has tears on his eyes.

Mom: "yoh ayy you are clearly your father's daughter Lwandle. Yoh mtanami." She wipes her tears.

Me: "bye guys." I take my stuff and head out. That will teach dad never to ask the wrong questions.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 30

Zah: “boss you won’t believe this.” She says while entering my office carrying her tablet. I give her my undivided attention. She seems excited. It’s Tuesday morning. I reported for duty yesterday and my employees were so happy to have me back. I should find a vice CEO who will take care of things in my absentia so that I don’t have to worry when something like this happens again.

Me: “well do tell Zanele.”

Zah: “you have been nominated for the African Architecture Awards and you have also been invited to the business conference in Brooklyn.” Her face lights up.

Me: "I know Zah. Aria submitted my name to the AAA." She frowns.

Zah: "Aria the newbie from the design department?"

Me: "the one and only."

Zah: "that's awesome boss." She comes to hug me. "I should definitely send a goodies hamper to her as an appreciation gift."

Me: "you're genius. Why didn't I think of that?"

Zah: "one of the reasons why you hired me. I do most of the thinking around here." I laugh at her and she smirks. "Anyways the AAA wanted to know the number and names of the people you are going to come with so that they can set up your accommodation. The maximum number for your guests is 5."

Me: "wow okay. It will have to be my guards then you and Aria. If my parents and friends want to come, they will have to sort out their own transport and

accommodation.”

Zah: “you are liable for your own flights. They are just going to take care of the accommodation.”

Me: “that’s fine by me. Please remind me to buy a private jet in 5 years to come.”

Zah: “yes boss.” She hypes and I just laugh. “About the conference, they wanted to confirm if you are coming or not so that they can secure your seat.”

Me: “you know the answer to that. Do I have any appointments scheduled for Friday?”

Zah: “umm,” she looks through her tablet. “You have an 8:30 breakfast meeting with Mr. Ncanana, he wants you to redesign his farm house and you have an 11:00 meeting with Professor Demery, he wants to build a new hospital and renovate his two existing hospitals and 1 surgery.”

Me: “wow that’s a lot of money.”

Zah: “sikhanda izaka elonyaka boss.” I laugh.

Me: "I will have to do their sketches prior so that I can just present to them the finished product."

Zah: "that's a great idea."

Me: "Wits is doing a dinner in my honor in 18 September. Are you going to come with me?"

Zah: "that goes without question boss. Do you have accommodation for that?"

Me: "we will sleep at Lele's house. Wait does Kuhle have a private jet?" she taps on her tablet.

Zah: "yes he does. He has one of his own and the palace also has one and also a chopper."

Me: "that's good then. Don't forget to send those goodies to Aria."

Zah: "yes boss." She exits my office.

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I go by Nandos to buy a full chicken with rolls and chips. I also buy a 2l of Liqui fruit juice. I also buy a full chicken for my guards. Zamo then drives me to Kuhle's company. This is a bribe and I am also going to use his feelings for me to get what I want. We get there and Mabutho carries the food for me. We find the receptionist busy chatting with someone on the phone and it seems like an interesting conversation. We would be devil's advocates to disturb such so we just pass her and head to the elevator.

We finally get to Kuhle's office and it wasn't difficult finding it because it is on the last floor. Mabutho hands me the food and goes to sit on the bench near the elevator. I tell him to go back to the car and he just rolls his eyes. I laugh. The door to his office is open so I just let myself in. he is talking to someone on the phone and has his back on me. I just place the food on the table and go to sit on his chair. He jumps up when he sees me and I just flash an innocent smile.

Kuhle: “okay. We will talk later.” He ends the call and looks at me with his hands on his pockets.

Me: “good day my prince. I hope you haven’t eaten. I brought you lunch.” He chuckles.

Kuhle: “when my wife suddenly brings me lunch to work, I know that she wants something. I know how you women work. So tell me MaNdosi what do you want?”

Me: “can we eat first Ndabezitha? I mean I am starving.” He laughs shaking his head and sits on the chair opposite mine. I dish up for the both of us and hand him his food. I also pour the juice for him. “Gone are those days when royals wouldn’t eat food from a random someone.” He laughs again.

Kuhle: “you don’t love me MaNdosi so you couldn’t possibly put a love potion on this food. You also wouldn’t put poison to try and kill me because you have a good heart. That’s why I am accepting your food without any suspicions. But I do know that you want something.” I laugh.

Me: "always suspicious my prince neh." He just doesn't answer and digs in. I also eat my food. The Nandos sauce is doing the things shame. "So how many kids do you have and how old are they?"

Kuhle: "I thought you knew everything about me baby." I chuckle.

Me: "well I don't."

Kuhle: "Amahle is 3 years old and Zwelibanzi is 7 years old. Zweli is so quiet and humble. He is not troublesome like most kids. My father once said that he is portraying qualities of being a true leader at a younger age. His sister on the other hand yoh. She is a drama queen and she is just like her mother." I laugh.

Me: "they seem like great kids. Maybe I will meet them some day." He stops eating and looks at me.

Kuhle: "my love do you mean that?" I laugh.

Me: "Someday Kuhle and I will meet them as your friend not your second wife."

Kuhle: “we will see about that.” I chuckle.

Me: “I also have kids, well my sister’s children. They live in North West. Thabang is 5 years old and Siphosethu is 2 years old. They can be very demanding sometimes. This weekend they were home for Thando’s umemulo. Thabang asked where their toys are and I gave him money because I forgot them at my house. Siphosethu was like ‘napha’. My auntie was complaining about wasting money on them.” he laughs.

Kuhle: “I wish to meet them.” I sigh.

Me: “my sister and I don’t see eye to eye so when I wish for them to visit, I will have to ask mom to talk to her. I know it will take a while to convince her.” He frowns.

Kuhle: “why are you guys not best of friends? I never even for once saw your sisters at the hospital when

you were admitted.”

Me: “I am clueless just like you.” He looks confused, I just laugh to brush this off. I finish eating and stand up. “Where is your bathroom?”

Kuhle: “through that door.” He points it and I go there.

I wash my hands and while I am drying them, he comes to stand behind me. He purposefully bend towards the sink making me bend forward just a little. He is so close to me I can literally feel him breathing down my neck. He is trying to seduce me and its working but I won't give in. he washes his hands and also dry them. He turns me to look at him and I rush out before he can kiss me. He chuckles.

Kuhle: “one day you won't be able to escape.” I laugh and return to his chair.

Me: “so I need your private jet to transport me to Libya and Brooklyn.” I say looking at him as he is sitting down.

Kuhle: "who are you fetching there?" I chuckle.

Me: "In Libya I am going to the African Architecture Awards and in Brooklyn I am going to this business conference that is going to have a huge impact in my career."

Kuhle: "am I allowed to come to Libya?"

Me: "is that a yes?"

Kuhle: "I don't think I can say no to you." I jump and go hug him.

Me: "thank you very much and you are more than welcome to come with. Also please don't forget to tell your wife about Fancourt." He rolls his eyes. "Also can we leave at 1pm on Friday? I have an 11am meeting."

Kuhle: "noted."

Me: "bye Kuhle." I perk his lips and head out with my handbag.

CHAPTER 31

My two meetings went well. I am so happy about the way my company is growing. My current clients are happy, my previous clients are happy and I am pretty sure my future clients will be happy once they start working with me. I should definitely have an appreciation party for most of them when I come back from Brooklyn.

I once did a party like that three years ago and it was a successful. My previous clients were very happy about it. I even got them appreciation gifts, they weren't something huge but they made them happy. There are these girls who go by the name of Dakota Muller and Londeka Mnguni. They have an events coordinating company called Elegancy Planners and

they are from Johannesburg. I have seen their work on social media and I must say I am impressed. I will get them to plan this event.

Zamoh drives Zah and me to the airport and we find others already there. I have given the guards and Kgomotso a weekend off. Mabutho and Thobeka were skeptical about letting me go without protection, Kuhle had to talk to them about it. They seemed better after that talk. We get there, finding Sandile by the entrance and Kuhle's guards lead us to the jet. We find everyone already there, even Kuhle's wife. This weekend is going to be interesting. We exchange greetings and I go sit next to Noma. We buckle up and the jet takes off.

Me: "I am going to Libya in a few months for the AAA. I have been nominated there for architect of the year. If you wanna come, you'd have to sort out your own accommodation and tickets for the event because transport is covered."

Noma: “when are we celebrating this?” I smile and look at her.

Me: “soon, for now let’s go waste the prince’s money.” She laughs. “I see Lee is already securing the weekend’s fuck.” I say looking at Lee who is laughing with Sbo.

Noma: “Khanya and I had a fight, so I guess I am single for the weekend.” I laugh shaking my head.

Me: “I don’t think that’s how relationships work.” She rolls her eyes. “GUYS!” I shout, making everybody turn their attention to me. “When you and your partner had a fight, do you go and release stress by fucking another person?”

Lindsay: “it depends babes. If your partner said some hurtful things or did some terrible things to you, you are entitled to a one night stand. Note, not a fuck buddy, but a one night stand.”

Sthabile: “but that doesn’t apply when you are married. If you guys are having problems, you need to sit down and talk things through. If you can’t solve

your problems, involve a marriage counselor.”

Lee: “all that just for sucking up to someone’s kid?
Yoh I am never getting married.”

Me: “you and me both sister.” Kuhle hasn’t taken his eyes off me ever since I got here. “Where are my manners? Guys this is Sandile Ntuli, a friend, and Sandy this is everyone.”

Lindsay: “I am not everyone. Sandy my name is Lindani but you can call me Lindsay anytime babes.”
we laugh.

Sbo: “I am pretty sure you know who I am.” Sandile chuckles.

Sandy: “you are one of the Zulu princes and over there,” he says pointing at Kuhle, “is the first prince and the next king.”

Kuhle: “nice to officially meet you Ntuli.” For the first time since I have entered this jet, his eyes move from me.

Thomas: "since you're a producer, maybe you can hear some of my singing. Who knows, maybe I can earn myself a record deal. I am Thomas by the way." His friends laugh and Sandile chuckles.

Sandy: "let's hear it."

Sbo: "before he starts singing, can someone give me ear plugs?"

Isaac: "ow shut up man. Let him shoot his shot. Go on brother." Thomas starts singing and I swear he is worse than any wooden mic contender I have heard. I can't even bring myself to laugh. He finishes singing and Sandile is so shocked, he can't even alter a single word.

Me: "dude I..." I don't even finish speaking because I just burst out laughing. The others follow pursuit. "I think you should just leave it to the professionals."

Thomas: "you think you can do better than me?" he gives me a daring look. Before I can answer, Sandy

answers for me.

Sandy: "she is one of the best vocalists I have ever heard in my entire career."

Lee: "I can attest to that."

Noma: "me too."

Sthabile: "let's hear it then."

Zah: "as her manager, I decide where she sings and where she doesn't." we all laugh.

Lindsay: "mara technically you are the boss's boss."

Zah: "I know right. But they just don't give me much recognition."

Lindsay: "I really don't know why outsiders treat us like slaves whereas our boss treats us like equals."

Phumudzo: "there are shitty people out there and sometimes treating people like trash make them feel good about themselves." My eyes meet Sthabile's and she just looks down. I chuckle.

Philasande: “that’s why some personal assistants are rude. Two reasons. One because they have been treated shitty before, and two, because they were just born rude.”

We continue talking about work positions and more. I don’t know how, but the topic shifts to the one of polygamy and they start talking about Musa Mseleku of Uthando Nesithembu. Kuhle has this annoying smug on his face that I wish to wipe with a single punch.

Me: “I wouldn’t mind being Mpiyakhe Zungu’s fourth wife. I mean sure he is acting and all, but that guy is what I call a family head and an honorable man.”

Xoli: “sisi he is my man crush every day. I mean I wouldn’t even mind being his side chick or a baby mama in secret.” The guys’ chuckle.

Phiwayinkosi: “man why you aren’t in a polygamous marriage? I mean your father has like four wives and you only have one. Seems unfair to me.”

Lindsay: “are you maybe afraid of your wife?” I know

how Lindsay can be. Right now she is just stirring up trouble. Noma smirks.

Noma: “maybe he lost his mojo or shelling ability years back.” They all laugh. I can see that Sthabile is trying so hard to contain her anger. If only she knew that his husband have strong feelings for me, she would kick him out of this jet without a parachute.

Sbo: “okay, okay guys. Stop making fun of my brother. He is happily married. Besides he doesn’t know how to court a lady. You know royals and arranged marriages.” They continue laughing. Okay I think that’s enough making fun of my prince.

Me: “okay guys that’s enough. I don’t think both the prince and the princess are comfortable with this discussion.”

Lee: “we hear you advocate Cele.” They continue laughing. Okay I tried.

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We get to the hotel and check in to our rooms. Since it's still early we just change into swimsuits and go to the pool. The waiters bring us drinks. We drink while chatting. After a while we get inside the pool. We are so lucky that the water temperature is a bit warm. I have always loved swimming. Even dad got me a coach to teach me how to swim. It was one of my hobbies growing up, apart from drawing.

Sandile and the guys later join us inside the pool. He swims towards me and just as he is getting closer, he splashes the water and I gasp before giggling. We all start playing with the water like kids and later we decide to go to the poolside café for more drinks. I must admit the cocktails here are to die for.

Lindsay: "so besides spending the royal money, what do you do Sthabile?" OMG! Can they leave her alone bakithi?

Sthabile: "I am a fashion designer." She says with a fake smile plastered all over her place.

Noma: "aren't they all?" she says rolling her eyes.

Xoli: "there is this one queen whom I admire. She has many NPOs. Some help with orphans, single mothers, drug addicts, street kids and women who have been abused before. She is selfless and always think about her people. If I were to be queen, I would definitely follow in her footsteps."

Mbuso: "applications for second wife are opened."
We all laugh. I guess they haven't had enough of teasing Kuhle.

Lindsay: "I think we should hit the club tonight. There is this place called BONS in Mossel Bay. It's about 30 to 40 minutes away. We should go and get drunk with the white people and speak Afrikaans." We all laugh.

Me: "I am game plus I have a lot of things to celebrate."

Sthabile: "name one."

Me: "tune in to your television dear, you will soon see me there."

Lee: "that's what I am talking about."

Noma: "let's go freshen up so that we can eat dinner and then hit the club."

We all head to our respective rooms. By the way I am sharing a room with Sandy. We get inside and he quickly shuts the door. He rushes to me and kiss me hard like he has been holding himself for a long time. We make love or we fuck for a good two rounds. Luckily he remembered condoms. By the time we are done, we lie on the bed panting.

Sex with Sandile is so amazing and it is the best fuck I have ever had. Mvelo was just an average, but this one yoh. He sure knows how to quench my thirst. We take a nap and we are woken up by someone banging the door. It's Noma and she is informing us that they are headed to the La Cantina for dinner.

We get up and take a quick shower. After that I lotion and get dressed in nude basic boobtube lined crop top with leggings, nude blazer and brown boots. When I am done, I comb my hair and tie it to a neat bun. I put on the cologne and just put on a nude matte lipstick. Sandile is dressed in brown chinos and white long sleeved tight shirt with white sneakers.

Sandile: “you look good babe and that booty, my God.” He says biting his lip and I just laugh.

Me: “let’s go.” I say taking my sling bag and putting my phone and lipstick in it.

We head to the restaurant and find the gang already sitting. I wonder who told them to sit like this. The only available seats are; one between Lee and Kuhle and another between Phiwayinkosi and Sbo. I just grunt and go sit next to Kuhle who stand up and open the chair for me. I mentally roll my eyes and

then sit down. Food is laid out in the table and it looks so appetizing.

Zah: "I ordered for you and Mr. Ntuli. Well I googled his favorite meal."

Sandile: "please call me Sandile and thank you."

Lindsay: "bon appetite."

We dig in. by the way Zah ordered Chicken Parmigiana. This is an Italian restaurant. This dish consists of crumbled chicken supreme, topped with grilled aubergine, napolitana sauce, grana padano and mozzarella. I didn't know what it consisted so I asked the waitress to explain it to me. It tastes so delicious. I eat and keep moaning oblivious to the stares I am getting from the table. I open my eyes and look at them.

Me: "what? I have never been to an Italian restaurant before. I underestimated them. Now I wanna visit

Italy just so I can go to their restaurants to taste different dishes.”

Noma: “count me in. this Gnocchi Ragout is to die for.”

Me: “can I taste?”

Kuhle: “you can taste mine. I ordered the same dish.” He says cutting his meat and bringing his fork closer to my mouth. I open it and let him feed me. I chew the meat, which is pork with garden herbs. Fuck this is all delicious.

Me: “fuck this is good. Can we all eat quickly to avoid me having to taste every dish in this table.” They all laugh. I raise my hand to call the waitress and she is next to me in a matter of seconds. “Honey can you please get me a bottle of Windhoek to down this delicious meal with?” she smiles and nod.

Waitress: “coming right up.”

Lee: “can I have a bottle of Heineken?” she says and

Noma also orders beer.

Sthabile: “you guys drink beer with your meals? Why not wine?”

Me: “it makes me horny and sleepy.” They laugh.

Kuhle: “please bring a 12 pack of Castle Lite.”

Lindsay: “can I have a bottle of Graham Beck? It’s not every day an opportunity like this comes my way. I gotta use it and take snaps for the gram.”

Zah: “I am sharing that bottle with you.”

Lindsay: “like we share our boss’s affection?” we laugh.

Waitress: “is that all you guys will need?” the other ladies order wine and she leaves. She comes back with the drinks and take the empty plates in the table.

We continue eating while chatting. After finishing our dinner, we hear to the parking lot where cars are all ready to take us to Mossel Bay. We climb inside and drive out.

CHAPTER 32

We get to the club and get a table in the VIP section. We sit and order drinks. Lindsay was right. This place is crawling with white people and the Afrikaans is too much but that won't stop us from getting wasted. Hours later Lindsay stands up saying he has a drinking game. I hope it's not the truth or dare like the one we played in my house. The noise isn't too much in this section so we can hear each other speaking.

Lindsay: "the name of the game is 'Never Have I Ever'. Two people will get to be asked questions or a statement. Like 'Never Have I Ever slept with a virgin'. If you have you will say 'I have' and drink a shot. If you haven't you will say 'I haven't' and dodge a shot.

It is a great game because if you deny the statement, your friends will call you to order.” We laugh. “And as a penalty, you will drink two shots.”

Xoli: “vele at the end of the day, we are all going back to the hotel drunk?”

Lindsay: “that’s the plan. What’s nice is that I get to choose the two people who will get statements and I am the one who ask questions.” The commotion after that yoh and I just laugh. “Relax guys, each pair will only get 3 questions.”

Zah: “it’s better than truth or dare.”

Lindsay signal the waiter and he brings 20 shots, wow. They play 2 chairs further from our table and a small table in front of the chairs. They place the 20 shots in that table. Lindsay stands up, fixing his outfit which needs no fixing. Drama king.

Lindsay: “okay. Mbuso and Zah, you guys are up

first.” They chuckle and go sit at the chairs. “Never have I ever fallen asleep during sex.” We all burst out laughing. How is that even possible? Well maybe if the guy is not gifted, but guys.

Mbuso and Zah: “I haven’t.”

Lindsay: “never have I ever gone to church with a hangover.” They both drink the shots quickly and we laugh. “Wow you heathens. Last one, never have I ever given or received a lap dance.” Mbuso drinks the shot and Zah says she haven’t. “Doll you’re a saint.” She giggles. “Next up we have the twins, Phiwayinkosi and Philasande.”

Philasande: “why am I not paired with a woman?”

Phiwayinkosi: “it’s so unfair.” We laugh as they go sit on the chairs.

Lindsay: “never have I ever kissed someone of the same gender.”

Twins: “I HAVE’NT” they shout and we laugh at them.

Me: "akuliwa guys." They laugh.

Lindsay: "never have I ever went on a date and didn't enjoy it, then made an excuse to leave early." They drink the shots quickly and we laugh again. This game is funny. "Never have I ever went skinny dipping." They drink the shots again.

Lee: "you guys are going to drunk."

Lindsay: "next up is Sandile and Sthabile. Abo S-S. That rhymes." Sandile chuckles and they go to the chairs. "First statement. Never have I ever broken a bone." Sandile drinks a shot and I just laugh.

Sthabile: "I have never."

Isaac: "you childhood was dull." They laugh.

Lindsay: "never have I ever used a fake ID."

Sandile: "I have never. Dad was one strict parent, even worse than mom." We laugh.

Sthabile: "I also have never."

Lindsay: “never have I ever dumped someone.” They quickly drink the shots and we laugh.

Xoli: “you guys are cruel.” They laugh.

Lindsay: “Lee and Sbo.” They go sit on the chairs. “Never have I ever slept with someone who is ten years older than you.” They quickly drink the shots. We laugh at them.

Sandile: “you have been with a cougar man?” Sbo laughs.

Lindsay: “never have I ever kissed someone in public.” They drink the shots.

Xoli: “you are the wildest pair.” We all laugh. I am tired of laughing but I can’t stop.

Lindsay: “never have I ever kissed more than one person in 24 hours.” They drink the shots. I give up. I know my friend is wild and I am not surprised, princes are womanizers.

Philasande: “darling can we please get another

round of shots?" he says signaling the waitress. She smiles and comes back with the shots. She places them in the small table. She smiles at Phila's direction again before leaving.

Me: "go and take her number, maybe you might get lucky tonight." He laughs and rush to her. We all just laugh.

Lindsay: "okay moving forward, Phumudzo and Xoli." They take their seats. "Never have I ever had sex before." Phumudzo takes his shot.

Xoli: "that question is so unfair." She says drinking her shot, flinching in the process and we laugh at her.

Lindsay: "never have I ever said something while drunk and regret it the next morning." Phumudzo takes his shot.

Phumudzo: "dumped my baby mama while drunk."

US: "YOH!"

Xoli: "well I haven't."

Lindsay: “never have I ever had a one night stand.”

Xoli: “I haven’t.” Phumudzo drinks another shot.

Phumudzo: “well can I be your one night stand tonight?”

Isaac: “shoot your shot man.” we all laugh. Xoli just giggles.

Lindsay: “Noma and Isaac.” They take their seats. “Never have I ever re gifted a gift.” They drink their shots and we laugh. Come on, you know you have done it before, there is no use denying it. “Never have I ever sexted.” They drink their shots again. “Never have I ever smoked cannabis.” They drink the shots again. I just laugh shaking my head. We have been high so many times.

Noma: “you were aiming at getting me drunk vele.”
Lindsay laughs.

Lindsay: “Queen Futhy and Prince Kuhle.” We laugh.
“Futhy is already the queen of engineers and

architects, wena Kuhle you are yet to get to her level." We laugh again.

Kuhle: "you guys are having a field day with me." he chuckles shaking his head.

Lindsay: "never have I ever role played during sex." I burst out laughing before taking my shot. Kuhle gives me a look and also takes his shot. We just laugh.

Me: "I have been around you. Maybe it's time to settle down."

Noma: "not yet. Maybe next year." I laugh.

Me: "you're right."

Lindsay: "never have I ever went 24 hours without showering." We drink our shots and just laugh. Guys this happens.

Xoli: "a whole prince not bathing?"

Kuhle: "circumstances potential wife." We laugh again.

Lindsay: “never have I ever kissed the person next to me.” fuck Lindani. Did he have to ask this question? I quickly drink my shot and then jog to the bathroom. I ain’t ready for Sthabile’s words. Gosh Sandile. Yaz if Lindani wasn’t good at his job, I’d fire him. Noma and Lee make their way inside the restroom laughing. Why did God have to give me stupid friends like these?

Noma: “wayenza indaba u Lindani. You should’ve seen the way Sthabile almost beat up Kuhle. A whole prince being beaten in public no gal. I can already see the headlines on Daily Sun, ‘ZULU PRINCE BEATEN BY WIFE IN A CLUB FOR KISSING ANOTHER WOMAN’.” They laugh out loud.

Lee: “lapho Sandile is cool as a cucumber. Sbo was laughing cabanga.” They continue laughing. Is there a place where I can sell them? Maybe the black market, yeah the black market is a great place to sell them.

Me: “can we just go back to the hotel?”

Noma: “nope, Kuhle left with his wife. Maybe he will be calming her down and she will be screaming loud enough for you to hear. Let’s just go get drunk as we initially planned.”

Me: “you’re right. Let’s go. But first let me relieve myself.” I go pee and then we head back to our table.

Lindsay: “I am sorry for that boss. I didn’t mean to cause too much drama.”

Me: “drama is your first name Lindsay so I am not surprised.” He chuckles nervously.

The night proceeds and I am glad there isn’t much drama again. We leave the club around 3 am with a lot of booze and we smoke weed on our way to the hotel. Dear God, I can’t imagine the type of hangover I am going to have in the morning. We get to the hotel making so much noise but none of the staff reprimand us. I guess they are afraid of the Zulu princes.

Sbo: “how about we continue this party to my room?” we all agree and head to his room. He is not sharing with anyone.

We get inside and take our seats. Well I sit on Sandile’s lap and we continue drinking. Sbo’s room is soundproofed so we don’t have to worry about other guests complaining about us. Mbuso plays some amapiano music and we all start dancing. Sandile has some sick dance moves, I never thought he could move like that but he does know his story in the bedroom so what was I expecting.

He comes to sit back down and I straddle him. I kiss him and he kisses me back. He whispers to me that we should go back to our room. I am so horny right now so I agree. We say goodbye to everyone and rush to our room. We get there and clothes start flying around. We only have one round because we are kak drunk and high but we don’t forget protection. We doze off quickly after fucking or making love as you guys would say it.

CHAPTER 33

NARRATED

Kuhle and Sthabile got to their hotel room and Sthabile was fuming. She felt stupid for coming to this getaway because it seemed like they were mocking her or making fun of her marriage with Kuhle. First they talked about the polygamy issue which annoyed her. Now the kiss issue. She could see that Kuhle has taken a liking into the Cele girl and it didn't sit well with her.

Sthabile: "when you see me do you see a fool Kuhle?" Kuhle sighed and started taking off his clothes.

Kuhle: "can we not talk about this now? We are here

to have fun, not fight. If you wanna fight, why don't you go back to Durban?"

Sthabile: "so that you can have time to bond with your mistress? Who by the way is here with her boyfriend? Kuhle why are you doing this to me?" she asked with her voice nearly breaking.

Kuhle: "you are jumping into conclusions. It was a game of truth or dare and I was dared to kiss her."

Sthabile: "that was the only time you kissed her?"

Kuhle looked down and didn't answer his wife.

Instead he continued taking off his clothes until he was left with only boxers.

Kuhle: "stop trying to hurt yourself."

Sthabile: "do you love her?"

Kuhle: "I don't have time for this." He took off his boxers and went to the bathroom butt naked.

Sthabile got even madder and also took off her clothes because she wanted answers. She made her

way to the shower and found Kuhle just standing under the running water. She got inside and held him from behind.

Sthabile: "I don't wanna fight Kuhle but you are keeping me in the dark and you know how I hate that." he turned and looked at her.

Kuhle: "I am sorry and there is nothing going on between Futhy and I. we are just business associates and friends." Sthabile looked at him with eyes to check if he is lying and his eyes didn't give away anything.

Sthabile: "fine. Now can you please pleasure me my dear husband?" Kuhle chuckled and picked her up making her wrap her legs around his waist.

Kuhle: "your wish is my command my queen." He kissed her neck.

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Sbo and Lee sneaked out and went to Lee's room since the others were still drinking and dancing in Sbo's room. They got to Lee's room and as soon as Sbo closed the door, they started undressing each other. They kissed each other while Sbo backed Lee to the bed. She fell and Sbo towered on top of her.

Sbo: "allow me to kiss every visible part in your body." She chuckled and nodded.

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Phumudzo really got his one night stand with Xoli. He worshipped her body and left her wanting more. They slept in one bed with their bodies tangled. Phumudzo wished that Xoli doesn't reject him in the morning because he really liked her. He is just one of those guys who are afraid of rejection. He saw how innocent and well-mannered she was and wished to just marry her right there and then.

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Zah and Mbuso went to Zah's room and they chatted about a lot of things. They kissed but it ended there. They did share a bed though and Mbuso was keen on knowing more of her. He even promised to visit her at work more often and even take her out on dates.

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Noma went to bed with Lindsay who was talking non-stop and entertained Noma. They even talked about Noma's relationship with Khanya and Noma opened up to him. She told him how Khanya is like and how he feels about Noma's wealth. Most of his friends told him that Noma is just using him for sex. What can she possibly want from a waiter when she is a successful and a wealthy lawyer?

Khanya, as idiotic and as narrow minded as he is, believed his friends and that caused a rift in their relationship. The way he talked to Noma really hurt

her feelings and he didn't even apologize. If she didn't love him as she did, she would've dumped him in the spot.

Noma: "what do you think I should do?" she asked with tears threatening to come out. Lindsay hugged her and she started sniffing.

Lindsay: "he is a loser and doesn't deserve a queen like you. No offence to guys under the age of 30, but he is acting childish. I hope you can see why other ladies prefer older and matured guys. Our age mates are too stupid for us." Noma giggled.

Noma: "I just don't wanna end up like most rich and successful women out there. Single and miserable." Lindsay brushed her back.

Lindsay: "if things don't work out with this one, you will find another who will treat you like a queen. Who knows? Maybe your soul mate is in France." Noma laughed.

Noma: "if he is there then I would book a flight to France instantly." Lindsay laughed.

Lindsay: "that's the spirit babe. Stop crying because of someone who doesn't know your worth and listen to his friends more than he listens to you."

Noma: "since when are you this wise?" Lindsay laughed again.

Lindsay: "since I drank expensive wine at dinner."
They both laughed out loud. Noma stood up.

Noma: "let me take a shower before I sleep." Lindsay also stood up and hugged her.

Lindsay: "now I can sleep well knowing that you won't commit suicide once you're alone." Noma laughed again. "Good night or good morning."

Noma: "good morning." Lindsay left and went to his room while Noma went to the shower.

She thought about what they have just talked about with Lindsay and decided that as soon as she get back to Durban, she will talk with Khanya and set some ground rules. The way he spoke to her, really broke her heart and hurt her feelings. She was hoping that he sees his fault and apologize before it's too late. She finished showering and went to bed but her heart wasn't at ease.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 34

NOMXOLISI

I wake up to someone's hands around my naked body. Please lord don't let this be what I think it is. How drunk was I last night that I slept up with a stranger. I turn and I nearly faint when I see Phumudzo next to me. He did say he would like me to be his one night stand but I didn't think he was serious. What have I done? I try moving and he just tightens his hold.

Me: "you need to wake up Phumudzo." My voice is hoarse from all the vodka I was drinking yesterday.

Him: "why? We ain't rushing anywhere."

Me: "we shouldn't have done this. You have a baby

mama and i..." he quickly sits up straight and pick me up so that I can straddle him.

Him: "baby." I shake my head while looking everywhere besides his eyes. "We aren't leaving this room until we talk." I sigh and look at him.

Me: "okay fine. Talk."

Him: "firstly I am sorry for last night or this morning. I shouldn't have taken advantage of you. Although we both wanted each other, I shouldn't have. I should have courted you the right way and let you know my feelings for you before even sleeping with you." I frown.

Me: "what feelings are you talking about Phumudzo?" he chuckles.

Him: "I love you. In fact my love for you started when I saw you at Futhy's place. Baby you are an innocent and well-mannered woman, so I was afraid to

approach you. I am very scared of rejection, so I was afraid you will reject me.” I look at him confused. He loves me, he is confessing his feelings for me. I didn’t expect this.

Well I googled all Kuhle’s friends that came to Futhy’s house that day. They are all successful. Phumudzo Modisane is a founder and owner of this organization which is called Ntlafatsa Youth Foundation, which is a foundation that teaches the youth basic skills like baking, catering, pottery, jewelry designing, clothes designing and other skills. They receive basic training and a week business training just in case you are planning on opening your own business after finishing your training.

I admire his work and kindness. He doesn’t benefit from this. Maybe ke getting a few sponsors here and there, but with that money, he renews or buy new equipment for the foundation and do other things that are related to it. He is a business man who has

a few business that he owns and he is a CEO of Modisane Marketing.

He is a charming man. He isn't that tall, dark and handsome type that ladies prefer these days. Well he is tall. He is not buffy but has muscles. That's why he manages to carry me without any hassles. He is not that handsome, but your average dark nice looking man. I wouldn't say he is my type or not because I don't have a type.

Him: "baby please say something. I am really scared of rejection." I just smile and kiss him. His body tenses at first because I can see that he wasn't ready for that. He finally relaxes and responds to my kiss. I break it and look at him.

Me: "what about your baby mama? My life is very simple and peaceful. I don't want any drama."

Him: "we are not even in contact. When it involves

my daughter, she drops her off at my mom's place. She usually communicates with my mom. I didn't want her giving me problems and stories when it comes to my daughter. My mom is a no-nonsense woman, so that's why I let her handle the baby mama."

Me: "I like you. If you are not bringing any drama into my life, then maybe we can try." He face lights up.

Him: "really baby?" I nod. "Thank you, thank you, thank you." He kisses me all over the face and in my neck. I am giggling like a 5 year old kulowomzuzu.

I know if we were to take our relationship to the next level, my parents would approve of him because of his generosity and good heart. It's one of the things that attracts me to him. If he was a gangster, I wouldn't even have given him a second to explain himself. I have read and seen ladies dating with gangsters.

It may be good with all the money and adrenaline but I wouldn't last even a week because I love feeling safe and being free. I wouldn't even sleep at night knowing that my life might be in danger or there are some people who will always be after me because I am my boyfriend's weakness. Yoh aneva.

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LEE

I am woken up by someone planting kisses all over my face. I giggle and just wish I can punch him because he is disturbing my peace.

Me: "ben ten get off. I wanna sleep."

Sbo: "even after fucking you that much, you still have a mouth to call me a ben ten?" I burst out laughing. Yena he did fuck me good. I am satisfied. I doubted him though, but I should have known that royal dicks have that effect. I sit up and stretch my arms while yawning.

Me: "what time is it?"

Sbo: "10:36." I stand up still butt naked and his eyes travel up and down my body.

Me: "take a picture. It lasts longer." He takes his phone and I quickly take it away from him. "I am kidding. I don't want my hot body trending when your bitches see my pictures and decide on making it trend on social media."

Sbo: "I also wouldn't like men staring at it. I wish I can stare and worship it for as long as I live." He says standing up and coming towards me. I jog to the bathroom and he catches me before I can even get to the door. He holds me tight in his arms and my mind just travel back to the morning we had.

Me: "for a skinny dude, you sure are strong yazi."

Sbo: "I am going to fuck you so hard before we leave this room. first round is for calling me a ben ten and the second round is for calling me a skinny dude."

He breathes down my neck. Fuck his breath is doing things to me. I turn and look at him.

Me: "I am sorry for disrespecting you my prince." He chuckles and picks me up.

Sbo: "how about I fuck you first and then you apologize later?" he doesn't even wait for me to respond. He just put me against the wall and slides his dick in my cookie without warning. I scream a little.

Well I don't mind being punished by a dick. It's been a while. A girl needs some action every once in a while. I don't self-service myself, like fingering myself and shit but I do use sex toys. I have two drawers at home full of them and I am not ashamed. I am a girl, I need penetration, and even if it's not in hard force like the one I am receiving right now.

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CHAPTER 35

I wake up with a throbbing headache. Gosh I hate hangovers but I love booze. I sit up and stretch my arms. The door opens and I quickly cover my boobs. Who the fuck has the guts to just enter in my hotel room without permission?

Sandy: "calm down love, it's only me." he says entering the room with a tray of food which have a single rose, breakfast and what seems like a handover cure. He places the tray on my lap. "Special breakfast for a special lady." I smile. I could get used to this. "Drink this first." He says handing me the cure. I just down it on one go and frown. He giggles. "You look so cute right now."

Me: "thanks. Can I brush my teeth first before eating?"

Sandy: "okay." He takes the tray, placing it on the bedside table and hand me my gown. I stand up and put it on and then head to the bathroom. I first pee and then brush my teeth and wash my face. I go back to bed and eat my breakfast.

Me: "this is nice. Where did you order it?"

Sandy: "I went to the main kitchen and asked to cook it. I cooked it from scratch." I smile and look at him.

Me: "that's so nice of you. Have you eaten?"

Sandy: "yes."

I finish eating and he takes the tray and put it back in the bedside table. He takes my hand and we go take a shower. When we get back to the room and find the bed already made. Actually the room is very neat and clean. There aren't even empty condoms that we used earlier on. We get dressed and we head down

to the lobby where the others are at.

Zah: "so what are we doing today?"

Woman: "golfing. I have booked the Montagu Golf Course for your visit."

Lindsay: "and who might you be?"

Woman: "Namhlanje Mathabela. Prince Kuhle's PA.

Zah: "well I am Zanele, Queen Futhy's PA." they all laugh and Namhlanje frowns.

Xoli: "and I am Nomxolisi, Queen Futhy's second PA."

Zah: "levels." They both hi-5 and we just laugh.

Lee: "okay to the golfing course." I have never played golf before but I am looking forward to this adventure.

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We are done golfing and now we are having a picnic in the golf grass, if there is something like that. Since the golf course was closed down for us, we are allowed to do whatever we like. We are just chatting and having fun but I can't miss the chemistry and vibe I am getting from Xoli and Phumudzo. Seems like he really did give her the one night stand.

If fact everyone seems to be in a good mood. Lee is bonding and being all lovey dovey with Sbo. Zah is blushing at Mbuso's jokes. Noma seems to be in a better mood than that of yesterday. Sthabile and Kuhle seem to be happy, even though there is a pinch of jealousy just by looking at them, I am okay. The twins are making jokes and everyone is laughing.

Me: "Imma start with Xoli and Phumudzo. What is happening between the two of you?" Xoli blushes and looks down. That just confirms my suspicions. I just hope Phumudzo won't break her heart because I

will break his bones.

Phumudzo: “well Miss Nomxolisi gave me a chance to love her, so we are officially in a relationship.” We all cheer, scream and the guys whistle. We hug Phumudzo and Xoli. She does look happy. I really hope it lasts and I hope Phumudzo treats her like a queen.

Me: “well treat her good. If you break her heart I will go to jail for shooting your balls.” He swallows hard and the guys laugh at him. I turn to Mbuso and Zah. “And you guys?”

Mbuso: “you are looking at the future Mrs. Thwala.” He says proudly and we all cheer again. Seems like this trip was a start of new relationships. I am happy that we came here.

Zah: “don’t threaten him boss because he knows what will happen if he breaks my heart.” She looks at him and he just blushes.

Phiwayinkosi: “dude did you just blush?” the guys look at Mbuso and laugh at him while the ladies go ‘ncooh’.

Me: “I am happy that this trip happened. Now I am looking forward to planning two weddings.” Zah laughs.

Zah: “with a tight schedule like yours. I doubt.” I pout and she continues laughing.

Me: “it’s the thought that counts.” I look at Sbo who is admiring Lee. I pity him because even if he loves Lee, he will never be enough for her, plus his family will never accept an older woman for their young prince. Same applies to Noma. When we get back to Durban, I will pay Khanya a visit. I don’t like the fact that he made my girl cry.

Zah: “so guess what? There is this big business gala dinner at the hotel tonight and I managed to get us a

table inside. All we need to do is dress elegant and be there by 6:30.”

Lindsay: “we don’t even have top notch clothes to wear.” Xoli taps her tablet for a few minutes and raises her head.

Xoli: “Mossel Baai Mall and Langeberg Mall are still open. If you guys leave now, you might find your outfits for tonight. Both malls have Foschini, Woolies, Truworths and Markham.”

Philasande: “we will go to separate malls because if we go with you ladies, we won’t leave the mall.” We laugh.

Noma: “come on, we aren’t that bad.”

Kuhle: “you think?” we just laugh.

Lee: “fine, we are going to the Mossel Baai Mall then.” We all stand up, hop onto the golf carts and drive back to the hotel.

We head to our rooms, take our purses and drive to the mall. I tell Zah to book one of the salons at the mall for us so that we can do our hair, nails and make-up there. We all start at Foschini. By the way, Lindsay is with the guys. It's just me, Lee, Noma, Zah, Xoli, Sthabile and Namhlanje. I know for sure the guys will come back complaining about how troublesome Lindsay is.

Me: "Xoli and Zah take anything you like, I will pay."
They jump up and down and then run around like headless chickens. I just laugh at them.

I go around the shop and come across a beautiful Sissy Boy Donatella Maxi Dress. I just fall in love with it instantly. I touch it and I love the way its fabric feels on the tip of my fingers. I am even loving the slit on the left. I am definitely taking this. I check for my size, I nearly scream when I find it. I go to the shoes sections and I take Luella Studded Ankle Tie High Heels.

I know for sure they are going to go well with this dress. I go to the fitting room and try on my dress and heels. I look at my reflection and wow. God loved this earth so much that He decided to bless it with a goddess like me. People of earth, you are lucky. I take out my phone and call Lee. I tell her to come with Noma to the fitting room and within a few moments, they are here. They scream when they see me in my lovely dress.

Lee: “babes this dress was made for you. It fits like a glove.” They are both carrying dresses and shoes. We always do this when we go shopping. We go to the fitting room with shoes so that we can see if our outfits match with the shoes.

Noma: “I am so jealous right now. Do you have to be this perfect?” I just laugh.

Me: “just go ahead and fit your dresses.” They crowd me in the fitting room and I just laugh. How can such

rich and independent women be childish at times?

I take off my dress, shoes and wear what I was initially wearing. They both get finished dressing up and wow. My friends are better than your friends' shame. They are slaying. Ever heard of a person slaying when the event is not theirs? This is what is going to happen to the gala tonight. Noma is wearing a black Sissy Boy Take Me There Maxi Dress with Madden Girl Animal Print Platform Heels. While Lee is wearing a red Sissy Boy Girl Boss Assymmetric Midi Dress with Madden Girl Embellished Platform Heels.

Me: "who are you and what have you done to my friends?" they just laugh.

Noma: "let's quickly undress so that we can pass by the salon." They undress and we get out of the fitting room.

We find Zah and Xoli with their outfits already in their hands. By the way Sthabile went to Woolies with Namhlanje, I guess they are close. Zah rushes somewhere and comes back to hand me a gold clutch and a necklace with earrings and bracelet. We go to the till and pay for our clothes. When we are done we head out, finding Sthabile and Namhlanje at the entryway.

We head to the salon and they attend us immediately. I start with dying my hair. I have always wanted to dye my hair. I dye it electric blue and while I am waiting for the dye to sink in, I do my nails and I go for nude almond short nails. I don't really like long nails because I am always drawing. I wash my hair and when I am done, the stylist style it and I finish doing my nails. The make-up artist then do my make-up. Wow I look beautiful in my different look.

Stylist: "your hair is so rich and beautiful." I smile.

Me: "thank you."

Make-up artist: “you look so beautiful babes. Your bae is going to go crazy when he sees you.” I smile again. If she only knew that my look will drive two grown man crazy.

We finish everything at the salon and pay. We head back to the hotel and get ready for the event.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 36

We get to the gala round about 7:30pm and all the heads turn to stare at us. SHOW STOPPING MOMENT. We are escorted to our table and we take our seats. This event is so boring. I just take Xoli's tablet and start drawing. Kuhle is seated next to me and Sandile is seated on the other side. Kuhle chuckles when he sees what I am doing.

Kuhle: "I am also bored but you don't see me doing work."

Me: "nobody is stopping you." The MC announces the guest speaker of the event and my eyes pop out when I see who it is.

Noma: "no Frickin way."

Lee: "did he have to be here though?"

Sabelo Lindokuhle Simelane. The ex that broke my heart. The ex that left and never looked back. The ex that got married few months after the break up. The ex that made me to never wanna commit to a relationship ever again. He looks good though. He looks mature, he has even grown a beard.

Noma: "he has a bit of a potbelly though." She and Lee laugh. I am just shocked. I am speechless. He starts speaking about his business and I get bored more. He still has that slow baritone voice of his that made my panties soak with my wetness.

Kuhle: "you know him?" he asks looking at me. I save my sketch and give back the tablet to Xoli.

Me: "he is thee ex."

Kuhle: "the one who chose inheritance over you?"

Me: "yep." He finishes his speech and the MC takes

the stage again.

MC: “tonight we are honored by the presence of the big names like Mbuso Thwala, Isaac Inguana, Ntombifuthi Cele and Phumudzo Modisane. Few of the most successful business people in Mzansi. You don’t have to come up front but just stand and wave.” We just laugh and do as he says. We then sit. “Your work is recognized and you are role models to a lot of young and old people out there. Anyways...” he continues with the program.

Lindsay: “why didn’t I get recognition for keeping DCC up and running?” we just laugh.

Xoli: “you guys didn’t even announce your presence. It was just felt. This is so cool. I feel so special for knowing you.” Phumudzo kisses her cheek and she blushes.

Me: “when are we eating? I am starving.”

Sbo: "you and me both sister." we laugh. The waiters bring serving dishes to each table. I guess people serve themselves.

Sandile: "please dish for me." he says with a smile and I just roll my eyes.

Me: "I drama." He laughs. I stand up and dish for the both of us, the others also dish up for themselves.

Lee: "now we are forced to drink wine?" I laugh.

Me: "we can just ask for cocktails." She signals the waitress and she orders drinks for everyone in the table. Namhlanje is looking all cozy with Philasande. Something tells me that there is something happening between these two.

The drinks come and we begin eating. When we are done, we down our drinks and then we head to the dance floor. We do ballroom dance and Sandy has me so close to him, I can feel his erection. I just laugh and bury my face on his chest.

Me: “an erection in the dance floor? Really?” he chuckles.

Sandy: “you look like a goddess tonight so don’t be amazed by my erection.” We both laugh and continue dancing. Someone clears their throat and I turn to find Sabelo looking at me. He has his hands on his pockets.

Sabelo: “MaCele.”

Me: “Lindo.” He chuckles.

Sabelo: “can I have this dance?” I look at Sandy and he nods. He then let’s go of me and Sabelo takes me into his arms. We start moving to the beat of the music playing. “You look beautiful.”

Me: “tell me something I don’t already know.” He chuckles.

Sabelo: “you still have that confidence you had?” I roll my eyes. “It’s good to see you glowing and moving on. I have seen how hard you work and how

your company has grown. I am impressed. You are still that ambitious and goal driven woman I knew.”

Me: “breaking up with you didn’t change me, instead it made me stronger and made me set my priorities straight.”

Sabelo: “I am proud of you and I am really proud to call you my ex.” I laugh and he also laughs. “I am serious. When I sit around a table with business associates, when your name comes up I boast and be like: ‘that’s my ex right there’.” I continue laughing. I see his wife at the corner of my eyes coming our way.

Me: “thank you for the dance Lindo. It was nice seeing you.”

I let go of him and go back to the table. I find it empty, I look around and see the crew at the bar. I am not amazed. I head there. I am glad they saved me a seat. I sit down and the barman quickly hands me my drink. I thank him and start drinking.

Me: "this is our last night here. Let's make it worth our while."

Lindsay: "yes boss. I see a lot of potentials here." he says licking his lips and I just laugh.

We continue drinking and I go to the loo to pee. I relieve myself and then wash my hands. As I am fixing my dress, someone enters the restroom. They come to where I am. I catch a glimpse of Mathapelo in the mirror and I just don't mind her.

Mathapelo: "who do you think you are?" I frown. Maybe she is not talking to me. As if she reads my mind, she continues. "I am talking to you. What were you doing in the dance floor throwing yourself at my husband?" I turn and look at her.

Me: "are you sure you have the right woman?" her face changes and she slaps me hard. My eyes pop out. What have I done?

Mathapelo: "I have heard of you. You are nothing but a fat loose woman who will die single. This little success of yours won't last. If you thinking of warming yourself into my husband's arms, then think again. Now take you fat oily self and go back to whichever hole you came from." I am not an emotional person but this woman's words bring tears to my eyes. What did I do? I just turn and walk to the door. She starts talking again. "You will always be second to other men, no one will see you worthy as number one, just like my husband wanted to take you as his second best."

Those words hit home and I think about the fact that Kuhle want me to be his second best. I just run out and run to my room crying. I don't even know this woman on a personal level but already she brings tears to my eyes.

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LEE

Both Noma and I turn to look at the restroom door because we know that when she goes there, she doesn't stay long. We are shocked to see her coming out and running towards the elevator. We see Sabelo's wife coming out smiling and we just know that she said something bad to Futhy. Noma doesn't ask anything, she just walks straight to Mathapelo and throws a mean punch that sends her straight to the floor, landing on her butt. Everyone gasps and turn to their direction. Even the music stops. I go to where they are followed by everyone.

Noma: "NEVER, NEVER AND EVER AGAIN BRING HARM TO FUTHY. NEXT TIME I WILL END YOUR PATHETIC LIFE." She punches her again just for control and rushes to the elevator. I quickly follow her.

We get to Futhy's room and even the door is not shut. We find her in the floor on the other side of the bed sobbing. We quickly rush to her and hug her.

Noma: "I am sorry for whatever she said to you but don't worry I sorted her out." she chuckles and sniffs.

Me: "what did she say?"

Futhy: "bullshit, utter bullshit. But it hurt coming from her. On top of that she slapped me, saying I was throwing myself in her husband. Like bitch have you seen me? I am goals." She continues sniffing. Yazi when you think she has accepted herself for who she is, then people like Mathapelo come and take her back to square one.

Me: "Noma can you give us a few minutes?" she gives me a death stare. "Just go downstairs and order us drinks." She grunts and stands up. She heads out.

Futhy: "I don't wanna talk. I just wanna sleep."

Me: "Tase..."

Futhy: "please." I sigh.

Me: "okay. Just stand up and get out of that dress."

She stands up and changes into a gown, she then goes to the bathroom and comes back with her face clear of make-up. "Tomorrow."

Futhy: "tomorrow." She hugs me and then I head out. I find Noma at the door with the others and I tell them that Futhy wishes not to be disturbed. They understand and then we head back to the bar.

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FUTHY

After two hours of tossing and turning I wake up and go drink water. I am disturbed by a knock and initially figure out that it's Sandy. Maybe he forgot his key card. I open the door and I am surprised to see Kuhle standing on the other side of the door. I sigh and walk back inside the room, he follows me and shuts the door behind him.

Me: "what do you want?"

Kuhle: "you." I chuckle.

Me: "where are the others?"

Kuhle: "they are in Lee's room including Sandile." I stand up and head to the closet to change into my nightie and head back to the bedroom. He stands up and meets me halfway and just attacks me with a kiss. I kiss him back and when reality kicks in, I break the kiss.

Me: "Kuhle no."

Kuhle: "please."

He doesn't even wait for an answer. He just picks me up and leads me to the bed. He removes my nightie, leans down and kisses my neck. Gentle kisses, little bit of tongue, but so very nice. I feel a little wet down there. Then his hands lightly rub all over my pussy lips. He presses each leg, forcing me to open them wide. He lowers his head to my right nipple. "Holy fuck, your nipples are so fucking awesome." Hee! Is this Kuhle? Since when does he swear like this? I just giggle.

He engulfs my nipple with his wet mouth, while also sliding a finger between my lips. Oh God, finally! He presses further, slipping his finger up and inside my pussy now. I don't know it is me or the wetness, but everything is so slick. He slides another finger inside me. "Fuck Kuhle." I cry out in a whisper. He curls his fingers upwards a bit, hitting my G-spot.

"Oww Yes!" I cry out. He quickly stroke his hand in and out, being sure to tickle my spot each time. What the fuck is Kuhle doing to me? I feel a wave coming, it's approaching. He stroke my cookie and work over my nipple with his mouth. I pant and grip the bed sheets, as my hips buck of their own accord.

Kuhle releases my nipple and comes up to kiss me. It is so unexpected, and so welcome, our tongues connect and the wave crushes. I clamp my legs together on Kuhle's fist, further pressuring my cookie. Electric shocks emanate from my cookie and spasm throughout my whole body. The wave

keeps crushing. Kuhle still jerks his hand back and forth, only slightly as my legs trap his hands. But it's enough. I scream and moan and throw many 'oh-my-gods' as my orgasm continues to wreck my body.

Kuhle's other hand molests my tits since he can't kiss me anymore. How can you kiss a person who is experiencing a mind-blowing orgasm? The waves finally come to an end, and I land back on earth. I open my eyes to see Kuhle smiling and chuckling a little bit. I ask to pleasure him and he helps me up, but it's a hard task since my legs are wobbly.

He removes his clothes, then lays down on the bed, face up with his big black cock pointing up to me. I climb on the bed and get hold of his cock. I caress it slowly and also squeeze his balls a little. With both hands, I caress him all over, even reaching down and touching his butt. He seems to like that. I hover above him and dangle my boobs across his face. He tries to catch a nipple in his mouth, I then tease him

by pulling away at the last moment.

He pulls me down on top of him, and we kiss deeply as my boobs smash into his chest. When I am satisfied with the kissing, I prop myself up, grab his dick and guide it slowly inside my cookie... fuck. After we are done with our second round, of him fucking me, fucking me hard, fucking me deep, fucking me fast, leaving me feeling complete, he leaves me panting in the bed. But firstly he discards of the condoms we used.

I just take a shower after he leaves and change the sheets so that Sandy won't notice anything. That was the best sex I have ever had. I just doze off the minute my head hits the pillow. Seems like Kuhle's dick was the only sleeping medication I needed.

#MissChubby

CHAPTER 37

The following morning I wake up to Sandy's hands wrapped around my body. The way Kuhle sexed me last night, I didn't even hear Sandile getting into bed. Anyways, I sit up straight and then climb off the bed. I wear my gown and head to the bathroom. I wash, brush my teeth and then dry myself. I head to the closet and lotion my body.

I wear a black denim mini skirt, pulling it just above my belly button, then a black crop top, Black Journey Edition Suede Bathu Sneakers and black denim jean. I take a few mirror snaps. When I am done, I pack all my clothes and double check that I didn't leave anything. I then head out with my phone on my hand.

I head out the hotel and just take a walk around the hotel, enjoying the morning breeze. I always do this when I visit hotels or lodges. This is the only time I get to be one with my inner self and have a conversation with my intellectual self. There is a lot going on in my life. There is a lot I have achieved. There is a lot I am yet to achieve. To young people out there, sky is not the limit but only the start.

Work hard until you don't have to introduce yourself when you enter a place. Let your work and reputation speak for itself. Use the skills you have to acquire what you want and need. This thing of sitting around waiting for job opportunities must stop. If you have a passion in a certain skill, go to school to enhance your skill so that you can become financially independent and successful.

I look around and see people jogging. I think I am going to turn one of the rooms in my house to an in-house gym. Not because I wanna lose weight. I just

want to be fit and avoid diabetes and high blood pressure. I will buy all the equipment for my housemates but I will only use the treadmill. It will pose as jogging.

After an hour or so I head back inside and find most of the crew in the lobby. They are pacing upside down like they lost something. They seem stressed.

Me: "what's up?" they all turn to look at me and my friends rush to hug me. "You guys are worrying me. What's going on?"

Lee: "we thought something happened to you." I frown and look at her.

Noma: "yeah, yeah. We know your tradition but we were worried after what happened last night."

Me: "relax guys. I am fine. What are we having for breakfast?" they chuckle.

Zah: "let's head to the dining hall so that we can see

what they have for us.” they all head there and just as I am about to follow them, Kuhle grabs my hand. Nobody notices this, they are all now headed to the hall making so much noise. I look at his hand and stare at him. He quickly removes his hand.

Kuhle: “about last night...”

Me: “we fucked and it ended there. Don’t catch feelings.”

Kuhle: “how can I not when i already love you?” he half shouts and I place my hand in his mouth.

Me: “not so loud. You wanna make the front pages?” I give him an intense look then I remove my hand from his mouth. “What happened last night meant nothing.”

Kuhle: “it means and it changes everything. Fuck your fear of being in a relationship. Just so you know, I am never giving up on you and I am never going to rest until your last name is Zulu.” He turns and goes

to the direction where everyone went. Fuck that was so hot and I can feel that my panty is soaking wet. I just lick my lips and follow him.

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We land at King Shaka airport later that day and just as we approach the entryway, we find the other Ntuli brothers with Lele and Yandisa's wife. I frown when I see Lele's luggage. So he was leaving without telling me? So much for being family neh. I head to where they are standing and just stand in front of him. He dodges my eyes until I step on his left foot.

Lele: "ouch!" he cries jumping up.

Me: "so you were just going to leave without saying goodbye?"

Lele: "I am sorry sisi. I wanted to tell you on Friday before you left but it just slipped my mind."

Me: "mmm."

Lele: “can I please make it up to you?” I just stare at him. “It is going to be a surprise. I promise it is going to be epic and you will love it.”

Me: “whatever.” I hug him. “Safe travels.”

Lele: “thank you.”

I see my guards coming to our side and I smile. I am so used to having them around. I actually missed them. They greet us and take my luggage. Sandile is also leaving with his brothers, so we say our goodbyes and then we all go our separate ways.

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The day before yesterday I went to Jo’burg to finalize the paperwork of the building I bought there. Yesterday I finalized everything in the Cape Town building. Today is Wednesday and I have an interview with Prejudice Magazine. They publish articles about business owners and entrepreneurs. I don’t know who told people about my AAA

nomination, but this interview is because of that.

Lee is the one who chose my outfit today, which is a mustard pant suit with black bodysuit and black ankle strap high heels. She also styled my hair and fixed my make-up. You'd swear she wasn't going to work today, the way she was relaxed. The editor and her team are coming to my office. They want to do a photo shoot in my office when we are done with the interview. Zah and Lindsay also fixed refreshments for them. they are dramatic those two.

The crew comes and Zah accompanies them to my office. They enter and we exchange greetings. They then settle down and set up everything. The editor introduces herself as Ovayo Zuma. She looks friendly, or maybe it is part of her job, don't know.

Ovayo: "before we start, Khulisanani also asked for a TV interview with you. The producer is a close friend of mine, so he asked if you can maybe come for an

interview tomorrow evening at their studios.”

