

*Book 3 of the Miss Chubby Series*



**MISS  
THICK**

M I N E N H L E N K O S I

KHABA STUDIOS

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## CHAPTER 1

She enters my office weeping followed by my personal assistant. I don't even know her. I stand up immediately waiting for an explanation for this. I can see that my PA

is scared because she knows I hate it when someone barges in my office well except for my two best friends.

"I am sorry boss. I tried stopping her but she just insisted on getting in here." Onalenna speaks so fast if you are not used to her you would miss some of the things she is saying.

"It's fine Ona." I dismiss her with my hand. "You can go back to your station now." She nods and heads out. "Please sit down." The woman takes a seat and I go back to my seat. "Who are you and how may I help you?"

"My name is Bulelwa Zindela. I am a widow. I live with my kids Lubabalo and Asemahle. My daughter is doing grade 11. My son is an intern at Baloyi Incorporated. Yesterday the police barged into our house and turned everything upside down. They were looking for him. When he came to the lounge they didn't ask questions. They started beating him up repeatedly. They took him in and I didn't even hear what he was arrested for but I know that he is innocent." She continues crying. When will police brutality end? And Lubabalo Zindela? I hope it's not the same Lubabalo I know. I mean there are many people out there with same names and surnames. Coincidences happen all the time.

"Please calm down Mrs. Zindela." She finally stops crying. I go to my bar fridge and take out bottled water. I hand it to her and she drinks it. "Now tell me more about him." she smiles a little and puts the bottled water in the table.

"He is such a gentle soul. My daughter always teases him and says that he won't find a wife because he is too soft. I have no doubt that he was framed for whatever they are accusing him of. I went to this station this morning and they didn't allow me to see him. They didn't even tell me information about what he is charged with."

"Which station is he at?" she starts crying again. Oh help me God. I am not an evil person but I just hate it when someone breaks into tears instead of talking. Eventually she tells me the name of the station. It's about 30 minutes away from my office.

"Thank you so much for taking my case. I will make sure I have all your money as soon as possible." I smile. I am touched by this case before I can even know everything about it.

"You don't have to worry. I will do your case pro bono." This is my first pro bono case this year.

"What does that mean sisi?"

"I will do it for free. Now let's go." I stand up and pack my stuff. "You drove here?"

"I don't have a car sisi."

"Fine let's go." We head out and drive to the station. When we arrive there there is a long line starting from outside. I just greet those in my way and head inside. I go straight to the help desk and just stand there watching the female constable sign the certified document like a doctor. I clear my throat and she looks at me.

"I don't remember seeing you in the line. So go join the line outside. You're not special." She says and you can't miss the annoyance in her voice. I chuckle and shake my head.

"I am Advocate Nomalanga Biyela. I am Mr. Lubabalo Zindela's lawyer. I have reason to believe that he is being detained in this police station so I would like to speak to him and also talk to the detective in charge of his case so that he can give me a copy of the charge sheet." I say with my professional voice. She just rolls her eyes.

"You are here to advocate on behalf of that rapist? Yaz women like you should be burned because you are the same reason these perverts continue assaulting women. Why are you defending that son of a bitch?" rape? Wow. That's huge.

"I am not interested in your 'wathinta abafazi wathinta imbokodo' movement. Now are you going to point me to the detective's office or should I look for it myself?" she rolls her eyes once again. I swear if she wasn't a police officer I would pluck them out instantly.

"Mabanga  
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take miss lawyer to Detective Maphanga's office." She says. She really deserve a slap in the face this one. Just one slap.

"Follow me." the police officer who just looks like he reached puberty last night says. Do they hire minors to be police officers now? I turn to Mrs. Zindela.

"I will be back." She nods and heads out. I follow the teenage looking officer who leads me to an office at the back. He knocks and is granted permission to enter after three knocks. He opens the door and indicates that I should go in first. I mentally roll my eyes as I make my way inside.