Khulisanani is a TV show which basically is about the youth development. I am honored by this invite.

Me: “I have no problem doing that. Please tell the producer to forward all the information to my PA.” she smiles.

Ovayo: “great then. The camera crew won’t have a separate time for the photo shoot, but instead they will take photos while the interview is still going on.”

Me: “fine by me.” she takes out her notebook and pen and start scribbling something. She takes out a tape recorder and places it in the table.

Ovayo: “so tell us, this passion for drawing, where did it all start?” I smile.

Me: “ever since I was young, I used to draw houses, bridges and other buildings. But I had no experience, so I drew without using a ruler and sometimes using a pen. I drew on my school books and it usually got

me in trouble with my teachers. My parents saw this and my mother bought a notebook for me. Since then I started taking my drawings seriously. I even studied EGD in school.” she nods.

Ovayo: “did you have a vision of starting your own company when you were a teenager?”

Me: “nope. I just wanted to be an architect, but when I got to varsity I wanted more. That’s when I went back to my vision board and added Dubandlela Construction Company on my map.”

Ovayo: “how did your previous employer feel when he heard that you wanted to leave his company and start your own?” I chuckle.

Me: “Babu Hlongwa is more than just my previous employer. He was my lecturer and my second father. He took me under his wing and mentored me. He taught me most of the things I know. I told him about DCC when I already had the capital, already bought a building that I would start my company at.

In fact I knew if I went to him with an incomplete plan, he would shut me down. He works with perfection, so I went to him with perfection.”

“He shed a few tears but he was happy for me. He was proud of me. Even now he still boasts about me to his peers. He doesn’t call me his student or previous employee but he refers to me as his daughter.”

Ovayo: “sounds like a noble man.”

Me: “that he is.”

Ovayo: “so you were nominated for African Architecture Awards, tell us, how does that feel?”

Me: “it’s like a dream come true. The African Architecture Awards are not only about the awards, but they mean recognition. They mean you are recognized for your hard work. They open doors for you. Because of this nomination, I got an invite to one of the biggest business conferences in the

world. I am very honored by this nomination and I am very happy about it.”

Ovayo: “how does your family feel about it?” I smile.

Me: “I have the strongest support system ever. My family are my biggest cheers. They were over the moon when I told them about this. Having a family that cheers on you when you are doing great things and cry with you when you are facing hard times, is one of the greatest feelings ever.”

Ovayo: “and your friends? How did they feel about it?”

Me: “I have two best friends, Nomalanga and Lindelwa, whom I consider as my family. They were so happy about this. I am pretty sure they are coming to Libya with me.”

Ovayo: “I know this is not work related, but can I ask a question that has been bothering most people?” I

laugh because I already know that she is going to ask about my relationship status.

Me: “fire away.” She chuckles.

Ovayo: “last month, you were seen mingling with Shamase, the soccer player. He even went as far as declaring your love on social media. Firstly what’s your comment on that?”

Me: “I never dated him or had the intention of dating him. We just went out on a date, which I wouldn’t say was a date per say because we just found each other on that location. We don’t have anything in common. That’s why I never will date him.” she chuckles.

Ovayo: “never say never.” I laugh and the camera crew also laugh. “So about the Ntuli brother, Sandile, there has been pictures circulating on social media of you guys looking rather cozy and having what I think are dates on restaurants. What’s your comment on that?” I chuckle.

Me: “no comment.” She laughs.

Ovayo: “businesssically, where do you see yourself in 5 years?”

Me: “going global. I want to expand and have branches in at least 5 other African countries and maybe 4 countries from other continents. I want the Cele name to be known worldwide. Also I am proud to announce that Dubandlela Construction Company is giving out 10 bursaries for the next academic year to qualifying students who will be studying architecture and engineering.”

Ovayo: “wow that’s awesome. Thank you for taking your time and having us in your office.”

Me: anytime.”

Ovayo: “that’s a wrap everyone. You can take the photos now.”

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 38

I am nervous and excited about tonight. I have never been a guest speaker to such a huge event. It's a gala dinner for the students but they are also honoring me. Talk about hitting two birds with one stone. My guards are accompanying me, together with Zah. Xoli was supposed to come but Phumudzo set up a meeting for her to meet his parents.

Their relationship is serious. They have even trended on social media. That's where her parents saw the news. They demanded a meeting with Phumudzo next week. Phumudzo told me that, on that day, he will be bringing his family representatives with so that he can pay lobola for Xoli. Yeah that's how serious the relationship is. They wanna surprise

Xoli's father. So I was given the task to talk to Xoli's mother so that she can gather family representatives on her side.

I went to Nuluh's boutique again. This time around she advised me on a red oblique collar sequin floor-length sexy mermaid dress with gold heels and gold purse. We all finish getting ready and then drive to Wits. We get there and an usher leads us to a private dining hall. There I am met by some lecturers and the event organizer. He introduces himself as Malibongwe Mbeki. We exchange greetings.

Mali: "what an honor to be in your presence Miss Cele." I smile.

Me: "please call me Futhy or Ntombi. Miss Cele is my drunkard aunt." They all laugh. While we are still talking, someone sneaks behind me and cover my eyes. Their hands feel rough and edgy. I just smile. "Daddy number 2." He chuckles. I turn to look at him and hug him.

Hlongwa: “how are you my angel?”

Me: “I am fine daddy.” I also hug his wife who is looking gorgeous in a silver gown.

Mali: “okay, the event is about to start, so please follow me this side.”

He leads us to the hall where the event is being held. He shows us our table and we settle down. The students are dressed like they are attending the Met Gala or the Oscars. The programme starts. There are even entertainment items. The MC introduces someone who is going to introduce me as the guest speaker. The girl goes to the front and starts talking.

Tlago: “the next speaker, which is our main speaker, was born and raised in Morningside, Durban, in KwaZulu-Natal. She is the second child of Sijabulile and Siyabulela Cele. She has four siblings. She did her primary education in Durban. She then furthered her studies in the University of Wits where she did her degree in Architecture. She also did an

Engineering diploma. She then furthered her studies again by doing her honors degree. She graduated for her Master's degree this year in this same institution and she is currently in the journey of doing her PhD here. Ladies and gentlemen please stand up and help me welcome our guest speaker for tonight, Miss Ntombifuthi Lwandlelethu Cele." Everyone stands up and start clapping. I also stand up and make my way to the front. She hugs me first and then she hands me the mic squealing.

Me: "evening everyone. My name is..." I chuckle when I remember that I have already been introduced and they all laugh. "Old habits. I am very honored to be here. I will first start by saying that you all are very lucky to be here in this institution, though you didn't have the pleasure of being taught by Dr. Hlongwa," they chuckle. "Just kidding. All the lecturers are awesome. If they weren't then I wouldn't be where I am today."

"My passion for drawing started in primary school. When my parents saw that instead of playing with

dolls, I preferred drawing buildings, they started buying drawing materials for me. When you have parents like mine, who cheer on you from an early age, consider yourself lucky. I have a brother who is a musician. When he told my parents that he wants to study music, they were a hundred percent behind him and he was so happy about that.”

Student from the crowd: “what’s your brother’s name?” I laugh and they all laugh.

Me: “Google me and you will see his name.” they all cheer on me. “Anyways studying for something you like may be awesome but university is tough guys. I did get 50% on some tests and I never gave up because of that. 50% is a mark that you have to be used to in varsity. Whenever I failed I would call my dad and cry to him. He would remind me of the reason why I went to varsity again. When I completed my degree, I knew that moment that I wanna be called Dr. Cele in the future. I have two best friends who also studied here. We influenced each other in doing a second qualification beside our

first degree. That's when I studied engineering with my best friend which is Noma who is a lawyer. The other friend furthered her studies and she is currently a doctor by profession and by certificate." They all clap.

"There is not much I have to say, just that good luck and I wish you guys all the best. Anything is possible. Today I have my own company because I believed in myself and I told myself that I can do anything that I put my mind to. Today I am one of the best architects in the world and that's because I believed in myself and I became my number one inspiration and role model."

"I have good news for you guys. Next year, I am providing internships for five lucky students. Please note, I am not providing for the ones who have great marks and excel in their modules. Everyone will have a chance to prove themselves to me. I want you guys to submit at least drawings of three buildings

and a motivational letter stating why I should hire you. Internship at DCC means that you are a permanent employer, you just have to undergo training and prove that you are what we need at DCC. Please email what I have just said at zaneledcc@gmail.com. Thank you so much for having and have a blessed evening. Good luck with your exams.” They all clap their hands as I go to my seat.

Zah: “that was awesome boss. Although you surprised me with that announcement. Now you are going to crowd my email address.” I just laugh. I also surprised myself.

Hlongwa: “forward another five to my PA Zanele.” I smile.

Me: “I knew you would be tempted.” He laughs. “Anyways, I actually want fifteen, five for each branch, but I didn’t wanna announce about the new branches before even construction has begun.”

Mam Hlongwa: “you are very blessed my child and you have a good heart. May God continue to bless you with many things in life.” I smile.

Me: “thank you ma.” The event continues and we are later called and ushered back to the private dining hall. The food is already set for us. We sit down and they dish for us.

Zamoh: “I can get used to this.” We laugh.

We start eating and I must say the food is delicious. When we finish eating, they ask me to go back to the main hall to take pictures with the students. I do that and when we are done, they hand me an award and a certificate. They are so beautiful. We leave and get to Lele’s house. He is not here because he has a gig in Pretoria. It’s after 9pm. I freshen up and wear my navy crop top and matching mini skirt. I then wear a trench coat and sandals.

I then take my handbag and head to the lounge where I find the guards sitting and watching TV.

There is no sign of Zanele.

Me: “where is Zanele?”

Mabutho: “Mbuso came to fetch her a while ago.”

Me: “mmm.”

I sit down and call Lele. I ask him to send me Sandile’s address. He doesn’t even ask questions, he just sends it. I ask Zamoh to drive me there. When we get to Sandile’s house, we find the gate wide open. I climb off and head to the door which is also open. I get inside and I am in awe. His house is so beautiful and clean.

There is music playing but it’s coming from upstairs, so I follow it. It’s no surprise that he is playing music. He is, after all, a musician. I get to what I assume is the main bedroom. I am saying that because its door is different and unique. I open it and my mouth goes dry. I don’t even know the name of the sex position they are doing but they are both on top of the bed.

Sandile is holding her legs far apart, I am afraid they are going to detach from her body. I go to them and tap him on the shoulder.

Me: "hi." He freezes when he sees me and tries to pull out. "Don't bother. There is nothing wrong with what you doing but just know that whatever relationship we had is over. Have a nice life Sandile Ntuli."

I run outside and hop in the car. Zamoh drives out without any questions.

Me: "drive to the house and get Mabutho and Thobeka. We are going clubbing tonight. The night is still young."

Zamoh: "sure boss."

As much as I somehow cheated on Sandile with Kuhle, it hurts, what he did. I didn't love him but I was starting to like him. This takes me back to the time when Sabelo screwed me over. Fuck! This is the

reason why I don't date. These niggas ain't loyal, yet they expect us to be loyal. Fuck relationships. I wipe a tear that falls down my cheek.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 39

Zamoh drives me to SMG after buying lunch at Steers. It's Monday and Sandile has been blowing up my phone. I blocked him on all social accounts because he was becoming a nuisance. Sakhile even called to beg on his brother's behalf. I just told him that if he still wants to be on my good books, he should stop advocating for his brother.

He knew the consequences of what he was doing and he is only sorry because he got caught. We get to my mother's office and she smiles when she sees me. Mabutho greets and places the food on the table, he then heads out.

Mom: “my baby, what a nice surprise.” She stands and comes to hug me.

Me: “mama.” I just break down in her arms and cry. She tightens her arms around me and I just let it all out.

She leads me to the couch and we both sit down. I continue crying on her arms until I have hiccups. She stands up and goes to take bottled water from her bar fridge. She hands me it and I drink. I calm down and wipe my tears. She sits next to me again.

Mom: “wanna talk about it?” I nod.

Me: “my love life is a mess. I can’t seem to get anything right ma. First it was Sabelo, who chose his inheritance over me. Then just when I was living a stress-free life, three men came to my life and complicated it. The first one couldn’t get enough and didn’t know the meaning of rejection. He went on to humiliate me in public. The second one asked me to marry him and be his second wife. The third one

courted me and I gave him a chance. When I was starting to like him, he cheated on me.”

Fresh tears stream down my cheeks. I realize that Sandile’s actions opened up old wounds. It reminded me of the pain that I went through when Sabelo chose another woman over me. It hurts so much and Mathapelo’s words keep ringing. Even though she is a non-factor, what she said stuck. Men will always consider me a second option when I try so hard to prove to anyone that I am enough.

Me: “it hurts ma that they don’t see me as who I am. I thought I was enough. What is it that I am lacking?” I continue crying. Mom sighs out loud.

Mom: “you are more than enough baby. They are all fools for not seeing that. Now tell me who these men so that I can go and give them my peace of mind.” I chuckle.

Me: "Mvelo, the one who declared his love for me on social media, is the one who feels like he is entitled to my love. He is the one who is didn't take my rejection very well. The other one is Sandile. He is a producer at Lele's work. I found him in bed with another woman on Friday night. The third one is Prince Kuhle of the Zulu Kingdom. He courted me and said he wants me to be his second wife. When I denied that, he said he is even willing to divorce his wife for me. I made a mistake by sleeping with him, now he thinks he is entitled to me and he said he won't rest until my surname is Zulu."

Mom: "yoh, they have it bad for the Cele princess." I burst out laughing and she also laughs. "They all sound like assholes to me, but there are only two who have potential. The producer and the prince. The soccer player is too much for my liking and I don't like his attitude."

Me: "what should I do?"

Mom: “take time to regroup and find yourself. The fact that you are not dating is a problem baby. You haven’t healed from what that Simelane boy did to you. Go for therapy or go to a resort or the rehabilitation center for the depressed.” I wipe my tears.

Me: “do you know where that place is?”

Mom: “it’s called Womalena Resort. It is situated in Limpopo in Thohoyandou. It usually takes about two to three months to heal in that place. Sometimes it takes up to a year. What is good about it is that they give you a Saturday off every once in a while. Go there. It will be good for you.” I look at her.

Me: “you think so?”

Mom: “I know so my love because I once went there and they helped me.”

Me: “you are not going to tell me what made you go there?” she laughs.

Mom: “nope.” I also laugh.

Me: “I guess I have to say goodbye to dad then.”

Mom: “please do. You don’t want him turning the whole of South Africa upside down looking for you.” I laugh because that isn’t farfetched. Dad can be crazy sometimes. “When are you planning on going there?”

Me: “Wednesday.”

Mom: “okay. I will call them and tell them about you. I will also make a deposit for you.”

Me: “but ma I have money, I can pay.”

Mom: “bitch please, I brought you to this world, so let me be your blesser.” I chuckle.

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I am also bringing dad lunch today, well it’s early lunch because it is still 12pm. I get to his workplace

and the receptionist smile widely when she sees me. She has always been friendly and welcoming. We exchange greetings and then I head to dad's office. When I get there I find him standing near the window with his back turned to the door.

Me: "sir are you busy?" I say in a different tone.

Dad: "not at all." he turns and he laughs when he sees me. "What a pleasant surprise." I get inside and place the food on his table. I go hug him and then sit on his chair. "Being your own boss has spoiled you. You seat on the biggest chair in every office you get to." I laugh.

Me: "dad please. I am a celeb. You should always give me the most comfortable and big chair in the room."

Dad: "well the couch is there for a reason." He says seating opposite me. "And to me you aren't a celeb because I brought you to this world. In fact I am the real celeb because I produced extraordinary

sperms.” I laugh.

Me: “whatever old man.” I stand up and dish for the both of us and then serve him. I also take my food and sit down. “So are you okay?” he chuckles shaking his head.

Dad: “I knew something brought you here. So out with it.”

Me: “I am going to Limpopo for a few weeks, maybe a month or two.” He frowns and looks at me.

Dad: “why?”

Me: “I wanna regroup and find myself. I wanna fall in love and give you grandkids dad.” He sighs and stops eating.

Dad: “is that really what you want?”

Me: “what?”

Dad: “having kids and a life partner?” I frown.

Me: “don’t you want grandkids?”

Dad: "I do but I wouldn't demand them or force you to change your plans. Baby your life is already busy. You are expanding your business locally and globally. You already have a plan on how the next five years is going to go. I don't want you to feel pressured into having a husband and kids. There is no rush. I want you to do what you want not what you think we want." I wipe my tears that are already falling. Dad is the best father and if I was given an opportunity to choose who my parents would be, I would choose him and mom over and over again.

Me: "I love you so much dad and thank you. But I wanna do this and it necessarily doesn't mean that I am getting married when I get back." He chuckles.

Dad: "just so you know, whatever you decide, I am hundred percent behind you." I smile and look at him.

Me: "thanks dad."

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I finish packing my clothes in my large suitcase. It's already in the evening. I have given all my housemates a day off. I also asked for some alone time in my house. Yesterday I went to the office and made Bob and Zah acting co-CEOs. I take my bags and go place them in Aston Martin. I drive it and park it near the front door. I go back to my room and place the letters I have written in my bed. I sent Mvelo, Kuhle and Sandile scheduled emails. I know by the time they get them, I will be long gone.

I switch off my all my gadgets and also place them on my bed. I look around my room for the last time and then head out. I lock my house and drive out. The housemates have spare keys, so I am not locking them out. I first drive to the petrol station to fill up the tank. I then join the N1 and all roads lead to Thohoyandou.

#MissChubby

CHAPTER 40 (Unedited)

LEE

My bodyguards are Babalwa Shabalala and Gift Mokoena. Well Babalwa is cool and down to earth just like Thobeka. While Gift is a mountain. He is a quiet but intimidating individual. He only talks when it is necessary, like really necessary. But it's good having them around because I feel safe in my house. It's been so long since I have heard from Athi but I know that he is still cooking something up.

I have been trying to contact Futhy the whole day and her phone just goes straight to voicemail. Which is weird because she is always on her phone when she is not working. Right now, we are driving to her house. We get there and find Xoli, Thobeka, Zamoh,

Mabutho and Kgomotso chatting in the lounge. They never run out of things to say.

Me: "hey guys. Where is Futhy?"

Xoli: "in her room, I think."

I head to her bedroom while my guards join the others at the lounge. I get there and find the room super clean. I frown when I see her phone, laptop and tablet on her bed. There are also envelopes there. I go closer and I see one with my name on it. I sigh. It can only mean one thing, she is gone. I take the letter and open it. I sit down on the bed and start reading it.

To my dear friend Lindelwa

Don't be sad. This is not a suicide note. I am coming back. I just need to regroup and find myself. Please don't be mad about the fact that I didn't come to you for help. Live your life to the fullest. I am kidding, live

your life where in a month or two? But live nje Tase.

Your loving friend

Ntombifuthi

PS: Mabutho has the hots for you. Do something about it.

I chuckle shaking my head. She had to make a joke at the end. I take my phone and send Noma a text saying she should get here ASAP. After 30 minutes she barges in the room and look around. She sighs when her eyes land on Futhy's gadgets on the bed.

Noma: "she is gone right?" I nod and hand her the letter addressed to her. She sits down next to me and reads it. After a few minutes she laughs.

Me: "what did she say to you?"

Noma: "that I must dump Khanya. He is not right for me and he doesn't know my worth." I chuckle.

Me: “she is right though. You guys haven’t even dated for 3 months but already he is making you cry. And to think I approved of him?” I shake my head. She laughs.

Noma: “I am going to find the right one for me.”

Me: “that’s the spirit babes.”

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KUHLE

I just came to the office for approving my latest app. I was tasked by this international restaurant to create an app for them, a unique app that will outstands and easily accessible and has no ads. I finish everything and then call my PA to my office. She gets inside and sits on the chair opposite me.

Namhlanje: “you called for me your highness.” I stopped telling her not to call me by my royal title in the workplace because she is stubborn.

Me: “I need you to schedule a meeting to that

international restaurant who tasked me to create an app for them. Tell them that I am done with the app and I want to present it to them.” she nods.

Namhlanje: “I will do so your majesty.” She stands and heads to the door but turns to look at me. “Your majesty there is an email that was sent to you yesterday but it was scheduled to be delivered today. It’s from a certain Miss Cele. It’s on your personal email.”

Me: “thank you. I will view it now.”

Namhlanje: “your highness.” She bows a little and then heads out.

I go to my emails and find the email. It’s from Futhy. This is new. She has never sent an email before.

Dear Prince Kuhle

I am not well, mentally. I have my own issues. I have decided to go and deal with them professionally. I am going to come back after two months. This is

important for me. Don't ruin it by tracking me down because I will hate you for the rest of my life for interfering with my mental healing. Keep well and do away with that second wife bullshit. Don't let go of your years of marriage for a woman you have known for only a month.

Yours Truly

MaCele

PS: I repeat, don't look for me.

The email ends there and I just sigh. It's true that the people who smile and laugh the most are the ones who are hurting the most. They hide their pain from the world and just show a happy face to the world every day. I know that Futhy's ex broke her heart but I didn't know that the damage was this deep. I am really not going to interfere with her healing. I just want to see her 100% happy.

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NOMA

I take the other letters from the bed and head downstairs with Lee following me. We get to the lounge and find these idiots teasing Mabutho about being single. I hand each of them a letter, except for Lee's guards.

Thobeka: "are these vouchers? I have been dying to go shopping."

Mabutho: "if only you accepted Lele's courtship." We all laugh.

Thobeka: "don't start."

Lee: "go on now, open the letters." They open the letters and their eyes pop out. Mabutho and Zamoh rush to Futhy's room and they come back moments later.

Mabutho: "she is really gone." He sighs sitting down and Zamoh sits next to him.

Lee: "what does your letters say?"

Xoli: “they contain cheques of a three-month salary. They also state that we shouldn’t leave, but we can visit relatives and our partners. She doesn’t want us to leave her house alone. She even gave us permission for our partners to visit but not stay long.”

K: “she won’t be here for my wedding.” She says in a low tone.

Me: “she is going to come. She wouldn’t miss it for the world.”

Kgomotso is getting married in three weeks. Futhy hired a wedding planner for her so that she doesn’t want Kgomotso stressing. Mayibongwe, her fiancé, is not a traditional man. So that’s why they are having the wedding soon. They don’t have to do all those traditional steps Zulu people do before the wedding.

Lee: "Noma is right. Futhy will come to your wedding. Just don't cry when she steals the show." They all laugh.

Me: "I am here for you guys. Should you need anything, don't hesitate. And when you are going to clubs, don't leave Me." they laugh again.

We chill for a few hours and then I leave. I get to my house and find Khanya in the kitchen. I sigh and put my bag, keys and phone on the kitchen counter. I kick off my heels and put on the sleepers which are always at the kitchen. I always start in the kitchen when I get to my house, so my maid always leave them by the entrance. I open the fridge, taking out bottled water and drinking it.

Khanya: "we no longer greet now?" he asks with a smile. I just ignore him and continue drinking water. "We still mad?" I close the bottle and put it back in the fridge.

Me: "this is my house. I bought it with my hard

earned cash. A few weeks ago you had the right to do as you want here but not now. You have showed me that you are still young and a little immature. You don't deserve to be with me, you can't handle me. Now leave my house keys on this table and get the fuck out." he licks his lips and bite his lower lip.

Khanya: "I love it when you get all dominant with me. It's a fuckin turn on. Look at how you make me feel." He says grabbing his visible hard on from his sweatpants. Gosh! Why did you have to give me a kid when I asked for a man?

Me: "you're insane." He just smiles and takes off his sweatpants. He is not even wearing boxers. "You are not about to have sex with me Khanya. You haven't even apologized well."

Khanya: "this is my way of apologizing my lady, by giving you multiple orgasms." He closes the space between us in a swift move, pinning me on the fridge.

His hands travel up and down my accessible thighs, since I am wearing only a zipper side boxy pleated skirt and a solid ribbed crop tank top, while he plants soft kisses on my neck. He is weakening me and I hate that he knows my weak spot which are my thighs. He carries me, placing me on the kitchen counter, he roughly removes my thong and smashes hard inside me. I gasp welcoming him in. it's been so long since we have fucked.

Khanya: "I am sorry babe. I am just a stupid idiot who doesn't know a good thing when he sees one, but I am your idiot." Before I can respond, he starts moving hard and fast. Yoh, it's like he is on a mission to rip apart my pussy.

Me: "just so you know, it will take more than just rough sex to make me forgive you." I say panting after we both reach our happy ending, well his first and my third. He is really good at making a woman cum.

Khanya: "I know baby, I know." He doesn't pull out. Instead he carries me off the counter and heads to my bedroom while we are still joined.

Me: "don't tell me you haven't had enough."

Khanya: "that was only the beginning love." he winks.

One of the things I love about him is his sex drive. Yoh this guy's sex game can make you lose morals sometimes. I know we should have a serious talk but for now let me just enjoy being pleased.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 41

I get to the retreat center and park my car in the patients' parking lot. I take out my bags and head to the reception. I find someone with bags talking to the receptionist who looks like he is signing out. They finish talking and he heads out. I step forward and she smiles at me before I can even say anything.

Receptionist: "welcome to Womalena Resort. My name is Elelwani Temudzani but you can call me Ele or Lwani. What can I help you with? Surely you are checking in. What is your name so that I can check if you are registered here?"

Me: "hello. My name is Ntombifuthi Cele."

Elelwani: “oww Miss Cele I can see your name here. We have been waiting for you. Everything is set here. Here is your key card.” She hands me a key card. “TENDA!” a young man quickly appears.

Tenda: “yes Miss Temudzani.” She rolls her eyes.

Elelwani: “I always tell him to call me Elelwani but he never listens.”

Me: “I can relate.” We both laugh.

Elelwani: “Tenda escort Miss Cele to her suite which is on the second floor. When you are done settling in, you need to go to the second room in the first floor where you will find someone who will tell you more about this place.”

Me: “thank you.” Tenda takes my bags and leads me to the elevator. We get to my room. Wow this room is beautiful. It’s like a hotel suite. “Wow this is beautiful. I feel like I am going to enjoy my stay here.”

Tenda: "that you will Miss Cele." He places my bags on top of the double bed. "If you need anything please don't hesitate to ask."

Me: "thank you Tenda. Do I tip you for helping me with the bags?" he chuckles.

Tenda: "no miss. This is not a hotel. See you around." He heads out.

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I get to the office where Elelwani said I must go to. I find two people. A male and a female sitting and having pizza.

Me: "hello. I am Futhy Cele and I was told to come here." the woman smiles.

Woman: "you are Sijabulile's daughter?" I smile and nod. "You look just like here, well and a bit of your father."

Me: "how do you know them?"

Woman: "your mother was once a patient here. Your father came demanding to see her and threatening to burn this place down. That man can be crazy." I laugh.

Me: "yep. That's exactly how he is."

Woman: "by the way I am Bono, founder and director of this resort and this is Maumela, he is the manager of this place."

Me: "nice to meet you both."

Maumela: "this place is for finding yourself, connecting with your inner self. Basically for your mental health. You have done well by coming here. It means you acknowledge that you have a problem and you are counting on us to help you get well."

Bono: “people tend to come into therapy when they are experiencing some difficulty coping or resolving an issue on their own. Usually, they will seek therapy because they are experiencing depression, anxiety, relational problems or another issue that is causing some distress.” A woman barges in the office. She is wearing casual clothes. She is carrying a tablet, phone and a set of keys.

Woman 2: “I am sorry for being late. My session took longer than anticipated.” She takes a seat next to me. She places the things she is carrying in the table and turns to look at me with a smile on her face. “Hey, I am Doctor Dakalo Mahuwa. Feel free to call me Dakalo. I am going to be your therapist during your stay in this resort.” She extends her hand for a shake and I shake it.

Me: “I am Futhy Cele. Please call me Futhy not Miss Cele.” She smiles.

Dakalo: “as you wish. Our first session is tomorrow

at 12:00pm. My office is two doors away from this one. Don't be late."

Me: "I am a business person so I know how time is important and being late can cause the person you are meeting with to be grumpy."

Dakalo: "I think I am going to like you."

Maumela: "I already like her." We all laugh. Dakalo stands up and take her stuff.

Dakalo: "I came to introduce myself to you. We will meet tomorrow. See you tomorrow guys." She says to the others and then heads out.

Bono: "you will find Alu by the door of your suite waiting for you now. She will tell you everything you need to know about this place and what is expected of you. We hope by the end of your stay here, you would have achieved what you came her for."

Me: "I hope so too."

I find an older version of Nomxolisi waiting for me at my door. She is carrying a notepad and an iPad. She is wearing reading glasses. She looks like a nerd though. She is dressed like those law students we see on movies, those who go to Yale or Harvard. She stops what she is doing when she sees me and smiles.

Alu: “you must be Miss Cele. I am Alu, coordinator of this place. I have come to take you for your tour and tell you everything you need to know about this place.”

Me: “please call me Futhy.”

Alu: “okay Futhy. Are you set for a tour or you need something from your room?”

Me: “let me just change into flip flops.” I rush to my room, change to flip flops and go back to her. “I am ready.” We go down the hallway and hop onto the elevator.

Alu: "I am taking you outside. Womalena Resort was built in 1970. It has been renovated a lot these past few years. It is for people who have depression, suffer from anxiety, PTSD, abuse, basically a home for people who are willing to claim back their mental health. Bono is not the actual founder but her grandmother is the founder. She took over from her."

Me: "it's like a legacy."

Alu: "yes but Bono had the same vision as her grandmother. It wasn't just an inheritance to her but she had the same mindset as her grandma." We get outside. "There are activities that are available. You need to at least be involved in a minimum of two sports during your stay here. It's your way of entertainment. We have soccer, netball, swimming, basketball, chess, tennis, golfing and cricket. You can also join a choir. We have concerts every month end where the choir and other talented patients entertain each other and us as the staff."

Me: "that's so cool." She smiles. She is talking about the sports while showing me courts, grounds and rooms where these sports are played at. This place is really huge, like Fancourt Hotel.

Alu: "we also have an art room. Art is also another form of therapy so you can draw there whatever you feel like drawing."

Me: "I am an architect, am I allowed to draw my sketches?"

Alu: "you are more than welcome dear."

Me: "that's music to my ears." I smile.

Alu: "you get a free day between Friday and Saturday every week where you can go out, maybe do some shopping or clubbing, depending on what you wanna do. This free day shows that this is not a prison, rather a resort. If you want, you can have visitors but once a week. Here is a bracelet." She hands me a bracelet which buttons. "You are expected to keep it

on you during your stay here.”

Me: “is it a hi-tech device?” she laughs.

Alu: “kind of. We have patients getting anxiety and panic attacks most of the time. So when a situation like that happens, you press any of those buttons there and a staff member will be at your door in less than two minutes.”

Me: “that’s fast.”

Alu: “we don’t have time to chill. We know our job description. During our shifts we know that we must always be ready for anything. Many things happen around here.”

Me: “are we allowed to interact with other patients?”

Alu: “Futhy this isn’t prison. You are allowed to make friends with any of the patients. You may find that sharing problems among yourselves is a form of healing. You are also going to have group therapy

twice a week with patients who are facing the same issues as yours.”

Me: “that sounds nice.”

Alu: “one of the best features about this place is the food. You get to order any type of food you like. You can even go to the kitchen to cook for yourself if you feel like they are failing you.” I laugh.

Me: “noted.” She smiles.

Alu: “I am hoping you enjoy your stay here and we help you with whatever problems and issues you are facing.”

Me: “I hope so too.”

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 42

It's already 11:55 and the time for my first therapy session is nearing. I look at my reflection in the mirror one more time and then head out. Venda is very hot so I am wearing blue polka dot frill trim Cami top and split hem skirt set with brown Fendi flat sandals. I lock my suite and head to Dakalo's office. I get inside and find her writing something on her notepad.

Me: "good day doctor." I say sitting down on the couch available.

Dakalo: "good day Futhy." Her office is very beautiful. You can see that the person who did the designing here knows their job. It wasn't just one of the staff members mixing things they thought fitted.

Me: “you have a very beautiful office. Who designed it?”

Dakalo: “an interior designer from Polokwane.”

Me: “it is very beautiful and welcoming, and also a bit intimidating. I love how she played with the colours. Is she an independent designer?” she smiles at me and places down a notepad.

Dakalo: “She is a freelancer. She feels like if she were to be employed, she would be underpaid and less people would not understand the way she works.”

Me: “I’d love to meet her. I am opening another branch of DCC in Johannesburg round about May or June next year. I’d love to have her work for me and do tell her that I won’t underpay her.”

Dakalo: “I am sure she would be delighted to hear that. She is my daughter by the way.”

Me: “well most praises go to you for bringing such an amazing talent to the world.”

Dakalo: “thank you so much.” She stands up and comes to sit on the chair opposite me with a notepad and pen on her hand. “Shall we start?” I laugh.

Me: “of course, I just got distracted by this.”

Dakalo: “understandable. So tell me, who is Ntombifuthi Cele?”

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After my therapy session I head back to my room where I change to a sunflower print cami short bikini swimsuit. I put a yellow kimono on top and black flip flops. The sun is too hot so I put on a hat and sunglasses. I head to the pool. I place the kimono, hat, flops and sunglasses on a pool chair and jump inside the pool. I do a few laps and then take a break. While sitting and sipping on water, some guy sits

next to me.

Guy: "hello blue hair. You really dyed your hair blue. I thought it was a weave." He is wearing beach shorts and a necklace. He has dyed his hair pink.

Me: "hello pink hair." He laughs.

Guy: "you also have weird eyes. I don't know whether to call you blue hair or weird eyes."

Me: "I prefer you calling me by my name which is Futhy." He shakes his head.

Guy: "nah, Imma settle for Blue, yeah Blue. Nice nickname. I am Daniel by the way but if you wanna be on my good books you can call me Danny." I have figured that he is gay.

Me: "nice to meet you Danny."

Danny: "by the way you have mad swimming skills

and a nice body babe.”

Me: “if you have a pool in your backyard, you gotta polish your swimming skills every now and then.”

Danny: “I think we are going to be great friends. Most people don’t like me because of my ‘personality’.” He says using air quotes. I laugh.

Me: “well I have a friend which has a personality like yours and I love him very much because he is very open and fun to be with. Anyways how long have you been here?”

Danny: “about 3 weeks. This place is so cool but it can be boring when you have no friends to go out with.”

Me: “there are night clubs in Thohoyandou?”

Danny: “I don’t know, but I have been to Polokwane and damn that town is so alive. We should go there this Friday. There are going to be many artists who

are going to be performing at this club called Industrial Shisanyama.”

Me: “count me in.”

Danny: “yes.” We hi-five.

Me: “you swim?”

Danny: “oww no love but I come here to just look at the fine, sexy brothers. You know there is nothing wrong with looking.” He licks his lips staring at the guy who is swimming. I just laugh shaking my head. I think I am going to like it here even more now.

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There are some activities that Alu forgot to mention. Like yoga and meditation classes. It’s Friday and I am at a morning meditation class. It’s outside by the river. The instructor has instructed us on what to do. Danny is also attending it. He is such a breath of fresh air. Our suites are on the same floor.

Instructor: “now shut every other voice or sound in your mind and just concentrate to the sounds of nature, the flowing river, the birds chirping.”

I keep quiet and just shut all the thoughts I have in my mind. I give the nature my undivided attention while my eyes are shut. This is actually relaxing. One may even end up falling asleep. After 30 minutes the class comes to an end and we go back to the gym room to put back the mats we used.

I have a free day tomorrow but my free time start tonight. I am excited about going out. We will be using my car because Danny was brought here by his sister. He is an endocrinologist. He did tell me about what type of a doctor is that but I have totally forgot. I mean I can't even pronounce the word well without looking at it. He lives in Mossel Bay. I freshen up and then head to my therapy session.

Dakalo: “so tell me about your relationship with your ex Sabelo.”

Me: “we met in JHB Central during my second year in varsity. I was having lunch with my friends when this guy just came to our table and asked to speak to me. I just smiled and told him to go suck a dick. He left our table and came back after 10 minutes. He was like ‘I have sucked a dick, now can I talk to you?’” Dakalo laughs.

Dakalo: “such a character.”

Me: “I gave him a chance and from then we started dating. I loved my school work and I studied most of the time. He understood that and only asked to see me every Saturday. We started spending more time during holidays because I would shadow Hlongwa, so I’d stay at Johannesburg and only go home in weekends or on thanksgiving or Christmas.”

Dakalo: “how was he as a person?”

Me: “he was overprotective, dominant and strict but I loved him so I saw that as cute. The only thing that we fought about from time to time was his

wandering eye. But he did love me, or so I thought. Until the day he chose his inheritance over our love.”

Dakalo: “how did that make you feel?”

Me: “I loved him so much. I had been in relationships before but with him it was magical. It came naturally. I just loved him because he was real, true to what he is and he always showed me love not just by saying I love you from time to time. When we broke up, I was shattered. I thought maybe he would come back to beg me to be in his life but he didn’t. To make things worse, I got to learn about his marriage from the media. It was very painful.” I wipe the tears that are falling. Dakalo passes the box of tissues. I thank her and extract a tissue.

Dakalo: “would you like to continue?” I nod.

Me: “it was hard picking up pieces after him. Actually I didn’t pick them up. I just took a cloth and covered everything. I carried on like nothing happened and just shut down any guy who was interested in me. I

have actually been having meaningless sex for years.”

Dakalo: “have there ever been a guy whom you have led on? Like had sex with a guy who was actually looking for a relationship with you?”

Me: “it happens all the time but to my defense I never lead someone on. I just lay out my cards on the tables early. There are some though who have taken my no strings attached to maybe playing hard to get. There was this one guy who was literally obsessed with me. We had sex when I was still staying in JHB. He interpreted our sexual relationship as a real one. I was shocked when he introduced me to his family, got jealous when he saw me having dinner business dates with male clients. Things were bad.”

Dakalo: “how did you deal with that?”

Me: “I had a colleague who I asked to pose as my husband. That chased him away.” She closes her notepad.

Dakalo: “from what I have picked up on, you haven’t healed from what your ex did to you. They say time heals all wounds but wounds that can be healed are the ones that have been treated. Your wound was never treated. It caught infections. You never allowed yourself to heal. I am actually surprised that you didn’t go after your ex’s wife because that’s what a person who hasn’t healed like you, deals with break-ups. Our session have come to an end. At least now I know what we are dealing with. We will see each other on Monday.” I stand up.

Me: “thanks doctor. Have a great weekend.” I head out...

#MissChubby

CHAPTER 43

It's my third week in Womalena. I have been enjoying my session with Dakalo. She has made me realize that I have been hurting some of the guys that I have slept with. When I get back to Durban I am going to write emails for them, apologizing. I am also going to apologize to Mvelo for what went down between the two of us. What I know is that I am never going to have a one night stand again because some bring drama.

My stay here have been so much fun. I have made so many friends from the basketball team and others that I swim with but Danny is my number one girl. He always come with me to some sports. He actually loves netball and chess so I also go with

him but to just watch.

He asked to accompany me to K's wedding. He said he wants to meet my family. We found a designer in Makhado who designed matching outfits for us. Our outfits are so beautiful, we can't wait to showcase them. We asked for a free weekend from Bono and since it's an occasion, she granted it but said I must be back by Sunday evening.

I am actually sad because this is supposed to be Danny's last week but he said he is going to stay another week. Maybe I might be going home earlier than expected because Dakalo is happy with my progress. I have also attended group therapy and that's when I found out what really brought Danny here.

Apparently he was in love with this prince from his village. They went to varsity together. The prince also loved him. They dated for 3 years. When they

went back home after finishing their degrees, they discovered that the prince was arranged to marry some woman from his village. The prince couldn't even take Danny as his second spouse because it was a shame and they would've killed both of them because same sex relationships are forbidden there.

The prince married this woman but he wasn't in love with her. They continued their relationship in secret. They went to vacations outside the country. The king found out about their relationship and he chased Danny's family away from the village. He also sent his goons to kill Danny but luckily he survived and took care of his family.

He never made contact with the prince again but he saw him months later at a restaurant. Danny was chilling with his colleagues when the prince got in with his wife. Danny just rushed out after seeing them. The prince followed him but before he could alter a single word, his wife caught up with him. They

never talked until this day.

We are now at the Polokwane airport where we are going to catch our flight to Durban. It's Friday midday. We fetched our outfits earlier on. Anyways we board the plane and then the plane takes off. After six hours of flying, we land at King Shaka airport. We check in at The Oyster Box Hotel because that's where the wedding is going to be at.

I am not allowed to go home or interact with my loved ones. I will only see them tomorrow at the wedding. I am not even allowed to touch my gadgets. We are sharing a suite with Danny but there are two rooms there so we are not about to see each other's nakedness. We settle down and when we are done I take a shower. I dry my body and wrap a towel around it. I go to my room and find Danny on my bed.

Danny: "Blue we are so going out tonight."

Me: "to where? You don't even know places here."

Danny: "bitch please. I know things and people. I met a celeb down the corridor. He has a gig at this club, I forgot its name but we are headed there. So get ready, we are leaving with him in an hour."

Me: "you are such a vibe."

Danny: "damn right I am." He heads out. I lotion my body and do my make-up. After that I style my 'Blue' hair as Danny calls it.

I get dressed in a maroon self-tie bandana top, slant pocket button front denim skirt and maroon Bathu Moja Edition Sneakers. I then pair it with maroon wrist watch and denim sling bag. I put my wallet in it and then go knock at Danny's door.

Me: "I am done."

Danny: "I am with you now Blue. I am taking my bag."
Few minutes later he comes out wearing a black tee with tight black and white shorts and white sneakers. He is carrying a white sling bag and his make-up is on point.

Me: "I am jealous that you do make-up better than me."

Danny: "but you're okay because you know how to do your brows."

Me: "trying to make me feel better I see." He laughs.

Danny: "let's go." We head out and find this rapper Afrika in the hallway with his crew. He is from Cape Town but he has been staying in JHB where his career flourished. "Afee." He goes to hug him.

Afrika: "Danny." They both hug. "This must be your friend."

Danny: "Blue." They both turn to stare at me.

Afrika: "aren't you Lele's sister?" I shrug.

Me: "maybe, maybe not." He smiles.

Afrika: "I like you already. Let's go." We all head out.

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We get to this club called Alloy. It's owned by Thandeka and Luvuyo Sithole. They are these two siblings, originally from Northern Cape but are now based in Sandton. They have clubs and restaurants all over South Africa and their places are amazing and out of this world. Not everyone gets in there. You don't find varsity students or high school learners. The only people who go there are working people and blessees.

There is this huge line outside and the ladies are looking as beautiful and classy as ever. The guys are also looking handsome. The hostess leads us to the VVIP section and we sit down. A waiter comes our way, she is smiling from ear to ear.

Waiter: "what would you like to order?"

Afrika: "what are you guys drinking?"

Danny: "a bottle of Tanqueray and mixers."

Afrika: "get us that and two bottles of Hennessy with mixers and three bottles of Moet."

One of the dancers: "also get us hubbly."

One of the guys: "get us three meat platters."

Waiter: "will that be all?"

Afrika: "yes."

Waiter: "okay. Your drinks are going to be here in less than 10 minutes and your food will be here in less than 30 minutes." She leaves.

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We have eaten and now we are tipsy. The MC calls Afrika to the stage and he leaves with his dancers

and stage manager. His other manager stays behind. She hardly talks. She has been on her phone ever since we got here.

Danny: "I am getting some tonight." He whispers in my ear.

Me: "from who?"

Danny: "Afee!" he whispers loudly.

Me: "for real?"

Danny: "yeah Blue."

Me: "when last did you get laid? Surely you haven't shaved in a while." He laughs.

Danny: "okusalayo I am getting some tonight." I laugh.

Me: "lucky you boo."

Danny: "yeah lucky me." he smirks.

Afrika takes the stage. The guy sure knows how to rap and dance. He is flexible like those guys from the step up movies. The crowd is too much. They love this guy. He surely is the South African Chris Brown. Difference is that he raps and Chris sings.

Me: "he is really good and he is a great dancer."

Manager: "to think he actually wants to stop dancing." I turn to her. Okay I am not going to question why she hasn't been talking.

Me: "why?"

Manager: "he sustained this mean injury last week. Actually he has been sustaining injuries for quite some time now. His body is a high risk. His physician said he must stop dancing."

Me: "if a doctor says he must stop then he should stop and leave the dancing to his dancers."

Manager: "you should encourage him." I smile.

The night proceeds well and at about 3 am we head back to the hotel. Well I take a shower and go to bed. I hear moans and groans. Danny really is getting laid tonight. If I was still the old Futhy, I'd be riding a stranger's dick right now. Dakalo thank you.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 44

The following morning I wake up round about 9am. The wedding starts at 12pm so I am glad I still have time. I wear my gown and go to Danny's door. I barge in and find him all cuddled up with Afrika. They seem awake and chatting.

Danny: "knock next time."

Me: "whatever. I wanna remind you about the wedding. We shouldn't be late."

Danny: "I am having a breakfast date with Afee at his suite. After that then I will be all yours."

Me: "don't take long."

Danny: “come on babe. I want us to have that dramatic entrance when the pastor says ‘anyone who doesn’t want these two to be joined in holy matrimony, speak now or forever hold your peace’. That’s when we will enter and make our way to the front row.” Both Afrika and I laugh.

Afrika: “babe that will probably anger the bride.”

Danny: “who cares?” I just laugh shaking my head.

Me: “don’t be late.” I head back to my room. I find the bed already made and the housekeeper vacuuming the floor. “Morning.”

Her: “Morning ma’am. I will be done here in a few.”

Me: “take your time. I am just going to shower.”

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I style my hair first, making it curly. I then do my make-up. When I am done, I get dressed in my

Tshwana navy peplum boob tube top and white mermaid skirt. I pair it with navy block heels and navy Michael Kors purse. I put my wallet in the purse. I don't even know why I have it. It's a habit I guess. A few minutes later Danny gets in looking very handsome. He is wearing a navy Tshwana shirt and white pants with navy point toe lace-up front dress shoes.

Me: "people are going to jump into conclusion today." He smiles.

Danny: "let them." he dyed his hair blue black.

Me: "you look very handsome friend."

Danny: "you look beautiful Blue."

Me: "let's go." We wear our shades and we head out.

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Pastor: "Do you Malibongwe Ncube take Kgomotso

Mabaso to be your lawfully wedded wife, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poor, till death do you part?"

Mali: "I do."

Pastor: "Do you Kgomotso Mabaso take Malibongwe Ncube to be your lawfully wedded husband, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poor, till death do you part?"

K: "I do."

Pastor: "if there is anyone who have reasons to believe that this beautiful couple shouldn't be joined in holy matrimony, speak now or forever hold your peace."

Actually Danny stopped me from making my way in. he said he was waiting for this exact moment. Yoh he is more dramatic than Lindsay. Anyways we make our way in and all heads turn to our way. I fix

my eyes on K and tears stream down her cheeks when she sees me. She mouths an 'I love you'. I smile and whisper it back. We make our way to the front and sit on the vacant chairs.

Pastor: "what a show stopping moment!" everyone laughs.

The pastor continues with the ceremony and it finally comes to an end. The couple go to take pictures while my friends rush to me and bombard me with hugs. Thobeka and Mabutho also come to hug me.

Lee: "you back for good?"

Me: "no but I might be coming back sooner than expected."

Zah: "you have to because there is this certain client who wants to meet with you directly and not anyone else." I chuckle.

Me: “relax.” Danny nudges me on the elbow.

Danny: “Blue aren’t you going to introduce me?”

Noma raises her eyebrows.

Noma: “Blue?”

Danny: “hi darling, the name is Daniel but if you wanna be on my good books you can call me Danny. I am Blue’s friend. Well I am the only one who call her blue because of her hair. It was either that or weird eyes but I figured weird eyes would be too offensive.” He extends his hand to Noma and she shakes it.

Me: “guys this is Danny my friend from where I came from.” They laugh. “And Danny this is Noma and Lee, my best friends; Xoli and Zah, my PAs; Mbuso and Phumudzo, their partners; Mabutho, Thobeka and Zamoh, my bodyguards.”

Danny: “you have personal bodyguards? Damn you

must be Michelle Obama or something.” I just laugh.

Me: “let’s head to the reception. I am hungry. I didn’t eat anything for breakfast.”

We head to the reception hall and the décor is amazing. We head to our table and sit down.

Immediately after we sit, starters are served. While eating, Kuhle makes his way in followed by Sbo. I look at Mbuso and Phumudzo.

Me: “please don’t tell me you informed him about my return.”

Mbuso: “he knew about your return as soon as you landed at King Shaka.” I sigh shaking my head.

Danny: “aren’t those the Zulu princes?”

Sbo: “in the flash.” I roll my eyes.

Kuhle: “evening everyone. You all look beautiful this

afternoon.”

Danny: “is he talking to us? Are we seriously getting recognized by royalty?” he whispers loudly for them to hear. Kuhle and Sbo chuckle.

Kuhle: “you look as beautiful as always MaCele.”

Danny: “holy fuck, he knows you. OMG! I so wanna be you right now.” He says fanning himself. We laugh.

Kuhle: “can I steal her for a few?”

Danny: “you can even bring her back tomorrow in time for her flight your highness.” Kuhle chuckles and looks at me. I huff and stand up.

Me: “follow me.” I head outside and he follows me there. We meet K and Mali as they are about to enter. She frowns.

K: “please don’t tell me you are leaving.”

Me: “no honey I am not. You look really beautiful today. Like a goddess. And Mali you also look handsome.” I hug them both.

Mali: “never thought I’d live to see the day the mighty Futhy complements me.” we laugh.

Me: “even if you were ugly, I would’ve complemented you because it’s your big day.” They both laugh.

Mali: “holy fuck, it’s the prince.” He says looking at Kuhle. Kuhle extends his hand for a shake.

Kuhle: “congratulations on your marriage and I am sorry for coming uninvited.”

Mali: “oww no you are more than welcome my prince. I’d even give you my plate of the food has finished.” I just laugh.

Me: “we will see you guys inside.” I pull Kuhle outside. “So what’s up?” he smiles.

Kuhle: "you look beautiful." I roll my eyes.

Me: "thank you for respecting my wishes and not follow me."

Kuhle: "I love you enough to respect you. Are you back for good?" I shake my head. "When are you coming back?"

Me: "that's none of your business Kuhle." He smiles.

Kuhle: "you still don't want me?"

Me: "I came for the wedding Kuhle not you. Can we not do the heavy talk?"

Kuhle: "so you are actually considering it?"

Me: "arg you are so annoying." He smiles. "You know what, I am out of here." I head back inside. He laughs before following me.

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Me: "I wasn't expecting this." K included me in the program. I don't even know what to say. "I am very

happy for you K. you have been a great employee and a friend to me. You are literally my human diary. If someone wanted to know my secrets, they'd have to kidnap you." They all laugh. "You are a really great person and I love your personality. I have a gift for you." I take out a small box from my purse. "I am ordering you to open it when you come back from your honeymoon."

K: "but why give it to me now?" she shouts. I laugh.

Me: "it's called bekezeling." She laughs and takes the box. "I wish you all the best babe and Mali I am expecting nephews and nieces very soon." He smiles.

Mali: "I won't disappoint."

Me: "that's all from me. Thank you and I love you guys." I give the mic to the MC and head to my seat.

Danny: "can the speeches end already? I wanna get down and my bae is still here. He wants to come."

Me: "you guys are already official?"

Danny: "yes." He blushes.

Me: "you lucky fish. Your sex game is on another level for him to commit within 24 hours of you two knowing each other."

Danny: "istove siku 6 mtase." I laugh. God why did you have to give me crazy friends?

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 45

I left Durban earlier the next morning because I didn't want to see my friends. Surely they would've begged me to have lunch or a few drinks with them. I know how they are. They also slept at the hotel because they wanted to have breakfast with me, but I ran away. When we came back Danny was sulking because he had to leave Afrika but he said when he gets out of Womalena he is going to start by visiting him before going back home.

Today is Wednesday and I am having a session with Dakalo. I prepare for my session and then head to her office. I find her sitting and chatting with a younger version of herself. I just figure that this is her daughter, the one who designed her office.

Dakalo: "Futhy meet my daughter Lufuno and Lufuno this is..."

Lufuno: "Miss Ntombifuthi Cele, the founder and CEO of Dubandlela Construction Company. She has few of the best interior designers in the country working for her. Who doesn't know her mom?" I laugh.

Me: "good to know I have a fan."

Lufuno: "oww I am not your fan, rather your admirer because you are my role model." I smile.

Me: "thank you."

Lufuno: "no thank you for working hard and proving that women can also own multi-billionaire companies like DCC and be successful without any help from a man."

Me: "again thank you. Did your mother tell you about the offer I made?" she turns to her mother.

Lufuno: “what offer mother?”

Dakalo: “we will talk after my session with Futhy. Right now go make yourself busy with something else.” She huffs and heads out. “Kids.” She shakes her head and I laugh.

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It’s Friday night and the last weekend I am spending with Danny in Limpopo. We are planning on making it worth it. We get ready for a night out in Rumours Night Club which is situated in Louis Trichardt also known as Makhado. I have never been there but Danny says it’s a nice spot. Patients at Womalena mostly go out clubbing or to spas or shopping or sometimes movies.

I get dressed in a black rib-knit bodycon dress and black open toe leg chunky heels. By the way Danny has described this place, it’s high class so there is

no need to be dressed all ghetto and what not. I tie my hair in a neat bun and do final touch ups on my make-up. I pack my wallet in my sling bag and head out meeting Danny on the hallway who is wearing skinny jeans with a pink tight shirt with its 3 first buttons opened and nude boots which match with his purse.

Me: "damn girl. All eyes will be on you tonight."

Danny: "you bet your fat ass they will be. But you also look sexy love. Who knows, maybe you can get one of those Venda gifted men to release the sexual tension." I laugh

Me: "you're crazy and this is the new Futhy who says no to one night stands."

Danny: "I am just saying love." can you believe that Afrika actually wrote a letter for him. He went crazy when he received it on Wednesday and yesterday a bunch of flowers and box of chocolates was delivered for him. What I can say is that love is in the air.

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We get to the club and head to the VIP section. What can I say? I am so used to the VIP section. Not because I am rich, no that's not it. I know that the VIP section never runs out of tables no matter how full the club is. A waiter comes to our table.

Waiter: "evening. The name is Fhulu. What can I get you ladies this evening?" Danny smiles when the waiter acknowledges that he is actually a lady.

Me: "a twelve pack of Flying Fish, pressed lemon." I look at Danny.

Danny: "and a twelve pack of Savanna dry."

Me: "you wanna get drunk neh?"

Danny: "it's my last night at Limpopo, let's make it memorable." I laugh.

Me: "please add 2 bottles of Hennessy and a 6 pack of Redbull." The waiter nods and write down what we are saying.

Danny: "can we also get hubbly?"

Waiter: "of course. Is there anything else?" we shake our heads. He leaves. Danny licks his lips.

Danny: "that's some fine ass right there." I laugh.

Me: "his ass is definitely firm." He also laughs.

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Few hours later we are kak drunk, singing and dancing like nobody. As drunk as we are, we are just enjoying each other's company. There have been gentlemen who have been wanting to join us or buy drinks for us, but we deny their offers. The time is 4:30 but we know we are not leaving until we finish our drinks. On top of that 24 pack we bought, we added another 24 and the other bottle of Hennessy

we haven't opened it yet.

Danny: "babes, people are leaving, let's buy ice and get the bill and also leave."

Me: "who is settling the bill?"

Danny: "it's on me." he buys the ice, settle the bill then we take our alcohol and head to my car. We load it on the cooler box and then he drives out. "There is this park somewhere here where we can just drink and watch the sun rise."

Me: "good idea. Drive there."

He drives there and park the car. We take the cooler box and place it in front of the car. We also take out camp chairs and place them near the cooler box. We take off our shoes and lock them in the car. We go sit and watch the sun rise with drinks on our hands.

Me: “where do you see yourself in five years?”

Danny: “married with kids.” We both laugh. “Just joking. I wanna have practices around the country, not just one where I am based at. Being your friend has made me want more. You inspire me. You are a goal driven woman and I just wanna be like you. I know what many people have no clue what endocrinology is, that’s why I wanna have seminars in high schools next year where I will go explain what it is and why it is important.”

Me: “wow that’s deep and I am very happy that I have that kind of influence on you. That’s the footprint I always wanna leave on people. That ‘I see you, I see your success, I see you reaching your goals, I wanna be just like you, I also wanna better myself just like you and not wait for handouts’. I hate people who be like ‘she is successful wara-wara but look at her extended family or friends struggling. I wanna be a role model not a mother Theresa who people think will give them handouts to better themselves.”

Danny: "you're right. When a person receives a handout, they don't work hard. And people around you sometimes feel like they are entitled to your success. I have cousins like that. Mina when I was chased out of the village with my family, I built a house for them, bought cars for them and started up a restaurant for them. My family back in the village started calling asking for favours and shit but none of them did nothing when my parents were chased out of the village at night."

Me: "I get you but why are we having such a deep conversation?" he laughs.

Danny: "I don't know. I guess alcohol sometimes makes you think of all the things you have been through."

Me: "true that."

CHAPTER 46

A few hours later we are pulling up at Covano Lodge. Well we are only going to have breakfast here and then head back to the retreat. We park the car and get off carrying our wallets and barefoot. Danny has been here before so he leads me to the dining area. As we get in there, the hostess stops us.

Hostess: "good morning ma'am and sir. Unfortunately I can't let you in because you are both dressed inappropriately." We look at each other and look at her frowning.

Danny: "what the fuck do you mean if you are saying we are dressed inappropriately?"

Me: "I think she is homophobic." I say looking at Danny. I used to do this in high school. Interpret someone's statement wrongly just to cause havoc. Right now Danny looks like he is ready to rip this woman apart.

Danny: "we just wanna dine and leave you and your homophobic ass."

Hostess: "listen, I can't let you in..."

Me: "hey we want to eat breakfast only then we will be on our way."