"Detective this is Advocate Biyela Mr. Lubabalo's lawyer." He was listening to the conversation I had with the rude constable? I didn't even see him there until the constable called him. The detective dismisses him and indicates that I can sit.

"The Goddess of law. I feel honored to be in your presence. Now tell me a woman of such caliber like yours why are you here to defend a man like Zindela? He wronged one of your own. Where is the girl code?"

"What's with you being the judges of right and wrong in this station? I am not here to make friends. I am here to speak to my client and possibly get him out of this place because I can see that he will be abused even when there might not be enough evidence to prove that he is indeed guilty. Now can I please have the charge sheet? And while I familiarize myself with it get my client to a private room so that I can talk to him."

"You dare come to my station woman and make demands?"

"That would be all for now Detective." He clicks his tongue. He then hands me a file from his desk.

"If you steal something from that file I will know and I will be so happy to throw you on one of the cells at the back." I roll my eyes.

"Are you done with the theatrics now detective?" he huffs and heads out. I sigh and open the file. Wow. He is being accused of raping his own boss. What in the actual fuck? I just hope he is innocent as his mother says he is.

The teenage looking officer comes once again. This time he ushers me to the interrogation room. I am starting to think he is the station's errand boy. I am sure they even make him prepare their coffees while they are busy being rude.

"How old are you again?" I ask before I enter the interrogation room. He just smiles and heads back. Once I am inside I close the door and turn to the accused. My worst fears come to life. "Lubah." I whisper. His eyes pop out when he sees me. Somehow I see relief in there.

"You have to help me. Please." He says with a broken voice and a tear rolls down his cheek. God give me strength.

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## CHAPTER 2

"Now repeat what you just said." I say scribbling down a few details of his story.

"She had been seducing me ever since I started working at her company. Of course I couldn't report her because I am just an intern on probation. One mistake and I am out of the job. So I tried to avoid her as much as I could. Then one day last week she just came into my office hot sexy and fast. Everything happened really fast. I remember responding to her kiss after that everything just happened so fast. Clothes flying in the air and all that.

Someone knocked after we had fucked and I acted as if nothing happened. I guess that's what upset her the most. She wanted some cuddling and acknowledgement after sex and I couldn't provide it because I was tricked into having sex with her. I am the one who was actually raped because she forced herself on me. I said no a couple of times but she just forced herself and I couldn't push her hard and have her injured or something." I sigh and place down my pen. I take off my reading glasses and look at him with my head tilted to the side.

"First things first we need to get you out of this place. I can't hold meetings in an unhygienic place like this. It makes me cringe. So we are applying for bail as soon as possible. And then we can discuss the way forward. Now do you have a passport?"

"No. I was going to make one next month."

"I see. How much is in your bank account?" he frowns.

"Dude you have got to work with me here." he sighs.

"I have about R3800 or less. I don't remember."

"That's great. Does your mother work? If so how much does she earn?"

"Roughly R8000 after deductions."

"Do you want the police who beat you up to be held accountable for what they did to you?"

"Yes. My whole body hurts like hell." I nod.

"I will apply for bail. In the meantime I am going to have a doctor come and do a full check up on you and then we can move forward on the assault case against the officers. I am going to get you out of here. Relax. I just need you to trust me and also be honest and open with me. I don't want surprises in the trial." He nods.

"You look good by the way. Are you back for good in Durban?" I chuckle. Still charming as ever even behind bars.

"I am back but I will surely leave again when there is a high profile case demanding my full attention like always."

"So after I get out on bail can I take you out for dinner?" I giggle and roll my eyes. "Come on. I am serious. We owe each other a dinner. We have some unfinished business that we need to solve between us."

"Aren't you in a relationship?" he avoids eye contact and chuckles nervously.

"That is not important. Now please get me out of here so that I can take you out on a date. You know my bank balance so maybe I will be able to afford a meal at a 3



star restaurant then maybe a night at Bayside.” I laugh and shake my head. I start packing away my stuff.

“I have a house thank you very much. So it’s a no to Bayside. And I am a lawyer so I understand that by avoiding answering a question about having a girlfriend means you have one. But since you don’t wanna tell me about her and since you wanna get inside my pants I will let this one slide. If you are willing on cheating on her with a bomb like me then she is a non-factor.” He laughs.

“You are so full of yourself you know that?”

“I do. I will see you tomorrow. I have work to do.” I stand up and he also stands. “Hang in there. I am going to get you out of here. If there is anything you remember please call me. They can’t deny you of that right or else that would mean adding to the list of offences they have done against you. I am going to speak to the detective to allow your mother to see you even if it’s just for a few minutes.”

“Thank you Noma. I owe you a lot.” I smile.

I take my bags and head to the detective’s office. After a few exchange of harsh words he finally allows Lubabalo’s mother to go see her son. I wait for her in the car. I go through the facts of the case. I know it will be hard to prove Lubah’s innocence

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but I guess I have to dig deeper. I have a feeling that this isn’t the first time this boss has done something like

this and if I were to get some evidence or even witnesses that would make my case really strong. Lubah's mother comes back with red puffy eyes. This woman has tears for days. She climbs inside the car and I drive out.

"Thank you so much for doing this for my son once again Advocate Biyela." I smile.

"No need to thank me. I am just doing my job. Can I drop you off at your house?" she nods. "You will direct me then."

After that I play some music. I am a great conversationalist but I doubt the mother of a man I have slept with will be entertaining to talk to. She will surely keep on telling me just how innocent his son is whereas I know he is not so innocent behind the sheets. In fact he is a freak. But she doesn't need to know that. I drop her off at her house and then drive to KFC.

I need some skilled advocates and attorneys to help me with this case and I know bribing them with food will make them less grumpy and more helpful. Sure they work for me but sometimes you gotta bribe even your workers just to get the job done. I get 3 21-piece buckets with chips mini loaves and drinks. I also buy 2 24 wings' bucket and then buy a fully loaded box for myself.

I drive back to the office. It's close to lunch time. The securities help me carry the food to the boardroom and then I send a message to everyone that lunch will be available for everyone at the boardroom. I then make myself comfortable and type some of the few important

details about the case on my laptop and then connect it to the projector in the room. Few minutes later one by one they all make their way to the boardroom.

"You bought food. Mmm. What do you want?" Quinn a senior advocate asks looking at me suspiciously. I just laugh and shake my head.

"Is it a crime to treat my staff to a meal?" I ask innocently.

"If it's done by you then yes." He says taking a seat next to me. I just laugh. Everyone dishes up for themselves and sit down to start eating. "I am still waiting for you to tell us what you want." He says biting a piece. I roll my eyes.

"I have a probono case I am working on. The accused allegedly raped his boss. She had been seducing him for months to no avail. Then she went hot and heavy last week making it hard for him to resist. Even though he said no a few times during the intercourse the boss ignored his pleas. After the incident someone knocked on the accused's office and that's the end of the love affair."

"I knew it." Quinn says sitting back and I just laugh again. He is so dramatic.

"Now I want all hands on deck. I know there may be even hashtags on twitter right now. Hashtags like #AmINext? I want everyone to ignore them and help me solve this case. I have reason to believe that this isn't the first time this boss has done something like this. The fact that the accused said 'no' numerous times classifies this case as a rape meaning the boss forced herself to the accused."

"This means we have to dig deeper and find names of males that have worked at this company. I am afraid we will have to interview all of them from the time she started running the company. That's where we will be able to find out if she has done something like this before." Lwanele states. She is an internal investigator and also an attorney.

"Meaning we have to get permission from the boss to show us the database of everyone that has worked at the company ever since she started being the boss." Baboloki a legal advisor says.