Hostess: "please leave willingly before I call security." I didn't want to use this card I am about to use right now but this woman is getting on my nerves.

Me: "woman listen here, my friend and I can buy this lodge of yours and you in it in a second. Don't make us give you a bad review. We have been drinking all

night so we are hungry. We just wanna eat and leave yoh.” she looks behind me with her eyes and mouth wide open. I turn and I nearly faint when I see the king and the princes looking at us.

Danny: “OMG!” he says looking at them.

Me: “holy fuck it’s Kuhle’s father.” I say in a whisper but when I see him smiling I know that he heard me.

Simingezwi: “sorry miss.” He says looking at the hostess. “Prepare a table for 7 ASAP, you don’t wanna keep royalty waiting.”

Hostess: “right away.” She practically runs off. Now we are standing awkwardly in front of the Zulu royals looking like savages.

Me: “friend we should leave. We will but peri-peri grilled chicken from Nandos.”

Danny: “yeah and add a bucket of hot wings.”

Me: “yeah that sounds like a plan.” We are whispering to ourselves but they can hear us because they are laughing.

King: “MaCele.” Danny screams and I nearly faint.

Me: “your majesty, your highness, your grace.”
Kuhle’s brothers just laugh.

King: “join us for breakfast and that’s an order.”

Danny: “We weren’t planning on defying you your majesty.” I laugh at how he is talking, his pace is so fast. The hostess comes back and ushers them to their table, we follow like lost puppies. The others sit down, Nqaba opens a chair for me and I smile then sit down. He also sits down.

Mkhululi: “I see you want bhuti to kill you neh?” he says eyeing Nqaba who just laughs shaking his head. The waiter comes to take our order.

Simingezwi: “we would like two full and hot grilled

chickens with rolls and chips and a 2l coke.”

Mkhululi: “would you like to add something sisi?” he asks looking at me.

Me: “a hot full chicken on the go.”

Danny: “and 900g chili ribs with Buffalo wings.”

Me: “and a 2l Liqui fruit, breakfast punch flavour.”

Waiter: “will that be all?” I wanna keep quiet but I just fail.

Me: “I would also like your hostess to come and apologize for chasing us away when we can afford to buy or bring this place down.” The waiter clears their throat. “I am just kidding.” She rushes away.

Nqaba: “actually she should come and apologize.”

Me: “nah I don’t need a fake apology. With or without it life goes on but I hate the fact that she looked down upon us and saw that we were not worthy of

dining here.”

King: “how are you MaCele?” I clear my throat. Konje I am dining with a whole king. It is scary shame but I just breathe out loud.

Me: “I am okay my king.”

King: “when are we seeing you at the palace?”

Me: “as a what? Kuhle’s business associate or friend?” he laughs.

King: “neither but I am going to let it go for now.”

The food comes earlier than I thought. We start eating and the hot meat is hitting that spot, that spot guys. The food is very great but I am not going to post a review about this place because of the way Danny and I were treated earlier.

Mkhululi: “what brings you to Limpopo sisi?”

Me: “mental related issues.”

Nqaba: "we are so sorry for being rude to your friend. What's your name?"

Danny: "Daniel."

Nqaba: "what do you do?"

Danny: "I am an endocrinologist."

Simingezwi: "endi what?"

Nqaba: "say no more." We all laugh. I pour the juice in the glass and sip.

Me: "what the fuck?" I cough.

Danny: "what is it blue?"

Me: "there is something in this juice." He takes it and pours it on the floor. Fire ants come out and I scream and start gagging. "I think I swallowed some." Danny stands up.

Danny: "we need to rush you to the hospital." A man

in a navy suit makes way to our table.

Man: “my queen drink this. It will help you.” He hands me a small bottle. I shake my head.

Me: “I don’t know who the fuck you and I ain’t about to drink something which I don’t know.”

King: “please drink MaCele. It will help you.”

Me: “who is this man?”

Mkhululi: “our royal healer. Please drink sisi before more harm happens.”

Me: “if something happens to me because of this, you are going to regret the day your ancestors brought you to this world.”

He laughs and I take the bottle. He hands the ice bucket to Danny. I drink the potion and a few seconds later I feel the urge to throw up. I run to the restroom and I release everything the minute I get to

the toilet. I feel my head spinning and I get dizzy. I flush and then get out of the stall. I wash my mouth and slid down on the cold tiles.

Danny: "BLUE!" he shouts from outside the restroom.

Me: "yeah just a minute." I whisper. My head keeps spinning and down I go, and have a blackout.

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I open my eyes and when I look around I can see that I am in some kind of a hospital. When I look to my right I see Alu who is typing something on the iPad. When I look to my left I see Danny looking posh. I clear my throat and they both look at me.

Me: "please don't tell me I am in a hospital." They chuckle.

Alu: "you are in the sick room of the resort." I sigh in relief.

Me: "that's better. How did I get here though?"

Alu: "you were brought back by the Zulu royals."

Me: "what really happened back there?"

Danny: "that hostess put those fire ants in our juice but don't worry, she is jobless right now, together with the waiter."

Me: "but why though?"

Danny: "we humiliated her, that was her explanation whereas she is the one who humiliated us."

Me: "what day is it?"

Danny: "Sunday. You have been asleep since yesterday." I look at him.

Me: "which means you are leaving today." He sighs.

Danny: "yes but our friendship isn't going to end

here.” he takes out a business card. “Call me when you are out.” I smile.

Me: “I am going to miss you.”

Danny: “not as much as I am going to Miss You.” He hugs me and kisses my forehead. “Please save a seat for me on Prince’s jet when you are going to Libya.” I laugh. And take the business card.

Me: “I love you.” He smiles.

Danny: “I love you too Blue.” He plants a kiss on my hand. “Bye Alu babes.” she smiles.

Alu: “bye Danny.” He heads out.

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#MissChubby

SPONSORED CHAPTER

CHAPTER 47

LEE

I am driving from work with my guards. Well Gift is the one who is driving. I am so tired. I just wanna get home and have wine in a bubble bath. I miss Futhy so much but I am happy that she is getting the help that she needs and I know when she comes back, she is going to be so much better.

Gift curses under his breath and I look up to see a frustrated look on his face in the mirror. Babalwa next to him is preparing her guns. I know that something is wrong.

Me: "guys what is going on?"

Babalwa: "there is a car following us and it is that of your ex Miss Nkosi." I start to panic. I really thought that he had forgotten about me. I guess psychos never forget.

Me: "what can I do?"

Gift: "call the cops. We will deal with him but inform them so that it will be easy to lock him up."

I call the cops and tell them my current situation and tell them my current location. I scream out loud when I hear gunshots. I now realize that he is actually shooting the car we are in. the officer on the line asks what is going on and I update her. She tells me that helps is on the way and that I shouldn't stop driving and I mustn't hang up so that they can continue tracking my location.

Me: "Gift don't stop driving."

Gift: "I wasn't planning on it."

Babalwa: "it looks like he is not alone. There are 3 other people in that car."

Me: "why hasn't the glass shattered?"

Babalwa: "we have had the windows bulletproofed boss." I nod. The detective who I am talking with over the phone is Detective Alungile Nkosi tells me that she is 5 minutes away from our location.

Me: "the police are five minutes away from here."

Gift: "we are going to stop at the intersection which is three minutes away from here. We are just going to stay inside the car since it's bulletproofed." I nod again.

Babalwa: "relax boss. Nothing is going to happen to you." Gift continues driving and after a while I hear tires screeching.

Gift: “fuck, they are aiming at the tires.” My heart skips a beat. For a man who wants me, he is acting stupid because his actions might kill me. We hear sirens and I relax a bit. Gift stops the car at the intersection. Athi’s car drives past us and the police follow him. I hang up and sigh. Gift gets out of the car to inspect the tires. Babalwa follows him.

Me: “is everything okay?” I ask getting out of the car.

Babalwa: “all the tires are damaged.” I sigh.

Me: “let me call Mabutho so that he can help us.”
Gift nods and opens the car boot. I then call Mabutho.

Mabutho: “MaNkosi.”

Me: “are you busy?”

Mabutho: “I can never be busy for you. What do you need?”

Me: "tires. We were under attack. Athi shot my car. Luckily it is bulletproofed so the only thing that suffered were the tires." I hear sounds from the background, sounds like he is moving.

Mabutho: "are you okay? Where are you?"

Me: "I am fine. I am going to send you my location."
He breathes out loud.

Mabutho: "I will get there as soon as I can." He hangs up.

Me: "he is coming." I say turning to my guards. Gift has already taken out one tire. My phone rings and I frown when I see an office number. I then answer it.
"Doctor Nkosi hello."

Caller: "Doctor Nkosi this is Detective Nkosi. We have caught the people who were chasing you. We are going to need you to come to the station so that you can make a statement and tell us what exactly is going on?"

Me: "okay detective. Which station should I go to?"

Caller: "Greyville police station."

Me: "okay, I will be there as soon as I can." She hangs up. Minutes later Mabutho arrives where we are at. He is with Zamoh. He rushes to me and hugs me. He then breaks the hug and checks me out. I chuckle. "What are you doing?"

Mabutho: "I am checking to see if you're okay."

Me: "I am fine. Can you borrow me your car? I need to get to Greyville station. Detective Nkosi caught Athi and his friends." He opens his mouth and I can see that he is about to protest. "Before you protest, Babalwa is the one who is going to drive me there."

Mabutho: "I am going with you. There is also a few things that I need to tell the detective which might help her in the case." I sigh.

Me: "whatever. Let's go." I take my bag from my car

and head to Futhy's Forturner. Babalwa and Mabutho joins me after a few minutes and he drives us to the station.

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We just came out of the station and I am mad at Mabutho. I am mad because of the things he hid from me, about Athi breaking in my house and leaving things inside. I don't care that he was protecting me or whatever but he should've told me. He is making me so mad. I have just told him to drop me off at Noma's house and he should leave with Babalwa. They drop me off and leave soon after I make it inside the house.

I unlock the house and head to the kitchen. I take out bottled water from the fridge and drink it. I then scream Noma's name because the house is so quiet. I jog to her room and find her cuddling with her huge teddy. I shake her and she stirs and open her eyes.

Noma: "did you have to wake me up though?" she

asks in frustration. I just laugh and join her in bed after taking off my heels. "You look half happy and half mad. What is it?" I laugh at her.

Me: "what the fuck is half happy half mad?"

Noma: "your facial expression when I opened my eyes." I laugh again.

Me: "you're crazy. Anyways I am happy that Athi has been arrested." She sits up straight.

Noma: "how? What did he do?"

Me: "he was following my car and he shot my tires. I went to the station to press charges against him. I am mad because there is some evidence that is going to help with the case but Mabutho has been keeping it from me."

Noma: "what evidence?"

Me: "he broke into my house, left notes and roses

and all that romantic creepy shit in there. Mabutho went into my house, he was ordered by Futhy. He found that and he didn't bother to tell me."

Noma: "maybe he was protecting me."

Me: "from what? He was treating me like a kid." I huff and cuddle the bear. Noma smiles.

Noma: "the guy loves you, so it's obvious that he will do anything to protect you, physically and emotionally." I frown.

Me: "what do you mean he loves me?"

Noma: "for someone who is a doctor, you sure can be stupid sometimes. Even a blind person can see that Mabutho does not only loves you but he is in love with you." I sigh.

Me: "but I don't think I am ready for a serious relationship. Not that I wanna continue with the one night stands but I am not ready emotionally."

Noma: "I hear you boo and if you are not ready don't commit. And also don't sleep with Mabutho if you are not going to give him your heart because you will be breaking his heart."

Me: "okay tase. What about you and ben 10?"

Noma: "I broke things off with him. He doesn't know what he wants. Sure he fucks me good but I am old tase. I don't need a human sex toy. I need a man who is going to love me. He is still a boy. He is full of shit." I laugh.

Me: "I am sorry tase. But you are going to find the right one for you. For now let's go cook. But you will do the cooking and I will do the talking." She laughs.

Noma: "now you are being like Futhy." I sigh and stand up.

Me: "I miss her." I say while wearing sleepers.

Noma: "I miss her too but she is in good hands and

she is coming back soon.”

Me: “yah.”

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#MissChubby

SPONSORED CHAPTER

CHAPTER 48

Today is my last therapy session and my last night is my last day at Womalena. I am leaving first thing tomorrow morning. I am very sad that I am leaving because this place is a safe haven. I have decided that I am going to make a huge donation when I am back at Durban. I have been here for two months.

I am preparing for my last session. I get dressed in a black double strap surplice neck slip romper and brown sandals. I lock my suite and head to Dakalo's office. We have been very close, we have even went out for dinner twice. She is a very open woman.

I found myself offering Lufuno internship for these few months until I open the JHB branch. I know that it's my company but what I did is unethical. But what's done is done. I sit down after greeting Dakalo. She opens her notepad and starts writing something.

Dakalo: "so what are you going to do about your three admirers?" I smile.

Me: "I am going to apologize to all of them for leading them on and making them believe that they have a chance in dating me."

Dakalo: "what about the prince?" she asks wiggling her eyebrows and I laugh.

Me: "I really don't know where I stand with that one but until he sorts his shit with his wife then there isn't going to be an 'us'."

Dakalo: "if he were to call tomorrow and tell you that he has divorced his wife, would you be with him?" I

laugh again.

Me: “whatever dude.”

Dakalo: “Futhy we were making progress. Don’t make me extend your stay here.” I huff. “Do you love him?”

Me: “I do love him. What’s there not to love? He is kind, loving, caring, considerate and protective. He is an ideal boyfriend and husband. Any woman would be lucky to have him.”

Dakalo: “and you are one of the two women in the world whom he loves. What does that make you feel?”

Me: “very special but I won’t tell him how I feel until he sorts out his shit.”

Dakalo: “good luck on that aspect then.” I chuckle.

Me: “thank you.”

Dakalo: "what about Sabelo? Do you forgive him?"

Me: "yeah. It wasn't meant to be. I am so old to stay mad at what happened years ago. I am not a bitter person. Yes he hurt me but there is no need for me to stay mad at him for this long."

Dakalo: "what about his wife?"

Me: "I don't care about her. She is a non-factor in my life."

Dakalo: "that's the spirit. What about marriage and kids?" I shrug.

Me: "it will depend on my future boyfriend." She smiles.

We continue talking and our session finally comes to an end. We walk out together heading to the lobby and I smile when I see that they have planned a

farewell party for me. Every patient is here. Some of the staff say a few words about me, even Dakalo and Bono. Some of my team mates from basketball also say a few words.

The party doesn't last long. After 2 hours we all go our separate ways. I get to my room and change into my black and yellow swimsuit. I then head to the pool and do a few laps. When I am done, I head back to my room, take a shower and finish packing my clothes.

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It's Friday night right now. I get to my house around 7pm. I am so tired. It's no child's play driving 12+ hours without anyone to take turns with. I park my car in the garage. I take my luggage and head inside using the kitchen entrance. There is so much noise coming from the lounge. I can tell that they are having a debate or something. I put my luggage near the staircase.

I then head to the lounge and just stand in the doorway. There are making so much noise and in topic, they don't even notice me standing here. There is Noma, Lee, Lee's guards, Mabutho, Thobeka, Zamoh, Xoli, Lele and Phumudzo. I wonder what Lele is doing here. I clear my throat and they don't turn to my direction. I switch off the light and when I switch them on, they are all quiet looking around.

Me: "BOO!" I say in a scary way and the ladies jump up in fright. I laugh. "I had to do something to get your attention. I have been standing here for a while now." The ladies all come and bombard me with hugs. "Okay that's enough."

Noma: "you're back?" I nod. "For good." I nod again. She hugs me again. "I missed you so much." She says sniffing.

Me: "I am back now. Relax." She and Lee pull me to the kitchen and I just giggle.

Lee: "are you okay?"

Me: "I am fine. I feel refreshed and I am ready to take on anything."

Noma: "that's the spirit. It's so good to have you back."

Lee: "yeah. We need to go out tonight." I laugh.

Lele: "I agree with them sisi." He says coming to where I am standing. He hugs me and I hug him back. "I didn't realize how much I missed you until I heard you were at Katlego's wedding." We laugh at him.

Thobeka: "it's Kgomotso dummy." She says making her way in the kitchen and side hugging me. Lele stares at her with his eyebrows raised.

Lele: "who are you calling a dummy MaNgwenya?" she hides behind me.

Thobeka: "dummy? Who said dummy? You heard wrong. I said darling." We laugh at them.

Me: "are you guys doing what I think you are doing?"

Noma: “oww yeah.” I laugh.

Me: “and here I thought you were afraid at Thobeka.”
I say looking at Lele with an amused expression.

Lele: “ask her who is afraid of who right now.” He
heads out.

Me: “care to explain MaNgwenya?” I say in Lele’s
voice and she giggles.

Thobeka: “he hates it when I disrespect him. I feel
sorry for my vagina now because he is going to
murder it.” I frown.

Me: “geez, I didn’t need to know about my baby
brother’s sex life.” They laugh at me.

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I get to my room and quickly rush to my bedside
drawer. I take out my phone and switch it on. While

it's still loading notifications, I take my suitcases to my closet, I am going to see them tomorrow. Tonight I am going clubbing and I am so not driving. I take off my clothes and I am left with my matching underwear. I take my phone and call Zah. She answers after a few rings and screams immediately. I just laugh.

Me: "Zanele calm down." She does breathing exercises and finally calms down.

Zah: "feels like I am dreaming, getting a phone call from you. I can't believe it has been two months." I chuckle.

Me: "yeah it has been long but I am back now."

Zah: "it's good to have you back. Where are you guys clubbing?" I laugh.

Me: "who said we are clubbing?"

Zah: "I know that Noma and Lee are there and they have influenced you to go clubbing."

Me: "Whatever but I am thinking of going to Alloy."

Zah: "we will meet you there and before you ask I am with Mbuso." I chuckle.

Me: "okay. Please book a meeting with that with that demanding client and tell him that we are meeting at his site tomorrow during the day." She chuckles.

Zah: "finally. That man can be impossible. At one time I told him to fuck off and he told me that he is not going anywhere, he wants Miss Cele here." I laugh.

Me: "that dramatic huh?"

Zah: "you don't know half of it."

Me: "okay. See you in two hours at Alloy."

Zah: "see you." I hang up.

I then call my mother and tell her that I am back. She is so happy she can't even contain her excitement. Sijabulile can be dramatic sometimes. She even

calls dad, Gcino and Thando. They all talk to me and mom invites me for dinner tomorrow. I gladly accept her invite and tell her that I will see her tomorrow. I hang up and go take a shower. WE GOING CLUBBING!

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#MissChubby

SPONSORED CHAPTER

CHAPTER 49

One thing I love about expensive alcohol is that the hangover isn't a nauseating one. It is just a normal hangover that can be cured by one panado. I get up from the bed, make it and then go to the bathroom. I shower and then brush my teeth. I get out of the bathroom and then go to my closet. I first lotion my body and then blow dry my hair.

I get dressed in a mustard one shoulder bodycon dress which is knee length and I wear blue sandals to match with the hair. I head to the kitchen and eat cereal. When I am done, I head to my study. I reply to my emails and texts. I frown when I come across this certain email from Museum of South Africa. I

open it and it reads this:

'Dear Miss Cele

We are delighted to inform you that you have been chosen to design the second biggest South African museum which will be located at Pietermaritzburg. After seeing your sketches, we were very impressed which is why we have decided to grant you this tender. Please reply to us as soon as possible so that we can get started.'

I am sure Zah is the one who submitted this. I once did a sketch about a huge museum which I stored it in my office. These kids though. I get done with replying to my emails. I also find that the title deeds of my two buildings have been sent. This is good. It means we can start building now. The time comes for my meeting.

I head to my room to take my phone, car keys, iPad

and then head out. I find Zamoh, Mabutho and Thobeka already waiting for me in the doorway. I hand Zamoh the keys. We all head out and climb into the car. He drives off. The meeting is in Ntuzuma. I call Danny. It's about time. The phone automatically connects to the car's Bluetooth.

Danny: "Daniel Mabuza hello." I laugh because his voice is so manly.

Me: "Danny it's Blue." He screams so loud that Thobeka starts laughing. Zamoh and Mabutho also join her. "Please stop screaming."

Danny: "bitch you finally got released?"

Me: "yep."

Danny: "I am happy for you."

Me: "so am I."

Danny: "when am I seeing you?" I chuckle.

Me: "remember when I told you how busy my life can be?"

Danny: "yeah, yeah. I have to be the one visiting you."

Me: "yeah babe you are more than welcome. I will have a room ready for you."

Danny: "I have a weekend baecation with Afee and we are coming there to Durban. Maybe I will check up on you or maybe we can meet for lunch but you will have to bring a date." I chuckle.

Me: "you know I have no one babes."

Danny: "how about that hunky hunk, the prince?" I laugh.

Me: "remember the drama that happened the last time we dined with the Zulu royals?"

Danny: "It will be different this time. We will be dressed appropriately." I laugh at his last sentence because I can sense that it is full of sarcasm.

Me: "I will see babes. Chat later, I am off to a meeting."

Danny: “on a Saturday nogal? That’s why you’re single.” I laugh again.

Me: “fuck off dude.” I hang up.

Thobeka: “he is noisier than Lindsay.” I laugh.

Zamoh: “but Lindsay is more troublesome yoh. He once claimed me as his bae because I was asking out a girl that he supposedly have beef with.” We all laugh at him.

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We get to Ntuzuma and find Zah already at the said location. She is standing with a man who looks rather old, like in his early forties. He is rather old for this drama he is causing yazi. We climb off the car and head to where they are standing.

Me: “good day good people.” They turn to our direction.

Man: “wow finally, her majesty decides to grace us with her presence.” He says sarcastically.

Me: “you are rather too old for the drama you’re causing. I’d suggest you lose the attitude you have and we start our meeting because it’s Saturday and we all have better things to do.” He loses the attitude and relaxed a bit.

He tells me what exactly he wants. He is a gynecologist so he wants to build a practice here in Ntuzuma. He finishes telling me what he is expecting and our meeting comes to an end. According to the site, I can see that we will have to go up because there isn’t much space to make the surgery wide. When we are done we head our separate ways. Doing this is going to be easy. I wonder why he was so dramatic about it.

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The feeling of being home, being surrounded by people you love, people who know you, know your highs and lows is the best. Mom even cooked my favorite which is ujeqe nombontshisi (and cooked beans). I love that meal. It's just that I never find time to cook it. I also know how to cook. By the way I am here with my guards and Lele.

Xoli is spending the rest of the weekend with Phumudzo. They are saying they postponed the negotiations because I wasn't here but they are happening next weekend. My dad is so fond of Mabutho and Zamoh. He basically treats them like his sons. Right now they are all in the garage listening to his obsession with cars. I am going to buy him a mustang on his birthday because I know he is going to enjoy having it.

I am with my mom, Thando and Thobeka and we are preparing the table. We have dished up and mom sends Thando to go call the men outside. She has

really warmed up to me. She even calls me sisi. I really wonder what the problem in the beginning was. I wish I can be a mind reader and be able to read Busi's mind so that I can know what exactly her problem is.

Mom: "so what's next for you baby?"

Me: "you will have to wait like everyone to find out."
she chuckles.

Mom: "child I waited for 9 months to see you and that was torture. I can't wait for like anybody else to know about your life."

Me: "the blackmail ain't gonna work mommy."
Thobeka laughs.

Mom: "makoti you shouldn't be laughing at your mother in law if you wanna be on her good books."
Thobeka chokes on her saliva and starts coughing. I laugh. Sijabulile is so clever.

Thobeka: "I don't know what you are talking about

ma.”

Mom: “honey I wasn’t born yesterday and I do talk to my son. He spilled the beans about your relationship. What you have to know is that he loves you so much and he really wants to meet your daughter.”

Thobeka: “I don’t think her father is going to like that ma. He is very hard headed and if he were to find out that I have moved on, he will file for full custody of my daughter.” She says and tears just fall from her eyes. Mom hugs her.

Mom: “honey we have the best lawyers in the family. If he wants a legal war, he is going to get it.”

Thobeka: “he is going to use my profession against me mama. He always says that. He says my profession is very dangerous and my daughter is not safe with me.” Thando makes her way in with the men and Thobeka quickly wipes her tears but she is too late because Lele has already seen them. He rushes to her side.

Lele: “what is wrong MaNgwenya?”

Thobeka: “nothing. Futhy was just telling us funny stories that happened at the retreat and you know how I laugh until I cry.”

Lele: “good excuse. Mom, dad we will be right back.”
He says pulling Thobeka and they head upstairs.

Mom: “everyone else can sit down so that we can start eating.” They all sit. Zamo and Mabutho’s eyes are on me.

Mabutho: “what is wrong with Thobeka boss?” I sigh.

Me: “we will talk at home.” They nod and start eating. After a few minutes, Thobeka and Lele come downstairs and they join us on the table. She seems much better.

Gcino: “I really can’t believe you are finally dating him sis Thobeka. I mean you left the more handsome brother and settled for... eish.” We all just laugh.

Lele: “you are not going to get the money that you requested Gcino and I am going to make sure that sisi Futhy also doesn’t give you.”

Gcino: “don’t let the devil use you brother. It’s me, your only brother. If you don’t spend your money on me, who are you going to spend it on?”

Lele: “bro I have a girlfriend whom I need to spoil rotten so my money won’t go to waste.”

Me: “can’t believe dad is letting these two speak about girlfriends just like that.” dad laughs.

Dad: “they have forgotten that I also keep a sjambok under this table.” Mom laughs.

Lele: “dad we are just joking. Thobeka and I are just friends.” Thobeka chuckles and we all just laugh.

Dad: “I am going to cut you some slack because Thobeka is a good girl and she is going to be a good influence on you. If you hurt her I am going to break your jaws.”

Lele: “shouldn’t you be threatening her as my parent?” dad chuckles.

Dad: “no. your sisters will do that.”

Thando: “I wouldn’t even dream of threatening a woman who carries weapons every time.” We all laugh.

Being at home is very nice and comforting really. Home is where the heart is. And my heart is where my parents are.

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#MissChubby

BONUS CHAPTER

CHAPTER 50

I met up with Mvelo and Sandile two days. We talked about a lot of things but I finally let them free and told them that there won't be anything that will happen between us. I also apologized to them. I also told Sandile about me sleeping with Kuhle. I just didn't want him to feel bad about cheating on me because I also cheated on him. He was furious, he stormed out of the restaurant. But he came back an hour later and accepted my apology.

We are supposed to be going to Libya in two weeks. I am with Aria and Zah in my office and they are busy searching for the accommodation. I was so stressed about what I was going to wear at the

ceremony but I received a call from Simamiso. She said she saw on my interviews that I am attending awards. She asked if she could design the perfect dress for me. I was just happy that someone came to my rescue. She said she is going to bring the dress next Monday.

Aria: "I am finding Corinthia Hotel. I just need to know the number of people who are going there."

Zah: "fuck, Radisson Blu is fully booked. How many people are going with you, boss?"

Me: "my parents, my three guards, you guys, Danny and Kuhle."

Aria: "so it's 10 people?" I nod. Zah taps on her iPad and turn to me.

Zah: "actually the AAA sorted out your accommodation. For you and five other people."

Me: "oww wow okay. My rents with Danny and Kuhle will have to sort out their accommodation but you

can check if space is still available at the Corinthia Hotel Aria.”

Zah: “do check and then I will send them every details so that they can secure their rooms.”

Me: “please but tickets for them. I need to check Kuhle but I will go to his office tomorrow.” Zah’s phone rings and she leaves to answer it. She comes back after a few minutes.

Zah: “there is a Lufuno who is here to see you, boss.”

Me: “finally. Go and meet up with her and take her to HR. she will be working at the interior designing department. I loved her work so much. It’s unique and out of this world. It has that African touch that can make you feel at home, even if you are not at home.”

Aria: “home away from home type of thing?” I laugh.

Me: “yes.”

Zah: “okay. I will come back in a few.” She heads out.

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XOLI

Having a boss like Futhy is so awesome. She gave me the long weekend off so that I can prepare for the lobola negotiations which are taking place this weekend. I am the one who talked to Simamiso after she told Futhy she will be designing her dress. So I bought her heels, jewelry and purse which she will pair with the dress. I left those things on top of her bed because I left after she had gone to work.

Phumudzo being the over caring and over protective fiancé that he is, he has hired a driver for me who takes me wherever I wanna go. At first we argued about this but at the end of the day, his word was the law. I have a lot of money from my bank account which was my salary since I hardly use it for anything. There is also money that Phumudzo deposited in my account, he calls it a ‘fiancé

allowance'. Drama.

I tell the driver to drive to Umlazi to pick up my cousin, Thelumusa, who is the daughter of my mother's older sister. She has a twin and his name is Nkosi. So together they are iNkosi iThelumusa. They go to the Zion church. There is this saying that Zion people say when they are about to sit down after preaching which is 'inkosi ithelumusa'. I don't know what it means but auntie named them that because they are her last kids. Maybe she was indicating that she is done giving birth.

We get to Umlazi and find her already waiting with her bags at the gate. Lol she can be crazy. She knows if I get inside to greet aunty I will never leave because she is a radio gogo. I climb off the car and we exchange greetings and hugs.

Me: "you don't want me to greet her? You know how she is going to make it seem like I am disrespectful

when she is telling mom that I didn't even greet her." She huffs.

Thelu: "fine but tell her that you are not staying." I laugh and we both head inside. The minute I see her she starts ululating and showers me with hugs and kisses. Gosh. We exchange greetings and sit down.

Aunty: "Musa go make tea for your sister. Also take the scones on top of the fridge." I have to stop her now because she won't stop talking.

Me: "auntie I am meeting my fiancé in town. I have to hurry because he is leaving to his hometown in an hour. There is something that he wants to give me."

Aunty: "okay but you have to take scones and give them to your mother. I baked them especially for her." They are so close, you'd swear they are always together. Whenever mom is back from the navy, they always spend time doing lunches and shopping

sprees and gossiping.

Me: “okay auntie.” She goes to the kitchen and comes back with the bowl and hands it to me. I stand up and we hug again.

Aunty: “I will see you guys on Friday.”

Thelu: “bye ma.”

We head out. We get to the car and the driver opens the door for me. I climb inside and he closes it. Thelu rushes to the front sit and gets settled without saying anything. I just chuckle and tell the driver to drive to town. We get to town and Thelu leads me to this African boutique. We buy a dress with an Ankara print which is yellow and black. We then buy a matching doek.

When we are done we head to gateway where we buy black sandals. Phela this is not a formal occasion. Just amalobolo so there is no need for

high heels. When we are done we go to liquor store to buy booze. We will buy the groceries tomorrow. When we are done buying booze we go load it in the car and go to Nandos for late lunch. While waiting for our order I see Phumudzo, Phila and Phiwa making their way inside Nandos. I just chuckle. Surely his driver told him where I am at. They get to our table and they first greet Thelu. She doesn't know who these men are and has never seen my fiancé.

Phumudzo: "rato laka." I smile and look at him. He sits down next to me and kisses my cheek.

Phiwa: "don't stop on our account, we know you were going to kiss her lips." He says while he and his twin sit down on either sides of Thelu who is dumbstruck. I just laugh and he chuckles.

Phumudzo: "I am respecting my in-law. I am Phumudzo by the way and you must be Thelumusa." He says extending his hand. Thelu shakes it.

Thelu: “you are the fiancé?”

Phumudzo: “yes I am.”

Thelu: “your face is familiar.”

Phila: “I am sure you have seen him somewhere darling. He is a businessman.”

Phiwa: “by the way I am Phiwa and I am nobody’s fiancé so maybe we can try.”

Phila: “no brother, I saw her first.” They continue arguing and we just laugh at them.

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*****NARRATED*****

Prince Kuhle was sitting in his study at his house. He lived in Mhlanga Rocks. He is an app developer so was trying to fix an app that had glitches. It was launching in a week so it had to be perfect. He knows that his family is rich, he doesn’t need to work but creating apps is his thing. The door of his study

opened and his younger sister walked in. she is a hacker, the best in the country but she chooses to remain anonymous because she can easily get killed because of her skills.

She lives in Ecuador because she is running away from family drama and she may or may have not created herself dangerous enemies. She comes to South Africa only if it's important. Her brother stood up and attacked her with a hug. They are very close. She sat on her brother's chair and he sat on the desk.

Kuhle: "so what brings you to South Africa?"

Princess Lisakhanya: "you remember that app developer Garry?"

Kuhle: "the one who always develops lame apps and always trying to steal my apps and actually succeeded in stealing 3 of them?"

Lisa: "yes. I have recently discovered that he is your baby daddy." Kuhle frowned.

Kuhle: “what?”

Lisa: “no I mean all your ‘supposed kids’ are his. He and Sthabile are an item. Have been since the beginning of time.” Kuhle stood up and went to sit on the couch so that he could lie back and process these news that his sister is coming with. He knew that his sister is hardly in the country so if she comes to him, it must be because this is serious and important.

Kuhle: “what are you trying to say Lisakhanya?”

Lisa: “that both Amahle and Zwelibanzi aren’t your kids. This bitch actually used you to secure the bag and secure her kids’ future and also fame.”

Kuhle: “how did you find out?”

Lisa: “I actually hacked her Instagram. She knows that if you were to be suspicious of her you’d go to WhatsApp, text messages or call log for evidence. She knows that you’d never think of Instagram DMs.”

Kuhle: "so they are still dating?"

Lisa: "and very much in love. Remember the vacation she went to with her friend in Madagascar? It was actually a romantic getaway. Most of the vacations she goes to without you are romantic getaways with her baby daddy."

Kuhle: "are you trying to say that she never loved me? All this was just a game to her? She was pretending?" he asked getting upset. "How come none of these kids are mine? I have never had protected sex with her."

Lisa: "she was always careful with you. But she had to fall pregnant because she couldn't allow herself to be called infertile by the family. She did what she had to do."

Kuhle: "I can't believe this. I can't believe this." He

kept on repeating the same words while pacing up and down. Lisa knew that this would be his reaction so she came prepared. She took out a sedative from her backpack and injected him on the neck. He fell down and it was lights out.

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KUHLE

I wake up with a heavy head. I am glad I am awake. I just had this crazy nightmare where I found out that my kids aren't actually mine. Serves me right for falling asleep during the day. I look next to me and I frown when I see that the woman who is sleeping next to me isn't my wife. I look carefully and when I see that it's my sister my eyes pop out.

So I wasn't dreaming. She was really here and she came to tell me the truth about my babies' paternity. I really don't know how to react to these news. I get up from the bed and go sit on the couch with my phone on my hand. All my life I have never imagined

my babies not being mine. But why Sthabile? Why did you have to do me like this?

Tears fall from my eyes and I don't bother wiping them. I open my phone and I die a thousand deaths as my wallpaper comes to display. It's a photo of Sthabile and my babies. They took it when they were in a vacation in Drakensburg. Sthabile is going to pay for this. I open my phone and call my human diary, a person whom I know will always be there for me and will drop everything to be by my side when things go south. He answers immediately.

Dad: "son I am in a meeting, can you call me later?" I just release a loud sob and he keeps quiet immediately.

Me: "I need you dad."

Dad: "okay son. Don't cry. I will be there in a few hours." I nod.

Me: "okay dad." I hang up and wipe my tears.

A person who doesn't know me might be surprised by my reaction. I don't have anger issues. When I am faced with a situation which I can't see to handle, I don't go around destroying furniture. When it's personal like this, I allow myself to feel the pain and actually cry because my father said that it's okay to be vulnerable and to release the pain through showing different emotions. He told me that I mustn't try to be strong or ignore the pain hoping that it will go away.

I go to the bathroom, take off my clothes and get inside the shower. I open the cold water and just allow myself to cry. Images of me laughing and having fun with my kids flash in my mind. Sthabile is one brave woman. How could he allow me to introduce my children to our ancestors knowing very well that they aren't mine? She knows very well how powerful royal ancestors are.

I have been with Sthabile for more than 10 years and

I can't believe she actually didn't love me for all this time. Wow women are clever creatures. How can you sleep with your boyfriend's enemy for 10+ years? What kind of a boyfriend can allow you to do that?

Sthabile and Garry deserve each other. I am happy that she isn't here. She went to visit her parents and they will be coming back after two weeks. Now I know that there might be a possibility that she is with Garry and they are playing happy family with their kids. Fuck, my heart hurts. It feels like it has been ripped right out of my chest.

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#MissChubby

SPONSORED CHAPTER

CHAPTER 51

KUHLE

When I am done showering, I wear my vest with sweatpants and socks and then head downstairs. I don't bother waking up Lisa because there is a possibility that she hasn't slept for a week. When she is investigating something, she doesn't take long. She sleeps when she is done with that investigation, even if it takes her days. I make a cup of coffee for myself and head to the lounge.

I sit down and just drink my coffee. That's another thing about me. When I am angry or sad, I prefer

coffee not alcohol. Hours later and 4 cups of coffee later, the front door opens and heavy footsteps make their way to the lounge. I raise my head to see dad standing in the doorway. He frowns when he sees my face. He takes off his coat and come to sit next to me.

I lay my head on his lap and start sobbing loudly. He doesn't say anything, he just brushes my back lightly. After a few minutes, I stop crying and by now I already have hiccups. I sit up and wipe my eyes. He looks at me hoping that I can start talking.

Me: "my whole marriage has been a lie dad. Sthabile doesn't love me. Amahle and Zwelibanzi are not my kids. She has been fooling me for all these years. I really can't believe her. I guess Zwelibanzi looks like me because his mother hated me while she was pregnant with him."

Dad: "how did you find out about this?"

Lisa: "I thought I heard voices." She says standing at the doorway yawning. "Hi daddy." He turns to look at her.

Dad: "hey prodigal daughter." She chuckles.

Lisa: "should I cook something for dinner?"

Dad: "don't bother. I don't want you cooking software and desktops for us." Lisa and I both laugh. Dad can be crazy sometimes but he is right. The only thing that Lisa knows are computers. I doubt she even know how to fry an egg.

Lisa: "give me the benefit of the doubt dad."

Dad: "go and freshen up. Your other brother is coming with our dinner."

Lisa: "okay." She heads upstairs.

Dad: "I guess I know the how of the story now." I nod.
"But why?"

Me: "Garry, who is Sthabile's baby daddy is an app developer. Sthabile has helped him steal three of my apps before I could even launch them. That was one of the reasons why she dated and married me. The second one is securing the bag."

Dad: "what do you wanna do about this issue?"

Me: "I really want to kill her but I don't want the kids to suffer. Even though they are not mine, I still love and care for them."

Dad: "what are you going to do then?"

Me: "first things first, I am divorcing Sthabile and I wanna banish her from Nongoma. She isn't going to get a cent from me. Luckily I married her out of community of property. I just wanna get someone who will be the guardian and caregiver of the kids, whom I will trust with the kids' money because I wanna continue maintaining them."

Dad: “you are a good man son and I am proud to be your dad. I will find that someone who will be the caregiver. When are you serving the papers?”

Me: “I am going to meet up with my lawyer and have him draw up the papers. I will strip her off even the cars and the cards. She has been using me as a walking ATM for far too long. Let me just freeze her cards right now.” I take my phone and freeze her cards instantly. Dad chuckles. “How long are you going to be here?”

Dad: “I am going to leave Sunday afternoon.”

Me: “what were you doing when I called you?”

Dad: “was in the middle of the silly conflict about these brothers from Mtuba who are fighting for the chieftaincy.”

Me: “why would they fight for it? Isn't the first son entitled?”

Dad: “well the first son is an ex-convict and he is also half royalty also his mother wasn’t married to the chief. The second son is a full blood and he has a ‘clean record’.” He says using air quotes. I just chuckle.

Me: “so you ended up not solving it?”

Dad: “yes. You needed me. But I was also with your uncle so I left him. You know how his problem-solving skills are.”

Me: “you did well.”

Dad: “well thank you your majesty.” He says sarcastically and we both laugh.

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Sbo comes with dinner and we all sit around the table and eat. Dad tells him about the current situation. Sbo is an opposite of me and he tends to do things without thinking. He has anger issues. He

may be funny and all but he is very violent and can be dangerous. Mom always say that our personalities switched because I was the one who was supposed to be like him.

Dad calms him down and makes him see reason. Luckily he calms down and relaxes but he ends up saying Sthabile is going to pay, one way or the other. He doesn't care how he will. I know well than to argue with him so I just keep my mouth shut. I don't know how we are going to tell the whole family about this. My second and third mother don't like Sthabile so I am pretty sure they are going to be happy.

My own mother tolerates her but you will never see them having lunches or shopping sprees together, bonding and doing all the mother in law and daughter in law kind of things. My younger sister from my second mother, dad has five wives by the way, she is one of the few people in my family who

genuinely cares for Sthabile. If I were to take another wife, I am sure she wouldn't be a fan.

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FUTHY

I get to Kuhle's office and when his PA tells me that he is not coming to work today, I ask for his home address. She doesn't give me any hassles, she just give me the address. Zamoh drives me there.

This time around I just bought a Spur meat platter. We get to Kuhle's house and the guards just let me in without asking questions. I climb off the car and head to the front door with the platter in my arms. In my other hand, I am carrying a plastic with juice and chocolate.

I ring the doorbell and a few seconds later he opens the door. Okay something is wrong because he doesn't look like the Kuhle I know. His eyes are puffy red which indicates that he has been crying. I wonder what is wrong. I love and care about him so

seeing him in this state breaks my heart.

Kuhle: "I already know that you are here to ask for a favour." He says smiling and taking the platter from my hands. He turns to head inside and I follow him.

Me: "you know what they say, the way to a man's heart is through his stomach." He leads me to the kitchen and places the platter on the counter. I also place the plastic on the counter.

Kuhle: "you already have my heart don't worry." I place my bag in the counter and go hug him. He hugs me back tightly.

Me: "you wanna talk about it?" he shakes his head.

Kuhle: "not now. But I am really glad to see you. You being here in my arms heals me." I melt like butter in his arms. I break the hug and look at him.

Me: "you're alone?"

Kuhle: “no I have guests but I am sure they will love to meet you.” He says taking my hand and leading me to what I think is the lounge. My throat goes dry when I see the king sitting there with a little girl and Sbo. I don’t care about the two other people that are with him. I am just embarrassed by what transpired at Limpopo. They all turn to look at us, me specifically. He smiles and I just look down.

King: “MaCele what a pleasure to see you again.” I raise my head and look at him.

Me: “hi your majesty.” He laughs.

King: “call me dad.”

Me: “my father is very jealous of that name.” he chuckles.

King: “call me baba then.”

Me: “that’s doable.” Kuhle leads me to a two seater couch. He sits down and I sit next to him.

Kuhle: "I am still stuck on the again part."

Sbo: "me and you both brother."

King: "remember that meeting your brother's and I went in Limpopo? That's where I met her. She was with her friend, Daniel. How are you feeling?" he asks and I know he is asking about the ants issue.

Me: "I am well baba. Whatever that man in a suit gave me really helped."

King: "he said you will have to appease the ancestors with a goat for swearing at him that day."
My eyes pop out.

Me: "isn't that a bit extreme?" he laughs.

Little girl: "can someone please tell us what us going on?" she says in a rather strong voice.

King: "we met at a lodge in Limpopo. They were intoxicated. They wanted to eat breakfast there but

the hostess chased them away because they were barefoot.”

Kuhle: “why were you guys barefoot?”

Me: “we had been wearing heels the whole night.” He nods.

King: “so my sons dismissed the hostess and asked for a table. I ordered them to join us. MaCele ordered juice. When the drinks came, she poured her juice in the glass but when she drank it, let’s just say it had fire ants. Mthembu gave her a portion and she said if something happens to her because of the portion, she will do something bad to Mthembu.” They all laugh and I just cover my face with my hands.

Little girl: “you are brave. I am Lisa by the way and don’t introduce yourself. I already know you. I am the one who made that picture go away.” She says looking at me and I already know that she is talking about the nude.

Me: "thank you."

Lisa: "you are my brother's lady friend so you are practically family." I chuckle at the lady friend part.

Sbo: "I am sure you brought food." I chuckle.

Me: "it's lunch hour so I couldn't come empty-handed."

Lisa: "is it enough for everyone?"

Me: "it's more than enough."

King: "then Lisa go and set the table with Sbo." They immediately leave. "Should I tell her son?"

Kuhle: "not now dad. I still have to figure some things out first." The king nods.

King: "so your father is Siyabulela Cele?" I nod. "That man yoh, he was the life of the party. We always got

into trouble when we were together. Even my mother hated him at some point." I frown while looking at him.

Me: "you know my father?"

King: "know is an understatement. Your father was the go to man. We both studied at Ongoye. At some point we were roommates."

Me: "why doesn't he talk about you though?"

King: "we grew apart. Someone told me false information about him in order to break our friendship. When I discovered the truth, it was too late. Your father is not the forgiving type."

Me: "he is now. When was the last time you saw or spoke to him?"

King: "a few years back."

Me: "he listens to me so if you wanna reconcile with

him, you can tell me.” he chuckles.

King: “I will think about it.”

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#MissChubby

SPONSORED CHAPTER

CHAPTER 52

Lisa calls us to the table and we all head there. We sit down and she dishes for her father. I wonder where Sthabile is.

Lisa: “you will dish for my brother MaCele and bhuti Sbo you will dish up for yourself because you don’t have a lady friend.” Both the brothers laugh. I dish for Kuhle and then dish for myself. We start eating. Lisa is busy telling her father about the place she lives in.

King: “I heard you were getting an award MaCele.” I chuckle.

Me: "yes. We are going to Libya next week. I hope you have your suit ready." I say looking at Kuhle. He smiles and looks down. I know he forgot.

Kuhle: "I wanna match with you so I wanted to know the colour of your dress first." I roll my eyes.

Me: "call Xoli and ask her. She is the one who knows the colour of my dress. It's a surprise. They don't wanna me to know."

Lisa: "you guys are going to Tripoli next weekend?"
Kuhle nods. "I have a client that I need to meet up with in Tobruk."

King: "you're already leaving SA?"

Lisa: "daddy you know that's how I roll. But I promise you, I will go back home with you and come back to Durban on Friday morning just in time for the flight."

King: "that's better. We still have to have some bonding sessions. And I am sure your mothers don't

even know that you are in the country.” She clears her throat.

Lisa: “I will call them but if they talk about the husband issue again, I am going to ignore them for the rest of my stay.”

Sbo: “stop being dramatic sisi.” Kuhle chuckles.

Kuhle: “I am not even going to complain.” My phone rings and I frown when I see who is calling.

Me: “I have to take this. I am sorry.” I stand up and head to the kitchen while answering the call. “Busani what’s up?”

Busani: “I am sorry for disturbing you Futhy but something happened at the Nongoma site where we are building Prince Kuhle’s palace. They didn’t inspect the site well. We started building and now the walls collapsed because the foundation wasn’t strong enough.”

Me: “who the fuck inspected that site?” something

like this has never happened before. Seems like someone is trying to sabotage me.

Busani: "Donna, she is a new land surveyor."

Me: "this project is huge. How can you let someone new deal with it? How can you be so incompetent?"

Busani: "I am sorry boss."

Me: "did someone get hurt?"

Busani: "Landile hurt his leg. The bricks collapsed on it. We are taking him to the hospital."

Me: "I will try and get a quick transport that will get him to Netcare here in Durban. Where does this Donna stay?"

Busani: "in Sydenham." I sigh.

Me: "I will let you know when I get the transport." I hang up. I head outside. I signal Zamoh to get off the car. He comes out, together with Thobeka and

Mabutho.

Zamoh: "what is it boss?"

Me: "I need you to go to the office and tell Zah to give you every single detail about a new land surveyor called Donna. She has crossed the wrong woman and she is going to regret it." I turn back and go inside the house. I head to the dining room. I have just lost my appetite. "Kuhle can I talk to you?" he stands up and come to me. We head to the lounge.

Kuhle: "what's wrong?"

Me: "do you have a chopper that is in KwaNongoma right now?" he scratches his head.

Kuhle: "yes. It's in the palace. What's wrong Futhy?" I narrate the story to him. "They must not take Landile to Benedictine because they are not going to get help there. Let me make some calls and then get back to you right now." He climb the stairs and

disappear to the hallway. I try and think of any enemies that I have and none come up. Who did this?

I head to the kitchen and take out bottled water from the fridge. I drink it in one go and breathe after that. I sit on the barstool and just think. I know that this is a sabotage. I wonder who assigned this land surveyor because Wendy, Richard and Matt always do the surveying. Kuhle comes back after a while.

Kuhle: "forward Busani's number to my phone." I quickly do as instructed. He taps on his phone for a while and then place it on the counter. He then comes to my side and hugs me. "Everything is going to be okay. Don't worry."

Me: "someone is trying to sabotage me Kuhle. Ever since I started DCC nothing like this has happened before."

Kuhle: "don't worry, we are going to get to the

bottom of this.” I nod.

Me: “I need to leave. I have to be at Nongoma by tomorrow morning.”

Kuhle: “you haven’t even told me what brought you here.” I chuckle. I totally forgot.

Me: “I wanted to ask you out on a double dinner date. Danny is coming to Durban this weekend and he is bringing his boyfriend. He wanted to dine with me and told me to bring a plus one so I thought about you.” He chuckles.

Kuhle: “I am very flattered and don’t worry I am going to come.” I roll my eyes.

Me: “I knew you were going to come. You don’t know how to say no to me.” he laughs.

Kuhle: “true that.”

Me: “can you drive me home? I have sent my guards somewhere.”

Kuhle: "okay. Let's go say goodbye to everyone then." We head to the dining room.

Me: "I am sorry about leaving in the middle of the lunch but there is an emergency that needs me at work."

Lisa: "is everything okay?" I look at her and suddenly an idea comes to mind.

Me: "you can hack anything from anywhere right?" she chuckles and nods. "Can you give me your number? I need you to hack someone for me but I will forward you all the details later on." I hand her my phone and she saves her number in there.

Lisa: "whatever it is that is wrong, we are going to sort it out." I nod.

Me: "bye everyone." Kuhle and I head out. We drive out in his BMW 320i. "So you are not going to tell me what is eating you?" he chuckles.

Kuhle: “no. but what I can tell you is that I am wifing you next year on Good Friday.” I giggle.

Me: “dream on my prince, dream on.” He laughs.

Kuhle: “we will see.”

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I am happy that Kuhle is the client for the Nongoma project. If it was another person, I would be facing a law suit right now. The guards come back home and give me the information they got about Donna. I quickly send it to Lisa. I then tell them about our little trip and then go pack my clothes. I should be going with Xoli since Zah is supposed to hold down the forte. I am sure Phumudzo is going to kill me for disturbing his fiancé so I just forget about her.

I video call Wendy and tell her that I need to her to be at Nongoma first thing tomorrow morning with her team. I decide no fuck it, we are going to sleep at Nongoma so that we can tackle on this issue first

thing in the morning. I call Xoli because as much as I have to do damage control, there are some things that I can't do by myself. She answers after a few rings.

Xoli: "boss lady."

Me: "Xoli I need you to book two suites for me at any lodge or hotel in Nongoma. I wanna check in tonight."

Xoli: "is everything okay?"

Me: "just a work emergency that I need to attend to."
she sighs.

Xoli: "okay I will book and then send you the references."

Me: "Xoli a wall collapsed in the Nongoma project leading to one of the workers getting injured. He should be here in a few hours. Contact Kuhle and make sure you settle his hospital bills and get

everything ready for him at Netcare in uMhlanga. Also call Zah and tell her to attend or cancel all my meetings for tomorrow.”

Xoli: “okay boss.” I hang up.

I take a shower and then dry my body. I pack my toiletries and put them in my weekend bag. I get dressed in a grey letter graphic drawstring waist jumpsuit and white sneakers. I comb my hair and tie it to a neat bun. I pack all my gadgets in the weekend bag and then head downstairs. I find the guards chatting in the kitchen. Mabutho is the one who is cooking.

Me: “change of plans, we are leaving in an hour. So go pack.” Zamoh and Thobeka head out.

Mabutho: “I am nearly done with this stew.” I chuckle.

Me: “no problem but you will have to pack it on containers.”

Mabutho: “we are going with the Amarok so tell

Zamoh to prepare it.” He nods.

I head to the backyard and just sit on the bench in the garden. I do breathing exercises to calm me down. Running a company can be hard because it's not all roses every time.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 53

By 8pm we arrive at Nongoma and we check in at Nongoma Inn. We go to our rooms, I am sharing a room with Thobeka. We get settled in and I take yet another shower. I get dressed in my short pajamas and go take my phone. I sit on the couch and just scroll on my phone waiting for Thobeka who is taking a shower. After she is done, she comes back wearing her sleepwear. She is so sexy, my brother is lucky to have her.

Me: "let's go eat supper and then we can rest because we need to be at the site early in the morning." She wears a coat and put her gun on the pocket. I chuckle. "Who can possible attack me here?" she laughs. I wear my silky gown.

Thobeka: “you may never know boss.” She takes her phone. We head out and find Mabutho and Zamoh at the door.

Me: “don’t tell me you guys have been standing here this whole time.”

Mabutho: “no but we suspected that you might wanna go to the restaurant for supper.” I nod. We get to the restaurant and settle down.

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The next morning I wake up at 4 am and go take a hot shower. I hope Wendy and her team are on the way, because if not, we are going to have a serious problem. When I am done I head to the bedroom and find Thobeka making the bed. We exchange greetings and she heads to the bathroom. I get dressed in leopard panel tee and joggers set with a two tone drawstring waist coat and black sneakers.

We get to the site without even having breakfast. I

find the construction workers and the site manager outside the office. We get to where they are standing and I clear my throat so that I can get their attention. They all turn to look at me.

Me: “morning everyone. I am very saddened about what occurred here yesterday. Not only did one of the workers get hurt but we lost money and right now we are losing time. Your task today is to get rid of the material that was damaged and clean the site. After that you can go home and come back after two weeks. You will get notified about your return date and don’t worry you are going to get paid for the two weeks you will spend staying at home.”

Site manager: “now get to work so that you can leave early.”

They get to work and I head inside the office with the site manager whose name is Jabu.

Me: "what really happened Jabu?" I ask sitting down.

Jabu: "I really don't know boss. We were actually done with the walls of the first floor."

Me: "didn't you first dig the basement area?"

Jabu: "eish that." he says scratching his head and I just sigh. Why did God give me amateur workers this time around?

Me: "ayy I will see you." I wear protective construction gears. I then head to where the construction workers are. "I am going to lend you guys a hand." They all seem confused but they don't say anything.

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It's 13:40 right now and we started working around 8am. I am kak tired. I decide to stop working. I head to the office and take off the protective gear. I say goodbye to Jabu and the workers and then head to

the parking lot. I find the guards with two of Kuhle's brothers.

Thobeka: "you look tired." I take off my coat and hand it to her.

Me: "wanted to do something to keep me busy, so I helped with moving the equipment around."

Mabutho hands me bottled water and I drink it.

Mkhululi: "sawubona sisi." I smile and look at them.

Me: "hey guys. What brings you here?"

Nqaba: "bhuti said we must bring you food because he suspected that you haven't eaten since morning."

I chuckle.

Me: "is he psychic or something?" they laugh. "Is there a place where we can sit down and eat?"

Mkhululi: "there is an open field which is not far from

here. You can sit there.”

Me: “okay. Drive and we will follow.” We get into the cars and drive behind their cars.

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XOLI

I get to the hospital where Landile is admitted. The receptionist tells me where his ward is at, so I go there. I get inside the ward and find him talking with a white woman. I clear my throat and they both turn to look at me.

Landile: “may I help you?”

Me: “I need to speak to you alone.”

White woman: “we will talk later.” She stands up and heads out. I shut the door after her and go sit on the visitors’ chair.

Me: “I am Nomxolisi by the way and I work for Futhy

Cele.” He chuckles.

Landile: “she sent you here? Couldn’t she come herself?”

Me: “she is the owner of a huge company. She has responsibilities. As we are speaking, she is at Nongoma trying to do damage control for the mess that happened there.”

Landile: “so why are you here?”

Me: “I am here to tell you that what happened was a mistake. It could’ve happened to anyone. We are very saddened by it. We wish you a speedy recovery but please don’t tell the press about the accident. DCC is going to pay you for the whole time while you are sitting at home recovering. They will actually triple your pay.” He chuckles.

Landile: “is this your way of buying my silence?”

Me: “actually sir this is just standard procedure. You see, if you tell anyone about this accident, especially

the press, you will be sued because you will be breaching your contract. You signed a non-disclosure agreement where you agreed not to disclose anything that happens in the site. The consequences of you going to the press will lead to you being unemployed for the rest of your life.” He huffs.

Landile: “I didn’t say I will go to the media.”

Me: “ungaphika nabamhlophe. They will leave you poor after they benefit from this scandal. Do the right thing sir and think about your family. They may promise you maybe a hundred thousand but will that last you for your whole life?” I stand up. “You will get your salary on the agreed date. Don’t take a decision that you will regret for the rest of your life.” I head out.

Zah told me that there might be a sabotage on this issue and that the person responsible for this might come to Landile and offer him a deal so I had to act

fast. I get to the parking lot and climb inside the car. The driver drives to gateway where we do groceries and then head home. I can't wait for tomorrow where I will be Phumudzo's wife traditionally.

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We get to Durban and it's already 9pm. We get to my house and have supper which we bought at KFC. I loved the food that the Zulu brothers brought. It was so delicious. It was a home cooked. They said it was prepared by one of the maids. We then head to our rooms. I shower, wear my night dress and then get to bed. I call Noma and inform her about this issue I am facing at work. She is also my company lawyer.

When I am done, I contact Xoli and she tells me about the conversation she had with Landile, what a chancer. When I am done, I receive a text from Lisa saying she has some information and she would like to see me tomorrow before they leave because they are headed to Nongoma. I tell her that I will come

tomorrow morning. I then say my night prayer and then drift to sleep.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 54

I wake up, bath and then get dressed in a flounce trim floral dress and yellow sandals. I comb my hair and tie it. I really love tying my hair. I then wear a yellow doek. I take my Avetandor car keys, bag and phone. I go downstairs and find Mabutho coming out of the in house gym.

Me: "hi Butho and bye Butho." He laughs.

Mabutho: "I am not even going to ask anything."

Me: "good boy."

I head to the garage and drive out my car. I first drive to the petrol station to fill up the tank. I then buy powerade. I get inside the car and drive to Kuhle's

house. I get there and find Kuhle stretching outside the house. I park my car in the driveway and head to where he is at. Holy fuck, he is shirtless.

Me: "morning my prince." He smiles.

Kuhle: "morning my queen. I would hug you but I don't wanna leave sweat all over your beautiful dress. You look wonderful this morning." I blush and roll my eyes.

Me: "you don't have to complement me that much Kuhle." I study his chest and abs. His chest has ink. "You have tattoos? What kind of a prince tattoos himself?"

Kuhle: "my kind."

Me: "where can I find Lisa?"

Kuhle: "you will find her in the kitchen." I get inside the house and head to the kitchen.

Me: “thought I would find you cooking.” I say when I see Lisa sitting in one of the barstools. She giggles.

Lisa: “I don’t wanna burn my brother’s kitchen. But can I make you coffee?” I nod and sit down. She makes me coffee and she hands it to me.

Me: “so what do you have for me?”

Lisa: “do you know a Nqobile Mthiyane?” I frown and try to remember and then the light bulb goes on.

Me: “she was always competing with me while I was still studying at Wits. She was really bitter and she was always on my case. I last saw her on graduation day. I thought that would be the last time I hear of her name.”

Lisa: “she is the founder and owner of Conquers Architects.”

Me: “oww yah. I know that company. I thought it was based in Jo’burg.”

Lisa: "Donna Magnes is her childhood friend. They planned this and seems like they have been planning your downfall for a while now. They haven't succeeded because this Landile guy who got hurt isn't interested in what they are planning. Whatever you said to him worked."

Me: "Xoli is the one who went and talked to her."

Lisa: "well she is amazing."

Me: "I will have to do something to thank her."

Lisa: "I need you to be careful. This Nqobile person seems to have a plan B, C, D. You just have to stay alert because it seems like she won't be giving up." I sigh.

Kuhle: "MaCele come and pick a suit for me to wear." He says standing in the doorway. He only has a towel around his waist.

Me: "but why me?"

Lisa: "if not you, then who? Plus this is your way of paying me." I chuckle.

Me: "unbelievable. You do know I would've paid you 6 figures."

Lisa: "he pays me better." She says pointing at Kuhle with her eyes.

Me: "fine." I stand up. "Lead the way." We head to his room. It's really huge and it is very beautiful.

Kuhle: "my closet is that way. I am one of the lobola negotiators so I have to look good." He says taking off his towel and lotioning. I just swallow hard and go to the closet. I have never really chose clothes for a man. This is my first time.

He has really nice clothes. I take out his safari two piece suit which is mustard and black vest. And no I am not trying to match with him but this suit is very beautiful. I bend and take black dress shoes from the shelf below. I hear a whistle and I stand up very quickly.

Kuhle: “nice ass you got there.” he says licking his lips. He is now wearing underwear and socks.

Me: “you’ve seen it before. What’s the fuss now?” he chuckles and come to stand in front of me.

Kuhle: “it’s a really great ass and I would love to see it every day.” His hands travel all over my body and land to my ass, grabbing it. I wimp.

Me: “here is your suit. You are going to be late.”

Kuhle: “they can wait. For now I feel like servicing my wife. I have reason to believe she last got laid at the hotel.” I swallow hard.

Me: “Kuhle not now and definitely not at your matrimonial home.” He takes his hands off my ass and sighs. He then takes his suit, vest and shoes.

Kuhle: “you wanna match with me?” I chuckle.

Me: “no. I will see you later kwa Xoli.”

Kuhle: “can I get a kiss before you leave?”

Me: "Kuhle..."

Kuhle: "please." I sigh standing on my toes and kissing him. I break the kiss and then head out.

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I first head to the mall to buy booze and a gift for Xoli. I know this occasion doesn't need gifts but Xoli is special and deserves to be pampered every now and then. I buy a cold six pack of Belgravia to get me in the mood. I then drive to Xoli's homestead while drinking and listening Prince Kaybee's Project Hope album.

I get to Xoli's home and find the negotiators already there and seems like they are discussing things. I hope Xoli's father charge them a lot because Phumudzo is rich, he needs to pay. I drive my car to the gate and a boy opens the gate for me. I drive in and park the car just outside the garage. I kill the

engine, finish my second can and then fix my doek and make-up. I climb off the car and get inside the house. I find mom sitting with some ladies in the kitchen.

Me: "sanibonani." They all greet back.

Mom: "how are you baby?"

Me: "I am fine ma. Where is Xoli?"

Mom: "you and this name of yours. It's trending and almost everyone is calling her that." I laugh. "She is in the second room on your right down the corridor."

Me: "okay ma." I head to the direction she said. I open the door and 6 pairs of eyes turns to look at my direction. "Hi everyone." They greet back. Xoli stands up and comes to hug me.

Xoli: "thanks for coming boss."

Me: "anything for you. And thank you for what you

did with Landile.”

Xoli: “a pleasure. I felt so alive after that moment in the ward.” I laugh and she also laughs.

Me: “you look beautiful.” She smiles.

Xoli: “thank you. By the way these are my cousins, Thelu and Thalente. Then these are my high school friends Khazimula and Zoletha and you know Zah.”

Me: “nice to meet you all.”

Zoletha: “you’re the one driving the Lamborghini outside?” I smile and nod. “Your boyfriend must be rich to have bought you an expensive and beautiful car like that.”

Khazimula: “blessee tendencies babes. You should hook us up with his friends.” They giggle and hi five.

Zah: “FYI...”

Me: “Zanele no. don’t.” she huffs and drinks

whatever that is on her cup. I know she was about to defend my honor but I don't care what people think about me. I take out a small gift bag from my bag and hand it to Xoli. "Happy malobolo day Mrs. Modisane to be." She smiles.

Xoli: "thank you so much Futhy but you didn't have to." Zah and I laugh.

Zah: "don't be modest dear. Boss did you bring any cold stuff? My throat isn't taking this hot wine well." I chuckle.

Me: "let's go to my car. We will come back later Xoli." We head out and find Mabutho, Zamoh and Thobeka parking the Amarok in the yard. We wait until they are out of the car. They come to where we are standing. "I hope you brought me food because I am starving." Thobeka looks at Zamoh.

Thobeka: "5 points for Thobeka." Mabutho and

Zamoh laugh.

Me: “and then?”

Thobeka: “well I told them that since you left home without eating, I am sure you haven’t had time to have breakfast. Worry not because I, your favorite bodyguard, bought you a wimpy breakfast.”

Mabutho: “just because of food, you are suddenly the favorite?” I laugh because his tone is girly.

Thobeka sticks out her tongue and head to the car. She comes back with a wimpy paper bag. She hands it to me.

Me: “you’re the best.”

Thobeka: “in your face Butho.” We all just laugh. I hand Zah my car keys.

Me: “there is a cold 4 pack in the passenger seat and there is also more booze in the boot. Take it out and take it to the kitchen.”

Zah: “but the 4 pack is staying in the car, also one bottle of vodka.” I just laugh shaking my head.

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The negotiations went well. We are now sitting at the marquee at the backyard and drinking because we have served the food to the in laws. We are sitting with them here at the marquee and some of them are making jokes. Kuhle is sitting next to me.

Phumudzo: “I am so glad that this part is over. Now we can look forward to the actual wedding.”

Zah: “so you are leaving with them tonight?”

Xoli: “no. I will go there next weekend because of the awards.”

Khazimula: “what awards?”

Xoli: “well...”

Me: “Mzansi Magic Awards which I am attending

with my blesser.”

Zoletha: “told you she is a blessee.” My friends look at me like I have grown horns. “I mean how else can she afford a car like that without a sponsor?”

Kuhle: “wow.” He sips on his beer.

Noma: “I am not even going to say anything.”

Lee: “me either.”

Zoletha: “there is nothing wrong with this lifestyle. We love the nice life. She is not ashamed to show it.”

Mbuso: “do you what her name is?”

Mabutho: “have you ever seen a blessee with guards?”

Khazimula: “where are the guards?” she asks laughing. Okay fun is over.

Me: “the name is Ntombifuthi fuckin Cele. You can Google me umungangazi.” I sing the last part. “You have beautiful suits in your closet. Why do you need

a new one?" I whisper to Kuhle.

Kuhle: "same reason why you need a new dress while you have very beautiful dresses in your closet."

Me: "but I am a woman. I need to wear something new to an occasion like this."

Kuhle: "and I am a prince and I need to wear something new to an occasion like this." I laugh.

Me: "what a comeback."

Khazimula: "you are the famous Futhy?"

Lee: "now you know. Can we drink in peace now or you wanna Google everyone on this marque?"

Khazimula shakes her head.

Noma: "now that's out of the way, where are we going tonight?"

Zah: "maybe at Mojos Carwash."

Xoli: "am I also going?" she asks batting her eyelashes at Phumudzo.

Phumudzo: “fine but I am never going to get you out of my sight.” We all laugh. Mbuso and Phumudzo are so overprotective of their woman, it’s cute.

Kuhle: “and please, no provoking outfits.” He says looking at me and I just chuckle. Kuhle thinks he is my boyfriend. Can someone please tell him that I am still the single Ntombifuthi Cele? I feel like he is claiming something that is not his but I am going to let him off the hook because I still don’t know why he was crying. Maybe he is going through a lot.

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CHAPTER 55

Right now I am driving with Kuhle to the hotel where we are meeting Danny and Afrika. I had totally forgot but luckily he called to remind me. I didn't even go to my house to change because it's already late. Kuhle has also not changed, he is still wearing his suit.

His guards are driving behind us. He is driving my car. I am kak tired and my feet hurt and I am also a little tipsy. I gave my guards the afternoon off. I mean they are always with me so I have to give them time to breathe, plus Kuhle's guards are here so I am perfectly safe. I yawn and stretch my arms, yeah I am that tired.

Kuhle: "maybe we should just cancel this date." I shake my head.

Me: "Danny is going to kill me if I don't come. Can we pass the petrol station first so that I can get a Monster Energy?"

Kuhle: "as you wish my queen."

He drives to a petrol station, goes out and comes back moments later with the energy drink. He hands it to me and I drink it instantly. He drives to the hotel after that. We get there and go to the restaurant. This restaurant is so cozy and private, you have to leave your phones at the entrance. It's a perfect place for people who are having affairs. We hand our phones to the hostess and she hands us cards in return. She then calls a waiter who leads us to our table.

Danny: "bitch you finally made it!" he shouts as soon as he sees me. I rush and give him a tight hug.

Me: "how are you babes?"

Danny: "flourishing as always, how are you honey?"

Me: "I am okay, just tired because I started drinking early in the morning."

Danny: "drunkard." I laugh. We exchange greetings with our dates and then settle down. The waiter takes our orders and then leave.

Me: "why this place of all places?"

Danny: "Blue you're famous, the prince is famous. If we went to a regular restaurant, you guys would've trended within a few hours and journalists would've made their own conclusions, plus your outfits are" he shrugs "nawe uyazibonela."

Kuhle: "you're right Danny. I still want to enjoy my relationship with my queen before we let it be known to the public. Thank you for thinking of us." I turn to look at him with my eyes wide opened. Guys Kuhle is

hallucinating. Something is wrong in his head.

Afrika: "so you guys are an item?"

Me: "actually..." the monster next to me interrupts me.

Kuhle: "something like that, but I wanna get my affairs in order first before I can publicize our relationship. I don't wanna hide how I feel about her." I swallow hard. Luckily the waiter brings our drinks at that instant moment. I take the glass of water and gulp it down on one go.

Danny: "my prince you are scaring my friend with your serious talk." Kuhle turns to look at me and he just kisses me. What the hell? I actually freeze. Danny chuckles and I unfreeze and break the kiss.

Me: "umm how is work Danny?" I try to change the subject. He giggles and drinks his wine.

Danny: “boring really. Is it wrong for me to wish to go back to Limpopo?” I shake my head.

Me: “not at all. There are a lot of things we didn’t have to deal with at that place.”

Danny: “I should thank your employee, the one whose wedding we attended. If it wasn’t for her, I wouldn’t have met my very own prince charming.” He says looking at Afrika who smiles in return. Aww, love is in the air.

Me: “stop making me jealous. Some of us are single guys.”

Kuhle: “MaCele if you have nothing better to say, just shut up.” I gasp and Danny chokes on his drink.

Me: “I need to use the restroom.” I stand up and head to where the toilets are. I get there and just rinse my face with cold water from the sink. The restroom door opens and Danny walks in.

Danny: "bitch what was that?"

Me: "I don't know. I think His Majesty is delusional or something." He bursts out laughing. "This is no laughing matter dear friend. He has been like this since Wednesday or is it Thursday? I am not sure." I say taking paper towels and wiping my face.

Danny: "it is rather interesting watching you being uncomfortable." I squash the paper towel and throw it in his face. He continues laughing.

Me: "what a friend you are."

Danny: "hey, I didn't say make the prince fall head over heels in love with you."

Me: "ahh let's just go back to the table. I am famished."

Danny: "as you wish my queen." He bows.

Me: "fuck you." I pass him and head out. He laughs and follows me. We sit down on the chairs. "So Afrika, how is the long distance relationship?" he smiles.

Afrika: "We are making it work but he has been hinting about coming to stay in JHB for quite some time now."

Me: "that's good. So what are your intentions for my friend?" Danny looks at me. "Is it wrong of me to ask that?" Afrika smiles.

Afrika: "you are not wrong. I do wish to take our relationship to the next level but I am going to wait for the distance matter to be solved."

Me: "that's good to hear because if you were planning on playing with his feelings, I was going to kill you." He laughs.

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KUHLE

I have contacted my mother and asked her to call for a meeting which will be next weekend because this weekend I am going to Libya. I also asked her to call Sthabile's family to be present. I don't want her

saying we chased her out without good reason. I want everyone to know what kind of a woman she is. I really wonder how my ancestors welcome the children into my family when they don't have my blood running through their veins.

Futhy has made quite the impression on my siblings, even Lisa. They literally call me every day to ask about her. They have become a nuisance because every time they be like 'where is sis Futhy?' 'When are we going to see her again?' 'When are you bringing her to the palace?' they are obsessed, I am telling you. My phone rings and the caller is Sthabile. Her name angers me. I answer the call.

Stha: "hey babe. How are you?" even her voice annoys me.

Me: "I am fine dear wife. How are you?"

Stha: "I am good, just missing you. The kids also miss you."

Me: "we will see each other soon."

Stha: "which brings me to the message from your mother. She said there is an urgent family meeting. What is it all about?"

Me: "I am clueless like you but I guess we will all find out together next week."

Stha: "okay then. Amahle wants to speak to you."

Me: "give her the phone." I hear some shuffling.

Amahle: "how are you Amahle's father?" hearing her say that just bring tears to my eyes. I have loved these children with all my heart ever since they were born. I have nurtured them and gave them my all. And now they are going to be taken away from me, just like that?

Me: "I am fine daddy's princess. I just miss my princess very much."

Amahle: "mama said we will see you at the palace."

Me: "yes princess. Daddy will see you soon."

Amahle: "love you daddy."

Me: "love you too princess." I hang up and just cry. Women are cruel creatures. When I am done mopping around, I go visit my lawyer. I get to his firm and go straight to his office. I find him shagging his secretary. "I am sure your orgasms can wait. My matter is very important." The secretary dresses up quickly and rushes out.

Phila: "cockblocker." He says dressing up. I laugh and sit on the couch.

Me: "some of us are abstaining so asife sonke." He laughs.

Phila: "in your dreams man." he sits on his chair. "How can I help you?"

Me: "I want you to draw up divorce papers for Sthabile as soon as possible. She has been using me for all these years we have been together. The kids belong to Gary. I want her to receive nothing and I want the kids to get maintenance every month. I want someone who will buy them clothes and all necessities every month. The money must not go to Sthabile."

Phila: "wow. I am sorry man. I didn't know you were going through this. When did you find out?"

Me: "a few days ago. I was still trying to process everything and think of my next steps." He sighs.

Phila: "okay. You will find them ready for you when you come back from Libya."

Me: "that would be very good my friend. I have asked for a family meeting next weekend where I am going to expose Sthabile."

Phila: "how are you holding up?" he asks in a

concerned voice.

Me: “taking each day as it comes. I am going to be okay plus God has blessed me with a magnificent woman, so I am going to be fine.” He smiles.

Phila: “you talking about that fine ass architect slash engineer?” I laugh.

Me: “fuck you.”

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 56

It is Friday morning and we are at the airport. We are waiting for Zah and Aria who are coming with my dress. Also Danny has not arrived yet. I am not even sure that he is coming or not. Lee is the one who is holding my phone because she feels like I am stressing and I keep on calling the others who have not arrived.

Zah and Aria finally arrive. Now the only person who is not here is Danny. I am going to kill him. Dad keeps on looking at Kuhle and shaking his head. I know he wants to say something but he won't talk now as I am still stressed. Finally the queen shows up. He is looking all kinds of glam, you'd swear he is going to a fashion show.

Danny: "Blue babes, I am sorry I am late. I had a..."

Me: "save it." I raise my hand to stop him from speaking. "Kuhle please lead the way."

Kuhle: "please follow me." we follow him to where the jet is and we climb inside. We settle in and then the plane takes off. Danny comes and sit next to me.

Danny: "are you seriously going to ignore me for 15 hours?" I chuckle.

Me: "I don't want your excuse Danny. I am just happy that you are here."

Danny: "are you?" he asks tilting his head to the side.

Me: "I will be once I have a cocktail in my hand."

Danny: "drunkard." I laugh. I look at my parents.

Me: "mom and dad this is Daniel, a friend I made at Limpopo and that is Aria my employee and you know Kuhle, the prince. He is my friend and business

associate and dad stop looking at him like that. You are making him uncomfortable.” Dad chuckles.

Dad: “apologies for that son. I didn’t mean to. It’s just that I get uncomfortable when a man looks at my daughter like that.”

Me: “like what dad?”

Dad: “he knows. What does a man have to do to get a beer around here?”

Kuhle: “let me go and tell the waiter to prepare refreshments for you.”

Me: “and breakfast for me.” he smiles.

Kuhle: “as you wish my queen.” He quickly dashes off.

Dad: “my queen huh? Sithule siyabuka.”

Noma: “yes dad, sithule siyabuka.” She says giving me a smirk. I mouth a ‘Fuck off’ and she laughs.

We land after hours of travelling and to say my butt is sore will be an understatement. Kuhle's jet is comfortable but I hate sitting for long hours. I am happy that we are all going to the Radisson Blue hotel. Somehow Kuhle's assistant managed to get space for everyone. We drive there and check in. I actually got a presidential suite but I am not sharing with anyone. I get to my room, take a shower first and then drift to sleep.

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The following morning I am woken up by movements inside the suite. I sit up from the bed and look around. I see a helper who is moving around the room.

Me: "can I help you?"

Helper: "you're awake? Good morning and welcome to Radisson Blu hotel. I was sent by Prince Kuhle to give you a light breakfast and to wish you all the best for today." I smile. Her accent when mentioning

Kuhle's name is very amusing.

Me: "thank you. Let me brush my teeth first."

I get up from the bed and head to the bathroom. I brush my teeth and then decide to take a quick shower. When I am done I wrap a towel around my waist and go back to the bedroom. I find the bed already made and the helper gone. I go to the balcony and smile when I see a plate of food with juice and a blue flower. The prince is romantic. The sea view is so beautiful and actually refreshing. I sit down and eat my light breakfast. It's two toasted slices of bread, an egg, 2 strips of bacon and tomatoes.

When I am done eating, I lotion my body and get dressed in white drop shoulder top and split side skirt set with white Hibacci sneakers. I comb my hair and let it fall down. I have to find a salon here so that I can do something about my hair. I wanna change the colour, I have been Blue for far too long now. I

pack my things in my handbag and head out. I just shake my head when I find my guards at the door. We go to the Al mina restaurant.

My family and friends are already sitting at a table. We join them and breakfast is brought to our table. I guess they had already ordered. The food here is delicious. Ayy the review I will be giving when I leave this hotel will be good.

Danny: “no fire ants this time around?” he asks drinking his juice and I burst out laugh.

Lee: “what is he talking about?”

Me: “heee, I nearly died in Limpopo. We went to this lodge where we wanted to have breakfast and they didn’t wanna let us in because we were barefoot. Someone talked some sense to the hostess and they finally allowed us in, only to put fire ants in our juice. I would’ve been 6 six feet under if it wasn’t for

a healer that helped me.”

Dad: “why didn’t you tell us this?”

Me: “I didn’t wanna bother you dad. Plus I survived.”

Mom: “but we deserved to know and we should definitely sue that lodge.”

Me: “mom you are exaggerating.”

Noma: “actually I agree with her.” I look at her with begging eyes.

Me: “Noma come on.”

Noma: “I have booked the spa for us. We are heading there after we finish eating and after that we are going to the salon to our hair and nails.”

Me: “you are dismissing me, just like that?”

Noma: “yep.” Kuhle chuckles. I give him a death stare and he just rolls his eyes.

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We are now preparing for the awards ceremony. I have dyed my hair brown. I must admit I am going to miss being Billie Eilish. My dress is wow! I mean Simamiso Mthembu knows her stuff. It's a beautiful Xhosa black and white mermaid dress with a peplum. I am also wearing neck beads and a black head wrap. I am also wearing black butterfly and rhinestone décor sandals. I feel like a Xhosa queen right now.

The door to my suite opens and in enters my Zulu prince or should I say Xhosa prince because wow. He is wearing a nice black suit and white shirt with umbhaco cloth, a Xhosa beaded tie and head band. He is also wearing black flowered print perforated dress shoes. He looks so handsome right now. Fuck I love you Kuhle. He smiles.

Kuhle: "I love you too." I nearly faint. Did I just do what I think I did?

Me: "did I?"

Kuhle: "yes." He comes closer to me. "I love you infinity times infinity my queen."

Me: "Kuhle stop. It just slipped." I cover my face with my hands. "What did I just do?" he takes my hands off my face and places them in his chest.

Kuhle: "this beats for you only. Plus you are ruining your make up by touching your face. You look so beautiful by the way. Like my true African Queen." I just melt like butter. He kisses me and I just kiss him back. Someone knocks on the door and we quickly break the kiss.

Me: "come in." I say taking my clutch from the bed.

Noma: "wow babes." she says and I turn to look at her with a smile. "Did we miss the memo? Coz it looks like today is your wedding day, both of you."

Kuhle laughs and I just giggle. She is looking beautiful in a beige spandex strapless sweetheart mermaid court train formal dress and gold stiletto heel slip-on pointed toe low-cut upper thin shoes.

Kuhle: “imagine how we would look like on our actually wedding day ke?” Noma laughs and I just blush rolling my eyes. The door opens and Lee walks in looking so beautiful in a hualong sexy deep V-neck cape emerald green jumpsuit and black wide fit Nova barely there heeled sandals. My eyes just water.

Me: “guys why do you have to look so beautiful? You are stealing my spotlight.” They all laugh.

Lee: “Kuhle please tell her that she looks absolutely stunning and she looks like a true queen that she is.”

Me: “aww.”

Kuhle: “my queen you look wonderful, beautiful, sexy,

accomplished, and successful. Like you are on top of the world and everyone bows to you. You are just perfect”

Me: “stop talking or I am going to cry.” They laugh.

Noma: “look at me crying like a fool.” She says wiping her eyes. I just giggle and look up to stop my tears from falling. When I finally calm down I look at all of them.

Me: “okay let’s go get my award.”

Lee: “that’s the spirit.” We head out and find the others at the corridor.

Mabutho: “you look beautiful boss but this will complete your look.” He says handing me a black and white beaded knobkerrie which matches with my outfit.

Me: “thank you very much.” I take it.

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We are now seated at the front row of Tripoli Congress Centre. Well I am seating with Kuhle. I chose him to seat with me because Mom is with dad, Lee with Noma, my guards together, Danny, Aria and Zah are bonding. The show is amazing really. There are African and international artists performing. The awards ceremony comes to an end and only one category is left. The Best Architect of the Year. The presenter starts speaking. I am so nervous right now. I'd do anything for a shot of whiskey.

Presenter: "architecture should speak of its time and place but yearn for timelessness." This is a quote by a famous architect Frank Gehry who designed the iconic Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. "Much like a painted masterpiece, architecture is an art form that has the ability to delight, inspire and transform. In pure architecture the smallest detail should have a meaning or serve a purpose."

“The following architects have been doing very good for themselves and have been giving their clients and followers unique and special designs. They are all special and talented. The nominees are Josephine Sheen from Oran, Algeria; Kostadin Arrigo from Cape Coast, Ghana; Mischa Prado from Juba, South Sudan; Ntombifuthi Cele from Durban, South Africa and Patrick Muonagor from Niamey, Niger.”
Wow all these nominated architects are amazing. I have seen their work.

“And the winner who is also a recipient of \$1 000 000 from the African Architecture Organization is Ntombifuthi Cele from South Africa.” I freeze. Like what the actual fuck. I am brought back by Kuhle shaking me. I look at him with my eyes popped out.

Me: “they are calling me?” he laughs.

Kuhle: “yes. Now stand up.”

Me: "please hold me because I am shaking." He stands up and helps me to stand up. We both walk to the stage. The presenter hands me the award, the way I am shaking, even this award feels heavy. I lean on the podium so that I won't fall. I start being emotional and I know that this time around there is no stopping the tear works. I quickly wipe them and clear my throat.

"Wow. Umm I am no church goer but I would first like to thank God because all this wouldn't have been possible without Him. I wanna thank my parents, Sijabulile and Siyabulela Cele for believing in me and my dreams ever since I was a teenager. Our industry is filled with successful men to such an extent that it might scare you to stand out and go independent. So I wanna thank my parents again for encouraging me to chase my dreams even though they seemed like just fairytale at first." I stop and wipe my tears again which haven't stopped falling.

“I wanna thank my two best friends, Dr. Lindelwa Nkosi and Miss Nomalanga Biyela, who have been there for me for 12 years and still counting. They have been my pillars in all aspects of life and I thank them for that. I also wanna thank my second dad and mentor Dr. Lethukuthula Hlongwa for being there for me academically and for teaching me almost everything I know today. I wanna thank all my employees for keeping my vision for Dubandlela Construction Company alive till now.”

“I wanna thank every member of my family who has been there for me. I also wanna thank all my clients for believing on me and trusting me with their homes, companies and all. I also wanna thank my dear friend Kuhle for all that he has done for me.” I turn to stare at him with a smile and then turn back to the audience again. “I also wanna thank all my friends for being honest and understanding with me. There is nothing we all need and deserve like true friends.”

“I also wanna thank myself.” Everyone laughs. “I wanna thank myself for believing in me, I wanna thank myself for not giving up even when times were difficult, I wanna thank myself for being goal driven and hungry for success. Lastly I wanna thank the African Architecture Organization for such a wonderful opportunity. Marty Neumeier once said ‘The most innovative designers consciously rejects the standard option box and cultivate an appetite for thinking wrong.’ Thank you very much.” I go back to my seat. I am still shaking but at least the tears have stopped.

Kuhle: “that was amazing and congratulations.” He says smiling to me.

Me: “thank you.” I smile back.

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CHAPTER 57

We get to the hotel lobby. I know I am used to wearing heels but I am kak tired. Zah took care of the money I won so it is going to reflect on my personal account by Monday morning. I think it's safe to say that I will be worth billions by the end of next year. OMG! It's actually December. I can't believe I have not realized that. But no one can blame me though. The last couple of days has been so busy.

It's still the first week of December so it's still okay. I am also just happy that I am going to give my employees bonuses and it isn't going to leave a wound in my account of the company's account. Noma shakes me and I look at her.

Noma: "being a millionaire can make you black out heh?" she asks and they all laugh.

Me: "no I was just thinking that I didn't realize that it's already December."

Zah: "yeah, the past month has been so busy."

Me: "you can say that again." Kuhle clears his throat and scratches his head. "What is it?"

Kuhle: "an emergency just came in so we have to leave in about 30 minutes."

Danny: "and here I thought I was still going to mingle with these fine African brothers." They all laugh.

Noma: "okay. Let's go then." They all leave me standing with Kuhle.

Me: "what is wrong?"

Kuhle: "I will sort it out, don't worry."

Me: "okay."

I head to my suite. I first take out my clothes and go shower. When I am done, I get dressed in my black Loyalty tracksuits, white adidas socks and black Versace palazzo pool sliders. I put on a Loyalty beanie on my head. I pack all my belongings and then head out. Zamoh take my luggage and we all head down to the lobby. We check out and then drive to the airport.

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We land in South Africa around 16:00. I am so tired, I need to sleep. We all head to the cars and drive out of the airport. I just put my head on Thobeka's lap and drift to sleep. I am woken up by someone shaking me. I wake up and sit up straight. I am happy I am home, it looks like we are at the garage. We get out and head inside the house. We get to the lounge and I just hear SURPRISE screams.

I jump up and scream. Wow I wasn't expecting this. Tears just roll down my eyes. They all bombard me with hugs and kisses. Everyone who knows me is here, well almost everyone. Most of my clients, the Ntuli brothers, Kuhle's friends, my employees, my family, my second parents (Mr. and Mrs. Hlongwa) and other people. I even see my neighbors.

Me: "wow hi everyone." They laugh.

Xoli: "come change so that we can start the party." I smile. She leads me to my room. There is a pink patchwork high waist wide legs jumpsuit and black Versace virtus leather mules. My eyes pop out because I know they are very expensive.

Me: "don't tell me you bought these shoes with you money." She laughs.

Xoli: "it's the lobola money boss. I am rich."

Me: "NOMXOLISI!" I exclaim. She laughs again.

Xoli: “kidding. Phumudzo is the one who paid for them.” I smile.

Me: “let me freshen up then I will join you guys in a few.” She leaves.

I take a quick shower and then get dressed in the clothes they bought for me. I do a quick natural make-up and then head downstairs. I find the people I went with to Libya in different outfits.

Me: “you guys knew about this?” they all laugh.

Kuhle: “the main reason why we left Libya in a hurry.”

Me: “wow you conniving...” he raises his eyebrow, “Handsome man.” they laugh.

Lele: “okay let’s go outside.” He takes my hand and leads me to the backyard. Wow. This is magnificent. The marquee is placed on top of the pool, well it covers the pool. The tables and chairs are set on top of the pool. The pool is covered with a pool glass

cover. I look at Lele.

Me: “you planned all this?” he shrugs smiling.

Lele: “something like that but I had a little help from Xoli, Thando and Lindsay.” I attack him with a hug.

Me: “I love you bro and thank you.”

Lele: “I love you too.” We break the hug and head inside the marque. The award is already next to the cake. The décor is very beautiful. Its 3 shades of pink with white. He escorts me to my chair.

Me: “thank you.” I sit down. Lindsay and Danny take the mics. Yoh the drama ke nkosi.

Lindsay: “hey guys, I am Lindsay.”

Danny: “and I am Danny.”

Lindsay + Danny: “and we welcome you to Futhy’s

Celebratory dinner party.”

They call a few speakers whose speeches touch me. Like everyone is so loving. It warms my heart. I am actually shocked to see Busi here. She looks happy, or maybe she is pretending, I don't know and I don't care. Lele and Sakhile take the stage and perform their latest collabo which is dope. Thobeka is busy blushing like crazy and I just chuckle. I signal Gcino to come and he comes to my table.

Gcino: “hey sis.”

Me: “hey. Tell the person who is in charge of the food that I am hungry.” He chuckles and leaves.

Well starters have been served but I am very hungry. I need real food. Luckily after the performance Danny announces that dinner is served. Food comes and I dig in instantly. While eating everyone turns to look at the entrance. I also turn to see the Zulu

royals. Danny ushers them to a vacant table. I guess they knew that the royals are coming. They sit down and they are quickly served with food.

Danny: "I have never felt as important as I am feeling right now. I am in the presence of the royals, celebrities and very influential people. Blue my friend, your heart is the reason why everyone is here today. Today we get to see your heart with our own eyes through almost everyone in here." I giggle and wipe my eyes. These people are turning me to an onion.

Lindsay: "ncooh, you are making her tear up." everyone looks at me and I just cover my face with my hands. "Never thought I would see the boss lady shy. Things are happening good people." I just laugh removing my hands from my face and take a sip from my juice.

Danny: "we would to call Dr. Hlongwa to say a few words about our superwoman here." Hlongwa

comes to the stage and take the mic.

Hlongwa: "hi angel." I blush.

Me: "hey dad."

Dad: "yey!" he shouts and we all laugh.

Hlongwa: "couldn't you let me get away with this?" dad rolls his eyes and I laugh. "My princess I am over the moon about this. It's like I am the one who received this award. I have been boasting to almost everyone who cares to give me their attention. I am like 'this is my daughter, she was taught by me and I mentored her.' Your speech at the ceremony was just a tip of the iceberg. Thank you for making me proud and I wish you all the best in life nana." I stand up and hug him. I then go back to my seat and wipe my tears. He also goes back to his seat. Lee and Noma takes the stage.

Lee: "like Dr. Hlongwa, I also feel like I am the one who won this award. My friend I am so happy for you.

You know when we first strategized DCC at res we were like 'we are going to just have an office in Durban where clients will come and see you'. That was during our first year. As the years went by, in our third year you changed. I remember this day like it was yesterday. You said 'listen batase, everything is possible when I have a support system like yours so I am going to start a huge company. You know my bursary pays R3000 allowance, so I have been saving R1500 every month.'." noma takes over.

Noma: "you said, 'I already have R36000 in my bank minus the interest. I know that Dr. Hlongwa is going to give me an internship. When I start working I am also going to continue saving. I am telling you within 6 years I am going to start my own company.'" I choke on my tears because I can't believe they actually remember things I used to say in varsity.

Lee: "yes we listened to you. Even when you were drunk, you would mumble that one day you would

walk in a room and not have to introduce yourself because your reputation will precede you.”

Me: “just stop talking.” I stand up and go hug them tight. We just cry in each other’s arms. When we have finally calmed down, we break the hug and return to our seats.

Danny: “you guys are friendship goals.” I chuckle. I smile widely when I see Dakalo, Maumela, Bono and Alu entering the marque. The program continues and time comes for me to say a vote of thanks. I stand and take the mic.

Me: “I depleted my English bundles in Libya.” Everyone laughs. “When I was in my early teens, mom bought me a diary, I am pretty sure to write how my day was, who I saw, which boy I liked. But instead of writing I drew. When they both saw my designs, dad brought a sketchbook that month end home and mom brought drawing materials. By that

time I didn't even know what an adjustable triangle is but I knew how to use it." They laugh. "Mommy." She looks at me with a smile. I clear my throat and start singing.

"See I remember like it was just yesterday when you told me,

That I could be anything

Anything in the world as far as I could dream

You gave something out of nothing its plain to see

God blessed you with a girl that you raised from a kid to a queen

Thank you mama." I stop and most people cheer and scream. Mom is a crying mess right now.

Me: "Lwandle's dad." Dad looks at me with a smile. His arm is on his wife's shoulder, comforting her.

"He doesn't fight crime

Or wear a cape

He doesn't read minds
Or levitate
But every time my world needs saving
He's my superman
Some folks don't believe in heroes
'Cause they haven't met my dad.

He built me a house in the arms of a tree
He taught me to drive, and to fight, and to dream
When he looks in my eyes I hope he can see
That my dad's a hero to me

My dad's a hero to me

My dad's a hero to me." I stop singing and look at him. He has his head bowed. I know he is crying. I look around and most people are sniffing. I clear my throat.

Me: "I am sorry for making you guys emotional. It's just that Jabu and Lela has done so much for me and I feel like a simple thank you isn't enough. They are my world and I might not make time to see them as often as I wish but you guys are so important to me. I love you so much." Tears fall down my eyes and dad comes to hug me. He kisses my forehead.

Dad: "I love you so much my second love."

Me: "I love you too my first love." he calls me that because Busi is his first love as the first born and I am his second love. We break the hug and he goes back to his seat. "Today they fed me onions so that's why I am tearing up." everyone laughs. "Thank you Lele for organizing this. I love you so much bhuti and Busi, Thando and Gcino, I love you guys so much."

"Thank you to everyone who came. You guys are all important and thank you for coming to this last minute dinner."

Lele: "actually it wasn't. It was just a last minute to

you.” he says standing next to me. I just chuckle.

Me: “well enjoy the rest of your evening. FYI I designed and built this house from scratch so this is one of my designs.”

Zah: “levels boss.”

Me: “nje.” I say smirking and everyone laughs. Danny takes back the mic.

I go inside the house to change to the sliders I was wearing earlier on and go back outside to mingle with the guests. I go to the Hlongwas first and hug them. They brought their adorable kids with. We hug and they tell me they are leaving. We say our goodbyes and they leave. I then head to my grandparents who are sitting with the rest of the family.

Grandma kisses me on the lips and I giggle. Grandpa hugs me and kisses my cheek. I then move on to

some of my clients and colleagues. We exchange hugs and some tell me that they are leaving. I also go to the Ntuli brothers and they congratulate me. I am happy to see that there is no bad blood between Sandile and me. I bid farewells and then go to the Womalena family. They congratulate me and they tell me that they gave the gifts to Thando. I didn't even know there were gifts. I then move to the Zulu royals.

Me: "sanibonani and thank you for coming."

Lisa: "we wouldn't miss it for the world." She ended up not going to Libya because she found out that her parents are planning on doing umemulo for her.

Mkhululi: "you are beautiful sisi." I smile.

Sbo: "wearing pants in the presence of your in-laws makoti. You are going to pay." I laugh.

Me: "if we weren't in my house, I would entertain you."

Mthembu: "I believe you owe me an apology my queen." I look at him and then cover my face with my hands. They laugh at me.

Me: "thank you for saving my life and I am sorry for threatening you." he chuckles.

Mthembu: "it's water under the bridge." The king stands up.

King: "take me to your father MaCele." I smile and lead him to the patio where my father is seated with his brothers.

Me: "daddy, someone wants to talk to you." he smiles and stands up.

Dad: "old friend." They bro hug. I guess dad forgave him.

CHAPTER 58

KUHLE

Today is Saturday, the day of the meeting. Sthabile was supposed to arrive yesterday but she came up with a petty excuse. I have been crying since I arrived here yesterday. I didn't even go downstairs for dinner last night and breakfast today. I understand that I don't feel any love left for Sthabile because I fell out of love for her long ago. But the situation with my kids is very different. The door opens and my mother walks in with KaMahlaba, dad's second wife.

I am close with all of them because they treat my

mother well and they do love my father. The third wife is MaShezi. She is from Jozini and she has 4 kids with dad. Dad has super sperms, I tell you. The fourth wife is MaDubazane and she is from Mhlabuyalingana. She has 5 kids with dad. She has two pairs of twins. The last one is MaMolefe and she is from Mokopane. She is 3 years younger than me.

She has 2 kids with dad. Many say that she is with dad because of money and fame. I would say otherwise because I have seen how she is with dad but after what Sthabile did to me, there is nothing I can put past women. Mother and KaMahlaba sits on either side of my bed.

Mom: "Konke."

Me: "ma."

Mom: "talk to us. What is wrong?" I cover my face with my hands.

Me: “everything ma. First things first, you don’t have grandchildren from me.” I remove my hands from my face to look at their reactions. They seem very shocked.

KaMahlaba: “what are you talking about Sthuli?” all my mothers have a special name in which they call me. My mother calls me Konke, KaMahlaba calls me Sthuli which is my clan name, and MaShezi calls me Nkosana because I am the first prince. MaDubazane calls me Hlehle. I know it’s a girl’s name but she is my mom and I have a soft spot for all these women. MaMolefe calls me Kgosi which means king.

Me: “ma Sthabile has been using me all this time. She never loved me. She was just using me for my fame and wealth and security. The kids are not mine. She is dating my number one nemesis. They have been together for a very long time. Even long before we met.”

KaMahlaba: “yoh.” she stands up. “Let me go call your other mothers.” She leaves.

Mom: “how did you find out about this?”

Me: “what do you think Lisa is doing back in the country?”

Mom: “I am sorry babazi.” She hugs me tight and she sniffs. I know how she love my kids so this must also be hard on her. My other mothers walk in and sit on the bed. MaShezi sits on the couch. She has a spiritual gift so sometimes she isolates herself.

Me: “did you know ma?” I say looking at her. She shakes her head.

MaShezi: “your sneaky ancestors are secretive Nkosana. They can be frustrating sometimes.”

MaMolefe: “what is going on Kgosi?” mom narrates the whole story and when she is done they all cry.

MaDubazane: “now what is the way forward Hlehle?”

Me: “I am going to divorce her and banish her from here. But I am still going to take care of my kids. Just that I won’t give her maintenance money because she might maintain herself and forget about the kids.”

KaMahlaba: “you are kind hearted Sthuli. I would’ve killed her if I were you. This bitch has been toying with you and your feelings for more than 8 years. Divorce and ban is not enough punishment.”

Me: “father can decide on an intensive punishment but for now that’s what I am going to do myself.”

Mom: “I wish it was still the older days because she would’ve been stoned to death, I am telling you.”

Me: “mom think about the kids.”

MaMolefe: “she didn’t think about them when she used them as a pawn in her games.” Someone

knocks on the door and then enters. It's the head maid and housekeeper.

Housekeeper: "Your Majesties, the Gcaba family has arrived." My mothers stand up.

Me: "please bring my kids to me right now, the kids only."

Housekeeper: "Your Majesty." She leaves.

MaShezi: "we will see you downstairs Nkosana. It's time to play good host." They all head out. Few moments later the kids get in and rush to my bed. They attack me with hugs.

Amahle: "Amahle's father."

Me: "daddy's princess. I missed you so much my princess."

Amahle: "I missed you too dad."

Me: "how about you champ? Didn't you miss me?" he rolls his eyes.

Zweli: "you know I missed you dad. There is no need for me to spell it out." I laugh because he is always like this.

Amahle: "he was crying yesterday because mom said we couldn't come. He said he missed dad."

Zweli: "snitch." He says wanting to hit her. I stop him by taking him and putting him on my lap.

Me: "you know I love you right?"

Zweli: "I love you more dad." He says hugging me.

Amahle: "I also love you dad." She says joining in on the hug. We then break it and they sit in front of me.

Me: "what would you say if I were to tell you that I am not your real dad?"

Amahle: "no!" she shouts and starts crying. "You are my daddy." I take her into my lap.

Me: "I didn't say I wasn't your dad. I am your dad and

you are my first princess.” I look at Zweli who looks sad. “And you are my first prince.” I hug him too. I thought it would be easy to let them go but it is not. I have decided that I am going to file for primary custody of them. Thandisile, who is MaMolefe’s lastborn come to take them and they go to the play room. I get dressed formally and then head downstairs.

Me: “morning everyone, I would like us to go to the conference room.” I say and go there. They follow me. I indicate my head bodyguard, Mpendulo to follow us. We get inside and settle down. The people in here are my father, 3 of the council members, my dad’s 2 younger brothers, Sbo and Nompilo who is KaMahlaba’s firstborn, Sthabile, her mother, father, sister, aunt and three uncles.

Mr. Gcaba: “now can we get down to business?” he says in a firm tone but I know that will disappear soon. I signal Mpendulo to come forward and he

hands each and every one evidence about Sthabile's mischiefs. They all start reading and some gasp as they suck in the information on the papers. I signal Mpendulo again and this time he hands Sthabile another set of papers. Her eyes pop out and she raises them to look at me.

Sthabile: "Kuhle I..."

Me: "save it. Those papers state clearly that I am divorcing you and you are not going to get a cent from me. You are also banished from ever entering the royal grounds." MaShezi grunts and we all look at her.

MaShezi: "the ancestors want you to cleanse the royal grounds with 3 goats. One for each child and one for the mother. As soon as possible because if you don't, your kids are going to die. The ancestors will show their wrath through them." Sthabile sniffs. What was she expecting? Playing the royal ancestors and getting away with it?

Me: “also I am going to file primary custody for my kids meaning they will continue staying with me.”

Sthabile’s sister: “that’s absurd. You can’t do that because they aren’t your kids.” I chuckle.

Me: “I have birth certificates stating otherwise and if we were to go to court who would believe a mere commoner over a prince and a future king?” she shuts up. “You will get to spend weekends and school holidays with them but not all the holidays.”

Sthabile: “Kuhle come on.”

Me: “sign the papers.” She sits still. I chuckle again. “If you don’t sign them I will sue you for all of the money I have spent on Amahle and Zweli and brother how much is it?”

Sbo: “roughly seven figures bafo.” She gasps.

Me: “after that I will publicize the divorce and its cause. You want me to do that?” she shakes her

head. She takes the pen in front of her and signs.
“Don’t even think of playing me when it comes to my babies because you will regret it. Now when are you coming to appease the ancestors?” Mr. Gcaba clears his throat.

Gcaba: “we will see. Maybe in Good Friday.” Uncle Sakhisizwe laughs. He is the problem solver while Uncle Sakhumuzi is the hot headed one. They are twins.

Sakhisizwe: “a week is all you have. You have fooled them long enough. There is no need to wait any longer. If you don’t, Sthabile’s children will die within two weeks. Make the right choice.”

Mrs. Gcaba: “fine. We will come back next Saturday with the goats.”

Me: “that’s good to hear.”

King: “now leave. If you don’t come back on Friday

you are going to regret it. Not only will the kids suffer but your whole family will feel my wrath. LEAVE!" he shouts with a deep voice and they all get up quickly and rush out.

Mom: "now who is this famous MaCele people have been whispering about?" Sbo and I laugh while dad chuckles.

Nompilo: "I also would like to see her."

Sbo: "just Google her fam. And I am sure she is going to come to Lisa's umemulo because she is fond of her."

Sakhumuzi: "I hope she isn't as conniving as Sthabile."

Sbo: "that one is a self-made millionaire babomncane and soon she is going to be a billionaire because she is very wise and goal driven."

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 59

KUHLE

It's two weeks after the meeting with the Gcaba family. They did come and appease the ancestors. Mthembu then advised me to pay lobola for my kids so that I can buy them and that they can use my surname without getting sick. We went and paid lobola the following Monday and also made a huge ceremony at the palace, officially welcoming them in the family and giving them my surname rightfully.

My friend Phila came through for me. I now have full custody of my kids. My divorce is also finalized. I am now travelling with dad to Durban. Lisa's umemulo is

this weekend. I am going to talk to Futhy and tell her everything and possibly invite her to umemulo. I hope she doesn't have plans already. The kids are at the Gcaba family but they are coming back on Friday. I made sure they go with guards and a personal maid so that Sthabile won't try anything.

Me: "dad I want you to go tell your friend that I am bringing lobola for Futhy in the second week of January. I don't wanna wait long to make her my wife and I don't want her to be just my girlfriend." He laughs.

Dad: "have you talked with her though?"

Me: "I am going there now. I know she loves me. She said it so herself. And where there is love, there is a way."

Dad: "how romantic." He says sarcastically. I laugh and he also laughs. We get to my house. I change and then drive to her house. I find her with her friends and siblings.

Me: "sanibonani." They all greet me back. "Can I have a moment MaCele?"

Futhy: "okay." She stands up. Fuck she is wearing bum shorts and a sports bra. You can imagine the level of sexiness she is showing. "Let's go to the backyard because it's hot in here." she leads the way and I follow her. My eyes are glued to her hips and ass. "Stop looking at my ass Kuhle." I laugh.

Me: "I can't help it."

Futhy: "pervert."

Me: "well I am your pervert so deal with it." She giggles. I sit on one of the pool chairs and pull her to sit on top of me.

Futhy: "control your dick Kuhle." I laugh.

Me: "it has a mind of its own." She rolls her eyes. "There is something I need to tell you." I say in a serious tone.

Futhy: "I am all ears." I narrate the whole Sthabile saga and her mouth falls wide open while her eyes pop out. She takes time to calm down. "So that's why you were crying that day?" I chuckle.

Me: "you remember?"

Futhy: "my mind captures many things and images. I am sorry that you went through that."

Me: "I will be fine. I just want you to agree to be my girlfriend." She clears her throat and tries to move but I hold her down.

Futhy: "don't you think you are moving on too fast? I don't wanna be a rebound Kuhle."

Me: "you would've been one if I didn't love you prior the Sthabile saga. Remember how much I loved you and even wished to divorce Sthabile before all the secrets came out?" she nods. "I love you Futhy with my all and I would do anything to have you as my

future wife.” She giggles.

Futhy: “don’t tell me you are proposing.” She says. I just take out an engagement ring from my pocket and slide it into her ring finger. Her eyes pop out. “Kuhle I didn’t say yes!” she shouts.

Me: “you didn’t say no either.” She laughs.

Futhy: “you are crazy.”

Me: “and you love Me.” she giggles.

Futhy: “you bet your ass I do.” She cups my face and kisses me. I kiss her back. We finally break it.

Me: “I hope you have your outfit ready for umemulo ka Lisa.” She smiles.

Futhy: “she has been reminding me about it day and night. You’d swear I am the one coming with Umhlwehlwe.” I laugh. “By the way, my siblings and friends are coming.”

Me: "there is no guest list MaCele plus this is a royal event. Many people are going to be there. I also have to introduce you to my mothers and siblings."

Futhy: "you are moving too fast."

Me: "MaCele I am a prince so I am not going to have a long engagement. I did say I am going to wife you on Good Friday."

Futhy: "how can I forget?" she says sarcastically and I laugh at her.

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FUTHY

This has been a great year for me. Many things have happened at DCC, great things and a few problems but I am happy with how we ended our year. I have given my employees their bonuses and to say they were happy would be an understatement. We closed down one of the clubs where we celebrated and drank like there is no tomorrow.

I am happy that I am going to launch my JHB offices in May and my Cape Town offices in June. I can already foresee the good results of this expansion. I am thinking of sending Zah to be the CEO of the Jo'burg branch because that's where Mbuso is based but she will have to prove herself for the first four months next year.

Can you believe that I reconciled with Busi? Well she finally told me that she was jealous of me from a young age. She was jealous of my beauty and my passionate self. She was jealous that I had big dreams at a young age while she had no ambitions at all. I understood her reasoning and forgave her. I am not a bitter person so I don't hold grudges. We are not best friends but we are okay.

Right now I am lazing around with my siblings, Gcino and Thando, Lee, Noma and Zah. We were supposed to go to the beach because it's hot but we decided to go tonight. While chatting, Kuhle comes in. he asks

for a chance to speak with me and I lead him to the backyard. I was not expecting everything he told me. From the Sthabile saga to the sudden engagement. Love can make you crazy I tell you.

Me: "aren't you supposed to be at Nongoma so that you can monitor that everything is done accordingly?"

Kuhle: "I came to see you. I am going back tomorrow midday."

Me: "okay, let's go back inside so that I can get you something to eat and drink." we stand up and head inside the house. I get to the lounge and look at my friends. "Bitches guess who is getting married and is going to become the only queen of the Zulu kingdom? Note the use of the word only." They jump up screaming and come to hug me. I laugh.

Noma: "let me see the ring." I show them the ring.

Lee: "it's beautiful. I can't wait for the wedding. First ever wedding to have two maid of honors."

Noma: "yes tase." I giggle.

Me: "will see you just now-now. I have to make something to eat for future hubby." They scream.

Zah: "flex wena boss lady." I laugh.

Thando: "I am so happy for you sisi." She hugs me again.

Gcino: "I am just thinking off the chicks I am going to get now that I have a Zulu prince as a brother in law." We just laugh at him.

Me: "come." I pull Kuhle to the kitchen. He sits on the barstool and I start moving around. I dish for him the food I cooked earlier on and serve him. I also take a bottle of flying fish from the fridge, open it and give it to him. "Focus on the meat, that's where I poured the love potion." He laughs.

Kuhle: "the food is delicious."

Me: "my hands do not only draw but they can cook too." He giggles.

Kuhle: "you are perfect. And before you lecture me about nobody is perfect, you are to me. With all your imperfections, flaws and weaknesses. You are perfect and enough for me." I blush and take out a dumpy in the fridge so that I can cool myself down. He chuckles and continues eating his food.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 60

I didn't have a dress for umemulo ka Lisa but when I called Simamiso, she told me that she has three traditional dresses for me and two evening gowns. She said that she has appointed herself as my personal designer. I laughed at that and I am just thankful because I was freaking out. She sent a picture of one of the dresses and I bought matching heels and clutch.

Today we are going to Nongoma. It's Friday. Kuhle booked us a lodge because I don't want to come back late at night as if I am running away from something. Our relationship is cute but I haven't told other people and my parents about the engagement. I will tell them tomorrow when I come back from

Nongoma because it is Christmas day.

I get up, make the bed and go shower. I then lotion my body and then get dressed in a nude one shoulder solid bodycon dress with white vans. I pack extra clothes for tonight and tomorrow in my overnight bag. I also back my make-up and cosmetics. I take everything I need and head downstairs. While making coffee my phone rings. I chuckle when I see that it's a video call from Kuhle. I answer it.

Me: "kumkani."

Kuhle: "Kumkanikazi, you look beautiful." He says smiling. He is wearing a short sleeved tight t-shirt.

Me: "thank you. Why are you up so early?"

Kuhle: "people have been since 3 am here sthandwa. My brothers slept at 4 am and I am on my way to wake them." I place the phone in an angle that he

can be able to see me and continue making my coffee.

Me: "what made them sleep in the morning?"

Kuhle: "they drank all night. They are lucky some of them have rooms outside the palace because dad would have chased them out." I laugh.

Me: "don't be harsh when waking them."

Kuhle: "no babe. They were careless. I am going to wake them with cold water."

Me: "yuh I don't wish to be in their shoes." He laughs.

Kuhle: "when are you going to depart?"

Me: "as soon as I am done eating my cereal. I don't care if the others are not ready. When I am done, I am leaving."

Mabutho: "hau boss. When did you start to be this cruel?" I laugh.

Kuhle: “ever since she came back from Libya.”

Me: “you are supposed to be siding with me.” I say whining and he laughs.

Mabutho: “but I am going to be done in a few minutes. Kuhle knows how quick it takes us men take to get ready.”

Kuhle: “yeah babe. 2 minutes for showering, 1 minute for lotioning and dressing up and 2 minutes for packing.”

Me: “that’s why some of the men stink because they are in a rush.” They both laugh. Mabutho goes to his room. I know he was in the in-house gym. “Baby go on with what you are doing. See you soon.”

Kuhle: “I love you.”

Me: “I love you.” I hang up.

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We pass by Empangeni to take my dress and then drive straight to Nongoma. We remembered to buy gifts for Lisa. She may not be a materialistic person but I know everyone enjoys gifts. I am with Zamoh, Mabutho and Danny in the car. We are driving the Aston Martin. Lele is driving the X1 with Thobeka, Gcino and Thando. Noma and Lee are with Babalwa and Gift in Lee's SUV. Zah and Xoli will be coming with their baes.

Danny: "Blue what is that on your finger?" I chuckle. He is one of the people I haven't told about my relationship with Kuhle.

Me: "it's an engagement ring. I am engaged to some prince nje wethu. It happened so fast. Sorry I didn't tell you." he frowns.

Danny: "who is this prince?" Mabutho and Zamoh laugh. His eyes pop out. "Oww hell no." He laughs. "OMG!" he shouts. "When? How did it happen?"

Me: "as I said, it all happened too fast."

Danny: "what about his wife?"

Me: "he is divorced."

Danny: "why don't the media know about this?"

Me: "he will address it after umemulo. The ex-wife won't even be there because she is banished from the king's land."

Danny: "what happened?" Danny may be my friend but that doesn't mean I should tell him Kuhle's secrets.

Me: "I don't know friend but it must be huge."

Danny: "so you guys are sneaking around?" I laugh.

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We get to Nongoma, first check in to the lodge. I freshen up in my room and change to a blue and white ball gown. I am not in the mood of showing my ass today. The gown is sleeveless and has feathers

covering the upper area and a belt below the breasts where the bottom part start. I pair it with a white open toe leg chunky heels, a blue and white head scarf and blue and white shoulder scarf.

I head to the lobby where I find my friends looking good and ready to go. It's already 2pm and the ceremony started at 12:30. We drive to the palace. When we get there we hardly find a parking space. We park on the road and Mpendulo comes to our car. He tells us that we should follow him because there are parking spots designated for us. We park there and head to where the event is at. I am wearing glasses because I don't want people to see my weird eyes. At least not now.

Mpendulo leads us to a marque. We get there and sit down. I look to where the maidens are at. They are looking so beautiful. They are singing and dancing. Lisa looks like a true princess which she is. I look around and I spot the king with his brothers. His

wives are sitting not far from him. Kuhle and his siblings and his friends are dressed in their Zulu attires, amabheshu for the men and beaded skirts and beads for the ladies. They are wearing their signature animal print fabric on their shoulders.

Lisa spots us. She smiles and starts a song. She, with abakhaphi bakhe, come to where we are seated while singing and dancing. She stabs the spear on the ground in front of me and then head back to their original place. The looks we are getting now are dramatic. We stand up with our gifts and go to where the maidens are at. She kneels and my friends start pinning money on her head.

When they are done, they stand back and I forward. I ask one of her friends to remove the money. They do so quickly. I start pinning R200 notes all over her head and beads. People are even standing and looking at us in awe. When I am done pinning the money, I place a gift bag in front of Lisa and then

turn. The others also place gifts bag in front of Lisa.

On our way back to our marque, the Zulu brothers stop us by doing the Zulu dance in front of us which is called ukugiya. Many people ululate and others scream and men do whistles. Kuhle surprises everyone, even me, when he kneels in front of everyone and put a beaded bracelet on my left wrist. OMG! Why did he have to do that?

Noma: “give him your watch which symbolizes that you accept his proposal.” I laugh and cover my face with my hands. I then remove them, take off my MK oversized Layton Pavé Rose gold-tone watch and put it on his wrist. He stands up and kisses me hard. People cheer so hard, you’d swear he has won the lottery.