"Not necessarily. We can just get an order from the court that permits us to go through such information because if we were to acquire it in our own way then whichever evidence we come with in court won't suffice." Quinn says.

"Okay. Lwanele Kopano and Amber your job is to apply for a court order that will allow you to get that information we need. Baboloki Noemi and Vhudzi you will be responsible for interviewing all those employees and be intimidating please. We need answers and soon." Vhudzi is Lubah's friend the one he made me hire. He is a very hard working kid and is very dedicated in his job. He has assisted some of the advocates in 3 cases and his work is impressive. "You can continue with your lunch. Onalenna will send you some of my notes about the case." I eat my food and we make small conversations here and there.

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## CHAPTER 3

“We have Advocate Biyela appearing for the accused Mr. Lubabalo Zindela in this case. Advocate Biyela the floor is all yours.” I clear my throat and stand up. I first fix my robe and then look at the judge.

“Your Honour I will go straight to the point. We are not here to prove that the accused did indeed rape the victim or not. There will be time for that. This is a schedule 5 bail application. For now we are here pleading that the accused be released on bail and under the following circumstances:

- The accused is a first time offender. This is his first time allegedly committing an offence or a crime.
- He doesn't have a passport and he has R3794.71 on his bank account. Where could he go with that money?
- He is an honorable man and helps his mother with bills at home. He still stays at home.
- Should he be released He doesn't have the power or influence to temper with the evidence or harm any of the witnesses.

Your Honour this is a young man with a promising future. He has been in the company for 5 months. This is the

first time an incident like this has happened. We are not assuming things but his release will not disrupt the peace of the public and the bosses can even suspend him until the end of the trial. That will be all. Thank you Your Honour.” I take my seat and look at the judge who is scribbling something on his journal.

“The court will go into recess for 30 minutes. After that I will present my verdict regarding this bail application. The court will resume at 12:30.” He hits the gavel twice. The court orderly urges everyone to rise as the judge exits the court room. After his exit I turn to Quinn who is sitting next to me.

“The prosecutor was very unprofessional. Instead of summarizing the case he just went into full detail but no matter. I spotted many loopholes from his opening statements. We got this one in the bag. You just have to make sure that this kid behaves himself and doesn’t go around looking for trouble after he has been released.” Quinn says and I nod. Going to the court room with a wise advocate is great because they can pick up on any loophole or single mistake made by the opposition.

“Let me get some fresh air.” I stand up take my phone and head out. One the corridor  
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take my phone and head out. One the corridor I bump into Lee. I smile and hug her. “Tase I didn’t know you would be here.” she smiles.

"I wanted to surprise you. Futhy wanted to come but she is out of the country. There is some deal she had to close in Florida but she is on the line." She says with her forever polite voice. You can never tell when she is angry or in a good mood. Her voice only rose that time when she was pregnant but on a normal day her voice is always calm and soothing. I look at the screen of her phone and Futhy appears with Zobuhle in her arms.

"I swear to God if their father didn't have a private jet I wouldn't be travelling with them. They are so naughty." She says placing Zobuhle down who wails immediately. She picks her up and shushes her. "Thula phela Nkosazane kamama. Yhu idrama elana." We just laugh. "Anyways how is the case going? Is the witch going down?" I chuckle.

"Tase today was just the bail hearing. The trial is yet to come."

"I can't believe that woman. The nerve to say that innocent boy raped her. If she wanted sex she should've went to a sex club. Fuckin pervert. I would've definitely killed a woman who accused Manelisi of such while he is innocent."

"Calm down tase." Lee says politely. She rolls her eyes.

"Anyways how is the deal going?"

"The client postponed the meeting to tomorrow due to an emergency. I just hope he shows up tomorrow. I can't afford to come to Florida for nothing. Anyways Tase good luck with everything. We will talk soon." We say our goodbyes and she hangs up. I turn to Lee.