Me: “stop. You are stealing Lisa’s spotlight.” He laughs and goes back to his seat. We also go back to our marque. We sit down and I finally breathe.

“What the fuck was that?” my friends laugh.

Danny: “you will be trending in no time babes.”

Me: “God.” I groan. Some ladies come to where we are seated and give us cold bottled water. “Thank you.” I open the bottle and down almost all of it.

Danny: “that thirsty?”

Me: “you will understand when Afrika proposes to you in a huge concert.” He laughs.

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The first session of the event comes to an end and people move to the frame tent which is also in the yard. This palace is very huge. It also have beautifully built rondavels. If I wasn't Kuhle's girlfriend, I would go around looking at them because their design entice me. One of the ladies from earlier on leads us to our table. We get settled in and the waiters bring starters.

Few minutes later the royals make their way in and we all stand up. The king looks my way and winks at me. I giggle. They finally sit down and the rest of us follow suit. The speeches and performances start. I am so thirsty right now. I would do anything for ingudu of flying fish.

Me: "Zamoh please get me alcohol that is in the cooler box. Find a way to make it discrete." He laughs and heads out with Gcino. Late lunch is served and I must say the food is very delicious. Zamoh and Gcino come back and he has poured the alcohol in my juice bottle. "And people wonder why I hired you." he laughs and hands me the bottle. I take a sip and something calms down inside me. Lee takes the juice bottle and drinks.

Lee: "damn. Is this the flying fish only?"

Zamoh: "I added vodka."

Noma: "let me taste." She takes the bottle and takes a sip. "Damn. Can we skip to the drinking bahlali?" we laugh. The bottle circulate around the table and that's actually funny. The program come to an end and some people go out and some eat meat in groups. Waiters bring ciders, beer and vodka in our table.

Danny: "I guess they saw how thirsty we are." We laugh again.

Me: "bring my bottle back then." They laugh.

Zah: "to us who are not at their in-laws house." She takes a beer and opens it. They laugh at me. These idiots.

Me: "shouldn't you go eat meat with the other men?" I say looking at Mabutho and Zamoh.

Mabutho: "we are working here boss." I roll my eyes.

Thobeka: "I think Babalwa and I can handle any danger that may come our way."

Zamoh: "fine." Him, Mabutho, Gift, Lelo and Gcino leave the table.

Me: "why are you still here?" I say to Danny and we all burst out laughing.

Danny: "ngizokuthola."

Me: "pay back for laughing at me on that double dinner date."

Danny: "whoever that said you don't hold grudges was lying." I laugh.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 61

SPONSORED CHAPTER

It is late right now. Some people have left and some are coming in for the after party. It looks like it is going to be huge because the organizers seems to be setting up for a huge concert. I am so tired. I just wanna go back to the lodge, take a warm bath and sleep.

Me: "I am so tired. I am going to get Zamoh drive me back to the lodge." I stand up and I feel someone wrapping their arms around my waist. I smile because I know it's Kuhle.

Kuhle: "where are you going?" he says turning me.

Me: "I am tired so I want Mabutho to drive me back to the lodge."

Kuhle: "but you haven't met my family."

Me: "I will come back tomorrow morning. They are probably tired and sleepy. I am sure they are going to want to know me better. Since you have decided to tell everyone about us without my permission." He smiles and perks my lips.

Kuhle: "I am sorry for that."

Me: "and you are going to pay for that."

Kuhle: "I don't mind. Let me drive you to the lodge."

Me: "see you later guys." I say to my friend. Kuhle and I head out. We get to his car and he drives us to the lodge.

When we get there, we head to my room. I quickly take off my clothes and head to the shower. I turn on

warm water and step inside. It is just so refreshing. The shower in this lodge is very huge so I move freely. The water cascades down my body. The heat of the water makes me horny actually.

The shower door opens and my Zulu prince gets in. I ignore him and start touching myself provocatively. I move my hands up and down my body. He isn't doing anything. He is just looking at me. I look down at his dick and I smile when I see it hard and ready for action. I turn to face the other side, he grabs me from behind and hugs me close. He bends his knees and I feel his dick in between my legs.

He starts kissing my neck. Fuck I just want him inside me this instant. He reaches for the body wash and lathers his hands up. His hands move across my body. One hand moves across my stomach, my boobs rest on his forearm and the other makes its way down to my cookie. He manages to hit the right spot and I moan loudly. My breathing gets shallow

as he moves his hand up and down.

He holds my clit between his index and fore finger and his other fingers spread my pussy lips apart. I grab his other arm to steady myself because I feel a little dizzy. He inserts one finger inside of me. I grip his arm tightly and dig my finger nails into it. I feel sorry for him because stiletto nails can bruise you. He removes his hand from my cookie, bends me and then shoves his dick deep inside me. FUCK!

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He ended up not going back home last night. It felt really good falling asleep in his arms. I feel complete and content. I open my eyes and look at him. He is still sleeping. I get on top of him and poke his face. I poke it until he smiles and opens his eyes.

Kuhle: "you are such a nuisance yezwa." He grabs both my hands and I laugh. "You look so beautiful right now."

Me: "and you look ugly." He chuckles.

Kuhle: "you wish." He sits up and kisses me. He then put his hands under my butt and stands up with me tangled in his body.

Me: "don't drop me." he smiles.

Kuhle: "never."

We get to the bathroom, brush our teeth, shower and dry our bodies. We go back to the bathroom and find it squeakily clean. While taking clothes to wear from my bag, someone knocks on the door. Kuhle attends to the door quickly and come back with a bag. I figure that someone brought him clothes.

I get dressed in a forest green and white lace insert ruffle detain chain print blouse and satin skirt. I pair it with a black power trip tie leg high block heels and a black head scarf.

Kuhle: "you look very beautiful and thank you for not showing my ass." I laugh.

Me: "you're crazy and I am not doing it for you."

Kuhle: "could've fooled someone but not me." I roll my eyes. I pack all my clothes in my bag and we head out. Mabutho takes my bag and put it in the car. "By the way, dad has invited all of you for breakfast."

Danny: "yay! We are going back to the palace." We all laugh at him.

We get into the cars and we drive to the palace. This place looks much bigger without many cars and people going up and down. We climb off the cars and we get inside the main house. It is really huge and beautiful. There are so many designs going on here. I am just looking around. Someone clears their throat. I look at this beautiful woman in front of me.

Woman: "you're an architect right?" I nod. "And you

know many South African architect signatures?" I chuckle and nod again. "Who do you think designed this house?" I look around again and smile.

Me: "was first built by the late Professor Tony Murphy and was later renovated by Stephanie Moloji."

Woman: "great observation. I am MaDubazane by the way. Hlehle's fourth mother. I was an engineer once upon a time."

Me: "I am Ntombifuthi Cele ma. Who is Hlehle?" she smiles.

MaDubazane: "him." he says pointing at Kuhle. I look at him and chuckle.

Me: "cute name." he gives me an intimidating look.

Kuhle: "I am going to..."

MaDubazane: "not in my presence."

Kuhle: "sorry ma." Aww this is so cute.

MaDubazane: “come this side so that you can see your other mother-in-laws.” she pulls me to the corridor. We walk a few moments and we get to the kitchen. Wow it’s huge. There are few older women whom I presume are the wives and a few ladies. “Look who I found wondering in the hallways.” They all turn and look at me. This woman mara. She found me at the door and now she says she found me at the hallway. Wonders never cease. She pulls me inside the kitchen and points to a barstool. “You can sit.”

Me: “sanibonani.” I greet and they greet back. I then sit down.

Woman 1: “you look just like your father. Siya has good genes.” The woman who seems older than all these ladies say. “I am Mamkhulu, Konke’s egg donor.” I giggle because that means she is Kuhle’s biological mother.

Me: “nice to meet you ma.” I stand and hug her. The

others also introduce themselves and we share hugs.

MaMolefe: “go set the table. We will follow you shortly.” She orders the maids. They take the serving dishes and then head down the hallway. She is the last wife. She is very beautiful and a thick woman. She may be young than Kuhle but she looks older. You know how us chubby women always look older than our ages.

MaShezi: “how do you feel about getting married to the royal family?” I shrug.

Me: “I don’t know how to feel. It has been so long since I have been in a relationship. It doesn’t help that Kuhle didn’t give me much of a choice. I guess it hasn’t sank in.” they chuckle.

KaMahlaba: “it will, in time. Now let’s go.” We make our way out of the kitchen and they lead me to the dining hall where the whole family is at, except the kids. My family and friends are also here. We settle down and I sit next to Kuhle. I greet everyone else

and they greet back. People start dishing up. I dish for myself and Kuhle and then sit down.

King: “we are so happy that you could join us this morning MaCele. After the drama that my son caused yesterday, everyone here hasn’t stopped talking about you.” I smile and take a sip of water.

Something tells me that I should look around the room. So I look around and I nearly faint when my eyes land at a Jameson’s mamba. I unfreeze and then jump up screaming. Everyone stops what they are doing and look at me like I am crazy.

Me: “batase let’s go. Let’s leave this place and never come back.” I say looking at Lee and Noma while my breathing isn’t steady. I am shaking. I have this crazy phobia of snake. I am ophidiophobic.

Noma: “what is wrong tase?” she asks coming

towards me. I point at the snake which has wrapped itself around the statue of the king. She looks at the statue and then look at me with concern in her eyes. "There is no snake there."

Me: "I am serious. There are snakes in this place. We need to leave. We need to go. I can't stay in a place with snakes. I won't. I refuse." Tears start flowing down my cheeks. "Mabutho and Zamoh stand the fuck up so that we can leave this place. I can't deal." Kuhle stands up and holds my hands.

Kuhle: "calm down Futhy nothing is going to happen to you." I shake my head multiple times.

Me: "don't fucken tell me that. Ow my God, this is it." I remove my hands from his hold and place them on top of my head. "I am finally going crazy." The snakes slides down the statue and start making its way to the table. "I am not going to stand here and wait for the snake to come to me and kill me."

Kuhle: “that’s just ridiculous Futhy. Breathe and look at me.”

Me: “ow my God he is telling me to calm down while a snake is making its way towards me. Maybe the royals work with snakes. Maybe they wanna sacrifice me. No you can’t. I am a multimillionaire and I have no descendant yet. You can’t kill me.” I shake my head multiple times. The snake makes eye contact with me and then it starts making its way towards me. I scream out loud.

MaShezi: “and you thought I was dramatic.” She says chuckling while looking at Kuhle’s mom.

Me: “she is laughing. She is laughing at my misery. I am going to die. I think I can feel a heart attack creeping in. OMG! OMG! OMG!”

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 62

SPONSORED CHAPTER

The snake stops moving and just stares at me like it is devouring me with its eyes. I look around the table and I see the king having a satisfied look on his face. He is rejoicing in this. His first and third wives are smiling. They seem to be happy. Kuhle's mom clears the throat and stands up. She comes to me and I step back, not wanting her to get any closer. What if she wants to feed me to the snake? She quickens her pace and then grabs my hands. I shake my head while tears are falling down my cheeks.

MaDlomo: "please calm down."

Me: "no. no. you want me to feed you to your snake."

She laughs.

MaDlomo: “Lela would probably bury me alive if I as much as harm a single strand of hair on your head. Now describe the snake to and tell me where it is.” It still is sitting on the table.

Me: “it’s a Jameson’s mamba. It is green and it is sitting in front of Sbo.” Sbo was sitting opposite me. He jumps up and then looks at it. Other people also jump up as if they are now seeing it.

MaDlomo: “that is our ancestral snake. It doesn’t live in the palace or around here. It only shows itself when a wife chosen by the ancestors enters the palace.” I swallow hard. MaShezi also stands up and come to where I am at.

MaShezi: “calm down sisi. It means you are chosen and favored by the ancestors. You are Nkosana’s chosen one.” She hugs me. I start hyperventilating

and my body shakes vigorously. My fear doesn't wash off until I have calmed down or been hypnotized.

Lee: "FUTHY SNAP OUT OF IT MAN!" she is already next to me and shaking me. I feel my body going down and it's light out.

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KUHLE

I rush to her and pick her up. I walk with her to the lounge and place her carefully on the couch. I then remove her shoes. The others come to the lounge soon after and start crowding her.

Me: "can we please give her some space to breathe?" they all sit down. I look at Lee and Noma who both look angry. "Can you tell me what just happened?"

Noma: “no. you tell us what just happened. Futhy has this huge phobia of snakes. It’s real and she is really scared of them. When she sees them sometimes her heart stops or beats very fast. After the math she starts being paranoid and hallucinates or even have nightmares. You should’ve warned her about your creepy ancestral snake.”

Lee: “if he did, she probably wouldn’t have come here in the first place.”

Me: “well I didn’t know she was my chosen one. I just went for her because I love her.”

Thobeka: “is she going to be okay though?” she asks looking at Noma and Lee.

Lee: “it will take maybe a week for things to go back to normal. Just know you will have to do some major convincing for her to come back here.” her phone rings. She looks at it and curses under her breath.

Noma: “what is it?” Lee shows her something on the

phone and Noma also curses in a low tone.

Me: “what is going on?”

Lee: “baba is asking where we are. We always spend Christmas Day at Morningside.”

MaShezi: “you can’t leave while she hasn’t woken up.” Noma opens her phone and starts tapping on it. She then hands the phone to my father.

Noma: “you have to call him and tell him what exactly happened because if I am the one to call, he’d probably think we are just hung-over somewhere and then he will punish us.” dad takes the phone, tap it and then places it on his ear. He steps far away from us and starts talking. After a while he comes back and hands Noma the phone.

King: “he says he is going to overcharge you lobola for this incident and I know he is not joking.” He sits down on his single couch. “Tell me about this phobia

of hers. How intense is it and where did it start?”

Lele: “before I start talking, can the kids leave? This is rather a sensitive topic.” They leave and the only people left are my father, his wives, Sbo, Nompilo, Lee, Noma, the guards, Danny and others.

Me: “we are all ears.”

Lele: “sisi has always been chubby, since birth. You know how kids used to tease chubby kids in school. Well she was no exception. We went to the same school. I was doing grade 5 while she was doing grade 9 that time. She was never the type to cry when teased but she also didn’t stand up for herself. She would just give you a very intimidating look to such an extent that you will end up apologizing.”

“She always confronted kids who bullied me or Thando. This other day we were going to a trip in school. It was for the odd grades. Grade 3, 5, 7, 9, 11

but they included grade 12. We went to uShaka Dangerous Creatures. She didn't wanna go there because she was afraid of snakes but she ended up going because she wanted to guard me."

"There was this guy she liked and everyone at school knew but she didn't act crazy around him. He was doing grade 11. In that park you are allowed to hold or pet harmless snakes. So this guy took a snake and played with it. My sister was just watching me from a distance. This guy made a mistake by putting the snake around her neck. She jumped up screaming. I am not afraid of snakes so I went to her and took it off her but it was too late."

"She started hyperventilating and shaking. She was screaming and crying. She attracted attention to herself. One of the teachers came and tried to calm her down. She just fainted. That's how her fear of snakes multiplied. Dad did something to the guy because I never saw him again. Dad is very

overprotective of his daughters, especially her so good luck.” He stands up and heads out. Thobeka follows him.

Me: “let me take her to my room.” I pick her up. Lee picks up her shoes. We head to my room and I place her carefully on the bed.

Lee: “take off the dress and her bra and dress her in something comfortable.” She places the shoes on a rug.

Me: “okay.” She heads out. I undress her and get her dressed in my sweatpants and oversized shirt. I take off my shoes and get to bed. I place her head in my chest and wrap my arms around her. “I love you my chosen one.” I plant a soft kiss on her head and then close my eyes.

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I wake up and I look around. I am in a room I have

never been in before. Kuhle has his hands wrapped tight around my body, I swear he is acting like someone is going to steal me. My mind drifts back to earlier events and I try to calm down. They said it's an ancestral snake but I am still scared of it. I free myself from Kuhle's arms and he quickly opens his eyes.

Kuhle: "are you okay, baby?" I chuckle.

Me: "I am fine. Just a little hungry." He sits up. "What time is it?" he check on his phone which is on his bedside table.

Kuhle: "15:28."

Me: "wow. Can't believe I missed Christmas lunch and I can't believe this is my first Christmas away from home."

Kuhle: "let's go eat." He stands up and wears his sliders. I clear my throat and he looks at me.

Me: "I am pretty sure you are not expecting me to go downstairs wearing your sweatpants." He laughs.

Kuhle: "your bag is on the closet which is that side." He points to the direction.

I climb off the bed and go to the closet. I wear the dress I was wearing yesterday when we came here and my white sneakers. I wear a bucket hat and a denim jacket. I pack everything nicely in my bag and head to the bathroom. I rinse my mouth with a mouth wash. I then head back to the bedroom.

Kuhle: "you look..."

Me: "get used to my beauty and stop complimenting Me." he laughs.

Kuhle: "I will stop when I die." He takes my hand and we both head outside. "They postponed the lunch to accommodate you." I smile. He leads me to the patio where everyone is seated. The table is full of

different types of food. It's like a feast. I sit down and he sits next to me.

Amahle: "daddy who is she?" she asks in a tiny adorable voice.

Kuhle: "she is my special friend and her name is aunty Futhy."

Zweli: "she is beautiful." He says smiling.

Amahle: "hey I was going to say that. You stole my words."

Zweli: "whatever." These two are so cute. Why did Sthabile include kids in her scheming though? Children are innocent and should not be used as pawns. Some women out there.

Me: "thank you and both of you are also beautiful."
Zweli frowns.

Zweli: "I am a man and grandpa said men are

handsome not beautiful. Women are beautiful.” I smile.

Me: “my apologies my prince. You are a very handsome man.” he smiles widely.

Zweli: “someone who finally understands me. Thank you aunty.” Everyone laughs.

MaShezi: “how are you feeling sisi?” I look at her and the events of this morning replays in my head. I look down. She laughs. “Don’t be shy. What happened to you also happened to Mamkhulu and me. We just apologize on behalf of our ancestors. We didn’t know about your phobia. But worry not because you won’t see it again.” I breathe out loud.

Me: “that’s a relief.” My friends laugh.

Danny: “I don’t mean to make fun of you friend but,” he starts laughing, “OMG! She is laughing. She is laughing at my misery. I am going to die’.” He says

imitating my voice. They laugh and I just cover my face with my hands. When I think about it, I was dramatic but my situation justifies. Snakes to me are that person you hate and you never wanna see or be on the same room with.

Noma: "Maybe they wanna sacrifice me. No you can't. I am a multimillionaire and I have no descendant yet. You can't kill me." they laugh again. "Trust Futhy to talk about her millions when she is faced with a life threatening situation."

Kuhle: "okay, enough picking on my bae." I remove my hands from my face and blush.

Nompilo: "you have unique eyes. Is your mother white?" I shake my head.

Me: "no. I was just fortunate to be gifted with rare eyes."

We all eat and the conversation is flowing. We later

on ask to take leave because, besides the Christmas lunch, at home we have this tradition of having a braai on the 26th of December. We bid farewell to everyone and walk out. Kuhle is walking us out and he is carrying my bag. He then hands it to Mabutho when we get to where the cars are at. He grabs my waist and brings me closer to him.

Kuhle: "I will come visit you as soon as I return to Durban."

Me: "don't rush getting back. Spend quality time with your family and kids. Spoil them or even take them to Disney land." He smiles.

Kuhle: "they are lucky to have a step mom like you, special friend." I laugh. We share a kiss and then I climb into the car. Zamoh drives out of the palace.

Danny: "you really love the prince neh?" I blush and look outside the window.

Me: "I do and it's scary."

CHAPTER 63

SPONSORED CHAPTER

It's the second week of January, a Monday, and we are opening at work. Kuhle came back from Nongoma on New Year's Eve and he was with his siblings. We partied that day yoh and drank too much. I ended up leaving the party early to go to sleep. I am just glad I didn't embarrass myself that day, I just danced a lot nje.

My relationship with Kuhle is still fine. We just have a lot of sex, like a lot. His kids are also fond of me. I advised him to take them to Curro Heritage House. In that way he doesn't have to look for schools every now and then. Plus Curro is a very great school. We went to register them. Zweli is going to be doing

grade 3 and Amahle is going to be attending the day care. She was more excited about wearing uniform.

The Nongoma palace project is a go. I had to start afresh designing it because of the findings of the land surveyor. But it didn't take me long and they started building it. Considering that that palace will be my second home, I check the progress regularly. I don't want what happened last time to happen again.

Everything is back to normal in my house. K is back. I thought maybe she would be a housewife but she loves her job, so she is back. Xoli is still staying with me. She said she will be moving to Klerksdorp where Phumudzo stays, after their wedding which is in June. So this means I need two new assistants. But I have tasked her to start looking for personal assistants in March.

Everything is set for me to go to Brooklyn. I just have to look for a temporary apartment there because I

am going to be there for a week. I am so excited about this. It is more important than the awards because it will guarantee me permanent clients where I am going to get 5 to 20 years contracts, if I am lucky. I have been drawing many designs since I have been at home, so I am more than ready for the conference.

I get dressed in a mustard suit with a black blouse and nude nonstop strappy tie leg heeled sandals. I then comb my hair and let it down. I have to braid it sometime this week. I take all my stuff and head downstairs. We then drive to work. I find Lindsay bubbly as always at the reception. I greet him and head to my office. I prepare for a meeting which will be at 8 am. We always have year opening meetings where I welcome them back and tell them few of the plans for that business year.

I already asked someone from interior designing to set up an office for Zah at the architecture

department. It is now ready. I am just going to announce her promotion at the meeting. I wonder how she is going to take the news. When the clock hits 8, I pack my things and head to the boardroom. I find everyone already seated. I greet them and go to my seat. I place my stuff on the table and stand behind my chair.

Me: “a lot has happened last year. Many good things and bad things. Highlight of it was me winning an African Architecture Award which opened many doors and opportunities for DCC. This year we are going to open not one but two branches of DCC in this country. Who knows? Maybe another overseas.” I shrug and they cheer.

“In those two branches, I will take only a few from here who will show the new employees how things are actually done in DCC and guide them. Tomorrow we are going to have 10 interns who are going to be working at the architecture department. Please treat

them with kindness and help them grow.”

“As last year had its great moments and achievements, I’d like to thank Zanele and Bob for making sure that the company doesn’t go down in my absentia. I know that it was a collective work and I am happy that they managed to stir the ship. With that said, I’d like everyone to put their hands together for the Vice CEO of Dubandlela Construction Company, Bob Meyers.” Everyone cheers while Bob is looking shocked.

Bob: “OMG!” we all laugh at him. He stands up and rushes to my side. He hugs me. “Thank you so much boss. I promise I won’t disappoint you.” I smile.

Me: “I hope so.” He goes back to his seat. “Also please put your hands together for the newest addition of the architecture department team, Miss Zanele Mabaso.” She actually screams while everyone is laughing and cheering on her. When she

finally calms down, the meeting proceeds.

“As I am going to Brooklyn in two weeks for the conference, you guys are welcome to submit any of your best designs so that I can present them there but I am restricting you to five designs. Give it your best shot and work in teams.” The meeting continues and when it is done, the cafeteria staff comes in and serves us brunch. We eat and then we head to our offices. Zah budes in my office as soon as I sit down.

Zah: “I know I should be grateful for the opportunity, but what are you going to do?” I laugh.

Me: “you are going to guide and teach Xoli everything she needs to know about your work. You guys have one week to get your shit together. And I will be taking both of you with me in Brooklyn.”

Zah: “wow, okay. I can’t wait to share these news

with my dad.” She smiles and rushes out giggling like crazy. I have never seen her that happy before. Imagine how she will be like if she finds out that she is going to be the CEO of the JHB branch?

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LEE

I have been sleeping with Sbo ever since we came back from Fancourt. He is very good in bed, like he rocks my world but that’s just it. It’s good sex, nothing more. I can see that he has developed feelings for me and has been hinting for us to take things to the next level. I don’t have love feelings for him, just sexual feelings, if that makes sense.

Things at my house have been great. I actually feel safe. Athi was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment without parole. Turns out he had killed some woman and police had evidence for that. They were just searching for him because he ran away from the area he was living at. As much as I feel safe, I love

having Babalwa and gift around, so they are not going anywhere.

I get dressed in a navy short sleeved knee length dress with a small belt, nude coat and nude heels. I take my navy bag and then head downstairs. I find my guards eating breakfast. We exchange greetings and I also sit down and eat. When we are done, they drive me to work. We get there. I greet the receptionist and then head to my office. I do have my own practice but I am not the only therapist here. There are also 5 others and 2 marriage counsellors.

I get to my office, firstly open the windows for some fresh air, remove my coat and hang it on my chair and then sit down. I don't have a personal assistant, so the receptionist takes care of all the appointments my clients make. My phone rings and I see that Kuhle is calling. I answer it.

Me: "my prince." He chuckles.

Kuhle: "don't be sarcastic. Last time I checked you and Noma hated me." I laugh.

Me: "hate is rather a big word." He also laughs.

Kuhle: "anyways, is everything set for Saturday?"

Me: "you are going to kill my friend with surprises I tell you and dad is going to kill you." he chuckles.

Kuhle: "stop being dramatic and talk."

Me: "food, booze, tent, wara-wara check."

Kuhle: "what is wara-wara?"

Me: "it means you have nothing to worry about. Everything is going to be fine, perfect even."

Kuhle: "have you bought a dress for her?"

Me: "hebana these are not the awards, it's just a lobola thing. No need to do matching outfits and shit."

Kuhle: "I thought Noma was the savage one." Before I can respond he hangs up. This guy though. I mean who doesn't inform their partner about something this huge? I hope everything will work out in the end. The door opens, I guess this is my first client. I raise my head and I frown when I see Yandisa Ntuli, the oldest of the Ntuli brothers. He comes forward and stand near the table.

Me: "do we have an appointment?" I ask standing up. He smiles. Gosh what beautiful teeth.

Yandisa: "morning and this is for you." he says handing me a gift bag. I take it and open it. I smile when I see a Sinvitron Long Stem 24k gold dipped real rose and a cup which has my name on it. I turn back to him and I frown.

Me: "what did I do to deserve this?"

Yandisa: "you are beautiful. That's why I brought you these." I look at him.

Me: "are you courting me Mr. Ntuli?" he scratches his head.

Yandisa: "I'd like to take you out on a date." I chuckle and shake my head.

Me: "I am not looking a relationship, entanglement or a fuck buddy. Thanks for the gifts by the way. I am not one to turn back gifts." I put the gift bag in my drawer and sit down.

Yandisa: "not a date per se. But just lunch, to get to know you better. I can settle for friendship." I laugh.

Me: "settle? Kante what were you exactly hoping for?" he sit opposite me.

Yandisa: "if you agree to go on a date with me, I will tell you."

Me: "well played. But no. so you are my 9 am appointment?"

Yandisa: "9 to 11."

Me: "so you are going to annoy me till 11?"

Yandisa: "if you agree to go on a date with me, I will leave even now."

Me: "why is this date so fuckin important? Why do you wanna go out with me?" he smirks.

Yandisa: "because I like you." I groan. Not this again.

Me: "you are a married man. Go and put that liking to your wife and leave me alone. Why do married men don't get satisfied? You made your choice, now live with it."

Yandisa: "I met her before I saw you. That's why I married her."

Me: "that doesn't even make sense and you are crazy. Go Yandisa. I am not interested in whatever type of relationship you are offering. I am not naïve

and I am not desperate for love or affection.”

Yandisa: “yet you are single.”

Me: “that’s none of your goddam business. But so you must know, my sexual needs are taken care of, so I don’t need a relationship for now. And when I do need it, I will go for an available man. Not a married one.”

Yandisa: “there is nothing I can do to change your mind?”

Me: “hell no. I am not even attracted to you. Although I must give it to you, you have some guts. But read my lips, we are never happening.”

Yandisa: “anything you want, I will do it. Just one chance to show you love.”

Me: “God, please go and never come back.” He huffs and stands up.

Yandisa: “but...”

Me: “just leave dude.”

Yandisa: “I am leaving. But this is not the last time you will be seeing me.” I just roll my eyes. “Bye beautiful.” He heads out.

The nerve of that man. Aybo! What the fuck just happened? I don't believe it. A whole CEO! A married man. Asking me to be his mistress. Like why me? Am I side chick material? This guy is just frustrating me. I open my laptop and start a Skype conference call to Futhy and Noma. They answer after a while.

Noma: “tase.”

Futhy: “you don't look well. Why you upset so early in the morning?”

Me: “you won't believe who just came to see me.”

BOTH: “MABUTHO!” I frown.

Me: "fuck no. why would he come to see me?
Anyways Yandisa was here."

Futhy: "Sandile's brother?"

Me: "the one and only."

Noma: "what did he want?"

Me: "to take me out on a date. Apparently he 'likes me'."

Noma: "but he is married."

Futhy: "to a woman who saved my life. Wait why did he come to you? Does he see you as a side chick material? He needs some serious ass whopping." I actually chuckle because I have never heard Futhy talk about beating up someone.

Noma: "he does tase. Looks like something is wrong in his brain. Maybe someone shook him hard or something." Futhy and I just laugh.

Me: "he even bought me a gold dipped rose and a personalized mug."

Futhy: "did you hit him with the mug in the face?"

Noma and I laugh. Both my friends are crazy.

Me: "no. I couldn't let beautiful gifts go to waste. Plus you don't turn back a gift."

Futhy: "okay. That's true. So what are you going to do with your Yandisa issue?"

Me: "I don't know for now but if he becomes a nuisance then I will take extreme measures."

Futhy: "whatever happens tase I am sorry but I won't include myself because you know he is a client."

Noma: "babes we don't want you including yourself. Mina I am going to go to Blue Diamond and just curse at him, his bloody swine." I just laugh.

Me: "I understand your position Futhy, but worry not. Imma handle his ass."

Futhy: "make sure he doesn't end up being the one who handles your ass."

Me: "fuck you." she laughs. "Bye batase." I hang up.

Wayenza indaba Mphemba.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 64

I called K earlier on to prepare usu nophuthu for dinner. I just feel like it plus it has been so long since I ate this. It's Tuesday. I met the interns this morning and they were a bunch of cool kids but with the recent scandal, I asked Lisa to do a background check on them and hack their phones so that she can see if they are working with my competitor or not.

It feels so weird not working with Zah, but Xoli is cool, so I hope we can work together in peace. I yawn as I am drawing one of my designs. It doesn't help that I slept late last night, this morning actually. I don't know why I am putting so much pressure in myself, but I can't seem to stop nje. When I yawn for

the second time, I stop working, I am going to faint phela.

My phone beeps and I check it. It's a text from my dad saying I should come home and have dinner with them tomorrow. I wonder what that's all about. I stand up and kick off my heels. As I am about to call Xoli so that she can order lunch for me, the door opens and my fiancé walks in with paper bags. I just smile like an idiot.

Me: "who knew having a fiancé would be this much fun?" he laughs. He places the paper bags on the table and comes to hug and kiss me. "You smell so nice. I love your cologne."

Kuhle: "and I love you." I smile.

Me: "what did you buy?"

Kuhle: "hake with chips then wings and steak."

Me: "you're the best."

Kuhle: "I know, right?" I just laugh. I go and place the food on the paper plates. I take it and place it on the table near the couch. He pours the juice for both of us then we sit down and start eating.

Me: "I have a feeling that your ex is planning something." He frowns.

Kuhle: "why do you say that?"

Me: "I don't know. But I have this unexplainable feeling in my gut that something bad is going to happen."

Kuhle: "nothing is going to happen to you my love. I will protect you."

Me: "if you say so."

I really have a bad feeling. Khokho doesn't always come in my dreams. Sometimes I get a feeling like this and I then I just know that something bad will happen. I just hope harm won't come to any of my

loved ones.

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I get home and go straight to the kitchen. I find mom cooking. I just hug her from behind. She turns with a smile and hugs me.

Mom: "how are you my baby?"

Me: "I am fine ma, just tired." I sit on the barstool.

Mom: "how was work?"

Me: "terrible mama. I keep overworking myself. I can't seem to stop. Then there is this gut feeling that keeps warning me of danger ahead. What frustrates me is that I don't know what type of danger that it. It would've been better if khokho were to come and warn me. She is just quiet." She drops the spoon and comes to my side.

Mom: "I know you are not a praying warrior but God can reveal something for you if you just pray. Do it tonight. Just go down on your knees and ask for guidance and clarity from Him because your khokho can be unreliable sometimes." I giggle and the last statement.

Me: "okay ma, I will try."

Mom: "now help me dish up." we dish up and go place the food at the dinner table. She also comes back with drinks. I sit on my chair and the others come down. Dad comes and kisses my forehead. Gcino and Thando greet me and then settle down. Thando says Grace and then we start eating.

Dad: "the food is delicious. Thank you mkami." Mom smiles. He always compliments her cooking. I think if he doesn't, he probably gets chased from the bed and ordered to sleep on the couch.

We finish eating dinner and Thando goes to wash the dishes with Gcino's help. Dad says there is something serious he wants to discuss with me. So I follow him to his study. Mom also follows us. We get there and I sit on the couch. He pours whiskey for himself and wine for mom. He then hands me bottled water from his bar fridge. He sits on the table and fold his legs.

Dad: "do you have any plans for Saturday?" I frown.
Mom laughs.

Me: "not that I know of. Why?"

Dad: "good because your in-laws are coming to pay lobola for you." I chuckle.

Me: "what?"

Dad: "shall I repeat for you or you are just saying 'what' because you can't believe what I am saying?"

Mom: "stop being sarcastic Lela."

Me: "they can't come this Saturday. It's short notice. And Kuhle hasn't told me. Isn't he supposed to tell me? Does this lobola shit happens like this? It's hot in here. Why am I feeling like this?" I stand up and I feel dizzy instantly. I lose balance and I just slip and fall. I feel my mind shutting down and then it's light out.

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KUHLE

I go to my room after putting Amahle to sleep. She was asking so many questions about Futhy. Yoh kids can be curious shame. I take my phone to check the time and I frown when I see a missed call from Futhy's dad. What could he possibly want? Unless something happened to her because she was going to eat dinner with them tonight. I call him back and he answers immediately.

Siyabulela: “you couldn’t wait to nut inside her neh?”
I frown.

Me: “what are you talking about baba?”

Siyabulela: “you impregnated my daughter Mann. I understand that you are going to marry her and shit but too early man.”

Me: “what happened to her baba? Where is she?”

Siyabulela: “we are at the hospital. I am going to send you the address. Just so you know, lobola money is increasing because you keep pissing me off. Yerr.” He hangs up. Few moments later he sends the address. I can’t believe Futhy is pregnant, with my baby. I wanna celebrate but I wanna know what’s wrong with her first. I call Xoli and Phumudzo is the one who picks up. I didn’t even know he was in town.

Phumudzo: “what’s up man?”

Me: “are you guys busy?”

Phumudzo: “just watching TV. Is everything okay?”

Me: “can you guys come to my house and watch my kids for a few hours nje? You can even sleep in your room. I have to rush to the hospital. Something happened to Futhy.” I hear some shuffling and some talking but I don’t hear what they are saying.

Phumudzo: “we will be there in 10 minutes man. And calm down. I am sure nothing extreme happened to her.”

Me: “see you soon.”

I hang up. I get dressed in tracksuits and sneakers. I then take my phone, wallet and car keys. I head downstairs. I call Mpendulo and tell him to prepare the car because we will be leaving shortly. Few minutes later the door opens and Xoli comes in with Phumudzo.

Me: “I am sorry for disturbing your cuddling guys.”

Phumudzo chuckles while Xoli bites her fingernails. She seems nervous.

Xoli: “please updates us on what happened to her as soon as you hear anything.”

Me: “okay. I will. Thanks again.”

I head out and find Mpendulo in the car, already waiting. I climb inside and tell him which hospital we are going to. We get there in a hurry and we go inside. We find Futhy’s mom and dad in the waiting room. We exchange greeting and I sit down.

Me: “what happened ma?”

Futhy’s Mom: “we were telling her about Saturday. She just started hyperventilating and then she fainted. We brought her here. The doctors ran tests and found out that she was three weeks pregnant, with twins.” I frown and then I remember the night we made love, after Lisa’s umemulo. That’s probably when she conceived.

Futhy's dad: "triple lobola wena I am telling you."

Futhy's mom: "shut up wena." He chuckles and looks down. Tears of joy just roll down my cheeks. "Aww." She comes to hug me. "How do you feel baba?"

Me: "I am happy ma. I am finally going to get kids of my own. I am over the moon really. It's unbelievable."

Futhy's mom: "what do you mean kids of your own? You already have kids nje." I chuckle.

Me: "they are not mine ma. My ex wife fooled me and made me raise kids of another man. That's one of the reasons why I divorced her." She gasps.

Futhy's mom: "how can she be this cruel? She is evil."

Me: "I have gotten over it and I am not even heartbroken about the divorce. I just felt bad about her dragging innocent souls into this. This is why I

filed for primary custody of them.”

Futhy’s dad: “you did well. You acted like a real man. I might be lenient on the lobola.” Futhy’s mom and I laugh. He is just being silly and it’s actually funny.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 65

I open my eyes and look around. Hospital? Really? Dad can be so dramatic sometimes. I just fainted. He should've sprinkled water in my face, not bring me here. I sit up and press the buzzer. Looks like it's already morning. The door opens and a doctor walks in followed by a nurse.

Doctor: "you're awake. Good morning Miss Cele." He makes his way towards my bed.

Me: "morning doctor. I am sure you are here to discharge Me." he smiles.

Doctor: "you are lucky nothing is wrong with you. Also please take it easy and take care of the little

ones inside you. You can go shower. Your mother brought you cosmetics earlier on. After showering, we will do an ultrasound first before I discharge you." I frown.

Me: "ultrasound? Little ones? Doctor, what are you talking about?" he smiles again.

Doctor: "you are pregnant with twins. You didn't know?" my heart skips a beat. Kuhle's sperms doesn't play, neh? Damn that was fast.

Me: "how far am i?"

Doctor: "three weeks." Wow, so he scored while we were at Nongoma. I am going to make things so hard for him. I am still mad at him about the surprise lobola.

Me: "okay. Let me go shower then."

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When I am packing my clothes on the bag that mom left, the door opens and the devil walks in. he comes to where I am standing, hugs and then kisses me.

Kuhle: "how are you baby?" I just keep quiet and sit on the bed waiting for the doctor. "Did you hear me?" I just give him an intimidating look and keep quiet. "Baby, what did I do?" ow I can think of a number of reasons but I am exercising my right to remain silent. The doctor comes in with the nurse who is wheeling in the ultrasound machine.

Doctor: "your Highness, we are blessed to have you here." he says smiling. This doctor loves to smile Neh. Kuhle also smiles.

Kuhle: "I am honored. I can't wait to see my precious kids." The doctor gives the nurse inquisitive look and plugs in the machine.

Doctor: "please lie on the bed and take off your dress." I do as he says.

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Kuhle: "I really don't understand why you're mad at me and why you're giving me the silent treatment." We were now in my bedroom and I was packing a few clothes because I am supposed to sleep home tonight.

Me: "you fucken impregnated me, with not one but two big headed kids like you. To make matters worse, you are sending your representatives without tell me anything. Is this how it's going to be in our relationship? Ladies love surprises but not when it's like this." He sighs and sits down.

Kuhle: "I am sorry. Please forgive me."

Me: "whatever."

Kuhle: "please MaCele." He comes and hugs me tight. I just melt in his arms.

Me: "okay, okay. Stop squeezing the life out of Me."
he chuckles and releases me.

Kuhle: "I love you so much. You know that?" I smile.

Me: "I love you." he takes my bags and we head downstairs. I am shocked to find my friends there. "Don't tell me you knew about this." They both smile nervously.

Lee: "it was for the greater good tase." I roll my eyes.

Me: "what's left to do?" she laughs.

Noma: "buying more groceries. You know there can never be enough food."

Me: "okay. Let's pass by the mall then."

Kuhle: "so I will only see you on Saturday?" he pouts and I just giggle.

Noma: "we will wait for you outside." They head out. He pulls me closer to him and gives me a quick hard kiss that leaves me wanting more.

Me: “baby.” I whine.

Kuhle: “you will live.”

Me: “but 2 minutes nje.” He chuckles and unbuckles his belt. I smile widely and he just chuckles, shaking his head.

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We get to the mall and buy groceries. When we are done we buy more booze. We also go buy some clothes because you can never have too much clothes. Lee suggests that we go to Nandos for lunch but I am not feeling grilled meet. I feel like having inhloko, so we go to a pub where we buy it and then drive home.

We get there and find only Thando at home. She is leaving for London Sunday morning. She is super excited and can't stop bragging about it. We unload the food, pack it and Noma starts cooking. I feel

super tired, so I just go and rest.

I wake up the following day and go bath. When I am done, I get dressed and then downstairs. I find mom drinking tea and watching something on her tablet.

Me: “mommy.” I hug her from behind. She places her tablet on the counter and turns to stare at me.

Mom: “Lwandle wami.” She hugs me. “I am proud of the woman you have become.” I giggle.

Me: “don’t start with an emotional speech. It’s too early for that.” she chuckles.

Mom: “what would you like to eat?”

Me: “I want cereal and don’t worry, I am going to do it myself.” I prepare cereal and then sit on the barstool.

Mom: “so tell me about Kuhle. How did your relationship start?” I blush and look down.

Me: “we had a chillaz in my house, where he kissed me. After that he told me that he loves me. He carried on reminding me about his feelings but I kept on telling him that I won’t settle for bring a side chick or a second wife. He then said he will divorce his wife for me. I didn’t believe him because that’s a common song to married men who are having affairs.”

“We went to this weekend getaway and we slept together. After that he told me that he is going to fight for our love. I went to Womalena and when I came back he hadn’t gotten over me. He actually told his siblings and father about me. We only started dating in December and we actually didn’t date. He just proposed and I accepted. And here we are.” He laughs.

Mom: “it’s funny really. It’s an amusing love story. People getting married without dating. Just like an arranged marriage.”

Me: "yeah right. Where is dad?"

Mom: "he went to buy meat at Eshowe with your brothers."

Me: "Lele is home?"

Mom: "he came last night. Unfortunately you were sleeping."

Me: "guess I will see him when they come back. So what is happening today?"

Mom: "some of the family members are coming. I really don't know why couldn't they just come tomorrow. They just wanna crowd my space nje." I laugh and she also laughs.

Me: "I am going to stop by the office for a while and I am gonna come back. I won't even stay for long."

Mom: "let me come with you. I am bored." I finish eating and we head out. Zamoh drives us to DCC.

We get there and find Zah and Bob at the reception desk in my floor.

Me: "Hey guys."

Zah: "hey boss. Xoli has already told us that you aren't coming in today."

Me: "there is something I need from my office, then I will be out."

Zah: "okay. Will see you tomorrow. Mrs. Cele, looking fine as always." My mom giggles.

Mom: "thank you Zanele."

I go to my office and take some of my unfinished sketches. I roll them and put them in the tube. We then head out and we first go to a spa. We get full body massages and waxes. After that we do our manicure and pedicure. We are just pampering ourselves nje. When we are done, we go by that same spot I went to yesterday and buy inhloko.

We then head home and find dad with all his children. They are chilling and laughing out loud. When I get in, Lele comes and hugs me. Out of all my siblings, Lele is my favorite. We just understand each other well and we are always there for each other. Dad also comes to hug me and kisses my forehead. We exchange greetings with Busi and her husband. Her children throw themselves at me.

Me: “you guys look all grown up. You should definitely visit me in June.”

Thabang: “you can bet on it.” They go to mom next.

Lele: “I can’t believe you are getting married. Who knew you would marry a prince?”

Gcino: “let alone getting married?” I just roll my eyes.

Me: “I wish I was the one going to London, away from your annoying asses.”

Lele: “you’re the one who would be inviting me within 2 weeks of settling in. you’d be like ‘bhuty please

come see me, I miss you so much'." He imitates my voice and they laugh.

Me: "continue laughing like that and I will tell the Zulu family not to give you anything during umembeso."

Gcino: "the prince loves us. He would definitely go behind your back to make us happy."

Me: "I give up." I stand up and head to my room. I place the tube on my bed. Dad gets in as I am taking off my shoes. I sit on the bed and he comes to sit next to me. "I told mom to hold off with the emotional speeches and that also applies to you." he just laughs.

Dad: "I told that boy of yours that lobola is going to cost him because he chose to nut inside you. He left not one, but two of his kind. So I am definitely going to charge him a million tomorrow."

Me: "don't worry. He can afford it." He looks at me

and we both just laugh. He hugs me.

Dad: "I can't believe I will be marrying off my female version. Just don't swear at your in-laws." I cover my face with my hands.

Me: "I think it might be late for that advice." He laughs and shakes his head.

Dad: "you're hopeless."

Me: "look at the tree calling the apple hopeless."

Dad: "just shut up." we both laugh.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 66

The following morning I am woken up by singing. I really don't understand why they are singing. I curse under my breath. I slept very late last night. In fact I slept this morning. If my hormones are the ones doing me like this, making me working overtime, then it's not cool. I get up from the bed and my phone rings. It's Kuhle. I just ignore it and head to the bathroom.

I brush my teeth, shower and then dry and lotion my body. I then get dressed in a powder blue with flowers three-quarter sleeve V-neck colour block regular dress and black Versace virtus flat sandals. I then put on a blue doek. I make my bed and take my phone. I laugh when I see 10 missed calls from

Kuhle. I call him back.

Kuhle: "I see you want me to have a heart attack neh?" I just laugh again. "It's good to know that I amuse you."

Me: "calm down my love. I just came out of the shower."

Kuhle: "when did you sleep?" I clear my throat. I don't know how he is going to feel about me overworking myself.

Me: "early, very early. Soon after dinner my love."

Kuhle: "is that so?"

Me: "yes."

Kuhle: "how are you this morning?"

Me: "fine, just hungry. We will talk after I have eaten."
I know that will shut him up.

Kuhle: "I know what you're doing but I will let it slide."
I chuckle.

Me: "bye love." I hang up.

I go downstairs. These people are still singing. It must be the alcohol. I greet them and I make cereal for myself. I go and eat at the lounge because they are cooking at the kitchen. I sit and tune in to Netflix. There is this series I love these days and I love repeating it. It's Bridgeton. I open it and start eating my cereal. Dad comes in wearing black formal shoes, black turtleneck, black dress shoes and a brown coat.

Me: "damn dad. You look superfly. If you are looking this smart just for the negotiations, I am pretty sure your wedding tuxedo will be imported." He laughs and sits down on his couch. You know how black families are, the head of the household has his/her own couch.

Dad: “you don’t look bad yourself.” I laugh.

Me: “you did well by wearing a brown coat. If you wore a black one, people would’ve thought that you are a mafia king.” He chuckles.

Dad: “JABU!” she comes in after a few moments.
“Angizibone ngihlafuna.”

Mom: “udakiwe.” I choke and spit the cornflakes. I then laugh. “Stop laughing or you are going to choke on your food.”

Dad: “can we go back to the ‘udakiwe’ statement?”
mom laughs and rolls her eyes. “SIJABULILE!” he says in a firm tone. She just laughs and runs to their bedroom. “Your mother can be childish sometimes.”
He says standing up.

Me: “and you love playing with her.”

Dad: “fuck off.” I laugh and he also follows his wife.
These two love sex shame.

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I am with my friends in my room. The Zulu negotiators have arrived. Uncle Sakhisizwe is umkhongi but also the king is part of the negotiators. The other uncle is also here and so is Mbuso and Phumudzo. Kuhle's friends are with him outside. If dad were to see that they are drinking in that mini bus they are in, he would probably add to the lobola money.

I haven't told my friends about the pregnancy and I also asked dad not to mention it during the lobola negotiations. I am carrying future leaders. I shouldn't be going around telling everyone that I am pregnant. Royal babies are always in danger and I don't wanna put my kids in danger.

Noma: "I am so happy for you friend. Like I am over the moon. I feel like singing loud." She starts singing. Gosh. She, Lee, Danny, Zah and Xoli slept very late this morning and they were drinking like fishes. Even now they didn't nurse their hangovers. They just

carried on with the drinking. “UBETHI UBHUTI ASIZOMLANDA, UMAKOTI, NO UMKHWENYANA!” We all laugh.

Lee: “no friend. That’s the wrong song. We are on the bride side and we are not entering the gates. Not yet. We should be singing ‘WESIBALI, SIBALI SAMI, MAYEKWEHLULA MBUYISELE EKHAYA’.”

They all start singing along and yoh the noise. I am just laughing. A few minutes later we hear a knock on the door. Yoh the speed in which they hide the alcohol is very amusing. They sit like innocent angels in the bed and some sit on the couch. Thando goes and opens the door. My aunty gets in.

Aunt Fikile: “you are making noise. They are trying to work downstairs.”

Danny: “aunty Fee this is not a funeral but a joyous occasion. So we are going to sing till the sun sets.”

Aunt Fikile: "I am not talking to you wena stabane. Learn to mind your business." Danny stands up dramatically.

Danny: "tell me she didn't just say that. Uuu I am going to wipe the floor with your face."

Lindsay: "calm down babes." he says making his way in. "And auntie, they are calling for you downstairs." She looks at us and then heads out. "She is dramatic that one, never pay attention to her." Zah stands up and starts singing. Gosh I so wish I was also drunk right now.

Zah: "USBALI UYATELEBHELA!"

THEM: "USHAYA KANCANE, USHAYA KANCANE, USHAYA KANCANE USBALI UYATELEBHELA!" such a vibe.

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Everything went well with negotiations. Dad didn't even call me to ask if I know them or not. He called me and was like 'this is your bride ke. If you don't feel her, fuck off.' The king laughed because he knows his friend's sense of humor while the others seemed offended. The royals moved to the tent and Kuhle and his friends and siblings also came out of the bus and they are seated at the tent.

Mom: "you Futhy will first serve your husband and then serve his father. Remember to kneel neh baby. But if you don't feel like it, then don't." I laugh. Her husband's attitude rubbed off on her.

Thando goes to the tent with the basin and dish cloth so that they can wash their hands. Mom hands me Kuhle's food. I take it and go to the tent. I was told not to look at the in-laws in the eyes. I spot Kuhle and then go to him. I kneel in front of him, I steal a look at him and he has this annoying smug on his face. I just know that he and his friends are up

to something.

Phila: "the CEO Madoda."

Mbuso: "the multimillionaire."

Isaac: "the award winner." I just chuckle and they laugh.

Me: "here is your food Ndabezitha." He smiles and takes it.

Kuhle: "thank you MaDubandlela." I blush and then stand up. I go back to the kitchen, take the food of the king and go serve him. I kneel again and he is just smiling at me. He looks just like his son. No wonder women love him this much. He is handsome.

Me: "Sthuli sika Ndaba."

King: "wangisho kamnandi MaNdosi." I smile and stand up. I turn to leave, just then Kuhle calls my name. I huff and turn to look at him with a fake smile.

Kuhle: “just wanted to say I love you and you look very beautiful.” I blush and look down.

Me: “I love you.” I then rush back inside and they laugh.

Zah: “what are they laughing at?”

Me: “Kuhle just told me I am beautiful and that he loves me. These idiots are laughing at the fact that I blushed.” My friends laugh. “I am hungry though.” My friends dish up and go sit on the tent, some next to their partners.

Mom: “let me dish up for you. What would you like to eat?”

Me: “uphuthu, usu nethumbu. No salads please.” She chuckles and dishes up for me. She then hands me the plate. She pours juice for me and hands me the glass.

Mom: “go and sit next to your husband.” I roll my

eyes. I go to the tent and sit next to him. I start eating without saying anything to him.

Kuhle: "that looks delicious."

Me: "yeah but it's mine and I am not sharing." He laughs.

Kuhle: "hau, what's mine is yours and what's yours is mine nje sthandwa sami. Awube I sharist. " I shake my head.

Me: "not in this case."

Sbo: "mapha sis Futhy." I give him a death stare and they laugh at me.

Me: "tell Thando to go dish up for you or go to the kitchen. Mom will gladly dish up for you."

Sbo: "usho kwabazwayo." He says standing up and heading to the kitchen. He comes back with a plate that has uphuthu nosu. When these idiots see him

eating, they all stand up and head to the kitchen, even Kuhle. I just laugh shaking my head.

King: "if we were in another household, I would say these boys are embarrassing me but we are in my friend's house, so he will understand." Him and the elders laugh. These idiots come back laughing and eating. They seem so carefree, like they are in their homes. They sit down and eat their food. Dad comes and sit next to his friend.

Dad: "my family is shocked by the way 'royalty' is behaving." The king laughs and rolls his eyes. "Let's go have a few beers in my study." He stands up and the king also stands up.

King: "will see you later brothers. Kuhle and your squad, behave."

Kuhle: "yes dad." Dad and the king make their way inside the house. "I am thirsty now."

Me: “you’re drunk.” He rolls his eyes and laugh.
“Thando go and call Lele for Me.” she stands up and heads inside. They both come back later. “Bhuty please serve the guests alcohol.” He bows.

Lele: “your Majesty.” He says with a smug on his face.

Me: “you are going to pay for that.” he laughs and leaves. Few moments later him, Gcino and my cousins come and place the booze in front of the guests.

Phila: “that’s what I am talking.” His friends cheer. These hooligans.

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The following morning we all wake up and prepare to go to the airport. It’s a bittersweet day because as much as we are happy that Thando is going to pursue her dreams, we are sad that she is leaving. We are so going to miss her. We are now eating

breakfast. Everyone is quiet, we are just focusing on the food.

Gcino: "I am going to miss your annoying self. I am going to miss you cooking for me when you want to cover for you. I am going to miss you singing for me whenever I lose a match or when a chick rejected Me." we all laugh at him. Even dad is laughing. "We shouldn't be this sad. We should be celebrating."

Thando: "I am going to miss you guys so much."

Me: "we are going to miss you too and I promise we will come see you in July."

Thando: "that's great." We finish eating and then drive her to the airport. "It's time for me to spread my wings and lift the Cele name even higher."

Dad: "that's the spirit princess." He hugs her and kissed her forehead.

Mom: "I love you angel." She also hugs her. We all

hug her. This is an emotional moment for all of us.

Thando: "see you when I see you." she takes her luggage and goes to board the plane.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 67

Due to my trip to Brooklyn, we had to take ingqibamasondo this Saturday. It is a week after the negotiations. We bought so many groceries. It doesn't help that the king has 5 wives. I also have to buy for the late queen mother and also for Kuhle. I also bought blankets for the wives, the king and Kuhle. We also bought many fruits and amadumbe no bhatata. Mom said its tradition. I also bought baskets of goodies for them.

We are on our way to Nongoma. We hired a truck so that we could load the groceries. Mom managed to gather most of my cousins to accompany us. I hired two VW Kombis to transport people, that's my cousins and aunts. My friends wanted to flex with

their cars. Drama. We get to the palace and park outside. Gosh my friends are drunk again. I wish to be them.

They start singing while they unload the groceries from the truck. My friends are very looking classy, it's just that they are drunk. They separate the food into seven packs. They are going to go inside seven times, behambise to each wife, then to the late queen mother and to Kuhle. I call Noma and Lee.

Lee: "what is it tase?"

Me: "into engizoyidakwa mhla kushada nina." They both laugh. I open my wallet and take out R5000. I don't know how much they are going to charge them for opening the gate. "This is for John to vula the gate."

Noma: "so when we get to the gate we must say 'nasi stoko'?" I chuckle.

Me: “basically you are the stoko Neh.” They laugh again. I hand Noma the money. “Now go and sing in front of the gate until they open it.”

Lee: “yes sir.” They go to the gate and start singing: ‘BABA MNUMZANE, UYEYE SIVULELE SINGENE!’

They open the gate for them after paying. They then come back to take the food and take it inside while singing. They do this for seven times and then time comes for me to go inside with them. They take the blankets and gift bags for the wives. I take an enamel basin with is full of sweets and carry it. They start singing again.

We enter the gates and I start throwing the sweets as instructed. Many kids rush to catch them and some pick them from the ground. I am supposed to go around the palace but it’s huge so we stop at the front, opposite the main door. Amahle and Zweli rush to me and ask for the sweets. I giggle and give them the remaining.

Noma asks for a chair and they bring it near where we are standing. They start calling the wives and they all come to collect their blankets and gift bags. I can see they were not expecting this because they seem surprised. Kuhle also gets called. I bought him a suit and dress shoes. Also a blanket. I wrap the blanket around him and place the suit and shoes on top of him. He is blushing like crazy.

Kuhle: “you look beautiful my wife.” I smile. I am wearing a red off shoulder sishweshwe A-line dress with a matching head wrap and red Steve Madden Malibu high heel pump.

Me: “thank you my prince. You also look handsome.” He is wearing umbhlaselo with izimbadada and umqhele.

We wrap up the ceremony and they lead us to the lounge where the table is filled with loads of food. It’s like a feast or something. I sit down and Lee and Noma sit on my left and right. I dish up just steamed

bread and beef curry. I then pour juice for myself and start eating. I know it will only be a matter of time before the wives call me. I finish eating and then drink my juice. Amahle gets in the lounge and looks around. She spots me and smiles and then come to me.

Amahle: "gogo is calling you aunty." What did I say? I smile and stand up. She pulls me with her tiny arms and I just follow her. She looks so adorable right now. She leads me to another lounge, I wonder how many lounges they have in this palace, which is filled with women.

MaDlomo: "my beautiful daughter in law." She comes to hug me.

Me: "how are you ma?"

MaDlomo: "I am awesome." I giggle because that is so unlike her. The other wives also come and we exchange greetings and hugs. They lead me to a chair and I sit down.

MaMolefe: “would you like something to eat?”

Me: “no ma, I ate a few minutes ago and I am still full. A glass of water will be fine.” She pours it and then hands it to me. “Thank you.”

Elder woman 1: “so what is it that you do makoti?” I take a sip of the water first before I can answer.

Me: “I am an architect and engineer.”

Elder woman 2: “are you ready to quit all that because being a royal wife means you have to be a housewife.” I chuckle.

Elder woman 3: “yes. Your duty is to conceive and nurture your children, obey and take care of your husband’s needs. So how are you going to do that while you are an ‘architect and engineer’?” she uses the air quotes.

Me: “I hope I won’t come off as defensive but I love my job and my company. My husband knows and understands that. So I am pretty sure he won’t be

expecting me to just quit it.” They laugh, the wives are just quiet.

Elder woman 1: “the world won’t come to an end when you quit your job.” She rolls her eyes.

Me: “with all due respect ma, I have more than a hundred employees and this year they are going to be increasing. I don’t trust anyone with my company so I can’t just hand it over to someone or quit. This is not a small company. This is a large, soon to be global company. You don’t quit something like that. It’s people’s lives at stake ma.”

Elder woman 3: “we are not fighting with you makoti, we are just...”

Me: “you don’t understand the meaning of your words bomama. I am not an employee, rather an employer. I am very important to most households because I help the breadwinners bring food to the table. Next time when you wanna talk about me quitting my job, research about my company. I built

it, it's my own legacy. You don't quit your legacy."

MaDubazane: "I wish I was as confident as you when I first came here koti." I smile and look down. Kuhle enters the lounge and greets the women.

Kuhle: "can I have my wife now?" his mothers laugh at him. He doesn't even wait for them to answer. He helps me stand up and we head out. When we are at the corridor, he hugs me and then kisses me. "I missed you."

Me: "I missed you too."

Kuhle: "just a few minutes nje of bonding with my wife is all I am asking for." I giggle.

Me: "and you are granted that." he leads me to his room.

Kuhle: "I am the first prince, so I can't have a flat

outside the main house like the others because I should be there for my father in case anything happens.” I sit down on the edge of the bed and take off my heels.

Me: “what happens when we get married? You will continue living in the main house?”

Kuhle: “you are building our house love, so we will live there. We will only come here to have lunch or when there are ceremonies or when we just want to visit.” He sits next to me and take my hands in his.

Me: “those aunts downstairs said I should ‘quit’ my job because when we get married, my job is to conceive and nurture your kids and obey you.” he laughs.

Kuhle: “you and quitting your job? Baby that’s your first love and child. I know that I come second and I know that our children will come second because that’s your firstborn. You love DCC and you love architecture and engineering. I know that, so I won’t

ever expect you to leave your job or something. Yeah, sure I will expect you to take maternity leaves and all but I will never wish for you to quit. In fact let's stop talking about this." I smile.

Me: "I love you." I really do love him. I love the fact that he understands how passionate I am about my job and company. There is one thing that he is wrong about though, is the fact that he thinks my company comes first before him and our babies but I won't correct him.

Kuhle: "I love you more." He kisses me.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 68

STHABILE GCABA

Many people may see me as a villain or a cruel woman but I am neither of those things. Kuhle loved me so much. We went to varsity together. That's when our relationship started. By then I was already dating Gary and I loved him more than I loved Kuhle. Well I didn't love Kuhle, just his money and fame.

When Gary found out about my relationship with Kuhle, he told me not to break up with him but rather make him our walking ATM. That seemed like a plan, until Kuhle's father said he must take a wife. That's when Zweli was conceived. Gary said if I fall

pregnant, there is no way Kuhle wouldn't marry me and that will secure our wellbeing for the rest of our lives.

Of course Gary is the one who impregnated me but I pinned the pregnancy on Kuhle and I prayed every day that the child doesn't come out looking like Gary. We got married with Kuhle while I was pregnant because he didn't want royal blood, especially his child, to be born out of wedlock. Gary is an app developer, meaning he has money but sometimes his apps sucks so he doesn't get paid as often as Kuhle.

After marrying Kuhle, I started getting this huge allowance which I sent Gary half of it every month. I didn't even look for a job because Kuhle's aunts told me that it's my duty to look after my husband and kids and become a housewife. I am a lazy person in nature, so I didn't mind being a housewife because Kuhle pampered me and gave me more money each

chance he got.

He would surprise me with vacation tickets and tell me to take some of my friends which were housewives of rich Durban businessmen. I would take them sometimes but most of the time I took Gary with. I urged Kuhle not to allow a bodyguard to come with me to vacations. At first he was against the idea but he finally agreed.

I stole so many app ideas from Kuhle to give to Gary but only three were successful. Some were not incomplete and some just needed Kuhle's perfection. He never suspected me and I always framed our maids so that he would fire them, in which he did. I thought I got away with everything that I had done but I guess I could never outsmart the royal freaks for eternity.

My sister barges in my room drinking coffee. She has a newspaper in her hand. She sits on the

dressing table and starts reading.

Sthandiwe: "IT WAS A JOYOUS OCCASION AT THE ZULU PALACE WHEN THE FIANCE OF THE FIRST PRINCE BROUGHT INGQOBAMASONDO THIS PAST WEEKEND. THE BEAUTIFUL SELF-MADE MILLIONAIRE, MISS CELE, WHO IS PRINCE KUHLE'S FIANCE BROUGHT GROCERIES AND GIFTS TO HER IN-LAWS THIS WEEKEND."

Me: "beautiful my foot. Kuhle is just unbelievable. Many journalists have been calling me this morning. I guess now I know why."

Sthandiwe: "he even told his PA to release a statement about your divorce because people kept calling the fat woman his second wife and seems like he didn't like that."

Me: "let's go out. I just wanna clear my head."

Sthandiwe: "which club? Because people will see you

and within moments journalists will be surrounding you.”

Me: “I still have a few rands in my account. Let’s go to that restaurant where the phones are left at the door.” She smiles.

Sthandiwe: “yass babes.” she head out.

I stand up and then go freshen up. I get dressed in a black off shoulder lantern sleeve crop top, high waist jeans and nude patent ankle strap heels. I put on make-up and then put on my 20” brown Peruvian weave. I take a few mirror selfies and post them on the gram. People shouldn’t think for a second that I am down and out just because Kuhle left me for a fat woman.

Gary is mad at me because of the full custody Kuhle has over the children. He is angry that I traded my reputation for my children. But he doesn’t understand. It’s better if Kuhle is seen as a heartless person for leaving his perfect wife for a fat bimbo

rather than people knowing about my infidelity.

I take my bag and car keys and head to the kitchen. I take wine from the fridge and drink it from the bottle. My sister comes to the kitchen and takes it away from me. She also drinks it and then put it back to the fridge. She is wearing black short flared dress with an open back and nude harper strappy heel-neutral.

Sthandiwe: "let's go get drunk." I laugh and we head out.

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We get to the restaurant and order a bottle of vodka. Our intention is to get drunk, not dine, so we sit at the bar. We do a few shots. Few moments later a waiter comes to us.

Waiter: "good evening. Miss Mthiyane is asking that

you join her and her friend on the VIP lounge.” I frown.

Me: “did she say why? And who is this Miss Mthiyane?”

Waiter: “the owner of this establishment and one of the richest woman in Durban.”

Sthandiwe: “lead the way honey.” She says already standing up and taking the bottle. I laugh and take the glasses. The waiter goes up the stairs and we follow him. We get to the private area.

Waiter: “Miss Mthiyane, they are here.” he turns and then heads out. This Miss Mthiyane is seated with a white woman.

Miss Mthiyane: “please sit.” We sit down and place our things on the table. “I am Nqobile Mthiyane and this is my friend Donna Magnes.”

Me: “I believe you already know who I am seeing that you invited me here.” she smiles and nods. “This is

my sister Sthandiwe.”

Nqobile: “nice to know you Sthandiwe. Let me cut to the chase. I believe we have a common enemy.” I frown.

Donna: “the famous Ntombifuthi Cele. She has humiliated you and on top of that, stole your man. She should be punished. She can’t get away with everything and...” she takes out pictures and hands them to me, “soon your children will be calling her mommy.” I view the pictures and it’s that fat bimbo laughing with Zweli and Amahle. They seem to be having a great time. They are laughing and they seem carefree.

Sthandiwe: “let me see.” She takes the pictures. Wow the disrespect. Kuhle is busy introducing bimbos to my kids. I am so mad at him and angry at the fact that the bimbo is bonging with my kids. “This is madness. Kuhle is wrong for doing this.”

Donna: “she is warming her way into your children’s heart. She is the common enemy we have. With her out of the way, you can go back to being the future queen and the world will be a better place.”

Me: “her out of the way? What do you mean?”

Nqobile: “eliminate her. She is a big competition that I can’t have. What better way to get rid of the competition than silencing it for good?”

Sthandiwe: “don’t you think that’s extreme?”

Donna: “he left you for a fat unattractive woman. You got nothing from your divorce settlement. It will only be a few months before you go broke. You won’t be able to maintain your lifestyle. Your parents’ money is not enough, it barely can secure their monthly bills.”

Nqobile: “we kill her, Kuhle becomes vulnerable. You comfort him in times of need and sooner rather than later your status will be restored and you will be

secured once again.”

Donna: “think about it but don’t take long because this offer won’t be in the table for too long.” This offer is tempting but if Kuhle finds out I am involved, he will surely kill me.

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#MissChubby

BONUS CHAPTER

CHAPTER 69

STHABILE GCABA

“How the mighty have fallen. Look at you now. Not long ago you were on top of the world, looking down upon us. Look at you now, you are down and out. I am pretty sure you can’t even afford a 30” weave now.” My cousin Khanyeza says sitting down on the couch opposite me. I am at home watching TV.

She has always been a straight talker with no filter. I think her hate for me started when I started dating with Kuhle. She initially had a crush on him but he chose me and that made her very angry. This one time she asked me for money. I didn’t give it to her

because the way she asked for it, was like she was entitled.

Me: “if you have nothing better to say, then shut the fuck up Khanyeza.” She laughs mockingly.

Khanyeza: “babes he left you. He literally left you for a hippo.” She laughs more. “This is just great. To top it off, he took away your kids. Your children are going to have a stepmother while you’re still alive. Shame.”

Me: “if you’re here to mock me then I suggest you leave.”

Khanyeza: “you are used to issuing orders because you were a princess for a few years. You are now back to being a commoner just like the rest of us.”

Me: “you’re just bitter that he married me not you.”

Khanyeza: “and where are you now? Back to poverty. Soon you will be going for job hunting which is something you have never done before. Good luck

with that.” she laughs again and stands up. “Let me make myself something to eat. I wonder if you still know how to cook Miss ‘Private Chef’.” She laughs once more and then heads to the kitchen.

I wish I can just chop off her head. Suddenly Nqobile’s idea doesn’t seem like a bad thing. I am pretty sure Khanyeza is not the only one who is mocking and gossiping about me. At least she is brave enough to tell it to my face. If that hippo is out of the way, Kuhle will come running to my arms. This plan suddenly seem so great.

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Me: “I know what I will do.” I say to Sthandiwe who is brushing her weave in front of my dressing table.

Sthandiwe: “well spill.”

Me: “I am in. I want that fat girl dead. I am going to help Nqobile and Donna in this.”

Sthandiwe: “what made you decide so quickly?”

Me: “seems like a talk from Khanyeza is all I needed. She made me realize that I am not for that life. I can’t be poor, down and out. I need to go back to my prince and the only way to do that is if the big mama is dead.” She laughs.

Sthandiwe: “big mama oe? But I am with you on the killing. I mean I am no longer getting an allowance from you and I really need it. When are we going to meet them?”

Me: “I have already sent a text to Nqobile and she said I should come through to the club this evening.”

Sthandiwe: “I am coming with you. The hippo is going down.” I laugh.

Me: “we should definitely have a mini celebration after her death.”

Sthandiwe: “YAY!”

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We get dressed and then drive to the club. When we get there, we just go to the lounge where we met Nqobile and Donna at, the last time we were here. A waiter tells us to make ourselves comfortable while he goes to call Nqobile who is at her office. We sit down and sip on some white wine.

Sthandiwe: "perfect." I smile.

Me: "missing the nice life right now." She chuckles.

Sthandiwe: "it's only a matter of time before you get it back." I nod. Nqobile and Donna make their way to the lounge and sit opposite us. We exchange greetings and the waiter brings their drinks.

Donna: "so what made you come to your decision so early?"

Me: "you were right about everything and I am not about to let a disgusting oily bitch take my family away from Me." they smile.

Donna: "that's the spirit."

Nqobile: “so what do you have in mind?”

Sthandiwe: “I was thinking maybe we kidnap her and then kill her and then ditch her body in front of the DCC building.” We all laugh.

Donna: “no that will bring too much attention and if they get one of the best detectives on the case, something might lead her back to us.”

Nqobile: “I say we make it look like an accident, a car accident really. Her guards won’t be able to protect her if we just hit her car with a truck. We should also make sure that we know where she is seated so that we won’t miss. Temper with the brakes of the truck so that it will look exactly like an accident.”

Me: “who will be the driver?”

Donna: “leave that to me. I will sort it out.”

Sthandiwe: “seems like you guys have everything under control. What do you need from us?”

Nqobile: "I want to keep the prince distracted on that day. Don't start talking to him on the day of the accident. Rather start soon so that he won't suspect anything. Just ask him to reconsider the custody of the children. You have been married for years. You know his weaknesses and which buttons to push." I nod.

Me: "I totally get you."

Sthandiwe: "so when are we doing this?"

Donna: "As soon as she comes back from Brooklyn. She won't make it down the aisle."

Me: "this is perfect."

Nqobile: "we should toast." The waiter brings champagne and glasses. We pour it on the glasses and raise them. "TO FUTHY'S DOWNFALL!"

US: "TO FUTHY'S DOWNFALL!" we all toast and then we laugh.

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#MissChubby

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CHAPTER 70

FUTHY

It is my third day in Brooklyn and the second day of the conference. We are presenting today and Zah seems nervous. We will both be presenting. Well I am also a little nervous but I am confident about our presentation. I have been preparing for this day since forever and now that it's here, I am happy.

The companies which presented yesterday were just perfect and I am pretty sure they got themselves clients. There are about 50+ clients. Big clients who have a group of companies globally. If I can get myself just three, then I will be set for a lifetime.

I get dressed in a blue surplice neck puff sleeve self-belted spit hem dress with a nude solid belted slant pocket overcoat and nude Tumi ankle strap heels. I am wearing the coat because the weather is a little chill. Kuhle said my obsession with heels must stop once I am four months pregnant because he doesn't want me tripping and falling. Drama.

Zah is wearing a black V-neck leopard print belted dress with leopard print Rebecca heel and black blazer. Xoli is wearing a white foldover asymmetrical neck doobby mesh sleeve top, navy knee length pencil skirt, navy blazer and white Steve Madden dress Brandie white side grande heels. We pack up everything and then head to the conference Centre.

We get there and sit on our designated seats. The presentations start and after a few hours we go to lunch. When we come back from lunch, me and Zah go and present. All the nerves are there but as soon as I start speaking time just stop and I connect with

my work. When I am done I give Zah the platform and she just speaks so politely and great. When she is done, we earn ourselves a round of applause.

When the presentations for the day are done, we all head out. One of the clients comes our way with a smile on her face. She is Maureen Schillaci, the heiress of the Schillaci Group. Her family has the most expensive private hospitals globally.

Maureen: "that was a great presentation DCC. I wish you all the best for Friday."

Me: "thank you very much." She smiles and heads out followed by a number of guards.

Zah: "OMG! We just received a compliment from thee Madam Schillaci. What a great day to be alive." We laugh heading out.

Xoli: "if I didn't know better, I'd say we have her as our number one client."

Zah: "that's a great possibility but let's not count our eggs before they hatch." We get inside the cars and drive to the apartment. We get there and I scream when I see Kuhle cooking in the kitchen. I run and jump into his arms. He giggles and catches me into his arms.

Me: "you're here." he smiles and places me on the counter. I cup his face and kiss him. He deepens the kiss and we break it when we are both content. I look around and I don't see abo Zah. I just laugh.

Kuhle: "I missed you so much. I couldn't wait for Sunday."

Me: "I also missed you."

Kuhle: "how was your presentation?" he asks while he sneaks his hands inside my dress.

Me: "not here baby. Anyways I am hungry. What are you cooking?" he laughs.

Kuhle: "it will be ready in a few minutes. How about you go change into something more comfortable?" he asks eyeing my heels and I just giggle. He takes me off the counter and spanks my butt when I am about to head out. I look at him and he just winks while licking his lips.

Me: "pervert." He laughs.

I head to my room and take a quick shower. It's already late and I know I am not going out for dinner or anything else because Kuhle is here. I just get dressed in my long silky pajamas and sleepers. I go downstairs and find everyone on the dining room. I sit next to bae and we start eating.

Kuhle: "so how was the presentation?"

Xoli: "they nailed it. They even received a compliment from one of the biggest clients."

Kuhle: "that's great." He says smiling and looking at me. I just blush and continue eating.

Zamoh: "look at the boss blushing like a teenager."

Me: "oww shut up Zamokuhle." They all laugh at me while Zamoh sticks his tongue out childishly. "You will never have a child while you're this childish."

Zamoh: "I am still young. I still wanna play with people's daughters before settling down."

Butho: "and they will play yours 10 times."

Zamoh: "bro I own guns. Boys will have to think long and hard before coming near my girls."

Thobeka: "I can already see you having a mini hoe female version of yourself." We all laugh.

Zamoh: "Thobeka!"

Thobeka: "Zamokuhle!" she says while standing up and running out. Zamoh runs after her and we just laugh at them.

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Kuhle: “now that you have presented, I am sure you are less stressed.” We are in my bedroom and he is giving me a massage.

Me: “you want us to talk about our ceremonies?”

Kuhle: “yes baby. We need to have umkhehlo and umembeso which I suggest must be done on the same day. Then the white and traditional wedding. After that we must have a coronation day where you will be crowned as the princess and future queen.”

Me: “I need to have a whole ceremony dedicated to my crowning?” he chuckles.

Kuhle: “yes love. But don’t worry, we will have it after you give birth. The people must know their future queen.”

Me: “okay. I am glad it will be after giving birth. I can’t have more events where I will be looking like a hippo.” He laughs.

Kuhle: "babe you will never look like a hippo. You are perfect and sexy. Right now your moans are turning me on. Feel me." he takes my hand and makes me touch his erection. I giggle and turn to sit on top of him. I start kissing and biting his neck. His breathing changes and I chuckle.

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I wake up the following day to a throbbing headache. I scream and place my hand on my forehead. Wow I am burning up. Someone shakes me. I open my eyes to see Kuhle helping me sit up. He has a worried look on his face.

Kuhle: "what's wrong baby?"

Me: "I am feeling sick." My throat is so dry. "It's like I have a hangover plus flu."

Kuhle: "let's go shower so that I can take you to the doctor and this is not a request."

He picks me up and walks to the bathroom. We shower and I get dressed in tracksuits and sneakers. He also gets dressed in a long sleeved t-shirt, sweatpants and sneakers. He makes the bed and we head to the kitchen where we find everyone eating.

Kuhle: "Zah and Xoli you guys will have to attend the conference on Futhy's behalf. She is sick so I am taking her to the doctor."

Zah: "what's wrong boss?"

Kuhle: "we will know when we come back."

He pulls me outside and we climb into the car. The driver drives off. Few minutes later we pull up in a surgery. We get inside and he goes straight to the consulting room. We go inside the room and find an African American woman who is wearing a white doctor's coat. She smiles when she sees us.

Doctor: "brother from another mother." She comes

to hug him.

Kuhle: "how are you little sis?"

Doctor: "life is good. And this must be the famous Futhy." She says hugging me. She has a little bit of an African accent but she talks like Americans. Seems like she has been here for quite some time.

Kuhle: "we are still going to come to your house for dinner. Right now I need you to check her. She is feeling sick and she is pregnant so I am worried."

Doctor: "tell me how you're feeling right now."

I tell her and then she injects me with an injection. She then checks on the babies. They are perfectly healthy. When she is done, she gives me some meds. We talk a little and then we head out. I yawn and Kuhle looks at me.

Kuhle: "you're feeling drowsy?" I nod.

Me: "I think it's the medication."

Kuhle: "let's eat first and then we will go rest." I nod again and yawn.

We go to a restaurant where we eat our breakfast. We then head home and I sleep immediately when my head hits the pillow.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 71

Today is Saturday and we are preparing to go to the last day of the conference where they will be announcing the number of clients each person got. It's a formal dinner so we are all dressing up. I am wearing a light pink A-line formal dress with George white faux snake print diamante chain block heels. I put on an ash blonde bob weave.

Kuhle is also accompanying me. He is wearing a dark grey tuxedo and a grey turtleneck with black loafers. He looks really handsome. We did go to visit the doctor at her home. Turns out she is his cousin. Her mother is MaDlomo's sister. She is married and has 1 beautiful daughter.

Kuhle: “we better get going love.” he kisses my cheek. I look at him and smile. How lucky am I to deserve such a great partner? My ancestors sure did work overtime here. “Why are you smiling like an idiot?” I giggle.

Me: “nothing. You are just handsome.” He chuckles.

Kuhle: “I know right. For a 35 year old, I sure look good neh?” he wiggles his eyebrows and I just laugh.

Me: “you’re so old.” He rolls his eyes.

Kuhle: “we are only five years apart. What’s old there?”

Me: “whatever.” I take my bag and head out. He follows me. We climb inside the cars and we drive to the conference centre. We get there and we are ushered to our table. We sit down and immediately they bring champagne to our table. Kuhle stops one of the waiters when she is about to leave.

Kuhle: “can you please bring us a bottle of non-

alcoholic champagne?”

Waiter: “coming right up sir.” She leaves.

Zah: “who is it for?”

Me: “me. You know how I hate champagne so I prefer the non-alcoholic one.” She laughed.

Zah: “that’s a relief. I thought you were sick or something.” Mabutho and Zamoh share a glance and they chuckle. I think they know.

The presenter starts talking. She thanks different companies and sponsors for participating in this conference. She then starts announcing how many clients each company got.

Presenter: “the next company is DCC. I can’t pronounce the D name but the CEO is Miss Cele.” I laugh because she is pronouncing Cele like cell. “Well they got themselves 19 clients.” I freeze when she starts mentioning the names of the clients.

Me: “what the fuck?”

Zah: “what in the actual fuck?”

Kuhle: “congrats love. You did it.” He kisses my cheek.

Me: “wow.”

Xoli: “this is huge.” The presenter calls the representatives and Zah and Xoli go to the front. I am still shocked. I can’t even move.

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We are now driving back to the apartment. After the whole ceremony, they served great food and drinks. It’s now 11pm. We get to the apartment and I rush to my room. I open my laptop and Skype my parents. I know they are maybe still sleeping or something. Mom is the one who answers.

Mom: “baby what’s up?” tears starts rolling down my

cheeks and I can't seem to control them. She looks at me with a worried expression. "Why are you crying Lwandle wam?" dad rushes to the screen.

Dad: "what's wrong my princess?" I shake my head and wipe my tears.

Me: "nothing. I am just so happy that my dreams are coming true. Guys I got 19 international big clients. I am just so excited, I don't even know how to express my joy. I don't know if I should pray in tongues or just stand in the highest mountain and shout I did it." Mom starts crying and dad starts reciting Cele clan names.

Dad: "this is big. It deserves a ceremony. I am so proud of you and I can't wait to give you a big hug."

Mom: "you did it Lwandle wami. You have proved yourself and to the world that there is nothing you can't do if you put your mind to it. I feel like bragging right now. I feel like going to Gateway and stand at the heart of the mall and shout 'My daughter made it'.

I love you so much.”

Me: “I love you too guys. Please prepare my favorite because as soon as I land at King Shaka, I am coming home.”

Dad: “can’t wait to see you sthandwa Sami.” I hang up and close the laptop.

Kuhle: “I think I am the luckiest man in the world to have such an amazing fiancé.” I turn to see him leaning on the door. He has taken off his coat and shoes. I smile and stand up.

Me: “you sure are damn lucky my king. You better remember that always.”

Kuhle: “did I tell you how much I am proud of you?” I giggle.

Me: “probably 10 times this evening but I don’t mind hearing it again.” He laughs and comes to me. He stands behind me and unzips my dress.

Kuhle: “how about we celebrate your victory in the Fuhle way?” I laugh and turn to look at him.

Me: “what the fuck is Fuhle?”

Kuhle: “baby Fuhle is Futhy plus Kuhle. I heard one of my siblings saying it.” I laugh again and unhook my bra.

Me: “it sounds childish.” He chuckles.

Kuhle: “it does. But who cares?” he places his hands on my waist and brings me closer to him. “I love you.” I smile.

Me: “I love you.”

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We land at King Shaka and drive to my parents’ house. I laugh when I see Lele’s car on the driveway. Noma and Lee are also here. I guess the folks called everyone. We climb off the cars and go inside. Kuhle

is a little scared of my dad but that's how it is supposed to be. Husbands should be scared of their father-in-laws. They must be intimidated and Ndosikomkhulu is very intimidating. We get to the lounge and find everyone there.

Lee: "the billionaire is in the house." She rushes to hug me. "Please buy me a Royce for my birthday this year." We all laugh. Noma also comes to hug me.

Noma: "sbwl a vacation to a private island chomi." I laugh at her. Everyone take turns hugging me. We then move to the dining room. We sit down and everyone dishes for themselves. The smell of usu is so inviting. "Your new found love for usu is so questionable but I am going to hold off my lawyer ass." Kuhle laughs and I just roll my eyes.

Lele: "so you got 19 clients sisi? That's huge. Meaning you will have to have offices all over now?"

Me: “yes. An expansion that I have been waiting for but I am going to start everything after my coronation.”

Lee: “coronation?” I chuckle.

Me: “have you forgotten that I am marrying a future king? So I must be ordained as a crowned princess. It is going to be a separate ceremony that will be done after I give birth. Or earlier if the ancestors don’t like waiting.”

Noma: “the snake ancestor is definitely going to rush things.” We all laugh. “Kuhle how do you feel about all of this?” he smiles and looks at me.

Kuhle: “happy. She is going to show everyone that being a royal wife doesn’t mean you should just relax and be a housewife. It is not a death sentence. You still have the opportunity to chase your dreams.”

Dad: “I am starting to like you.” we all laugh.

Xoli: "Futhy you are such an inspiration. Reaching 30 and having reached most of your goals, you are just a black Bill Gate in the making." I laugh shaking my head.

Me: "I may not reach his level but I sure am the Cele Bill Gates."

Lele: "the level of flex and the pressure sisi." We all laugh.

Gcino: "look who is talking. Imagine me. The pressure is too much for me. At least you are famous. I feel like dad has extraordinary sperms to produce such kids."

Mom: "Gcino don't provoke your father. I won't meddle when he chooses to beat your ass."

Gcino: "my brother in law will shield me." Kuhle clears his throat and we all just laugh.

Dad: "I thought so. So when is umkhehlo?"

Kuhle: "month end."

Me: “yoh, speed. You will crash.” He laughs.

Kuhle: “I did tell you that I will wife you on Good Friday which is in two months or in a month. So I don’t have time to waste.”

Mom: “the wedding is on Good Friday?”

Kuhle: “yes ma. I am not trying to compete with Jesus or something.” Mom laughs.

Mom: “don’t worry about that son. We don’t attend the Easter service in this household because most of the time Busi is with her in laws, it’s one of the few times where Futhy is available so she travels with her friends, Lele always has multiple gigs on that weekend. So nje it’s not special.”

Gcino: “then it’s settled. Siyatshadisa ngo Good.” He stands up and starts singing and dancing. Lele stands up and joins him. I just laugh shaking my head. Zah is taking a video of their madness.

CHAPTER 72

'Khokho is sitting on a rock near a flowing river. I go to where she is and sit next to her. She is throwing stones in the river. I also follow suit. I wonder why I am here.

Me: "what's up this time around?"

Khokho: "you have been warned. Unfortunately there is nothing we can do to prevent the danger ahead. Just learn to forgive and move on after it."

Me: "what is going to happen khokho? Am I going to lose my babies? Am I going to lose Kuhle?" she clears her throat. A man surfaces from the river with the snake I saw at Kuhle's around his neck. I stand

up and get ready to run. He chuckles.

Man: "it won't do anything to you. I came to apologize."

Me: "who are you?"

Man: "I am Kuhlekonke's great grandfather."

Me: "what are you apologizing for?"

Former king: "for not being able to prevent the danger ahead and for not giving a clear warning in time." I frown.

Me: "am I going to lose anyone close to me?" he looks at me and the snake also looks at me.

Former king: "a life for a life and royalty looks after its own." He then goes back to the river.

Khokho: "a life for a life." I look at her.'

I wake up gasping for air and my heart beating very fast. Is there anyone who can provide some clarity on this because I am very lost? I look at Kuhle who is sleeping peacefully next to me. I take his phone and see that the time is 5 am. Suddenly I know who to call. I climb off the bed and go to the balcony. I unlock Kuhle's phone and dial MaShezi's number. She answers after a few rings.

MaShezi: "Nkosana. Why are you calling in this hour? Is everything okay?" I hear some shuffling in the background.

King: "is everything okay bambo lwami?" I hear Kuhle's father. I would blush if I wasn't still shocked by my dream.

Me: "mama it's me, Futhy."

MaShezi: "makoti is everything okay?" now her voice is stern and concern cannot be denied from it.

Me: "I don't know ma. I just had a very confusing and

sad dream.”

MaShezi: “what did you see?”

Me: “my great grandmother. She usually visits me in my dreams to warn me but this time she wasn’t alone. She was with the late king.”

King: “what did he say?” I guess I am in loud speaker.

Me: “they both said that the danger ahead cannot be prevented. But the king said royalty always looks after its own.” They both keep quiet. After a while MaShezi talks.

MaShezi: “this is clearly an attack on you but they will both be protecting you. So whoever that will be with you that time will suffer the consequences.”

Me: “that’s what Khokho meant when she said a life for a life?”

MaShezi: “this is a very difficult situation because

they are just quiet. They are not saying anything. It's really frustrating."

King: "I am going to ask Mthembu to try communicating with the ancestors."

Me: "but it's pointless because the danger is coming and it seems like there is nothing we can do to prevent it. Maybe you can just pray."

Kuhle: "STHANDWA SAMI!" he shouts from the room.

Me: "I AM IN THE BALCONY!" I shout back. "We will talk later." I hang up. He comes and hugs me from behind.

Kuhle: "good morning. Why are you up so early?"

Me: "the babies were restless. How is your day looking like?"

Kuhle: "I am taking the kids to spend a day with Sthabile. I don't trust her. She might do something to them."

Me: “okay. I will just find something to do then.”

We both shower and prepare for the day ahead. He then leaves. I go downstairs and find Zamoh eating cereal.

Me: “can I also have a bowl?” he smiles.

Zamoh: “I love your manners my lady.” He makes cereal for me and hands it to me. “You seem to be lost. What’s up? You can talk to me. I am a good listener.” He is right. Although he doesn’t give good advices, he is a great listener and you can go to him if you want to vent.

Me: “nothing. I am just down.” He smiles and claps his hands like an idiot.

Zamoh: “Thobeka is in Jozi for the weekend to spend time with bae.” He indicates with hands and I just laugh. He can be playful at times. “Mabutho is with his family, his mother came to see them for a

week.”

Me: “his mother? Where does she stay?”

Zamoh: “Barcelona. She is a team manager for a soccer team there.”

Me: “wow that’s huge.”

Zamoh: “yeah. So she hardly comes in the country and Mabutho also hardly have time to go see her because of his work.”

Me: “okay then. So it’s just me and you. What are we going to do?”

Zamoh: “you forgot to count your goons.” I laugh. Him, Mabutho and Thobeka dislike the guards Kuhle assigned for me. They are 4 and they are always with me but when we are outside home. “Anyways we can go to Shaka Marine. You know how water can lift one’s spirit. After that we are going to go do some shopping and then maybe watch a movie.” I laugh.

Me: “why doesn’t your fun day involve alcohol?”

Zamoh: “because you are expecting.” I frown and look at him. “I know you, boss. I have been around you for more than 6 months. You haven’t touched alcohol in a month.”

Me: “you’re counting?” he laughs and shrugs. “Okay let me go get bathing suit and change.”

Zamoh: “yay! By the way, I am driving the Bugatti today. I just wanna feel that beast.” I laugh.

Me: “a single scratch and you are dead.”

Zamoh: “I swear on the virgin Mary.” I chuckle and shake my head.

I head to the bedroom and change into a white pleated above knee short sleeved summer mid waist dress and white flip flops. I pack my bathing suit, towel and hat. I take my wallet, phone and Bugatti keys and then head downstairs. I hand Zamoh the keys and he squeals. I roll my eyes. We go outside

and he goes to take the car out of the garage while I inform my guards about where we are going.

Zamoh parks in front of me and I climb inside. We drive out with the guards following us. I text my friends about my plans and they both respond by saying they will meet us there.

Me: "how is your relationship status going? Still a player?" he laughs.

Zamoh: "there is this chick. She isn't like no other. She is doing her 2nd year in varsity."

Me: "she is a kid Zamoh."

Zamoh: "is she?" he wiggles his eyebrows and I just laugh.

Me: "whatever dude. So how is she like?"

Zamoh: "I found her still pure. She made me change my player ways. I am going to wife her as soon as

she finishes her degree.”

Me: “aww Zamoh is in love.”

Zamoh: “whatever.” He blushes and rolls his eyes. I just laugh.

Me: “go through the petrol station so that you can fill the tank.”

Zamoh: “okay.”

We fill the tank and then drive to the Shaka Marine. We first buy tickets for Wet ‘n Wild and then go change. While we are heading to the rides, Noma and Lee catch up to us and we go together. We have a lot of fun in the Supertube, Multilane racer, the drop zone and the dizzy duzi. I pass on the mamba tunnel slide because of my fear for snakes.

We then go to the adult pool where we swim and just splash water at each other. I didn’t know that I needed this much fun. I am definitely going to come back here next time. When we are tired of the water,

we go to the Cargo hold where we eat our lunch at. We order and then our food comes. We dive in instantly.

Me: "thank you Zamoh. I didn't know how much I needed this."

Zamoh: "you are welcome my lady."

Me: "Kuhle should pay you extra for spoiling his wife."

Zamoh: "can I please have that in recording?" we all laugh.

Noma: "we are your witnesses."

Zamoh: "cheers to that."

When we are done eating, we then pay and go to the cinema. We watch Namaste Wahala. It's a really cute romantic movie which makes me miss Kuhle but I am not going to text him because I don't want

Sthabile thinking I am petty or something. We are having so much fun we end up watching another movie, Fear of Rain which is about a girl with schizophrenia.

After the end of the second movie, we part ways. We can't go shopping because it's already late and I am super tired. But that doesn't stop us from jamming to the songs playing on my Spotify. I am even posting videos on my Instagram and WhatsApp. He stops at the red light and we take a few photos. I laugh at him because he is even pouting.

The light goes green and he takes off. Out of the blue a truck just collides with our car. He rushes to my side and covers me as the car is spiraling out of control. I am screaming uncontrollably. The next thing I see is darkness and my body just gives in.

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CHAPTER 73

MABUTHO NZAMA

My mind literally froze when Cart, one of Futhy's guards, informed me about the accident. My brother was the one who drove me to the hospital because the state I was in was not good. We get there and rush to the waiting room. I find Cart and the other guards walking up and down. I go straight to Cart.

Me: "what happened dude?"

Cart: "the truck came out of nowhere and took them out man. We were all shocked by it. We were driving behind them. It just came and hit their car. Almost as if it was waiting for them."

Nsizwa: “this was definitely premeditated.” Nsizwa is my older brother who is an ex-cop and an arms dealer. He and my father and my other siblings are gangsters. I am the only leading a legal life.

Me: “how is Futhy and Zamoh?” Cart scratches his head.

Cart: “the doctors are still busy with the princess, so we don’t know what is happening with her. But unfortunately Zamokuhle didn’t make it.”

Me: “what?!”

Cart: “I am sorry.” I shake my head and walk backwards. I keep on walking until my back collides with something. I turn to see Lee standing with teary eyes. She doesn’t ask anything. She just pulls me to a hug.

Tears just flow freely and I don’t even stop them. She also doesn’t say anything. She is just holding me

tightly. Zamokuhle is my best friend from high school. I have known for so long. I can't believe he is gone, just like that. This was definitely planned. Lee finally breaks the hug and wipes my tears.

Lee: "I am sorry." I shake my head.

Me: "it's not your fault. It's nobody's except for the ones who planned this accident."

Lee: "you think it was planned?" I shrug.

Me: "I am going to find out. Right now I need to let my boss know about this so that he can inform his family." She nods and clears her throat.

Lee: "you can go. I will inform you if there are any changes with Futhy." I nod.

Me: "okay thank you." I turn. "Nsizwa let's bounce."

Lee: "that's your brother?" he comes and stands next to me.

Nsizwa: "I am the famous and handsome Nsizwa Nzama. This is my little brother." She chuckles.

Lee: "and I am Dr. Nkosi. Mabutho's friend."

Nsizwa: "you should definitely..." I interrupt him.

Me: "we need to go. See you soon Lee."

Lee: "okay." I pull my brother and we head out.

Nsizwa: "I feel so honored to finally meet the woman who has my brother's heart." I roll my eyes and he chuckles. We climb inside the car and I take my phone out. I call my boss and he answers immediately.

Boss: "this better be good Nzama. You can't just call a man at this hour while he is sitting with his wife and is about to smash."

Me: "it's important. Simelane is dead. He was involved in a car accident."

Boss: "you're joking, right?"

Me: "I am afraid I am not. I was calling you so that you can tell his family because I can't do it." He sighs.

Boss: "what happened?"

Me: "I don't have much information but when I do, I will let you know."

Boss: "okay and I am sorry. I know how close you were."

Me: "sure." I hang up. Nsizwa drives in the warehouse where they keep the guns and I just keep quiet. He parks the car and we climb off. We go inside and I find my father and siblings already there. I turn to Nsizwa. "You called them?"

Dad: "Zamokuhle was like a son to me. I have to find who killed him and make that person meet their maker soon."

Nsizwa: "I know where the accident happened. Mihle let's go to your office so that we can see if there are cameras surrounding that place." Mihle stands up and they head to her office. Mihle is my older sister. She used to be a hacker, well she is still a hacker because hacking will never leave her blood but she is now a housewife. She only comes here when dad asks her.

Dad: "who do you think might be plotting against your boss?"

Me: "Sthabile. Prince Kuhle's ex-wife. I am saying her because she has every reason to be bitter about this. Also Nqobile Mthiyane. She recently sabotaged a project Futhy was busy with. Those two definitely has motive. If I was investigating, I would start with them."

Nkosikhona: "I will check them out. Give me their full names." I tell him. He is my younger brother. He can find anything and anyone. He is so clever. He just

didn't like school. He dropped out of varsity during his first year. He told my parents that it was just a waste of time. "24 hours." He then stands up and leaves.

Dad: "go rest. We will take care of this."

Me: "thank you baba." We bro hug and then I head out.

I get to Futhy's house and I frown when I hear loud music. Who the fuck might be inside? I park the car on the driveway, withdraw my gun from my waist and then head inside. It is coming from the gym room. I know exactly who that is. I head there and find her punching the punching bag hard while tears are streaming down her cheeks. I go to her speaker and switch it off.

Me: "killing the bag won't bring him back."

Thobeka: "I am in pain. My heart is literally torn into

pieces.”

Me: “talking helps.” She chuckles.

Thobeka: “you know me better than anyone. You know I don’t talk about this stuff.”

Me: “but you are going to hurt yourself.”

Thobeka: “I DON’T CARE. I HATE MYSELF. I WASN’T THERE WHEN THEY NEEDED ME THE MOST. I WAS BUSY SCREWING FUTHY’S BROTHER INSTEAD OF DOING MY JOB WHICH IS PROTECTING HER. I AM USELESS!”

Me: “SHUT UP AND LISTEN TO ME! HIS TIME HAD COME. THERE WAS NOTHING YOU NOR I COULD DO! BLAMING YOURSELF WON’T CHANGE ANYTHING!” she just breaks down and cry. I take my phone and texts Lele to come ASAP. I sit next to her and hug her tight. “It’s going to be okay. It’s going to be fine.” Few minutes later Lele walks in.

Lele: "Bee." She looks up and rushes to him. "It's fine. I am here now." She breaks down and wails. This is the first time I am seeing her this vulnerable. It breaks my heart. I stand up and head out.

I go to my room and take a cold shower. Tears stream down my cheeks when I think about the good times I have spent with Zamokuhle. My life will never be the same without him. I get out of the shower and dry my body. I get dressed in jeans, turtleneck and boots. I head to the kitchen and make coffee. When I am done drinking I head out after texting K about the accident because I am sure nobody told her.

I start at a KFC drive thru and get coffee for everyone and then drive to the warehouse. I find everyone at Mihle's office. I just hand them coffee and sit down.

Mihle: "the driver of the truck was Landile, who is a former employee of DCC. He was involved in an

incident that occurred in Nongoma in November. He was given a leave but he never came back to work in January. I have hacked into his phone. Turns out he was in contact with a Donna Magnes.”

Me: “she is a land surveyor who we believe was behind the incident together with her friend Nqobile Mthiyane.” Nkosikhona makes his way inside the office. “That was quick.” He chuckles.

Nkosikhona: “I figured 24 hours is too long. Sthabile and her sister Sthandiwe were seen entering a club owned by Nqobile Mthiyane twice in one week. It’s pretty suspicious if you ask me.”

Me: “so you think they planned the whole incident?”

Mihle: “it’s a beautiful coincidence. What’s the name of the club?” Nkosikhona tells her. She starts typing something on her laptop.

Nkosikhona: “Donna has been in contact with

Landile. At some point she sent him money in his account.”

Mihle: “found footage of the club but I can’t get in.”

Nsizwa: “what do you mean you can’t get in? I thought you were the best.” She rolls her eyes.

Mihle: “get Princess Lisa. She can get in. I trust her.”

Me: “on it.” I get up and head out.

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#MissChubby

#RIPZAMOKUHLE

CHAPTER 74

MABUTHO

I get to the hospital and head to the waiting room. I find Kuhle with Futhy's friends and her parents. I clear my throat and they all look at me.

Me: "any changes?"

Xoli: "not yet. They haven't updated us."

Me: "how is that possible? They should've said something by now."

Zah: "we don't know. Something about her being in a critical condition." I scratch my head.

Me: "Kuhle can we talk?" he looks at me and then

stands up. We go to the corridor and stand there. “I need Princess Lisa. How fast can she get here?” he frowns.

Kuhle: “why?”

Me: “I think I might have a lead on who did this. I need her to hack something for me.”

Kuhle: “who is that?”

Me: “I would rather not say. But I will tell you once I have all the proof.”

Kuhle: “I hate being in the dark.”

Me: “I understand your frustrations. But as soon as I have everything I need, I will come to you so that you can decide on what to do with the information.” He nods and takes out his phone. He dials a number and then put on loud speaker. The caller answers immediately.

Caller: "big bro."

Kuhle: "I need you." she clears her throat.

Lisa: "I am at the airport. Relax I am in Jo'burg. I am trying to hack into the system so that I can get the next flight out." he chuckles. "I heard about sis Futhy. We are going to get those bastards within 24 hours."

Kuhle: "there is someone who might have a lead but they need your expertize to crack something."

Lisa: "who is that?"

Kuhle: "Mabutho, Futhy's bodyguard." She keeps quiet for a second and then speaks again.

Lisa: "I have found a flight out. I will be there in an hour. Tell Mabutho to wait for me at the airport." She then hangs up.

Kuhle: "you heard her." He sighs.

Me: "be strong man. I may not know much but I know that the boss lady will survive. She is strong

and stubborn. She won't leave her millions unattended." He chuckles.

Kuhle: "yeah. You are right. I am also worried about the babies. I have this feeling that they somehow didn't make it."

Me: "so they are two?" he frowns.

Kuhle: "you knew she was pregnant?"

Me: "Zamoh and I made a bet. He said she is carrying multiples and I said it's one baby." I breathe out loud.

Kuhle: "have you called his family?"

Me: "he was like my brother and he was my best friend so it was hard for me to deliver the news. I just told the big boss."

Kuhle: "I know I am asking for too much but this guy practically sacrificed himself for Futhy. I think she won't heal if she doesn't get a chance to bury him. Can you get his family to hold off on the

arrangements until she wakes up?”

Me: “I will get dad to talk to them because I don’t think they will hear Me.” my phone beeps and I look at it. It’s a text from Mihle asking if the princess is on board. I frown when I see the time. “Wow I didn’t even realize that it’s 2 o’clock. Will see you soon man. Let me head to the airport.”

Kuhle: “sure.” I head out of the hospital.

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I first get coffee and burgers from McDonalds and then drive to the airport. I sit at the parking lot waiting for her call. I frown when I hear a knock on the passenger window. Phara le princess. I open the door for her and she climbs inside. She takes the coffee from the holder and drinks it immediately.

Lisa: “you are such a lifesaver.” I chuckle and drive out of the airport.

Me: "I am not even going to ask how you knew the car I was driving."

Lisa: "clever guy. I like you already." She looks at the back seat and smiles when she sees a McDonald's paper bag. She takes it and takes out one burger. "Dude are you single? Because you are my type of guy." I just laugh.

Me: "I am single but there is a lady who has my heart."

Lisa: "your loss then." I continue laughing. I never knew she was this crazy. She starts eating. "So what do you need from me?"

Me: "I need you to hack into a club's CCTV footage. It is locked and my sister believes that you can hack into it."

Lisa: "Mihle Nzama right?" I chuckle.

Me: "of course you know my whole family and what they do."

Lisa: "yes. It's my job to know people's businesses. I am proud of you for choosing another path in life. You proved that an apple does fall far from the tree." I smile.

Me: "thanks."

We get to the warehouse and head inside. This time around dad, Nsizwa and the others are not here. It's only Mihle and Nkosikhona. Mihle stands up when she sees Lisa.

Mihle: "the naughty princess." Lisa laughs.

Lisa: "the house wife and the curious brother." They all shake hands.

Me: "I guess no introductions needed then."

Mihle: "no. you can go and rest now brother. Even if it's for two hours."

Me: "I know you won't let me off the hook. So it's fine."

I am leaving. I will get Cart to come and wait for you.”

Lisa: “just come get me after 5 hours. I will be done by then. Meaning you will sleep for 4 hours and prepare me food when you wake up.” I chuckle.

Me: “yes princess. Bye guys.” I head out.

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KUHLE

I only went to my house because Nompilo came and forced me to go bath. If it wasn't for her, I would be a resident at the hospital now. It's two days after the incident and Futhy hasn't woken up. I am glad that she is stable and the babies are okay but I really need her to wake up. I am literally not coping.

It's Tuesday and I should be going to work but I have appointed an acting CEO. I am glad that Futhy made Bob her vice CEO because he just assumes her

responsibilities in her absence. I bath and get dressed in a cotton short and a golf t-shirt with sandals. I head to the kitchen and I frown when I see Lisa and Mabutho sitting there drinking coffee.

Me: “when did you guys get here? And why does it look like you haven’t slept in a while?”

Lisa: “2 days to be precise. We have all the evidence to lock up the people who caused the accident.”

Me: “who caused the accident?” she clears her throat.

Lisa: “Nqobile Mthiyane, Donna Magnes.”

Mabutho: “Sthandiwe and Sthabile Gcaba.” I frown.

Me: “I am sorry, what?” Lisa hands me a flash drive.

Lisa: “everything you need is in there. I need to rest.” She leaves the kitchen.

Mabutho: “what are you going to do about this?”

Me: “submit it to the authorities. I know a detective who can get them behind bars by tomorrow afternoon. What do you wanna do?”

Mabutho: “I want the driver dead but I guess I can get him even on the inside.”

Me: “what do you mean? Man, who are you?” he chuckles.

Mabutho: “I am Bra Chills son. The legal one. See you man.” he heads out leaving me shocked. I take my car keys and head out.

I can't believe Sthabile stood this low. What was she expecting? That she kills Futhy and I go running back into her arms? Whereas she is the one who screwed me over. Some people are insane and delusional. I just can't believe she would go to such extreme lengths.

If it was another person I would've probably killed

her by now but I don't want her blood on my hands. My kids still need their mother, just that she will be there for them behind bars. I get to the Greyville Police Station and head to the help desk. I ask for Detective Ncebakazi Shabangu. Someone leads me to her office. I find her dancing. She chuckles when she sees me.

Nceba: "you just disturbed my TikTok video so you owe me data." I laugh.

Me: "but it's your duty to help me and you are doing personal thing during work hours." She rolls her eyes and looks at me.

Nceba: "you look familiar." She frowns. "You are the crowned prince of the Zulu kingdom?" I shrug.

Me: "guilty as charged." I sit down.

Nceba: "so how may I help you?" I hand her the flash drive.

Me: "these people conspired and caused an accident

that left my fiancé hospitalized and her driver dead. The flash drive contains all the evidence you will need for the case. At least have them behind bars by tomorrow evening before they flee the country.” She smiles.

Nceba: “well my prince I am not called the best for nothing. Although it’s weird that you are not taking matters into your own hands seeing this is personal.”

Me: “I am not that person. I am a future king so I must lead a transparent life and be a good example to my siblings and the whole nation.”

Nceba: “spoken like a true leader. Give me 12 hours.”
I smile.

Me: “I knew I could count on you.” I stand up and head out.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 75

MABUTHO

Yesterday I went to Zamoh's home. I was expecting his mother to be breathing fire about the accident. But she was calm, or rather sad and hurt about it. When she asked who caused it, I told her and I also informed her about the suspects getting arrested. That seemed to put her mind at ease. She also agreed to postpone Zamoh's funeral for the sake of Futhy.

Right now I am at UKZN Howard campus. I am here to tell Zamoh's girlfriend about the accident. I don't know how she is going to react. But I am hoping she doesn't faint or something. I lean on the car bonnet. I see her as she comes to the gate. She is wearing her

everyday smile. I feel so bad that I am about to take it away from her.

Mpumi: “hey Butho.” She smiles again then she frowns.

Me: “hey Mpumi.” She folds her arms to her chest.

Mpumi: “I am mad at your friend for not contacting me since Saturday morning. If I am mad at him that means I am also mad at you.” I clear my throat.

Me: “there is something I need to tell you.”

Mpumi: “he sent you here to break up with me, isn’t it? He is such a coward that he didn’t want to face me himself. What was I thinking dating an older guy? I was setting myself up for a heartbreak from the beginning. I...”

Me: “he is dead.” She stops mumbling and looks at me.

Mpumi: "what?"

Me: "he died on Saturday night in a car accident. I am sorry." She shakes her head and tears start falling from her eyes.

Mpumi: "you're lying. You're lying. Not my Moh. He would never leave me. He said it himself. He would never leave me. He made promises to me. He can't just leave me like that." I pull her closer and hug her tight. She just cries out loud while mumbling things.

Me: "it's going to be okay."

Mpumi: "no it won't. What about me? What about his child? Our little family? He is just going to leave us like that?" I break the hug and look at her.

Me: "what child are you talking about?" she wipes her tears.

Mpumi: "I am six weeks pregnant. I tried calling him on Sunday to inform him but his phone kept taking

me to voicemail. Now I know why. How am I going to raise this child? I am still a student. I can't be a single mother. My parents are going to disown me when they find out that I am pregnant and the father is dead."

Me: "relax. You have me and Thobeka. We are going to be here for you for everything you need. I will talk to my boss and make sure that you at least get R1500 monthly to take care of the baby needs. Just know that you are not alone." She wipes her tears which haven't stopped falling.

Mpumi: "when is his funeral?"

Me: "we don't know yet but probably next Saturday."
She nods.

Mpumi: "okay please let me know the exact day when you know."

Me: "okay. Is there anything you would like that belongs to him before I take his stuff back to his

family?"

Mpumi: "we will talk tomorrow. For now I just want to process this." I nod.

Me: "okay." I hug her again for the last time. "See you soon." She nods and heads back inside.

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*****THOBEKA NGWENYA*****

I take the jacket that he bought for me on my last birthday and wear it. The sun is very hot outside but I feel like wearing it will make me feel closer to him. I remember when I left on Friday his last words were 'I am happy that you opened your heart and you have found the right guy for you. Hold on to him but not too tight because he might just die.'

I laughed at him and told him his advice sucks as always but he was right. I just didn't wanna say it to his face to boost his ego. But now I wish I had said it

instead of the last words I said to him which were 'whatever dickhead.'

I have known him for 7 years. When I was hired at the Dibbers Agency, he was still a bodyguard. He trained me and literally taught me everything there is to know in our line of work. He was very tough on me but I am grateful for that because I learned a lot from him.

I head to the kitchen and find Lele cooking. I smile. If it wasn't for him I would be a wreck or a ticking time bomb because I would've kept my grief inside. I am grateful for having him in my life. He smiles back. I sit on the barstool and look at him moving around like he owns the place.

Lele: "I know I am handsome but stop looking at me like I am a meal." I laugh.

Me: "oww please. You're full of yourself."

Lele: "I am a Cele. Do you blame me?" I roll my eyes.
"I will punish you for that." I giggle.

Me: "sorry." He chuckles.

Lele: "I thought so." He pours juice on a glass and hands it to me. "Marry me." I chuckle.

Me: "what?"

Lele: "you heard me. Anyways eat so that we can go check up on Futhy."

Me: "hey! You can't just drop a bomb on me like that and then brush it aside."

Lele: "I have asked a question. I am expecting a yes or a no answer. It is not something to be discussed. You can discuss the matter with your inner self but mina njengo Magaye, I have done my part."

Me: "wow." He laughs.

Lele: "now let me feed you."

He dishes up for the both of us. He gives me my plate and sits down next to me with his. We both eat silently. This food is so delicious. He is a mean cook but he is crazy about this marriage thing. Firstly he is a year younger than me. Okay that isn't a factor because he is very mature for his age. But it is too soon. We haven't even dated for 6 months and already he wants to marry. This feels like another Kuhle Futhy situation.

Lele: "don't overthink it. Your brain will freeze." I giggle.

Me: "that's just stupid." He raises his eyebrows.

Lele: "I am stupid?"

Me: "don't twist my words Bubu."

Lele: "I am going to let you mourn this week and next week but rest assured, after that I am going to rip your pussy apart."

Me: "and I am going to make you squeal like a little

girl.” He laughs.

Lele: “game on.”

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 76

KUHLE

I am sitting at the visitors' chair while holding Futhy's hand. She looks so beautiful but her face has little scratches. I am sure she won't make a fuss about it. During the accident, her leg and arm were injured. I am sure when she wakes up she will be required to use crutches.

While holding her hand, she squeezes mine. My eyes pop out. I keep quiet thinking maybe it's a reflex. Her eyes open and she looks around. I press on the buzzer and remove her mask.

Futhy: "Zamoh. Zamoh. Zamokuhle." She says in a

faint voice. I hate to break her heart and I know that learning about Zamokuhle will break her heart.

Me: "baby I am here." I help her sit up. She looks at me with a confused face.

Futhy: "why am I at the hospital? Where is Zamoh?"
luckily I am saved by the doctor who enters with a nurse.

Me: "I will be back in a few minutes." I head out and go to the waiting room. I find Lele with Thobeka and Mabutho.

Lele: "you seem in a better mood. What's up?"

Me: "she is up." they all stand up.

Thobeka: "that's good news. Now why do you look like you have just swallowed lemons?"

Me: "she is asking where Zamokuhle is."

Mabutho: "fuck."

Me: “yeah, fuck.” I sit down and they all sit.

Lele: “let me call mom and dad.”

Mabutho: “and I will call Lee and Noma.” After a few minutes the doctor comes to the waiting room.

Doctor: “you can go see her now.” I stand up and rush to her ward. I find her sitting on the bed looking on the ceiling.

Me: “my love.” she looks at me.

Futhy: “I remember it. The accident. Where is Zamokuhle?” I clear my throat and avoid eye contact. “You have never been the shy one around me. Talk Kuhlekonke.” I scratch my head.

Me: “he is gone sthandwa Sami. He died protecting you. He didn’t survive.” She shakes her head repeatedly.

Futhy: “you’re lying.” Her voice is already breaking.

“No, he is okay. He is fine. He made it out alive.”

Me: “my love please. Don’t do this to yourself.” I
closer to her bed and hold her hands. “Calm down.”

Futhy: “no don’t tell me to calm down. He protected
me. He shielded me. He saved my life. Why couldn’t
they spare him?” she starts shaking and
hyperventilating.

Me: “please calm down babe. Calm down.” She isn’t
calming down. “NURSE! NURSE!” I shout. A nurse
rushes in quickly. “Please sedate her. She is not
okay.”

Nurse: “please move away from her and let me do
my job.”

Me: “you are going to be fine babe.” I kiss her
forehead and head out.

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FUTHY

He was a good person. He was a great listener but terrible at giving advises. He was a breath of fresh air and his aura just screamed fun, but only when you were close friends with him. I never considered my employees, employees especially the ones I lived with and the ones I worked so close with.

He was like a younger brother to me and a friend. I remember the last hours we spent together. They were one of the best hours of my life. I had so much fun and I know that what happened that day will forever be engraved in my mind. The time we spent, I will forever cherish it.

I remember the way he was so happy about driving the Bugatti. He squealed like a little girl. The videos we took singing and just laughing in the car. I keep looking at them. The last memory of him. I am yet to see his girlfriend. I know I would be beyond broken if something were to happen to my Kuhle. Which is

why Mabutho should take me to see her when I get discharged.

Kuhle has been so understanding and he has been here for me. I am pretty sure if it was another man he wouldn't understand why I am mourning the death of another man. It has been a day since I learned about his death and I haven't accepted it. Whenever I see Mabutho and Thobeka walking inside my ward, I am expecting to see him walk in behind them. It's still a fresh wound.

Kuhle: "baby." I look at him. "What would you like to eat?" I know I am heart broken and all but my babies' wellbeing is also important, so I force myself to eat from time to time.

Me: "inhloko nedombolo." He frowns and then smiles. He takes out his phone and taps on it for a few seconds then he puts it back to his pocket.

Kuhle: "done."

Me: "when am I getting discharged? I don't like staying here. It's depressing for me and my babies." I hate staying here and looking at the walls all day long. It really is depressing.

Kuhle: "I will get the doctor to discharge you tomorrow morning latest sthandwa." I nod.

Me: "when is the funeral?"

Kuhle: "since you are awake now, it is going to be this Sunday."

Me: "I would like to go see his family before Sunday."

Kuhle: "I will arrange for that tomorrow."

Me: "who did this? Who caused the accident? Because there was no way a truck could come out of nowhere and target us just like that. It had to be premeditated." He scratches his beard. I know he does that when something makes him uncomfortable.

Kuhle: "it was planned by Sthabile, her sister Sthandiwe, Nqobile Mthiyane with her friend Donna Magnes and Landile from the Nongoma incident." I chuckle and shake my head.

Me: "wow. Your bitter ex caused me my friend and almost caused me my life together with my babies' life. What the fuck did she do that for? I didn't steal you away from her. Why did she come after me?"

Kuhle: "her fake friends convinced her that, with you out of the way, she can warm her way to my heart easily." Wow.

Me: "so Zamoh died for that bullshit? Where is she right now?"

Kuhle: "in holding cells with her new found friends. Mabutho with his siblings and Lisa managed to gather all evidence needed to lock all of them away."

Me: "I wish they can die, a slow painful death, but

prison will be their new home. I hope it opens their minds and makes them less stupid. So where is my car?"

Kuhle: "beyond repairs but I will replace it." I shake my head.

Me: "no. I want Lisa to empty all their accounts and with that money, you should buy my car." He smiles.

Kuhle: "consider it done."

Me: "we can send the rest to Zamoh's family and his girlfriend. Anyways who is helping with the funeral?"

Kuhle: "Dibbers Agency. He died on duty so they take care of their own." I nod. "My family wants to come and support you at the funeral." I give him a weak smile.

Me: "they can come."

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The doctor has discharged me and I started at my house where I changed to a skirt, sweater and sliders. Having a cast on the leg and arm limits my choice of tops and shoes. I don't think I am going to get used to walking with crutches and this frustrates me because it means I won't be able to work until I take off these casts.

We first pass by the mall, we go to Woolies where we buy groceries and then we head to the Simelane household. I guess Kuhle is paranoid because the number of my guards has doubled and I now travel like a princess. With three cars and two of them consist of 8 armed guards.

We get to Zamoh's home and we climb off the cars. Thobeka and Mabutho take the groceries and we head inside the house. We exchange greetings and Mabutho and Thobeka go place the groceries in the kitchen. I guess they know their way around here. They come back and they lead me to a room where

we find women sitting on the sponge, I guess this is the mourning room.

Mabutho: “sanibonani bomama. KaMakhoba this is our boss, Ntombifuthi Cele.” She reveals a weak smile. I guess this is Zamoh’s mother.

KaMakhoba: “you can come and sit next to me.” I nod and limp to her. I sit down. I know I will need help standing up. “Thank you for being a good employer to my son. For the past few months he was very happy. He talked about you so much I even thought he has something for you. But when he told me about his young girlfriend, I knew he was just fond of you.” I smile.

Me: “he was such a great young man and was full of life.”

KaMakhoba: “how was he on his last hours?” I open my phone and play videos for her. She takes the phone. She giggles with tears stream down her cheeks. “He was so happy.”

Me: “he was indeed. I was down on that day but he managed to cheer me up.”

KaMakhoba: “I would like to play these videos at the funeral. We, as his family, need to know that he was happy in his last hours. I guess this is the closure we needed.”

Me: “okay ma. There is something I want us to talk about but we will talk after the funeral. For now I just wanted to see how you guys are doing.”

KaMakhoba: “see you soon sisi.”

Me: “okay ma.” We bid farewell and then we leave. Mabutho drives us to Howard campus. I need to see Zamoh’s heart. We get there and find her already in the parking lot. I don’t know her but I can see that she is not doing well. She smiles when she sees us.

Mabutho: “mfazi kabafo.” She gives him a weak smile. They exchange hugs with Mabutho and

Thobeka. “This is Futhy, our boss and boss lady this is Mpumi, his heart.”

Me: “nice to meet you.”

Mpumi: “likewise.” I open my bag and take out a few notes and hand them to her.

Me: “this won’t bring him back but please take care of yourself and his seed.” Mabutho told me about the pregnancy. “And we will talk more after the funeral. Just know that you are welcomed there. Even his mother wants to see you.”

Mpumi: “that’s good to know. Thank you sisi.”

Me: “I want you to know that you won’t suffer while we are still alive.” I open my arms and she comes to hug me.

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CHAPTER 77

Today is the funeral. It's a very sad day for every housemate. Kuhle forbade me to go to the night vigil stating that I am not well to be sitting the whole night in a tent. I might even catch a cold. He is dramatic but he was right which is why I didn't go.

We take a shower together with him doing most of the work because of my injuries. When we are done, he lotions both our bodies. I then get dressed in a black off shoulder maxi dress with black slider and black doek. Kuhle is wearing a black shirt with black chinos, black loafers, black coat and his family leopard skin on his shoulders.

Me: "is that necessary?" he smiles.

Kuhle: "my family is going to be there and they will come as royalty not just normal people." Which means they will be wearing their animal prints also. The stares they are going to get bawo.

Me: "drama."

Kuhle: "don't worry, you will get yours in a few months." I roll my eyes and he laughs. We finish everything and we head downstairs. We eat cereal and then head out. We first go to fetch Mpumi and then drive to his homestead.

We get to the Simelane homestead and find them already on their way to the hall where the service is going to be held. We all get there. Mabutho ushers us to the second row where we settle down, the third row is empty. Wonder who will be sitting there.

The service commences and just as they call the

second speaker, everyone turn their head to look at the door. I also turn and see the Zulu royals making their in. many of the people stand up, men take off their hats and women bow. They come and sit on the row behind us. After settling down the service finally continues. Drama. They call Mabutho and Thobeka to the front. Thobeka is the first one to take the mic. She is wearing a black suit and you can tell that she is shielding all her emotions.

Thobeka: "Zamokuhle was like an older brother to me. He took me under his wing when I first joined the Dibbers Agency family. He trained me and basically made me the person I am today. Working for Miss Cele was not our first time working together but it was definitely the best. He was naturally a bubbly person but during the past few months he became bubblier."

"We never thought he would settle down because the Zamoh we all knew and loved was a natural born

player. When he found his love it was like he was born again. He had this unexplainable glow. He was always happy and he would literally lose his mind when his heart wasn't speaking to him. It warms our hearts to know that he has left a part of him behind that we will always be reminded of him when we look at it. Rest in Power Magutshwa.”

Mabutho: “we have known each other for more than 10 years. We attended high school together. We shared most things. We even shared the same dream of working for a bodyguard company. It became a reality when we were both hired.”

“He was a natural joker and I had gotten used to having him around. When Miss Cele hired us, we were so happy that we will spend most of our time together. As Thobeka has mentioned, the past few months have been a blast. When he told me that he had found a woman whom he wants to spend the rest of his life with I just rolled my eyes and said

‘another one’, little did I know that this one was it.”

“I am just sad that he died without wifing her because that was in his plans. He fell head over heels in love with Mpumi and it made me happy that he was quitting his playful ways and committing to one woman. The people who did this,” he looks down and clears his throat, “Justice will be served for bafo. Rest in Peace Lokothwayo, Phangode kankosi.” They go back to their seats.

It’s a great service. People are speaking so highly of him. Some are even making jokes. It’s not a funeral, rather a celebration. His boss from Dibbers Agency talks so highly of him. We laugh when he talks about the times Zamoh and Mabutho have pranked him. His siblings also take the stage. They are a little emotional but I guess they are consoled by the whole environment which is comforting. When they are done, the MC calls me. I go to the stage accompanied by Kuhle.

Me: “everything everyone had said today, I have witnessed it. Zamokuhle was a great guy. Good listener and bad advice giver.” I hear a few chuckles. “He had his professional moments but he was just himself most of the time. He, Mabutho and Thobeka were more than my employees. They were family.”

“On our overseas trips he would always speak Zulu to people he knew very well couldn’t understand it. On Saturday I had a bad dream and my mood was just somber from the beginning of the day. He suggested that we go to uShaka Marine for a fun day, then go shopping after that go see a movie.” I clear my throat.

“He was very excited about driving the beast. Sure we had connected before but on that day it was different. He told me a lot about himself. He was his usual fun self. We even took a lot of videos together which they will play after I sit down. Rest in Peace

Zamoh. You will always be loved and missed dearly.”
I breathe out loud and go sit down.

They play the videos and some cry while others laugh. He was singing and other he was talking about how much he loves Mpumi. On another he was talking about how much he loves his family and what he is still going to do for them. They finish playing the videos and the service comes to an end. People prepare to move to the cemetery. We all move outside. Kuhle and I go to where his family is at. We exchange greetings.

MaShezi: “how are you feeling makoti?” she and MaMolefe are the only wives who came and I am genuinely grateful for their support.

Me: “about Zamoh I am still sad but everything happens for a reason. I can be angry at the ancestors for not protecting him but it’s no use because he is gone. I will be okay as time goes by. It

is just going to be weird without him at the house.”

MaMolefe: “we understand how you feel. If you need any advice or just to talk, you know where to find us.” I smile. “You do know that you are not allowed to go to the cemetery?” I sigh. Konje. Mabutho comes to where we are standing.

Me: “please take the bouquet I bought and go with it to the cemetery. You can take the car. You will find us at Zamoh’s home.”

Mpumi: “am I allowed to go?” she asks in a small voice.

Me: “of course. You are family. Say goodbye to him for me. Mabutho go with her.” They both head to the car.

Sbo: “okay, let’s go eat.” I roll my eyes and he chuckles.

We head back to the Simelane household. My friends and family also came. Dad was fond of Zamoh so I am not surprised that he came. We get to Zamoh's home and it seems like they were already waiting for us. We wash our hands and we are led to a private marquee. Discrimination even in a funeral bahlali but I guess I should get used to the fact that my father in law is no normal man. He is the king of the Zulu kingdom.

Noma: "are applications for the sixth wife opened my king? Because I could get used to this kind of treatment." We all laugh.

King: "would you quit your job and come live in the palace with me?"

Noma: "come on man. You have 5 wives living with you already. I would be the city wife who comes in ceremonies and certain weekends bringing sweets for the kids." The king laughs.

Kuhle: "stop making us laugh Nomalanga."

Noma: "Zamoh would've wanted us to behave like this in his funeral. He wouldn't want us crying forever."

Lee: "true that. And he would also want us to drink a lot." Xoli, Zah and K went to the cemetery. I frown when I see waiters coming with starters to us. Five star treatment neh? Gotta love travelling with royalty.

People come back from the cemetery and they start serving food. They come to our marque with serving dishes. When they are about to dish, Sbo stops them and tells them that we will dish for ourselves.

MaMolefe dishes for herself, her husband and sister wife. Kuhle dishes up for the both of us while everyone dishes up for themselves. My family and friends also join us in the marque. KaMakhoba comes to the marque with Mpumi. I stand up and meet them halfway.

KaMakhoba: "you shouldn't be moving up and down like this. You won't heal."

Kuhle: “please tell her mama.” I give him a threatening look and he just chuckles and goes back to his food.

KaMakhoba: “I want to thank you for coming. Mostly I feel honored to have the Zulu royals attend my son’s funeral. Now I know how important he was to other people and how much of an impact he made to people’s lives.” The king stands up.

King: “he was a good boy plus he died protecting one of our own. We will forever be indebted to this family.” Zamoh’s mother gives a weak smile.

KaMakhoba: “he prepared me for this. He always told me that if he dies saving or protecting his boss I shouldn’t worry because he would be in peace knowing that his boss is well and safe.” I feel tears falling on my cheeks and I quickly wipe them. “Anyways thanks again for coming and travel safely just in case I don’t see you for the second time.” She

leaves with Mpumi. I guess they are best friends now. We sit down.

Lee: "who is the little girl?"

Me: "Zamoh's girlfriend."

Xoli: "she is so humble and down to earth."

Me: "you know her?" she nods.

Xoli: "we even hung out a couple of times."

Me: "mmm."

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 78

STHABILE GCABA

It's Tuesday night and I am alone in my cell. We were denied bail yesterday. Mainly because no money was posted. Apparently there was no money in all our accounts, even Nqobile. I regret my decisions. I wish I could turn back the clock. What pisses me off the most is that our mission failed and now I am locked up in here for I don't know how long.

I guess I should be happy that I am not sharing a cell with anyone but this place is creepy. When they switch off the light, the only light that lights up is the one coming from the window which is the moonlight. My parents didn't bother coming to visit me or anyone for that matter. I am sure that fat bimbo is

waiting for a time to come and gloat in my face.

I am lucky because Kuhle doesn't believe in an eye for an eye or else I would be six feet under. Also I am pretty sure the reason I am still alive is that I am the mother of his kids. Other than that, I am pretty sure the whale would've ordered my hit and he would've jumped without even questioning her. I now know how much he loves her and there will never be a Stha and Kuhle. I destroyed everything for myself and I regret it.

Something tells me to sit up and I do. They haven't switched off the lights. There is someone who is standing near the door. He is wearing bloody clothes. God please don't tell me this is what I think it is. I am being haunted. He smiles and looks straight into my eyes. His eyes are teary and are full of sadness.

Man: "do you know who I am?" I shake my head. I am already breathing abnormally. I am scared to

death right now. He takes two steps further into the room and looks around then his eyes find mine again. "Use your words." I swallow hard.

Me: "I don't know you." he chuckles.

Man: "my life was finally coming together. I quit my player ways because I had found my soul mate. To make things greater, she is carrying my heir or heiress. AND YOU FUCKING TOOK THAT AWAY FROM ME!" his last tone makes me jump up in fear. I am not standing by the window and he is in the middle of the room. "WHY? WHY DID YOU TAKE IT AWAY FROM ME?!"

Me: "I don't know who you are. Why would I make you suffer when I don't know who you are?" he chuckles and shakes his head.

Man: "stop patronizing me. You have surely seen me once or twice in your life. Don't be ignorant." I look closely and I instantly recognize him. OMG! He is the bimbo's driver. If he is here haunting me, that means

he died instead of the bimbo.

Me: "it was a mistake. You weren't supposed to die. You brought this to yourself. You could've jumped out of the car." He laughs and within a blink of an eye he is right in front of me.

Man: "I want you to hit your head in the wall repeatedly until you take your last breath." I shake my head. "I could do this the easy way or the hard way. If you don't do it now, I will haunt you day and night until you eventually take your life. Better now than never." He places his hand on my cheek and I scream when I feel my head colliding with the wall. "There you go. Now continue."

"While at it, think about your miserable life. You are not that special. Soon you will be transferred to a cell full of thirsty female alphas who will want to rape you and make you their bitch. You have crossed so many people in your life before. You are better off

dead. Futhy will be a much better mother than you will ever be.”

Me: “STOP!” I hit my head on the wall repeatedly until I hear my skull cracking.

Man: “you are nearly there. Think about your cousins. They are already having a field day about you being here. The media is writing all sorts of things about you. Calling you a witch, I even heard that the prince is planning on hosting a press conference where he is going to talk about the reason why you guys divorced. Your life is over. You are useless now. You are nothing.”

I bang my head again more than ever until I feel myself getting weak. When I am about to go down, this man grabs my head and continues banging it on the wall. I have no voice to scream. I am just silently praying that I at least be a good guardian angel to my kids. Amahle and Zweli I am sorry for how I lived

my life. I love you so much don't forget that. I close my eyes and then I feel my soul slowly leaving me. This is the end of Sthabile Gcaba. Killed by a ghost that I indirectly killed.

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*****NQOBILE MTHIYANE*****

I am so frustrated and pissed. So many anger emotions are going through my mind. I wished we could've just hired a hit man to take out the stupid Futhy instead of a lousy accident which left her with a few scars. Maybe the kidnapping plan would've been better because even if we were caught, at the end of the day she would've died.

My hate for her started way back in our first year. She was naturally a smart girl. She and her friends partied almost every weekend but she wouldn't miss classes or deadlines and she would always participate in class. She knew how to balance everything in her life. She was a favourite to most

lecturers and that annoyed me to the core.

I had a silly crush on Lethukuthula Hlongwa and I was shattered when I saw how close they grew over the years. She has managed to be the center of attention wherever she goes. I hate her with every fiber in my being. What makes matters worse is that my family sometimes compare me to her.

I have a company but it is not as successful as Futhy's. If I didn't know how determined and good she is at her work, I would've probably said uthwele. I have tried sabotaging her for as many times as I could remember in the past but somehow my plans always backfired. She isn't only considered the best in South Africa but in the whole continent.

I am sure she had a hand in my funds being dried up. It's only a matter of time before someone buys my company because it is sinking. There are about 10 permanent workers. When we are constructing, we

are always hiring part time construction workers. I couldn't even afford a lawyer and my family refused to help because they are fed up about my obsession with Futhy.

One thing seems to be going well in my life. I have a single cell, even though it stinks like it's a slaughter house but at least I have privacy. I wonder how Donna is doing. I am ashamed of having dragged her into this but she is my ride or die and she swore to stick with me through thick and thin.

The door opens and a guard gets in. she is much friendly to me. Maybe she thinks I have money or something. She is carrying a burger with fries and a glass of wine. She smiles and hands it to me.

Guard: "this is royal treatment. Don't get used to it."

I don't even wait for her to say more. I take the food and dig in instantly. It's been so long since I had

normal food. I finish within a few minutes and down my glass of wine on one go. She takes the utensils and gets out. I lie on the bed and face the ceiling. Few minutes later the door opens and I sit up.

Me: “you brought me desert?” I get no response. I frown when I see the king of the Zulu kingdom and Futhy’s father entering my cell. Now I am in deep shit. What was I thinking messing with a royal fiancé? They brought chairs. They sit opposite my bed and they seem relaxed. “Greetings.”

Futhy’s dad: “we are not here for a petty conversation. Give it a few minutes to kick in.” I frown. What is he talking about?

I sit still on the bed. I am so nervous right now. I am shaking like a leaf. I don’t know what these men want from me. Okay I may have an idea. I messed with their daughter, probably they are here to kill me. But why are they so relaxed? They are having a

conversation but not too loud for me to hear what they are saying.

I feel air leaving my lungs and I am failing to breathe. What is happening to me? I gasp for air and it seems like I am making matters worse. I try speaking but it seems like words are stuck in my throat. I feel an urge to throw up and I can't stop it. I vomit on the floor and tears stream down my cheeks when I see that I am throwing up blood mixed with what I ate. What did these men do to me?

Futhy's dad: "Ntombifuthi Cele did not birth herself. She is my sperm. She is my daughter. You mess with what's mine and I retaliate not well. In your next life, stay away from my daughter and learn to fend for yourself like she did." he stands up.

King: "you nearly killed the future of my kingdom and for that pass my regards to Lucifer." He also stands up and they head out. These men poisoned me. I

keep on vomiting until I can literally feel my intestines rolling. I lose balance and fall on my own vomit. I have no power to stand up. I can feel my soul leaving my body. What was I thinking?

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LANDILE

The second PA warned me but I chose to be ignorant and listen to a white woman's advice. Now I am locked up in this lonely cell. My parents had so many hopes for me. Everyone knows that when you get hired at DCC you work your way up, you don't end up being just a construction worker for the rest of your life.

Futhy is a very kind woman. She was impressed by a work I did in a two room that I built for my younger siblings. I don't even know where she was coming from. She just told me to bring my CV on Monday but that was just a formality. She didn't even look at it. She told her PA to take me to the HR department

to sign my contract.

I know I am probably ungrateful but Donna and Nqobile promised me my own construction company and they have been paying me R50 000 a month for the past 2 months and that's a lot from what I earned at DCC. I will forever regret choosing money over loyalty. It has cost me my freedom and my life.

Three men make their way in my cell. They don't ask questions. Two of them just grab me and pin me on the wall. The other one who seems older takes out a knife. He looks at it like it's a work of art and fast like lightning he stabs me on my stomach. He does this repeatedly until he feels like it's enough.

Old man: "the name is Bra Chili. You took my son away from me and now you are going to follow him." he stabs me again but this time it's in the chest. I just feel my body giving in and I take my last breath.

CHAPTER 79

'FORMER PRINCESS OF THE ZULU KINGDOM WHO WAS IN CUSTODY FOR THE MURDER OF ZAMOKUHLE SIMELANE AND ATTEMPTED MURDER OF NTOMBIFUTHI CELE WAS FOUND DEAD IN HER CELL IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING. THE GUARDS THAT FOUND HER SUSPECT THAT SHE BANGED HERSELF IN THE WALL UNTIL SHE TOOK HER LAST BREATH.'

'BUSINESS WOMAN NQOBILE MTHIYANE WAS FOUND LYING IN HER OWN POOL OF BLOOD IN HER CELL IN THE MORNING. INVESTIGATIONS ABOUT HER DEATH ARE STILL PENDING. THE POLICE DON'T KNOW WHAT SEEMED TO BE THE CAUSE OF IT.'

'FORMER EMPLOYEE OF DUBANDLELA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LANDILE NSELE WAS FOUND DEAD IN HIS CELL WITH MULTIPLE STAB WOUNDS. IT IS SUSPECTED THAT IT WAS ONE OF THE INMATES WHO ATTACKED HIM AFTER AN ARGUMENT.'

Me: "wow these headlines are scary. I mean how can Sthabile bang herself in the wall? But I am glad they are dead. Probably the people who killed them are coming for Sthandiwe and Donna." He chuckles.

Kuhle: "how is your arm and leg?" I look at him with my head cocked to the side.

Me: "Aren't you going to cry over your dead ex?" he laughs.

Kuhle: "she wanted you dead. My inner self really wished to kill her but I couldn't because I didn't wanna live with guilt of killing the mother of my children but whoever did, did us all a huge favour. The world is a better place without a conniving

snake like her.”

Me: “YAY! You’re over her.”

Kuhle: “fuck you.”

Me: “but that’s your department. I love it more when you pin me against the wall and shove your dick deep inside me until I feel like my intestines are turning.” He groans.

Kuhle: “what am I going to do with you?” I giggle.

Me: “fuck me.”

Kuhle: “after we get rid of the cast.”

Me: “but I am missing you being inside of me. Have mercy baby.” He laughs.

Kuhle: “I am not taking any chances.”

Me: “you are such a bore.” I say and stand up. I put on my gown and go to the balcony. There is

something about the morning breeze that just makes everything okay, especially when it is mixed with the sea breeze. He also comes to the balcony and holds me from behind. "Where are we going to stay after getting married?"

Kuhle: "my house. Unless you are not comfortable there." I smile.

Me: "the main bedroom will need some renovations or redecorating because I don't want any trace of the dead witch." He giggles.

Kuhle: "I love you so much." I smile.

Me: "not as much as I love you."

Kuhle: "so we are postponing umkhehlo?" I sigh. I had totally forgotten about it.

Me: "if my leg is good by next week then we are continuing with it."

Kuhle: "love next week is the 28th and that was the date." I curse under my breath.

Me: “okay. 6 March then baby. One week postponement can’t do much harm.”

Kuhle: “I will talk to dad and hear what he has to say but it has to be on the 6th we can’t postpone it further because it might interfere with the wedding. How are far are the twins with the planning?” I laugh. He calls Londeka Mnguni and Dakota Muller of Elegancy Planners because they are the same age, same height and basically the same person because they even finish each other’s sentences.

Me: “everything is in order. They have everything under control. Those kids are professional babe and they are definition of perfection. I just need to get dresses for the ceremonies. I am still not feeling the traditional white dress. I was thinking gold or blush but I haven’t decided.”

Kuhle: “whatever you want my love. It’s your wedding so you are permitted to do whatever you like.”

Me: “yay!” I raise my hands in the air. He giggles.

Kuhle: "let's go shower so that I can feed you." I smile and turn to look at him.

Me: "you are so handsome."

Kuhle: "I know, right?" he wiggles his eyebrows and I just laugh.

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After eating and showering I get dressed in a halterneck floral dress and black sliders. Mami is in town so I must meet up with her and talk about my dresses. Maybe she will help me decide which color I should choose for my dress. I open my side drawer to take out my watch and I smile when I see a gift box. It's a domineering lion king pendant 925 sterling silver which I bought for Kuhle.

Kuhle: "are those our wedding rings?" he says buttoning his olive green shirt. He is also wearing

cotton shorts and takkies. I chuckle and hand it to him.

Me: "it's yours. Open it." He smiles and opens it. His eyes pop out when he sees what's inside. He turns it to the other side.

Kuhle: "yours forever, Fuhle." He looks at me. "This is beautiful baby. Thank you so much." He cups my face and gives me a breathtaking kiss. I blush when he breaks it.

Me: "you're welcome." He puts it on.

Kuhle: "fits like a glove."

Me: "suitable for a king."

Kuhle: "it's perfect. Thank you again baby. I don't know how to thank you."

Me: "just keep on loving Me." he smiles.

Kuhle: "you can bet on that."

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We meet Mami at a restaurant near DCC. Kuhle went on a boutique with his groomsmen in search of their suits. We first sit and order because I have a very huge appetite these days. Let's just say I love food very much but I am permitted to.

Mami: "so what kind of a dress are you looking for?"

Me: "for umembeso I want a nude and black below the knee flare dress with a matching scarf just for control because they are yet to give me a doek." I show her the picture.

Mami: "this is doable. Also it will be perfect if you don't wanna show your bump."

Me: "umembeso is in two weeks."

Mami: "don't worry. I will be done by then."

Me: "for my traditional wedding dress, I need a yellow Swati inspired off shoulder ball gown with a matching inhloko. Same top fabric for the

bridesmaids and the flower girls but the bottom fabric for them must be silk or the stretching one. You will see nawe.” I show her the pictures. She laughs.

Mami: “okay. This is beautiful. I will need measurements for everyone.”

Me: “my office is nearby. We can go take measurements there. Plus a bridesmaid is there.”

We settle the bill and then walk to DCC. I tell Lindsay to send Zah to my office and then we head there. She takes my measurements and then we wait for Zah. I text Lee and Noma to rush to my office so that their measurements can also be taken. I also call Xoli. Thando is Xoli’s size so she will measure for the both of them. She won’t be emkhehlweni but she will be here for the wedding.

Lee: “you know there is something called prior notice.

You are lucky I didn't have an appointment." She says making her way in followed by Noma.

Noma: "I just came out of court. I also have an appearance in an hour. Can we please make this quick?" I roll my eyes.

Me: "we were just waiting for you." Mami takes their measurements.

Noma: "as the maid of honors we demand mermaid dresses that will show off our behind because honey we have been doing squats to enhance them." we laugh.

Me: "on your wedding dear, not on mine."

Lee: "babes being a bridezilla doesn't suit you. Don't start now."

Me: "and being a normal guest on my wedding doesn't suit you. Don't make me change my mind."

Noma: "you are so wrong."

Me: "you can have matching mermaid dresses for umembeso but not the wedding."

Noma: "great. We have these perfect pictures." She opens her phone and shows Mami some pictures.

Mami: "please do send them to me if umakoti doesn't mind."

Zah: "you heard her dear. She doesn't mind." I laugh and shake my head.

Me: "let me transfer your money right now so that everything can be in order." I transfer the money. She says her goodbyes and then leaves. "So Bo Miss prior notice, Dakota has set up an appointment for Friday so that we can go and check out bridesmaid dresses. Don't be late. She will send you the location and time later today."

Noma: "thank you."

Lee: "so nobody is going to talk about the three deaths that happened last night."

Me: "what's there to talk about? They are dead. Life goes on."

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 80

Today we are fetching umkhonto from the palace. It's Sunday morning. I am glad that the doctor gave me a green light on my leg and arm and she also took the casts off. My injuries have somehow recovered even though I have scratches here and there.

I met up with Zamoh's mom and Mpumi a week ago. I made an agreement with them. Since Zamoh was earning R15000, I planned to give them R7500 each for at least 10 years. KaMakhoba was happy about the arrangement and also Mpumi. But with Mpumi we agreed that I will give her R2000 for now and then add R3000 after the baby is born. I will be putting R2500 in a trust fund for the baby's education.

Some people said I was the one who bewitched Sthabile into killing herself because she wasn't the person who could just harm herself. I laughed the accusations off because they were just crazy.

Sthandiwe and Donna have gone crazy thinking that someone is going to come after them since they are the ones who are left. It's amusing really but life must go on.

I vomit for the second time this morning. I really hate morning sicknesses. They started a week ago. I wanted to go to a doctor who will help me with something to cool them down but I never had the time. Anyways I wash my mouth and head back to my room. I put on my lipstick and head to the lounge.

My friends and the maidens are all wearing beaded skirts, sports bras with ubuhlalo and beaded tommy takkies. I am wearing a black beaded skirt, white vest with ubuhlalo and izimbadada. I also have a white shawl covering my shoulders. My friends are

wearing blue skirts while the maidens are wearing red skirts.

Mom: “go well and come back with the meat.” We all laugh. I hug my parents and then we head outside. The ladies are already singing. This time around we are going with one kombi for the maidens. My friends are riding in my Fortuner while I am riding my X1. Of course Thobeka and Mabutho are with me. Mabutho is the one driving. We climb inside the cars and drive off.

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After three hours of driving we arrive at the palace. We climb off the cars and head inside the yard while singing. We are led into this huge rondavel which is beautiful on the inside and on the outside. There are grass mats on the floor. The maidens make themselves comfortable on the mats. Well my doctor might have given me the green light but I don't think I should sit on the floor just like that.

After a few moments Nompilo gets in with Amahle. She is carrying a fluffy rug. She places it nicely on the floor and indicates that I sit down. I giggle and then sit. My friends also sit. Amahle comes and hugs me. She then makes herself comfortable on my lap.

Amahle: "how are you mama?" I frown.

Me: "mama?"

Amahle: "you are daddy's wife, which makes you my mother." I decide to ask no further questions.

Me: "I am fine baby. How are you?"

Amahle: "fine. I just missed you." I haven't seen them in two weeks because they were in Sthabile's home.

Me: "I missed you too baby."

Amahle: "so daddy, Zweli and I are going with you when you head back home?"

Me: “no baby. But don’t worry. You will see me on Saturday and then we will go swim at my house.”

Amahle: “yay!” she kisses my cheek and I giggle.

Nompilo: “Mahle let’s go.”

Amahle: “later aunty. Still bonding with mama.”

Nompilo laughs and heads out. The maidens start singing and dancing like there is no tomorrow.

Amahle also joins them but when she is tired, she comes back to my lap.

The elders together with Kuhle and his brothers come and do what needs to be done. He then hands me umkhonto. I take it. He winks at me and I just blush. He and his father have this wink that make women go weak. When they are done, they head out with Amahle this time around because the girl is daddy’s angel. Moments later maids come and serve us food.

Well there is this Zulu tradition that says at your in-laws home, you shouldn't eat food that was given to you directly because anything can happen. Also you mustn't trust anyone when it comes to the food. So when the maids serve me my plate, I just wait for them to leave and then I trade it with one of the maidens.

When we are done eating, they serve us the drinks. The ladies go crazy when they see the alcohol and they start singing and dancing loudly. I am already feeling drowsy. I just wanna take a short midday nap. Anyways they come and put iziphandla in our wrists from the goats they slaughtered for the ceremony. I think that's the end of everything.

Indeed the ceremony has come to an end, so the ladies take the drinks and the meat they are given and they start singing. I take umkhonto and head out of the hut with them following me. We head out of the palace yard and climb inside the cars. Kuhle

comes to the car and pulls me to stand up. He then hugs me. I yawn.

Kuhle: "I am sorry baby but you are going to get some rest in the car now."

Me: "yah. At least. So mom told me to ask how many people will be coming on Saturday." He laughs.

Kuhle: "the whole Zulu nation. Roughly 300+ also my business associates and friends."

Me: "wow. How many people are actually going to come to the traditional wedding?" he laughs again.

Kuhle: "a lot. Downside of being a prince. Everyone want to witness the wedding. Not just on social media but live."

Me: "will the number be controlled on the white wedding?" he chuckles.

Kuhle: "yes. It will only be family, friends and some

business associates.” I breathe out loud.

Me: “that’s better. I don’t think I am going to survive not seeing you for a week.” I start getting emotional. He kisses me.

Kuhle: “hold on baby. Just a few weeks and after that we will be together forever.” We hug tight and then he kisses me again. “I love you.”

Me: “I love you.” I climb inside the car and we drive off.

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The week has been dragging and I have been an emotional wreck because I miss Kuhle so much. My friends sometimes laugh at me. They say I am dramatic but they will understand one day. It’s Friday night and people are going up and down like it’s the wedding day. Mom nearly fainted when I told her the number of people coming tomorrow.

I just told Dakota and Londeka to hire a catering company because there was no way I could slave my relatives like that. Three cows were slaughtered just for umkhehlo. Yoh bahlali. When they tell you to marry a prince, run, it's a trap.

Anyways the ladies are singing loudly and dancing like nobody's business. My friends are already drunk. In fact every female in my room is drunk. The furniture was cleared out and we are seating on grass mats and sponges. We have ibomvu in our faces which we are supposed to go wash in the morning at the river but we will go to the beach because it's much easier there. My phone rings and I smile when I see who is calling.

Me: "Sthuli skandaba."

Kuhle: "KaMagaye." I blush. "How are you this evening?"

Me: "I am fine. I just can't wait to see you."

Kuhle: "me too my love. I am literally counting the hours. Amahle also can't wait. She has been pestering me. I am just glad she has finally dozed off." I chuckle.

Me: "is everything set on that side?"

Kuhle: "yes. We are just going to wake up and prepare to come there."

Me: "how much are you going to gift me tomorrow?"

Kuhle: "how about a million?" I laugh.

Me: "that's too much baby and how are you going to pin a million on a blanket or an umbrella?" the ladies scream when they hear the word million.

Kuhle: "just kidding. I won't mention it." I chuckle.

Me: "that's better. Sleep tight and be still and know that I love you."

Kuhle: "yaz for a moment there I thought you were

going to break into a gospel song and be like 'be still and know that I am your God'." I burst out laughing. Kuhle has a soothing voice but when it comes to singing, Jehovah I would pay him all my millions just to shut him up because he is terrible.

Me: "baby please leave the singing to us, the gifted."

Kuhle: "mxm. Anyways I love you my baby mama and I can't wait to see you tomorrow. Sleep well and take care of our babies."

Me: "I love you more and also take care of our babies." I hang up.

Zah: "young love." she says while blushing and we all laugh at her.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 81

SPONSORED CHAPTER

I am woken up by mom shaking me. I frown and sit up. Well I am one of the few people who slept. The others drank, sang and danced all night long. They all look ready to go but they are drunk. Anyways we take our stuff and we head out. They are still singing. Some have hoarse voices right now.

We climb into the cars and drive to the beach. We get there and bath. Wow the water is very cold. Nevertheless we bath quickly and then we head back to the cars. We drive home. Can you believe these bitches? They actually asked for the drive to drive pass KFC so that they could get three buckets of hot wings. Well I ended up requesting a wrapsta box

because I am also hungry. I eat it instantly.

We get home and we go sit under the tree and wait for Godot. Just kidding. We are going to wait here until it's time for us to get dressed and for the ceremony to start. I also had people install a tent here so that we can get some privacy. My brothers bring us mats and blankets. We spread them on the grass and then sit down. I am still drowsy so I just sleep.

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*****NARRATED*****

The guests start arriving. Futhy and her entourage start getting dressed. They put on make-up and do the final touch ups on their looks. When they are done, they sing as they make their way inside the yard. They go to the room where they had been staying at for the whole week. Futhy's dad places Umhlwehlwe on her shoulders and then give her umkhonto. He puts inyongo on her wrist.

Siyabulela: “if it makes you nauseous, just ask for water.” Futhy laughs and nods. She stands up and starts a song. ‘AZODLALA AMAKHOSI ENGOMA AZODLALA’ Her entourage sings after her ‘AMAKHOSI ENGOMA, AMAKHOSI ENGOMA AZODLALA AMAKHOSI ENGOMA, AYY AMAKHOSI ENGOMA.’

They make their way outside and to the play grounds while singing. They get to the spot where the whole thing will be taking place. They start singing and dancing. The guests start crowding the place. People came in numbers to witness this ceremony. They go bayohloma and the guests come back and pin the money on an umbrella because they are not permitted to pin it on Futhy’s hat. It’s reserved for the fiancé. Some also pin the money on abakhaphi and some of the maidens.

While singing and dancing, they hear sounds, people singing, ululating and whistling. It’s the Zulu royals.

They sing until they reach a clear spot and they sit down on the grass. They are wearing traditional attires and they are looking good. Futhy sees them and her heart becomes content. She smiles and continues singing and dancing.

When they are done with the guests, Noma looks at Futhy and indicates that it's time. She breathes out loud and starts singing.

FUTHY

Energy drinks are harmful to pregnant woman because you somehow get addicted to caffeine but I only drank it today because I needed the energy. I know Kuhle would kill me if he found out that I drank it. Anyways, thanks to Monster Energy, I am still active esigcawini. The ceremony is still going well. There are so many guests.

I clear my throat and start singing. We planned that

before going to the in laws, we will start one song where sizosina sisabalale isigcawu just to bring back the vibe, then we will start another song and then go to them. So I start the song 'BASHONA LE NALENA ESAMI ISIGCAWU, WE NDUNA SEBEKHOHLIWE UKUTHI ISIGCAWU ESAMI.'

The moment siqala nje ukusina, the Zulu royals literally go crazy and some even come to us bazogiya which make some of the guests go crazy. This song is tiring and it is putting pressure in my leg but I am just glad this day is finally over. I quickly go back to the line and tell mom about my leg. She massages it while people are glued to the chaos happening. When the song is finished, we all go back to the line.

Right now I am supposed to start ihubo lami and go give my fiancé umkhonto. So I start singing, 'NGIYAKUTHATHA MAGEBA WAMI, NGITHANDA INDLELA ONGIPHETHE NGAYO, INHLONIPHO

IYONGILEKELELA.' My entourage help me sing. I dance until I reach Kuhle on the other side of isigcawu. I get to him and then kneel in front of him.

I stab the spear in the ground in front of him and then stand up. I sing and then head back to the line. He stands up and takes an umbrella from Sbo. He walks alone with pride. Literally the whole ground bows to him as he is the prince. I kneel on the grass mat when he is a few feet away from me. He gets to where I am and opens the umbrella. I steal a glance at it and I only see R200 notes only.

He squats in front of me and hands me the umbrella. I smile and take it. He steals a kiss before he stands up. He walks back to his spot and his friends meet him halfway. I go back to the royals with my friends this time around. We start to the elders and give them umkhonto, they come and give me the money and gifts. We move to the sisters, brothers and the aunts together with the mothers.

Mom instructs me to go back to Kuhle to give him umkhonto. I do as instructed. He comes back with another umbrella filled with cash. I just laugh this time around. The ceremony comes to an end, we are instructed to take umkhonto to the royals. We hand them umkhonto and go back home while singing and dancing. In that moment my leg is showing me flames.

We get inside the yard and I ask mom to undress me quickly. She does so and I go to my bathroom and just soak my body in warm water. The pain in my leg seems to subside. The bathtub is filled with foam. The bathroom door opens and dad makes his way in.

Me: "daddy I am naked." he laughs.

Dad: "come on. You're not all that."

Me: "eww." He laughs again. He places pills on the sink.

Dad: "I bought you these for the pain because I have a feeling your leg is showing you flames. And relax they won't be harmful to the baby."

Me: "thank you dad. Now leave."

Dad: "whatever dude." I laugh and he heads out.

I get out of the bathtub and drain the water. I wrap a towel around my body and go to the sink. I take the pills and drink them instantly. I go to my closet and wear my matching bra and thong. I get a crazy idea and decide to do it. I take my phone from my safe and take a few mirror selfies in my underwear. I then send them to Kuhle. I switch off my phone and put it back in the safe. You can never be too safe bahlali.

I go to the bedroom and find my friends already preparing themselves. They have started getting dressed and some are doing their make-up. The maidens are in Thando's room but Gcino made sure to lock up everything of hers. I wear my brown dress which was designed by Mami and match it with

sliders.

I go downstairs to the kitchen. Umembeso has already started on the front yard. There are so many people. Some are even outside the yard. I open the fridge, take out a sealed yoghurt and go back to my room. I sit on my couch and eat it. Cold and delicious, it's just perfect. Zah and Xoli head outside and I am left with Noma and Lee. I clear my throat.

Me: "guys I need to tell you something." They have sobered up now.

Noma: "spill."

Me: "I am pregnant with twins." They both scream. "Hey! Keep it down." They laugh.

Lee: "I am so happy for you." Noma looks up and I think she is trying to prevent her tears from falling.

Noma: "I am just relieved baby. Remember the near cancer saga? I thought you would have problems

conceiving.”

Me: “the Zulu underground gang doesn’t play.” They laugh. We take a few pictures and videos of us just doing crazy stuff.

Moments later we hear singing from inside the house. I guess they have come to fetch me now. They get to my room and they hug me. It’s my sister in laws. They hand me a dress, with heels and a head wrap. They go and wait outside while I change. This dress is really beautiful. It matches with Noma and Lee’s dresses.

It’s a beautiful emerald green sishweshwe peplum strapless top with a matching mermaid silk skirt. The head wrap matches with the top. They also brought a shawl that matches with the head wrap. I put it on my shoulders. The heels are black platform block heels. I know I am going to wear them for a few moments.

We head out and the sister in laws sing until we reach the front yard. I am instructed to sit down on the grass mat. So I do so. They give me a lot of gifts. When I say a lot, I mean a lot. From blankets and duvets to expensive heels, bags and all. When they are done, my cousins take the things to my room while I proceed to the decorated frame tent. I go sit at the front next to my future hubby. He holds my hand and looks at me.

Kuhle: “you look really beautiful and I love you.” I blush.

Me: “you also look handsome baby.” He is wearing a safari two piece suit which is emerald green in colour. There is umqhele in his head and the leopard skin around his shoulders. He is also carrying a walking stick, drama. He is wearing black red bottoms. “Where are my babies?” he chuckles.

Kuhle: “with their grandfather. It’s only a matter of time before they see you. They are going to crowd

you in that seat.” I laugh. The waiters get in and start serving food. After eating about 4 spoons, I see Amahle running to me with Zweli following her. “Told you so.” I roll my eyes at him. I stand up and meet them halfway. I bend down and hug them.

Me: “you guys look beautiful.” Amahle is wearing a green tutu skirt with white vest and white shoes while her brother is wearing green pants, white shirt and black shoes.

Amahle: “thank you mama.”

Zweli: “hey ma. How are you?” Amahle rolls her eyes and I laugh.

Me: “come and sit with us.” I lead them to our table. Luckily Kuhle and I are seated in a couch so these two sit between us. They are served food and they start eating.

After we are done eating, we go take pictures and

greet our guests. I also go and formally greet my in-laws. I see a few of my clients and business associates and go greet them. People are served food, drinks and meat. They seem happy and satisfied. I am just tired but I guess I can hold on for an hour or so.

I am just happy that everything went well. I am also happy that in a few weeks I will be getting to the man of my dreams and my soul mate.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 82

SPONSORED CHAPTER

I am meeting up with my biggest global client today, Maureen Schillaci, the heiress of the Schillaci Group. Her family has the most expensive private hospitals globally. I am super excited. I don't even know how long our contract will run and how much it is worth. I can't wait to find out.

I get dressed in a sleeveless black bodycon below the knee dress with red bottom pointed toe pumps thin high heels and a nude elegant poncho wrap scarf cape. I take my black Dolce & Gabbana medium calfskin Sicily 62 bag which was part of the gifts I got from my in laws. I pack everything and then head to the kitchen. I find K already cooking

breakfast.

K: “damn boss, you are killing us today.” She says fanning her face. I twirl and she screams. Thobeka and Mabutho rush to the kitchen with their guns out. When they see us, they put them back in their waists.

Thobeka: “sjura you are nyising us. Making us eat porridge with a fork.” I chuckle and sit down. K hands me a bowl of Morvite. It’s also one of my obsessions these days.

Mabutho: “if my heart wasn’t taken by some lady, I would definitely take my chances.” We laugh. I start eating my porridge. Within a few moments I am done. I place the bowl in the sink, take my bag and head out.

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We get to DCC and first head to my office. I have had

a few sketches for huge hospital projects, so I am just going to show them to Maureen. I take the sketches from my collection and place them on the desk. I go sit on my chair and check on my emails. There are so many international clients who want to meet up with me so that we can finalize our contracts. Some even want me to come to their countries.

I just send them emails informing them about my wedding and also tell them that I will be able to see them after the second week of April, so they should set up appointments with my PA after that second week. The door opens and Noma walks in looking all gorgeous in a powder blue shirt, nude formal pants, navy blazer and brown boots. She is carrying a nude handbag.

Me: "lawyer my lawyer madoda." She laughs.

Noma: "good morning Miss Cele, soon to be Mrs. Zulu." I smile.

Me: "I love the sound of that, Mrs. Zulu."

Noma: "soon my friend, soon." We both laugh.

Me: "go and make some coffee for yourself in the kitchen. Maureen will be here in 15 minutes. Please make tea for myself."

Noma: "okay babes." she places her bag on the chair and heads out. I stand up and look outside the window. God has been so good to me. I am where I am because of him. I have faced death and came out alive. I am really grateful to him. "You are so deep in thoughts, you don't even hear me calling you." I turn and look at her with a smile.

Me: "not that deep. I am just thinking how great God has been to Me." she hands me a cup of tea.

Noma: "you have been so blessed friend. God and your ancestors are working overtime on your life." I take a sip.

Me: "you can say that again." The door opens and Xoli walks in.

Xoli: "Miss Schillaci has entered the building boss."

Me: "okay. We will be in the boardroom this instant." She nods and then leaves. I take my sketches, tablet and head out with Noma following me. We get to the boardroom and settle down.

Few moments later, Maureen enters the boardroom with a number of guards and two women whom I suspect one is the lawyer and another is the PA. I stand up. "Welcome to South Africa and welcome to DCC Miss Schillaci." I extend my hand and she shakes it with a smile.

Maureen: "I am happy to be finally here. With a tight schedule I have, I didn't think I would make it here personally."

Me: "you may sit." We all get settled down and her

goons remain standing.

Maureen: “we will get down to business then because I have to be in my plane in two hours.”

Me: “right on it.”

Maureen: “firstly we are thinking of rebranding. My father have stepped down. I am going to be announced as the chairwoman and the major shareholder soon. So renovations will be in order with my face on every hospital that belongs to my family.” I nod.

Me: “when do you want the renovations to start?”

Maureen: “as soon as possible. But since you are getting married in a few weeks, we can start in May.” I nod again.

Me: “I have a few sketches I would like to show you. I don’t know, but I guess I am psychic because I could feel that you might wanna renovate.” She laughs.

Maureen: "go ahead." I stand up and show her the sketches while giving a detailed description of everything. She smiles. "I love it. This could work. And people wonder why I chose to work with you." we chuckle. I go back to my sit. She signals her lawyer who passes a file to me. I pass it to Noma who opens it instantly. "This is a detailed 10 year contract. If you have any problems with it, you can email my lawyer. I need it by next week Monday. So go over it. Don't rush it."

Me: "thank you." she stands up.

Maureen: "I guess that concludes our meeting." We shake hands again. "I will try and make it to your wedding, if I don't come I will send my gift."

Me: "I will really appreciate that." she heads out with her entourage. I sit down next to Noma. "So how many figures?"

Noma: "tase her contract alone means you are set for life. You don't even have to meet with the other

clients.” I chuckle.

Me: “just tell me tase.”

Noma: “rather I show you.” she hands me a paper from the file. I look at it and I stop breathing when my eyes land on the 9 figure amount.

Me: “holy fuck. Tase I am rich.” She laughs.

Noma: “you have been for a while now.”

Me: “no this calls for a celebration. OMG! Xoli book a whole restaurant for dinner. Also invite all of my friends and Kuhle’s friends. We are celebrating my win.”

Xoli: “yes boss.” She says in a squeaky voice and we laugh at her. She heads out.

Me: “tase I don’t think I can work right now. Can we just go to a spa and relax? Call Lee in the meantime. You can look at that contract tomorrow.” I hand her back the paper and practically jog to my office after taking my sketches and tablet. Mabutho stands up

when he sees me.

Mabutho: “everything okay boss?” he asks with his hand already in his waist. I stop in front of them.

Me: “everything is fine. In fact it is beyond fine, it is great. I wanna stand up at the roof and shout ‘ALL I DO IS WIN, WIN, WIN NOMATTER WHAT’ because wow.” I leave them standing and get inside my office.

I pack most of my stuff and head out. I tell Mabutho to drive me to the spa. He inspects me but doesn’t say anything. I guess he is somehow shocked by my mood. Nevertheless, they drive me to the spa. Few moments later, Lee and Noma join me. I swear this two are always on standby. But that’s how our friendship is like. You call us, we drop everything and come to your aid.

Lee: “so what’s up tase?”

Me: “I am a billionaire tase, that’s what’s up.” I say

smiling widely.

Lee: "I take it the meeting went well?"

Me: "better than expected."

Lee: "what are we waiting for then? Let's paint the town red and forget for a few hours that you are pregnant." We all laugh.

We start by getting full body massages, facials, waxes, manicures and pedicures. After we are done, I pay and we head out. I laugh when we all squeeze ourselves into my car. My girls are my ride or die so that's why I would celebrate every win with them.

Noma: "to the airport driver." I frown and turn to look at her.

Me: "where are we going?"

Noma: "shopping to the mother city."

Me: "how are we going to get there?"

Noma: “you can be slow sometimes. We are using Kuhle’s jet. I talked to the pilot. Him and I have an entanglement, nothing serious, just stress relieving kind of entanglement.” She licks her lips and we laugh.

We get to the airport and we all go to the jet. We board the plane and after a few minutes, it takes off. After 2 hours and a few minutes we land in the mother city. We find car rentals already waiting for us. We climb inside and we drive to Canal Walk. We get there and head inside.

Noma: “what are we buying first?”

Me: “our clothes, then shoes and then we are going to buy clothes for Amahle and Zweli. I will take Kuhle shopping during our honeymoon.”

Lee: “okay I have downloaded a shop guide. I saw these amazing sneakers on the net from Bathu, can

we get them and wear them on the traditional wedding? We don't need to be wearing heels every time."

Me: "great idea. Text Zah and Xoli and ask them their sizes. Which shop are we starting at?"

We start on clothing shops where we shop almost everything from dresses, to tops, pants, skirts, jumpsuits, jackets and lingerie. Almost everything. We then go shop for heels, sneakers and sandals. When we are done, we go to Adidas kids where I shop for Amahle and Zweli. I get tempted and end up shopping for Busi's kids.

Siphosethu, Busi's daughter and Avethandwa, Thobeka's daughter are both going to be flower girls so we also buy shoes for them. I also buy matching sneakers for my little family, Kuhle and the kids. When we are done, we have lunch at Col'Cacchio.

When we are done, we fly back to Durban. On the plane, I take my midday nap.

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We freshen up at my house and get ready to go to dinner. Xoli has told us that everyone is at the restaurant that she booked. I get dressed in a green strapless jumpsuit and gold block heels. I comb my hair and tie it to a neat bun and then attach an afro puff on my bun. I do a quick natural make up and head out. I am glad my babies are not showing off yet so my tummy is still normal.

Noma: “damn you’re slaying so much. I am sure Kuhle is going to get jealous tonight.” I chuckle.

Me: “that’s the intention.” They laugh.

We head outside and climb into the cars. We drive to the restaurant and get inside. We find everyone waiting and looking good like they are going to a

gala dinner. They stand up when they see us entering and they cheer. Drama. We just laugh. Kuhle comes to me, hugs me and then gives me a breathtaking kiss.

Kuhle: "you look good baby." He grabs my butt and I giggle.

Me: "thank you." he lets me go and I hug everyone else.

Danny: "so why are we here? Xoli was lucky I was in town or else I wouldn't have come in such a short notice." I sit down and they all sit.

Me: "can we all eat first? Even if it's starters?"

Danny: "fine." The waiters bring starters to our table. They joined a few tables, so we have a long dinner table in the middle. They bring various starters, from stir fried chili chicken, kebabs, sticky chicken wings and smoked pork jowl with pickles.

Sbo: "I hate being kept in the dark." I take one sticky wing and eat it.

Me: "chill Sbo, you don't rush billionaires."

Lee: "the flex has started. Brace yourselves." Noma and Xoli laugh while the others look confused.

Kuhle: "lovie."

Me: "babe."

Kuhle: "end the guessing game." I laugh and stand up with a wing in my hand.

Me: "you guys are impatient. I wanted us to toast with champagne but because of your impatient asses, we will toast with food. I guess wings and kebabs will do. So stand up and raise whatever you're eating." They stand up and raise them.

Danny: "you're right, champagne was necessary."
They all laugh.

Me: “to being a self-made billionaire and to the future.” The ladies scream while the gentlemen cheer. Kuhle is next to me within a blink of an eye.

Kuhle: “love.” I nod.

Me: “the meeting went better than expected. We are richer than ever.”

Kuhle: “waiters please bring champagne. We can’t toast these kind of news with food.” We all laugh. The waiters bring champagnes and we pop them. We pour them in glasses. “One glass won’t hurt.” He whispers in my ear and I giggle.

Me: “okay. A toast, TO THE FUTURE AND EVERLASTING FRIENDSHIP!”

Everyone: “TO THE FUTURE AND EVERLASTING FRIENDSHIP!”

The future can’t be predicted but I can say that it is looking good from my point of view.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 83

We should be home making sure that everything is set and all the things have been prepared for the white wedding which is tomorrow and the traditional wedding which is on Saturday. But we are on our way to my bachelorette party which will be in Free State. We had to put distance between us and the guys so that it will be hard to trace us.

We left our phones in my house after we sent them messages saying the network coverage isn't well. I also sent dad a message like that. Knowing him, he might track us down and beat us up. This is my last day of freedom and I intend to spend it recklessly, without the use of alcohol though.

We get to the Wild Horses Lodge and we check in. my friends said this day is mine so no money is going to come from me. We head to our rooms, change and then head to the ranch. It's not my first time riding a horse but I have to be extra careful not to harm my babies. After the horse riding, we go sail the Golden City where they serve us cocktails but of course mine are virgin cocktails.

Danny: "so any strippers joining the show?" the ladies scream, these horny bitches, the percent is going straight to their pussies.

Lee: "hell yeah, they will come to the suite after we come back from the club. But to the taken ladies, you can look but cannot touch. We will be watching you."

Zah: "what's the fun in that?"

Noma: "babes we don't care if you wanna ruin your relationship, but we don't want our names dragged into your arguments."

Lee: "exactly."

Lindsay: "cheers to the single us."

Thando: "cheers." She says with a hyped voice and we all look at her.

Me: "don't tell me you got fucked by an English man." she blushes and looks down.

Thando: "it was nothing serious. I wanted to explore and he was there and damn he was so good. I don't love him but I love our moments together."

Lee: "little lady has a fuck buddy." She squeals.

Noma: "following in the footsteps of her sister." we all laugh.

Thando: "you also had fuck buddies sisi?" she asks looking at me.

Me: "girly I am a married woman. Don't talk to me about ukungcola. Yey!" I say showing my ring and they all laugh. Well we did get married at Home

Affairs 2 weeks back and we received our original certificate yesterday.

Danny: “fry us. We are yours.” We all laugh.

Lindsay: “we could be celebrating your freedom but since you are already married, well let’s just pretend you are not. Just for these few hours.”

Me: “CHEERS BABES!”

EVERYONE: “CHEERS!”

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We get back to the suites, change and then hit the club. I am dressed in a black sweetheart neck ruffle trim twist romper with green bow décor stiletto heeled mule sandals and a green blazer just in case it gets cold. I am wearing a ‘BRIDE TO BE’ sash and a glowing tiara. I am telling you my friends can be dramatic.

We get to the club and first order shots. One shot can't kill a baby, right? After taking that one shot, we head to our table. We order champagne, mine is nonalcoholic. We start drinking and then go dance in the dance floor. We are having so much fun. The MC even calls us to the stage to do some karaoke.

After the clock hits 12 am, we head back to the guest house. The ladies first go their suites to change into their lingerie and silky gown and then come to my suite which is bigger than their suites. I also change into my red wicked lace cutour teddy lingerie and wear a red silky gown on top. I then put on my red slippers. How I wish to take a pic and send it to Kuhle but I know he will definitely track me.

Danny: "babes, I hope your wedding night lingerie is hotter than this or is just like this because damn Blue, you are flames." He fans himself. He is wearing a black mesh men's bodysuit and somehow his dick isn't showing. While Lindsay is wearing a men's sexy

bodysuit teddy lingerie. I giggle.

Me: "it was imported babes and it is ready for one and one occasion only."

Danny: "cheers to that."

Zah: "how I wish I can send a few snaps to Mbuso."

Me: "me too. But I know Kuhle would use that opportunity to track us and he could be here within two hours."

Xoli: "let's rather capture these moments with our minds then."

Lindsay: "I will drink to that."

We pop the champagnes and continue where we left off with the drinks. Few minutes later Noma and Lee disappear and they come back with 5 strippers. We all scream. Damn they are snacks but they don't reach you-know-who. As the bride to be, they give

me the first lap dance which leaves me hot and horny. I cool off with a bubbly glass.

Me: "damn that was intense." Everyone laughs.

Thando: "can I be the second one to get the lap dance?" we all scream and one of the guys go to her while the others go to the other ladies and touch them. One of the strippers stand in front of Lindsay and Danny and strip for them.

Lindsay: "damn you are making me horny."

Danny: "just one round." I laugh. I hear a knock coming from the door.

Lee: "it's probably the food I ordered. Please get the door Futhy. As you can see, we are preoccupied." She is the one giving the stripper a lap dance while Noma is touching and kissing the same stripper. I laugh and head to the door. I open it and find a waiter with our food.

Waiter: “evening Mrs. Zulu. Here is your food.” I make way.

Me: “please enter and place it on that table.” She smiles and gets inside. She almost drops the food when she sees what is happening.

Stripper: “wanna join us honey?” he says with an amusing look in his face. The waiter quickly shakes her head. She places the food on the table and rushes out. I close the door and we all laugh at her. My feet take me to the table with food and I indulge on the appetizing food.

Me: “so delicious.” I moan softly.

Noma: “damn Futhy, you are making me bawel the food.” I giggle and sit down. She comes and sit next to me and we eat.

After an hour or so we hear a knock again. By this time, Noma is getting fucked by one of the strippers

while Lee is fucking one of the strippers. Thando is also getting muffed while Danny and Lindsay are having a threesome with the stripper that was stripping for them earlier on. Zah and Xoli are enjoying the show while getting lap dances.

It's safe to say KU TRICKY, KU TENSE. I am so tired that I have asked for Lee's key card. I have already said goodbye. I go open the door and find the manager there.

Me: "oww hey there." I get out of the room and shut the door quickly. "Are we making too much noise?" he smiles.

Manager: "no. actually there is a call for you." he doesn't wait for me to say anything. He just hands me the phone. "It's a video call." I take the phone and look to the screen. I almost pee on myself when I see Kuhle's face.

Me: "hey baby." I say in a high pitched voice. I quickly head down to Lee's room.

Kuhle: "hey love. Why do you look so uneasy?"

Me: "me? Uneasy? No. I am just tired so I am retiring in my room."

Kuhle: "in a lingerie?"

Me: "we were having a girls' night so it was the dress code." I say sitting on Lee's bed.

Kuhle: "but you look like you have seen a ghost."

Me: "maybe it's because I wasn't expecting your call." He chuckles angrily.

Kuhle: "you left the province, ditched your phone and practically ran away from me a day before our wedding day. What were you expecting? I had to track you down."

Me: "I am sorry for that. I just wanted to enjoy this day without distractions."

Kuhle: “well Miss Distractions, you better tell the stripper that was giving you a lap dance to get out of your room using the window because I will be there in a few minutes and I would hate to kill someone few hours before I say I do.” He hangs up and I panic. I practically run to my room and find the ladies still having fun. I switch off the music and they boo me.

Me: “ALL THE STRIPPERS GET OUT NOW!” they quickly rush out because my tone isn’t friendly. “GUYS PLEASE FIX YOURSELVES, THE GUYS WILL BE HERE IN A MOMENT. THEY TRACKED US DOWN!” it’s like a disaster, they all run up and down like headless chickens.

Luckily they didn’t shag each other on my bed so I just straighten it. They are busy collecting condoms on the ground. We tidy up and sit down on the couches looking so innocently.

Danny: “if there is any evidence left, we will just

blame it on the single ones.” We all nod in agreement. This is so funny but it’s no laughing matter. We hear a knock and we all jump in fear.

Lindsay: “Futhy go open.”

Me: “hha why me?”

Zah: “because it’s your room.”

Me: “Thando go open, you’re the youngest.” We all nod in her direction. She stands up slowly and go to open the door. “Why didn’t we change our wear?”

Noma: “there was no time for it.”

Thando: “bhuti don’t you know that it’s bad luck to see the bride before the wedding day?” she asks with a nervous smile on her face. Kuhle doesn’t answer instead he gentle pushes her out of the way and steps inside. His eyes search around and they find mine. He takes quick steps towards me and grabs my wrist as soon as he is in front of me.

Phila: “damn you ladies looking sexy.” He smirks and his twin and Isaac laugh. The others seem pissed.

Kuhle: “which way is the bathroom?”

Noma: “I am her lawyer. Tase I am here, exercise your right to silence.” She is so drunk, she is actually inaudible. I only heard her because she is next to me.

Kuhle: “I am not arresting my wife. I just want to speak to her in private.” I stand up.

Me: “let’s go to Lee’s room.” I pull him with my shaking hands. We get to Lee’s room and he locks the door as soon as we are inside.

Kuhle: “Why are you nervous?”

Me: “I am not nervous, I am just hungry.” He laughs and shakes his head. I can see that he is trying to contain his anger. “I only received a lap dance once baby. I swear I didn’t do anything else. I didn’t even know there were going to be strippers.” I am talking so fast, I doubt he can even hear me. He cups my

face.

Kuhle: "calm down baby. Do you want to harm our babies?" I shake my head with tears running down my cheeks. He wipes them. "I am sorry that I scared you. Calm down. I am not going to do anything to you." he hugs me tightly and I just sob. Hey blame it on the pregnancy hormones.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 84

I wake up the following morning and I frown when I take in my surroundings. I am at my parents' house in my bedroom. How did I get here? I close my eyes and memories of Kuhle coming to the guest house floods in. guess he brought me back here. I wonder what he said to my father. I sit up and climb off the bed.

I head to the bathroom, take off my nightie. I guess Kuhle changed the lingerie I was wearing. I brush my teeth and then take a long warm shower. When I am done, I dry my body and wrap a towel around it. I go back to the bedroom and I frown when I see my friends there looking drained.

Me: “what exactly happened last night?” it’s Noma, Lee, Zah and Xoli.

Lee: “your gorilla came and ended the fun. Dude I was this close to reaching my orgasm. To make things worse, Sbo acted like my fuckin boyfriend and was all mad and shit.” I chuckle and sit on the dressing table.

Me: “sifike Nin lapho? (When did we get there?)”

Lee: “I am also surprised like you. It was just harmless fun with him but it seems like u guy u catchile.”

Noma: “you better end it soon before he gets obsessed like someone whose name I won’t mention.”

Me: “plus you are old tase, no offense but his mothers would probably look for a young maiden if they were to hear of him having feelings for a woman who is 5 years older than him.”

Lee: "I don't even want it to reach that stage. I am cutting ties with him today."

Me: "can it not be messy? I don't want anything ruining my wedding day." She nods. "And what's up with you church mice? Why are you quiet?" I ask looking at Zah and Xoli.

Zah: "I can't feel my pussy. Last night or rather this morning's punishment was very rough. Mbuso just turned into this untamable beast. He murdered my pussy."

Noma: "did you at least enjoy it?" she blushes.

Zah: "every minute of it." We scream and she covers her face.

Lee: "what's your story?" she asks looking at Xoli.

Xoli: "he punished me by not giving me a single orgasm but fucked me so hard, about 3 rounds."

Me: “damn that’s harsh.”

Xoli: “tell me about it. He said if I behave today, he will repay me with multiple orgasms.” We laugh at her because she looks so needy right now.

Lee: “well prince bae hired masseuse to come here and massage you so that you can be rejuvenated before you walk down the aisle.”

Me: “and people ask me why I love him.” they laugh.

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We have just arrived at the Sky Venue where the white wedding will be taking place. Nerves are all over the face. The massage calmed me down for a few moments but now I am back to square one. To make things worse, dad is the one who is driving me. He keeps on laughing at me.

Dad: “drama as if you’re the first person to get married. Please been there done that.” see how

sarcastic he is. He is driving the Bugatti. The one that was replaced with Nqobile's money. I heard that Sthandiwe is in a mental institution because she is apparently hallucinating and Donna committed suicide because she was 'hearing voices'. I say good riddance to bad rubbish.

Me: "dad please stop."

Dad: "stop being dramatic. Of course I am stopping the car. We have reached our destination already." I roll my eyes and he laughs.

Me: "I am going to tell on you."

Dad: "young lady focus on your husband and leave my marriage alone." I laugh because his tone is hilarious. He is scared of mom this one. We step out of the car and the photographer takes as much photos as possible. While I am still taking a few breaths, journalists make their way to where we are and start taking photos.

By the way, I ended up choosing an antique ivory lace ball gown wedding dress decked out in beading and embroidery, with a beaded deep halter V-neckline and a beaded illusion back and horsehair hem finish. I also have another for the reception. Both my dresses are ball gowns. I don't want the media focusing on my pregnancy because my bump is already showing.

I paired my dress with cream Swarovski crystal back wedding shoes. The bridesmaids are looking beautiful in mermaid burgundy dresses with black Anya ankle strap heels. I know for a fact that the guys are matching with them. They also have two dresses. For the reception, they will change to black mermaid dresses, I guess my friends' squats will finally pay off.

After posing for so long, we head to the venue. We first head to where the matrimonial ceremony will be held. My family enter first. Then the bridesmaids

also enter doing their catwalks. Luckily they are sober today. After they have all entered, Siphosethu and Avethandwa get in while loitering the red and white rose pedals they are carrying everywhere, earning themselves giggles.

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NARRATED

The band sets up everything and when they are done, R&B singer Bucie makes her way to the stage.

People cheer when they see her. She smiles and the band starts playing rejoice in slow motion. Futhy walks down the aisle with her father on the side as the music plays softly. She is afraid to look at Kuhle because she knows when her eyes land on him, she will cry.

‘Baby I liked it when you told your boys

I’m with my woman, I’ll be with my woman

This love has just begun

We've had our fights, we've shed our tears

Kungakho ndizazi ukuba ndingiwakho

The way you love me touch me tease me baby

Gives me a feeling that I can't explain

You and me, all alone in this world

I lose myself to the sound of your voice say my
name

I cannot pretend, to be at peace

So baby please, love me for me

Lay my heart at ease, don't watch me bleed

There's more of me, so just release me

The way you love me touch me tease me baby

Gives me a feeling that I can't explain

You and me, all alone in this world

I lose myself to the sound of your voice say my
name

Did you like it when, you heard my voice

Saying ngiyak'thanda, ngiyakudinga

We had made a choice, to just rejoice

God had agreed, that we can be

You and me all alone in this world

I lose myself to the sound of your voice say my
name.'

Futhy looks at her husband who is looking up to stop his tears from falling. When he feels that she is looking at her, he also looks at her and sees the love on her eyes because the veil she is wearing is not covering her face. He smiles while tears fall freely in his eyes and he doesn't bother stopping or wiping them. On the other hand, Futhy is also crying and

she is on the verge of sobbing.

They finally reach the aisle and Siyabulela hands over his second princess to Kuhle. He doesn't say anything but gives him an intense look which indicates that 'hurt my daughter, I will break your bones'. Kuhle gives Siya a knowing look and takes Futhy's hand which is shaking.

Kuhle: "you look beautiful." He says as they look at the pastor who is waiting for people to settle down so that he can start the ceremony.

Futhy: "you look dashingly handsome." He is wearing a black and white peak label tuxedo and black dress shoes. The groomsmen are wearing burgundy and black suits with white shirts and black dress shoes. He smiles at the compliment. The pastor clears his throat and starts talking.

Pastor: "Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today

in the sight of God to join this man and this woman in holy matrimony. Not to be entered into lightly, holy matrimony should be entered into solemnly and with reverence and honor. Into this holy agreement these two persons come together to be joined. If any person here can show cause why these two people should not be joined in matrimony, speak now or forever hold your peace.”

Silence spreads out the venue. You can only hear the birds chirping. Futhy and Kuhle looks around. Futhy looks around again and spots the people she is looking for. She then slowly raises her hand and clears her throat. People gasp and murmur when they see her hand up. Kuhle frowns looking at her. She steps forward, leaning on the mic. She takes it and looks at the guests. She spots the king and the first queen and then smiles.

Futhy: “no need to be worried people. I am already married to this man.” people sigh out of relief and

some chuckle. "I just wanna send a shout out to the two people who gave me this handsome husband in front of me. Damn baby you look like a whole meal, not a snack, a whole meal. That's all. You may continue with you speech pastor." She places back the mic and everyone laughs while Kuhle chuckles and shakes his head.

Pastor: "way to break the ice makoti." Everyone laughs and Futhy chuckles. "Anyways, marriage is a sacred union between husband and wife and shall remain unbroken. It is the basis of a stable and loving relationship and is a joining of two hearts, bodies and souls. The husband and wife are there to support one another and provide love and care in times of joy and times of adversity."

"We are all here to witness the joining in wedded bliss of Kuhlekonke Zulu and Ntombifuthi Lwandlelethu Cele. This joyous day celebrates the commitment and love with which Kuhlekonke and

Ntombifuthi start their loves together. Through God, you are joined together in the most holy of bonds. Who gives this woman in this holy matrimony to this man?" Siyabulela stands up looking all dapper in a tan three piece suit and navy shirt.

Siya: "I do."

Pastor: "now I have reason to believe that this beautiful couple have prepared their own vows. So over to you." they turn and look at each other. Futhy gives Noma her bouquet and then joins hands with Kuhle.

Kuhle: "sthandwa Sami, siqandamathe Sami, simomondiya Sami, phakade lami, thambo lami lekhentakhi, themba lami laphakade." The guests ululate, whistles and cheer while Futhy blushes and looks down. "No watch me baby, watch me in the eyes so that you can see I am speaking from the bottom of my heart." Futhy smiles and raises her head. She watches him.

“I believe in love at first sight because I fell for you the first time I saw you. The second time my PA told me that I have a meeting with you I thanked my ancestors because I wished I could see you all day every day. You are beautiful, inside out. You are warm, you are kind, you are gentle, you give second chances and you don’t hold grudges.”

“Besides your beauty and brains, your heart is what pulled me towards you. Today in front of everyone, I promise to love you, honor you, cherish you, protect you, provide for you and be your pillar for as long as I live. I also promise not to take a second wife or cheat on you because you are my heart and you complete me.” people cheer and Futhy just smiles.

Pastor: “over to you Miss Cele.”

Kuhle: “I am not done pastor.” Futhy chuckles.

“Ngoba ngawe ngiwinile, ngiwinile, ngiwinile, ngake ngawina ngokuthola wena. Weh, weh, weh ngaze ngabamba ilotto.” He sings and dances while people

cheer and Futhy laughs because his voice sounds horrible but it's the thought that counts, right?

Futhy: "my turn now." Kuhle chuckles. "Mageba, Zulu ka Mandela Ngokulandela izinkomo zamadoda. Zulu omnyama ondlela zimhlophe. Wena ka Phunga no Mageba. Wena ka Mjokwane ka Ndaba. Wena wenkayishana ka Menzi eyaphuza umlaza ngameva. Sthuli sika Ndaba. Sthuli sika Nkombane. Wena ka Nogwaja omuhle ngomlenze. Wena ka mbambela Shoba. Ndabezitha." She bows a little.

People start cheering so hard. The Zulu royals move around the place, begiya. No Kuhle naye uyagiya in front of his wife. Many are shouting 'Musho' 'Bayede' 'Ndabezitha' 'Zulu ka Mandela'. The sound dies down and Futhy smiles.

Futhy: "you came into my life and turned it upside down. You made me fall in love again. You made me trust, you made me depend on your love. And I thank

you for that because ever since I said yes to your love, I have been feeling complete and content inside. Today I promise to love you, to stay true to you, to take care of you, to honor you and to never cheat. I promise never to break your heart and also provide for you for as long as I shall live. I love you Sthuli Sika Ndaba.”

Pastor: “that was beautiful. Now can I please have the rings?” they bring the rings forward. Now repeat after me: with this ring, I thee wed.”

Futhy and Kuhle: “with this ring, I thee Wed.” they put the rings on each other.

Pastor: “as God has joined, let no other man separate. With the power vested in me, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss the bride.” The couple share a breathtaking kiss and the guests cheer loudly.

CHAPTER 85

FUTHY

I am officially Mrs. Zulu in the eyes of the people. Kuhle's vows melted my heart and I fell for him even more. We have taken pictures and we are now headed to the reception venue. We enter and dance until we reach our table. The minute we sit down, Amahle runs and raises her arms so that I can take her. I just laugh and pick her up, placing her on my lap.

Amahle: "you look beautiful mama."

Me: "thank you princess. You also look pretty." She blushes.

I chuckle when I see who the programme director is.

They chose Lele. He already looks drunk but I know he is going to do the task at hand and even excel. The program starts and the speeches start.

King: "Mahle, come here." she climbs off my lap and rushes to her grandfather. He picks her up. "I am very happy for both of you my kids. I wish you nothing but the best. I know that you will take care of each and be there for each other so I have nothing to worry about. All the best and I can't wait until you give me more grandchildren. Also MaCele you are now officially my daughter. If he does something to you, don't hesitate to tell me."

Siya: "I didn't think one of my kids will be married to royalty one day but I am happy because they are all worth royalty. I am happy for you kids. I wish you nothing but the best. I just want to tell you that trust is very important in marriage. Don't give your partner reasons not to trust you. Show each other unconditional love even when you are angry at each

other.”

Jabu: “love lives between the two of you. It is visible to everyone here. Don’t stop loving each other even on dark times. Support each other and always take each other’s side against the world. Never tell another person your marital problems, rather consult a marriage counsellor who is a neutral party.”

MaDlomo: “mutual respect is very important. Even if one of you makes more money than the other, koti know that Kwa Zulu there is no 50/50. Konke will always be your husband. Well since it’s the 21st century, we can say it’s a 51/49 type of relationship but always respect each other. And Konke remember that respect is earned not demanded.”
The mic moves from the elders to our peers.

Noma: “tase as your lawyer, you can come to me anytime if you are no longer feeling this marriage.” I laugh out loud and Kuhle joins me. “Just joking. I like

you Kuhle and so far you have put my girl first. I love that you are her number one cheer and you are never jealous of her success or feel threatened. I hope that you cheer for each other even in the future and don't let other people tell you otherwise."

Lee: "tase I am happy that you have finally found your other half and you missing peace. Everything seems to be falling into place in your life right now and it makes me so happy. You have come so far in life and I know you are going far. Together with Kuhle you are going to build an empire for your kids and grandchildren. To your future and your legacy." She blows a kiss and I catch it.

Sbo: "I am just happy that I got myself a rich sister in law who will spoil me every chance she gets and sometimes take me shopping in Milan." I laugh.

Lisa: "welcome to the family sisi. My brother chose well. I know you love each other and your love is such an inspiration and I know that I will find love

even at age 30 because love knows no age.” She smiles and I also smile.

We go change into our second outfits. For me, it’s a white long-sleeved satin ball gown with white Sophia Webster Chiara embroidered leather sandals. Kuhle changed his blazer and he is now wearing a gold and black blazer. The groomsmen are wearing black tuxedos with black shirts and no ties. The bridesmaids are wearing black mermaid dresses and black faux leather open square toe ankle strap heels.

Kuhle: “you look like a true queen today.” I blush and bow.

Me: “that’s because I am married to a future king. These kinds of things rub off.” He laughs and perks my lips. “You look hot baby.”

Kuhle: “I don’t even wish to take my hands off you.”

Me: “then don’t.” I whisper. He cups my face and

kisses me.

Phila: “stop with the bold and the beautiful. We wanna go inside and show off our choreography.” We break the kiss and laugh. We had these rehearsals where we did a few dances and since Phila is a good dancer, he can’t wait to show off.

Kuhle: “let’s go then.”

The music starts from inside the hall and we make our way inside, doing our wedding step. We get to the dance floor and do the tokoloshe dance. Well Kuhle might not have the singing voice but at least he knows how to move. We then change to gqom and we dance to Busiswa’s Banomoya. The guests cheer loudly. When we are done, we head to our seats. By now I am out of breath. Damn gqom music is tiring.

Lele: “I so wish I was part of the bridal party because

I would've loved show off my dance moves." he does the vosho and the crowd cheers for him. "Well now we are going to have a performance from the beautiful Miss Kelly Khumalo." People stand up and cheer for her.

She takes the mic and starts performing Empini. People stand up and start dancing, others are taking videos. I am just enjoying her performance. When she is done performing Empini, Lele calls us to the stage for our first dance. We go to the dance floor and Kelly starts singing Ngathwala Ngaye.

'Maye Maye, Maye

Maye Maye, Maye

Awu k'phel' umoya

Mang'cabanga ngawe

Phela wen' umy dali

Forever

Sek'phel' ioxygeni

Mang'cabanga ngawe

Phela wen' umy dali

Forever

Awubhek' indlela

Indlel' indlel'

Ong'buka ngayo

Yey' ungaz' ufunge

Ngathwala ngaye

Awubhek' indlela

Indlel' indlel'

Ong'buka ngayo

Yeb' ungaz' ufunge ukuthi

Ngasebenza ngaye

Maye Maye

Ngamthand' umuntu

Kwab'hlungu kimi

Wemadoda yini

Maye Maye

Ngamthand' umuntu

Kwab'hlungu kimi

Oh yini omama'

We are not really dancing. We are just teasing each other and making jokes. The song ends and people cheer. Lele announces the father daughter dance. I dance with my dad while Kuhle dances with my mother.

Dad: "you look beautiful princess."

Me: "at least this time you are not teasing Me." he chuckles.

Soon the dance floor fills with couples. After all the dancing, food is finally served. When we are done eating, we cut the cake and so the toasting. Lele calls me to throw the bouquet. I stand up and head to the stage. Level Up by Ciara starts playing and the ladies fill the dance floor. I also join them. When we are done, I throw the bouquet and it gets caught by Zah who catwalks to Mbuso and kisses him making everyone cheer.

Kuhle is also called to throw the gutter. They place a chair in the middle of the dance floor and I go sit down. He gets under my dress and his hands lightly caresses my inner thighs. Fuck. I smile and try to mask my arousal. His teeth grip the gutter and he comes out with it. He throws it and Isaac is the one who catches it. He wears it on his head and we laugh at him.

The white wedding comes to an end and the royals quickly rush to Nongoma because they have to be

back at dawn to fetch me for the official Zulu wedding. I take off my dress before heading home because it is too huge. We get home and find people moving up and down. It is so busy. We get inside and pack because it already is late and we know the royals won't be late.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 86

While I am packing my stuff, my phone rings. I smile when I see that it's my husband that is calling. Yep, my husband. Kuhle is my husband. I am never going to get used to it. I am so lucky to be blessed by such an amazing person. I answer the phone with a wide smile on my face.

Me: "Myeni wami." He chuckles.

Kuhle: "mkami ukahle?" I smile.

Me: "kakhulu Ndabezitha."

Kuhle: "look we have been trying to get hold of your father. His phone is sending us straight to voicemail. Could you please give him the phone?"

Me: "ohh okay. Is everything okay?"

Kuhle: "it will be after i speak to him."

Me: "okay, please hold." I rush to his bedroom where I find him massaging his wife's feet. "This is so cute but daddy Kuhle wants to speak to you."

Dad: "did he try calling my phone?" I roll my eyes.

Me: "where is your phone?"

Mom: "it's charging in Lele's room Ndosì."

Dad: "ohh, give me the phone." I hand him the phone and go sit on the couch. "And now?"

Me: "hawu I am waiting for my phone, also that's my husband so I should know what you are discussing."

Dad: "yoh savelelwa u husband." He stands up and goes to the bathroom leaving me and mom laughing.

Me: "your husband is dramatic."

Mom: “tell me about it.” We talk about meaningless things until dad comes out of the bathroom.

Dad: “you need to get everything ready. The Zulus will be here within 2 hours. They haven’t left Mhlanga. They are saying they can’t go back empty handed. They must go back with their bride.”

Me: “oww okay.” I take my phone and head back to my room where I find my friends drinking wine. “Sober up bahlali. We are leaving within two hours. Please pack up everything.”

Lee: “I thought we still had enough time.”

Me: “apparently we don’t. After you are done packing, go and cook for the in-laws because that’s your duty.”

Noma: “MAKOTI WOYINYAKAZISA UMA ILELE, WOYINYAKAZISA!” she starts singing and I just laugh.

Me: “well I don’t need to shake it because it always

gets ready when it sees me.”

Zah: “chips wena.” We all laugh.

Xoli: “what songs do we sing vele?”

Me: “I will sing, ‘KUKHULU MINA ENGAKUBONA!’”
they respond.

Them: “KULEZIYANTABA!”

Me: “KWANONGOMA! ENYOKENI!”

Them: “KULEZIYANTABA!”

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We are now at the royal guest lodge which is a few minutes away from the palace. We arrived here around 2 am and now the time is 6 am. We quickly shower, pack our things and head to the palace. We wait outside the yard, while inside our cars. I exchange the blanket over my shoulders with Lee because she is a size 38, so no one will notice much.

My bridesmaids and the maidens go to the gate while I sit in the car with my parents and Xoli. I couldn't walk around the yard unnoticed because the yard is full of guards also it is so huge. Sbo and Mkhululi are the ones carrying the kist. They open the gate for them and they enter while they are singing ihubo lakwa Cele. They circle the yard and then come back outside with Phumudzo.

Lee gives me the blanket and I cover myself with it. He then leads us to esihlahleni where we settle down and sit on grass mats. The wind is not too cold. It's just warm. My family goes inside beyokhuleka in groups. They then come out and chill under the tree. Maids bring us food with tea, coffee, inyama yogqoko and alcohol.

I am not really in the mood for anything that is in front of me. I just want a simple creamy samp with beef curry. Mom stops eating and looks at me inquisitively.

Mom: “why are you not eating?”

Me: “I am not hungry right now. When I feel like eating, don’t worry I will tell you.” I then lie down and cover myself with the blanket.

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I am woken up by someone shaking me. Yoh mom loves shaking me yeva? Anyways I wake up and look around. The sun is already up and people are busy getting dressed. I guess the time to go to esigcawini is nearing. I also stand up. Mom helps me get dressed in isidwaba, ubuhlalo and izimbadada. I put on a black beaded bra.

When we are done, we head to esigcawini where we sing and dance, competing with the Zulu royals. The first part of the traditional wedding comes to an end and we are led inside the yard. They introduce me to the ancestors and smear me with bile. Afterwards Umabo follows and I change to a yellow Swati inspired off shoulder ball gown with a matching

inhloko. Mami do knows her thing because this dress is beautiful.

My husband and our bridal party are also dressed in yellow, matching with my dress. We go to the front yard and I sit on the grass mat facing down. Umabo starts and my friends start calling the names of the royals to come and collect their blankets, grass mats and pillows. When they are done with most people, they call umkhongi and Xoli is the one who covers him with the blanket while people ululate loudly.

Then the time comes for the king to be called. They bring a huge chair for him and he sits down. My sisters are the ones who handle him. They start showering him with gifts. Lapho he is smiling from ear to ear. When they are done, his wives come and take his gifts. Now it's Kuhle's turn. They bring a brand new bed and he lies in it comfortably.

I smile and stand up. I start the song 'KONKE

OKWAMI NGIYOKUCELA ENKOSINI, NGISIZE NKOSI
NGIHLONIPHE UMENDO NGASHIYA ABAKWETHU
NGAYOGANA!’ my friends and the maidens help me
sing the song. I take the basin filled with cosmetics
and put it on top of the bed. I start imitating bathing
him as a sign that I will take care of him at our home.

When I am done bathing him, I help him put on a
coat of the suit I bought. I then cover him with a
comforter and my friends use this opportunity to
beat him up. He is slow to get up because most of
the lashes get him. Umabo comes to an end and we
take a few pictures with our outfit. Kuhle’s mother
leads me to a rondavel where she gives me a
beautiful olive green beaded sleeves mermaid dress
with a Ndebele print and a matching inhloko and
olive green heels.

Me: “this is beautiful ma.”

MaDlomo: “you make it more beautiful makoti. This
is my gift to you. Welcome to the family.” She opens

her arms and we share a hug. She then leads me outside and people ululate when they see us. Kuhle comes our way and I notice that he is now wearing a light brown suit with short sleeves nomqhele.

Kuhle: "wifey." I smile. He also has his leopard skin thingy on his shoulders. He takes my other hand and together with his mother, they lead me inside the main house. We enter this huge room which I have never seen before. "This is the throne room." now that he mentions it, there is a throne at the end of the room and many chairs beside it.

Me: "please don't tell me I am going to encounter the snake again." He chuckles.

Kuhle: "it was a once off thing. I promise it won't happen again."

Me: "it better not." We move further into the room. The royals are seated on their chairs and the king is

on the throne. The wives are seated on the grass mats. The seats next to the king are empty which I presume belong to Kuhle and his mother. Everyone is dressed in either olive green or light brown. I guess those are the family colours. The seer is going up and down next to the throne with an incense.

Mthembu: “bo Mageba useze wafika umakoti wenu, mamkeleni. (Mageba ancestors, you daughter in law is finally here. welcome her.)” He keeps mumbling stuff like that. Kuhle’s mom tells me to sit down next to MaMolefe and I do so while she goes to sit on the left side of the king and Kuhle on the right.

King: “bokhokho nomkhulu, siyazi lomcimbi bekumele wenziwe namuhla kodwa yibani nozwelo. Cabangelani umntwana wenu. Yebo usefikile emagcekeni kodwa akakakhululeki. Siyathembisa sowenza lomcimbi uma sekufike isikhathi. (Ancestors, we know that this ceremony was supposed to be done today but please have

compassion. Think about your daughter in law. Yes she has arrived in the homestead but she hasn't settled in. we will do this ceremony when the time is right.)" MaShezi groans and everyone looks at her.

MaShezi: "bayala Ndabezitha. (They are refusing Ndabezitha.)"

Mthembu: "bathi mawenziwe kulempelasonto elandelayo. (They are saying it should be done this upcoming weekend.)" The king sighs.

King: "then I guess it's decided. The coronation of MaCele will take place this coming weekend." He stands up and heads out. His wives follow him. The children follow right after. I am just glued to the mat. Didn't Kuhle say this will be done in a few months? Why are they rushing it now? He comes to where I am seated and helps me stand up. I wait until we are outside the room and I start speaking.

Me: “what was that about?”

Kuhle: “we are governed by the ancestors baby. According to them, I should’ve married you last year when we met. But let’s forget about the coronation for a minute and focus on our guests, it’s our wedding day.” I smile. So is this how life is going to be from now on? Living by the ancestors’ rules? What if they want Kuhle to take a second wife? Yoh, marry into royalty they said, but never warned you about what happens inside the palace walls.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 87

I am so lucky that this house has maids. I don't have to wake up early in the morning to do my bride duties. It's Monday morning and the king has asked to have a meeting with everyone after breakfast. Everyone is still at home because it's Easter Monday. I can't believe this is also now my home.

I get up from the bed and go take a shower. Kuhle is still sleeping. When I am done showering, I dry and lotion my body. I then get dressed in black criss-cross lace panel tee, foliage print overlap skirt and black virtus leather mules. I tie a Barocco Mosaic print scarp on my head and put a scarf across my upper body. I then head downstairs to the kitchen. I find maids going up down preparing breakfast.

Me: "good morning everyone." They greet back.
"Don't mind me, I just wanna prepare breakfast for my husband."

Maid 1: "you can use this stove, your majesty." I smile.

Me: "I am not yet a princess but okay." I prepare 2 slices of toast, one egg, bacon, tomatoes and a cup of coffee. I then put it on a tray and head back to our room. I find him still sleeping, he is facing upwards with his hands on his face. I put the tray on the bedside table and climb on the bed. I straddle him and kiss him. He groans and opens his eyes.

Kuhle: "morning wife." I smile.

Me: "morning husband." I then kiss him. He kisses me back and I break this kiss.

Kuhle: "you look beautiful. Where are you headed to?" I chuckle.

Me: "I am a wife here. Even if I am not going to do any chores, I have to be up and clean at least by 7am." He rolls his eyes.

Kuhle: "ohh makoti." He says sarcastically and I laugh.

Me: "I made breakfast for you. Issa breakfast in bed."

Kuhle: "that's something I would actually love to have for the rest of my life." I smile.

Me: "now sit up and drink your coffee before it gets cold." He sits up and I hand him the tray. "Well you know I hardly cook so I am rough around the edges." He chuckles and starts eating.

Kuhle: "this is good." I clap my hands like a 2 year old seeing candy and he laughs shaking his head.

Me: "let me take out what you're going to wear today." I climb off the bed and head to the closet. "Do you have prince duties today?" he chuckles.

Kuhle: "it's a holiday, so I will be spending the day with my lovely wife after the meeting."

Me: "okay." I take out brown dress pants, a white short-sleeved t-shirt and white sneakers. I place them on the couch in the closet.

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After the meeting, we all head to the lounge and settle down. Well unlike on the throne room, here we sit on the couches. This lounge is customized for this large family because everyone fits in well.

King: "well I want to start by welcoming MaCele to the family again. This is your home now. You can do whatever you like but don't parade half-naked." we laugh. "We are a very huge family and some of us have wives to take care of us so there is no need for you to wake up early in the morning and prepare breakfast. Just cater to your husband's needs nje mtanami." I smile.

Sbo: “sbwl ukuba no wife.”

MaDubazane: “vele when are we meeting your girlfriend? Your brother is married for the second time wena you haven’t even introduced a woman to us. Are you sure you know how to court a woman?” we laugh.

Sbo: “I am telling you ma, by December this year you will have a daughter in law. I promise.”

MaDlomo: “we will believe that when we see it.” The king clears his throat.

King: “as I said on Saturday, MaCele’s coronation will be on Saturday. I know that we just had a big wedding but when the ancestors say we must do something, we don’t delay because we don’t want to anger them. KaMahlaba and MaDubazane you will be in charge of the preparations of the ceremony. Sons you know what to do.”

“MaDlomo and MaMolefe you will teach MaCele

everything she needs to know about being a Zulu princess. MaShezi won't be available this week because she is going to the cave to consult with the ancestors and make sure that everything goes according to plan on Saturday. Just so you know makoti, you won't be living here but you are free to come anytime just to visit or if you have any problems." I nod. "Meeting adjourned."

Everyone: "Ndabezitha." He stands up and heads out followed by his brothers.

Kuhle: "come baby. I wanna show you something." He stands up and I also stand up. "Don't worry about the princess lessons. They will start tomorrow." We leave the lounge and he leads me outside.

Me: "where are we going?"

Kuhle: "to my favourite part of the kingdom." We climb into his car and Mpendulo drives out.

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We get to this beautiful garden that has very pretty flowers. Maybe it's a royal garden. We climb off the car and he takes out a basket and a big paper bag from the boot. We walk down a pavement and then come across a spot under a tree which has very beautiful green grass which you only see on those famous stadiums. He lays down a throw and place cushions on top of the throw.

Kuhle: "you may sit your majesty." I giggle and sit down. He sits down opposite me and takes out fruits and sandwiches from the basket. There is also juice and beer.

Me: "this place is beautiful and thank you for taking me out." he chuckles.

Kuhle: "I am your husband. I am supposed to pamper you and shower you with love every chance I get." I smile.

Me: "I guess this marriage thing won't be that bad after all." he laughs.

Kuhle: “so what do you think about Nongoma so far?” he asks handing me white grapes.

Me: “well I don’t like that such a huge place has only one town which is always overcrowded and to make things worse, there is no place for expansion. And the fact that it has one hospital is shocking. You are royal people. This is your land, how can you let something like this happen? Where do you shop?” he scratches his head.

Kuhle: “I should’ve known you were going to attack the infrastructure.” I laugh and shake my head.

Me: “be serious babe.”

Kuhle: “well my father has very huge unutilized land and we also have our own land. Maybe we can build a mall eSiphambanweni or e White City.”

Me: “a serious mall?”

Kuhle: “with you as the princess, I am sure we can

build a state of the art mall.”

Me: “there are so many things I wish I can do because yoh this place is so under developed. The rich people aren’t doing anything to help the poor or uplift each other.”

Kuhle: “what more do you wanna build?”

Me: “apart from a hospital, skill development centres. You know I am all about uplifting the youth so that they can do better for themselves.”

Kuhle: “I will ask for a meeting with father after our honeymoon and maybe by then you would’ve made sketches about all these ideas of yours.” I smile.

Me: “we are still going to our honeymoon?”

Kuhle: “this is your first marriage. I want you to enjoy it so much.”

Me: “it’s not only about me. It’s also about you. You should also enjoy this union. Second time is luck.”

Kuhle: “yes it is. Especially when you are getting married to your soul mate.” He leans forward and kisses me.

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It’s Wednesday afternoon and I am kak tired. Sometimes I think these people forget that I am pregnant. Not that they are slaving me but my body is still tired from the festivities of the weekend and now I should be preparing for another event.

The mothers showed me around the kingdom and we visited a few families which we gave food hampers and some blankets since winter is approaching. I have heard how cold this place can get in winter. Not that what we are doing is extreme but ever since I got here, I have been skipping my midday nap and that’s not health.

Just as I am about to close my eyes and drift to

sleep my phone rings. I grunt and sit up. I take it from the night stand. It's Xoli. I hope everything is okay at home and at DCC.

Me: "hey Xoli."

Xoli: "hey boss lady. Are you busy?"

Me: "no. what's up?" she clears her throat.

Xoli: "well I know that May will be the last month that I will be working for you but it doesn't have to end like that."

Me: "what are you saying Xoli?"

Xoli: "I would like to be the receptionist of the Joburg offices if the position hasn't been filled yet."

Me: "ohh okay. You don't wanna be a house wife?" she chuckles nervously.

Xoli: "I don't think I can survive that."

Me: “okay. Send your CV to HR using my email. That will guarantee you the position. I am also sure Zah would love to work with someone familiar like you.”

Xoli: “thank you so much boss. Now go on and take your afternoon nap because your voice is demanding it.” I laugh.

Me: “whatever.” I hang up and sleep.

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#MissChubby

CHAPTER 88

KUHLE

I am no light sleeper but I definitely can feel it when someone I am sleeping with is getting off the bed. I sit up and I frown when I see my wife walking to the door wearing only her silky long night dress and barefoot. What the fuck is going on? I check the time and I frown when I see that it's 1:40 am.

Me: "baby." She doesn't answer me. She just opens the door and heads out. That's odd. Futhy is no sleepwalker. Is this related to the coronation that is happening tomorrow? I quickly climb off the bed and put on my sweatpants, t-shirt and sleepers. I run after her. "Futhy!" I find her on the hallway. She is about to climb off the stairs. I rush to her and hold

her. "Baby snap out of it." She doesn't look at me, she just looks straight ahead.

"BABA! MA!" I shout very loud because her behavior is very alarming and scarring. Within a few minutes everyone is in the hallway looking at us.

Baba: "Kuhle kwenzenjani?"

Me: "she is sleepwalking. She isn't saying anything. She is just starrng ahead."

MaShezi: "let her go." I frown and look at her.

Me: "what if they are bewitching her ma? I can't let her go. This is my wife. The mother of my kids. I can't just let her go without knowing where she is going."

MaShezi: "she is now protected by the Zulu ancestors. Nothing is going to happen to her. Let her go."

Me: "fine. But I am coming with her." I let her go and she descends the stairs. I am right behind her just in case something happens. My family follows us.

We get out of the house with her leading the way. When we get to the gate, we are stopped by Mthembu but Futhy continues walking. I follow her but I am stopped by Mthembu.

Mthembu: "let her go." I frown.

Me: "excuse me?"

Mthembu: "she is safe and she will be back tomorrow just in time for the coronation. Calm down and go back to sleep."

Me: "what if she encounters snakes? Where is she going?"

Mthembu: "you don't need to know that. Your mother went through the same thing and look at her now standing next to you. Nothing will happen to MaCele.

If something bad was to happen, I would've seen it. Now you may all go back to sleep and I will follow her."

Me: "but..." dad holds my upper arm.

Dad: "let's go in." he leads me back inside the house."

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FUTHY

It feels like I am dreaming but at the same time I can tell that I am not dreaming. I get to this flowing river. I was walking with this old beautiful lady but it seems like she has disappeared. I see a rock next to the river and I sit there. While I am sitting, the wind changes and it suddenly blows hard making the river move harshly but somehow I am warm.

Someone comes out of the river and I frown standing up. That person is followed by two other

people. I blink repeatedly and then open my eyes. The people get to the river bank and I can now see that they are old women. They smile and come to where I am standing.

Woman 1: "you are more beautiful in person." I smile. I don't know why, but I feel so comfortable with these woman.

Woman 2: "and looks very healthy. She reminds me of myself when I came to the palace."

Woman 3: "you are blessed." She steps closer to me and touches my belly. The babies kick very hard and I gasp while giggling. This is their first time kicking and it feels so magical and overwhelming.

Me: "sorry to ask, but who are you?"

Woman 1: "I am Nosizwe, Kuhle's great-great grandmother."

Woman 2: "I am Celiwe, Kuhle's great grandmother."

Woman 3: “and I am Lubelihle, Kuhle’s grandmother.”

Me: “you’re Xhosa?” she laughs.

Lubelihle: “the Zulu man couldn’t resist my Xhosa charm.” We all laugh.

Me: “so why am I here?”

Celiwe: “do you even have to ask?” I look at her. “You are the chosen queen for our son and today is your coronation. It is our duty to crown you first and strengthen you before you go face your nation and lead it.”

Nosizwe: “you may sit. We don’t mind standing because we don’t get tired.” I sit back on the rock and they stand on either sides of me while Nosizwe stands in front of me. “You are going to be a queen soon and the mother of the nation. In fact mother of the whole world. Don’t limit your kindness to your

kingdom only. You are now not only going to be living for yourself but for everyone.”

“Lead by example. We are not saying don’t have fun but don’t do something that will tarnish your name and the Zulu name. As much as you are going to lead the nation, your family comes first. Always be there for your husband and your children. Don’t be an absent mother and wife just because of your princess duties. Learn to balance everything.”

Celiwe: “help grow this nation. You have all the ability to do so. You are not only going to be the mother of the children from your womb but every child out there. Kuhle’s siblings are now your siblings, moreover your kids. When they need you, be there for them. Also be there for your mother-in-laws. Don’t be surprised by them coming to you for advice from time to time, just provide advice and don’t make fun of them.”

Lubelihle: “you need to know all the ceremonies that are going to happen at the palace and what is needed for them to be a success and all. We don’t see Kuhle taking a wife in the future so you are going to be the first wife of literally all Kuhle’s brothers. Meaning every wife that marries in the Zulu family after you will be guided by you and taught everything they need to know by you.”

“Take note of everything your mother-in-laws are teaching you because soon you will be expected to pass down the same advice. You are the pillar of every woman that is to come to the Zulu family. We know that this job won’t be difficult for you. You were chosen for a good reason. We know you won’t fail this kingdom and yourself.”

Nosizwe: “walk with pride. Your voice is now the law. You can command people to do what you want. It’s not a crime. You can even command your husband. He may be the prince but he is only that because of

the blood. Wena you were chosen amongst many for this. You are special and we also respect you.” I smile. She looks up and I also look up. The sun is rising now.

Celiwe: “you have to get ready. Come.” She takes my hand and I stand up. She leads me inside the river.

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After sometime, we get out of the river and they help me get dressed in a one shoulder forest green A-line long dress and MaCele beaded takkies. They put all types of beads on my body. They put on ingwe royal cloth around my shoulders and a black inhloko.

Celiwe: “you look very beautiful MaCele.” I smile.
“This is yours.” She hands me beaded knobkerrie.

Me: “thank you ma.”

Nosizwe: “and this is yours.” She hands me a beaded spear. Seems like I am going to war. I smile again.

Me: “thanks ma.”

Lubelihle: “go now Princess Melamina Zulu. You are the living ancestor. You are part of us now. You are standing in for us in the world of the living. Know that anything you do, we will always be a 100% behind you.”

Me: “ngiyabonga mama.”

Nosizwe: “go now and don’t look back.” I smile and step forward. I feel so confident and I know that I will lead and take the kingdom to new heights.

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*****NARRATED*****

The minute Futhy steps into the palace gates everyone starts ululating. Some are saying Zulu clan names and some bayagiya. She is not smiling or looking at anyone. She is just looking ahead. She looks at Mthembu who is standing at the front door

of the palace. She bows her head a little as a sign of greeting him.

Mthembu: "Princess Melamina Zulu. Welcome home." She gives him a little smile. "Follow me." he leads the way and they both head to the throne room where all the Zulu royals are at. They get inside and everyone stands up as soon as they enter. They get to the front and Futhy kneels before the king.

Futhy: "Bayede Zulu kaMalandela."

Mthembu: "my king I present to you Princess Melamina of the Zulu Kingdom." The king takes off his crown and places it on top of Futhy's hat.

King: "you are recognized my child." He puts back his crown. "Now stand up and go greet your husband and then go make an oath in front of your people." She smiles and stands up. The other royals go out, leaving Kuhle and Futhy alone in the throne room.

Kuhle: "Melamina." Futhy blushes and looks down.
"You look very beautiful my queen."

Futhy: "you also look handsome my king." Kuhle smiles. He is dressed in a white turtleneck, forest green dress pants with amambatha and his leopard royal cloth on his shoulders. He is also wearing his cow skin crown. He gives her a brief kiss.

Kuhle: "let's go. Your nation is waiting for you."

They head outside to where the coronation is taking place, in a huge frame tent. They get there and people cheer when they see them. They make their way to the front. She takes the oath and when she is done she takes her seat next to her husband. The festivities start. There is singing, dancing and poetry done by the people of the kingdom. There are journalists and Futhy's family and business associates.

When everything is done, people are served food. Futhy stands up and goes where his family is seated. Her father stands up.

Siya: “should I bow now when talking to you?” Futhy laughs and pulls him in for a hug.

Jabu: “careful not to stab my husband with that spear.” Everyone on the table laughs while they come and hug Futhy.

Futhy: “I am so happy that you guys made it here.”

Lee: “we wouldn’t miss this for a world tase. It is important to you so it’s also important to us.”

Noma: “so you’re princess now. No more partying?”
Futhy chuckles.

Futhy: “I can have fun but in private.”

Noma: “works for me.” everyone laughs.

Lele: “Princess Melamina. Your Majesty.” Him and

Gcino bow causing Futhy to laugh.

Gcino: "so you are going to be Shaka Zulu for the rest of your life? Carrying a spear everywhere you go?" Futhy rolls her eyes.

Futhy: "you're dramatic young man but I love you."

Gcino: "love you more princess."

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#MissChubby

#PrincessMelamina

CHAPTER 89

We did finally go to our honeymoon. We really went local. We visited every province and people were actually happy to see us. They treated us like celebrities. Well I still wore maxi dresses and when someone suspected pregnancy, we just said Kuhle is treating me so well.

We did move to his house. I also took K, Mabutho and Thobeka with me. Gcino is the one looking after my house and he stays with a housekeeper there. I have been so busy the past few months. Going in and out of the country signing contracts with the clients I got from the conference. I am lucky Kuhle has a jet or else they would've have let me take the flights because of how big my belly is.

The Nongoma house project is nearly finished with the building. All that's left is interior designing. The Mandlanzini house is done with interior designing. I just need to furnish it but I will do that after giving birth. I don't know the progress of the secret house because Kuhle has literally taken over.

But all in all my life has been a bliss. Marriage life is great. Whether we are still in the honeymoon phase or not, I don't care. I just love my life right now. I told the king about my plans for the kingdom and he gave me a site.

Currently my men are building the hospital and the skills development center. When we are done we will start on the mall and tar roads on the villages. The government isn't doing anything to develop that area, so it's my job to do so.

I also opened my Cape Town and Joburg offices and we have been receiving clients more. I am even working on having an office in Europe, America and in Mexico. I have international clients now, so these offices will be good for them.

Parenting Amahle and Zweli hasn't been easy. This one time Gary came, wanting to claim the kids. He also said he will take Kuhle to court for kidnapping his children. They fought, like fist fighting but they finally came to an agreement. Kuhle said he will introduce him to the kids but as an uncle, his friend, not their real father. They will explain to the kids when they are older because they will understand well.

Xoli and Phumudzo did get married. Their wedding was very beautiful. Their honeymoon lasted for a whole month. Xoli has been doing such a great job as a receptionist. I guess working for me did her good because now she is more free and bubbly.

Zah literally went crazy when I handed her the CEO position of the Joburg office. She was so happy she literally cried. Mbuso was also happy that his bae is now living with him in Joburg. They are still very much in love and they are living in Mbuso's mansion.

We did go and visit Thando in London. Actually we surprised her and she cried because she had been feeling homesick for quite some time. She showed us some of her work and I must say, she is very talented. You can tell that she is a Cele. In no time I will be organizing a boutique for her here in South Africa where she can sell her work because it's amazing.

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We get to the palace and literally everyone come out to welcome us. I am supposed to go into labour tomorrow and MaShezi told me to come back and give birth in the palace since royal kids are always

born inside the palace, unless it's really an emergency. They bombard us with hugs.

MaDlomo: "oww my baby. You look so beautiful." I giggle. I am wearing a cut and sew smack dress and sleepers. Also a head wrap and a scarf across my upper body.

Me: "you're mocking me ma. I look like a balloon." That's true. From a size 42 to a size 46. When I developed stretchmarks I actually cried but Noma and Lee comforted me. They actually made me feel so comfortable with my body because at times I didn't even wanna get naked in front of Kuhle. But now I just love my body, except for the baby fat.

MaMolefe: "I have prepared delicious usu nophuthu and ujeqe just in case you are not feeling usu."

Me: "yay! Let's go inside." They laugh and we head inside the house. We go to the lounge and MaMolefe

brings me food. The maids take our bags to the bedroom. I start eating. “How is the hospital and center project going?”

Mkhululi: “very well sisi. The people are so happy that you doing this for them.”

Me: “I wanna make life easier for them. I have heard that the service delivery at the current hospital is so poor. There has to be mobile clinics. I mean old people can’t keep going to the clinics and hospital for their meds. But we will talk about that after opening the hospital.”

MaDlomo: “you are doing what we couldn’t do for many years. You are indeed a God’s sent.”

Me: “I know sometimes you can wish to do something but then don’t have enough encouragement from people surrounding you. Well I have so many voices in my head which encourage me to do better, so.” I shrug and they laugh.

Simingezwi: "I didn't take you for a crazy lady."

Me: "well now you know." They laugh again. It's always good being at home. Kuhle's brothers are crazy and there is never a dull moment with them.

We chill and talk about a lot of things. We even play video games at the basement. Mabutho taught me how to play them so that I can beat Kuhle. Well he is unbeatable but at least I am not clueless. There is this new game he created which has mostly South African actors as superheroes. It is so cool and I love playing it.

When I am tired, I head to my room to take a nap. Even now I still have midday and afternoon naps but they are longer now. I get to my room and drift to sleep as soon as my head hits the pillow.

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KUHLE

I am woken up by my wife moaning and groaning. She is sitting on the couch and she is sweating like crazy. I climb off the bed and get dressed quickly. I know that she is in labour now. I go and squat in front of her.

Me: "how far are you contractions?"

Futhy: "10 minutes apart." I nod.

Me: "get up and let's go to the delivery room."

Futhy: "I don't think I can walk. I am in pain." I go and open the door. I then come and pick her up and take her to the delivery room. I guess everyone has woken up because when I turn, I see my mothers entering the delivery room.

MaDubazane: "are you okay Mela?" she shakes her head. "Go now my son. We will call you again when we need you." Another tradition in our family is that

every pregnant female delivers through water birth. I head out and go to the lounge. My brothers, father and uncles join me.

Nqaba: "it's raining outside."

Mkhululi: "and it's showing signs of thunder and lightning."

Sbo: "that's what happens when a first born is born. There will be very hard thunder and lightning."

We sit down and the maids serve us whiskey. I just opt for coffee. I cringe when I hear my wife's screams and cries. I really wish to be by her side at this time but I shouldn't be there. It's another tradition. Hours and hours of screaming and crying, the cries die down. By now rain is falling hard and the thunder is making so much noise while the lightning is keeping everyone on their toes.

I hear distant cries of infants and I literally run to the

delivery room. I get there and find my KaMahlaba and MaDlomo carrying two infants. MaShezi and MaDubazane are helping my wife out of the bathtub.

MaMolefe: “carry her to the bed so that I can stitch her up.” MaMolefe is a midwife or was a midwife but stopped working when she married my father. I go to my wife and carry her to the bed. I place her on the bed. She seems to be slowly losing consciousness.

Me: “she is losing consciousness.”

MaMolefe: “let me attend to her quickly.” She does her thing. I go to KaMahlaba and MaDlomo.

Me: “what’s the gender?”

MaDlomo: “a boy and a girl. Do you want to name them?”

Me: “we will wait for their mother. Can I hold them?”

KaMahlaba: “only for a few seconds. We need to

clean and dress them up comfortably.”

Me: “okay ma.” I take the baby in her arms and my mother hands me the other one. One baby looks exactly like me while the other looks like Futhy. They have some same features but they took from both of us. I feel tears fall down my cheeks and I don’t even try to stop them. This is a happy moment for me. I am holding my own creation, my blood in my hands and I couldn’t be happier. Thank you MaCele for this wonderful gift. You’re such a phenomenal woman.

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#MissChubby

Thank you so much to those who have already subscribed. Keep on subscribing bahlali

CHAPTER 90

FUTHY

I wake up and I look around. Seems like I am in a hospital room. But this looks like no ordinary room. And then it hits me. I am at the palace and this is the delivery room. Bits and bits of what happened last night comes back and I smile a little when I remember delivering my babies. When I am about to sit up, Nompilo makes her way inside my ward.

Nompilo: “evening sisi. Let me help you sit up.” she comes and adjusts the bed and then puts an extra pillow on my back. “How are you?”

Me: “numb. It’s already evening?”

Nompilo: “yes and your parents and siblings are

here.” I smile.

Me: “that’s good to here. But where are my babies?”
she chuckles.

Nompilo: “of course they are the first people I should’ve told you about the minute I entered the ward. Well mom is bathing them. She is going to bring them here as soon as they are dressed.”

Me: “I also need to bath. I feel so sticky and all.”

Nompilo: “okay let me help you up.” she helps me off the bed. My body feels so heavy. I bath and change into a warm night gown. I then return to the bed and I smile when I see mom sitting on a chair inside the ward.

Me: “maka Lwandle.” She smiles and stands up. She comes to hug me.

Mom: “how are you baby?”

Me: "I am dead tired ma." I go to the bed and lie down.

Mom: "you should be. I mean you pushed out two big Zulu heads on your own. That is tiring baby."

Kuhle: "ahh my babies don't have big heads ma." He says entering the ward with two babies in his arms. Mom laughs.

Mom: "truth hurts." She stands up and heads out.

Kuhle: "hey mommy." He says handing me one baby who is wearing pink. She is so beautiful. She is pouting. I take her into my arms and smile when she yawns. She is like an angel. So perfect.

Me: "hello my princess." I kiss both her cheeks and she opens her eyes. "She has my eyes." I beam with joy and excitement. I know my eyes are weird but my baby having them means the world to me. "Zobuhle kamamakhe lona." I kiss her pouty lips and she opens her mouth. "Aww. Is my princess hungry?"

Kuhle: "yes. You should feed her." I feed her and when she is done, I burp her. Kuhle takes her and hands me the other baby who is dressed in blue.

Me: "wow. This is so weird." He laughs.

Kuhle: "how so?"

Me: "Zobuhle looks like you while the prince looks exactly like me."

Kuhle: "these kids are strange."

Me: "I am not surprised. I mean their parents are, well a little bit not normal." He laughs again. I kiss my prince and he opens his eyes. He looks so handsome and peaceful. "We make beautiful babies shame. We deserve and award." He laughs.

"Manelisi kamamakhe ndzena." I kiss his mouth repeatedly and he licks his lips. I laugh.

Kuhle: "Zobuhle and Manelisi. I literally don't have second names and the pensioners gave us freedom to name our children freely." I chuckle.

Me: “Zobuhle Liyana Zulu because it was raining when she was born. Manelisi Nkosiyabo Zulu because he is going to be their king in the future.”

Kuhle: “beautiful names my queen.” I smile.

Me: “well I aim to please my king.”

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We are now sitting with the whole family at the lounge and Zweli is playing with his brother while Amahle is playing with her sister who is in Lisa’s arms. It’s the following day and the family is going to have some kind of a celebratory feast, welcoming the twins into the world.

KaMahlaba: “so you both came up with such beautiful names?”

Me: “we did ma.”

Kuhle: “actually she did. I would love to take part the

credit but my wife is such a genius in all aspects of life." I blush and look down.

Sbo: "ncooh. New mommy is blushing."

King: "leave my daughter alone Sibongiseni."

Sbo: "you really didn't have to call me by my full name dad." He says and we laugh at him.

Noma: "tase may we have a word with you?"

Me: "ohh okay." I stand up and lead them to the sitting room. They attack me with a group hug as soon as we reach the sitting room. I hear sniffs and I also feel my own tears rolling down my cheeks.

"Guys stop making me emotional." I say breaking the hug and wiping my tears.

Lee: "we are just so happy for you. You have been blessed with so much in life that we wouldn't be shocked if you were to retire." I laugh while wiping my tears. "Last year this time we were partying and

having no care in the world. We didn't even think that one of us would be married the following year but here we are."

"You are such an inspiration. Look at you inspiring a thirty year old woman and your best friend to do more in life. Because of you I wanna do more than just be a therapist. I wanna have organizations all over South Africa which help people with their mental health problems for free. I wanna do more. I wanna have a bid impact on the society."

Noma: "I have decided to branch out my law firm. I am looking into places in Venda, Lesotho, Mafikeng, Swaziland and Bloemfontein. All this is because of you. You make things happen so flawlessly and easy. People may think it's magic but we know that you dedicate yourself in finishing a project once you start it."

"You inspire people from teens to pensioners. You

are goals and the fact that you aren't resting after marrying into royalty is such a turn on itself. We love you so much and we know that you are now a mother and a wife. We are not going to be bitchy about you not being there for us because we know that you love us and if it were up to you, you would be there for us 24/7." I nod and wipe my tears.

"I want you to not forget yourself. You are a mother and a wife and a princess but first you are Futhy. Don't neglect yourself because of your other duties. Learn to balance everything so that you won't end up with regrets in the near future."

Lee: "we just love you so much tase." I squeeze them.

Me: "I love you so much and thank you for always being there for me. Thank you for reminding me what's important in my life when we were still in varsity. Thank you for not laughing at my vision and dreams, for not seeing them as farfetched and

delusional. Thank you for being my pillar in tough times and thank you for just being my friends because I wouldn't trade you guys for nothing. I love you."

Noma: "we love you too tase."

Lee: "and we wouldn't ask for a better friend."

Kuhle and my babies may be the most important people in my life right now but Lindelwa and Nomalanga will always be my ride or die bitches, my non-blood related sisters, my best friends, my pillars and most importantly my friends. Having friends like these in this life time is priceless because you know that no matter what, they always have your back and you have theirs. They will always be loyal to you, no matter what. TO FRIENDSHIP AND EVERLASTING LOVE.

*****THE END*****