"How is the little princess doing?" she smiles.

"She is doing great. She is spending the week with Sbo since he will be going to Wale for a while. So she is spending some quality time with her father. Gosh she just grows more beautiful with each day. I wish I can shield her from all the terrible things that happen in the world but I know that would be unfair. I just have to have a gun." I laugh.

"But daddy two has a gun."

"Oww yeah him." we both laugh.

"Are you referring to me with that 'him' Mphazima?"

Mabutho's voice makes us both turn. She just laugh and go hug him.

"Are you a 'her' by any chance Wosiyane?" she asks wiggling her eyebrows and he just chuckles. He looks at me.

"Ukahle kaMenziwa?" I smile and nod.

"I will leave you guys to your PDA. I have to talk to my client." They both laugh. They look so good together. They both have calm personalities but they are perfect together. I am sure they ignore whoever that comes to cause drama at their house. "Match made in heaven." They both smile at me. I head inside and go to where Lubah is at. He is sitting with his head bowed down. I clear my throat and he raises his head.

"You look beautiful." I blush and roll my eyes.

"Don't look so down. We have everything under control. You are going home today."

"She threatened me. A message was sent to me in my cell. She said if I win this case she will kill all my family



members one by one and save me for the grand finale.”  
He whispers. I smile.

“Do you have proof of what you are saying?” he brings  
me closer to him and slides in a piece of paper in my  
blazer. An officer looks at me and I quickly step away  
from him.

“You can access some of her notes that she has written  
to me before. They are in my room under the bed.”

“Thank you and I will make sure that you and your family  
are safe at all times. Don’t worry about this. She won’t  
do anything to you or your family.” I smile at him once  
again and then go back to my seat. “The victim is more  
gullible than I thought. She just handed herself to us in a  
silver platter.” I whisper to Quinn who looks at me  
frowning.

“What has she done?”

“I will tell you when we get out of here.” we continue  
chatting about other things until the judge comes back.  
We all rise and then sit back down after him. He starts  
talking and pointing out some of the facts of the case  
that were highlighted by the prosecutor.

“Given the circumstances outlined by the defense Mr.  
Lubabalo Zindela is granted bail set at R20 000. Court  
adjourned.” He hits his gavel once again and makes his  
way out of the court room. I sigh and look at Lubah who  
smiles back at me. We might have not won the war but  
winning the first battle is still a victory.

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## CHAPTER 4

“You are going to stay here until the end of the trial. It’s not much but it is very safe for you.” after posting bail we went to his home first and then came straight to my house. I don’t know what Khazimla the boss has in store for Lubah and his family. So it’s better to act fast. Of course they are going to live at my cottage backyard so that we don’t step on each other’s toes.

“This is beautiful and very cozy.” Mrs. Zindela says. It’s a three bedroom and two bathroom cottage. It is very cozy and indeed and I sometimes sleep here when I want some really alone time. “Thank you once again for letting us into your home Miss Biyela.”

“You can call me Noma ma. And please relax. A friend of mine has a bodyguard company so a bodyguard will be assigned to each of you until the dust settles. We cannot afford to have the police involved because we don’t know who is trustworthy and who is not.”

“Please don’t worry yourself about what we are going to eat. We will provide for ourselves for the duration of our stay. It’s the least we can do.” she says politely and I smile.

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After helping them get settled I return to main house. I go shower and then wear my long silky pajamas. I am so tired but I am craving a home cooked meal. Who knows? Maybe I might gate crash the Nzama supper. I am sure Lee won't mind. I take my phone wallet car keys and then head to the kitchen. I make myself a quick cup of coffee and while waiting for it to cool down a bit Lubah makes his way in.

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"Looking beautiful as ever." He eyes my phone and car keys. "Going somewhere?" I nod and take a sip. "Do you want me to come with you?" I shake my head. "I will see you when I get back. That's if you will still be awake. Maybe we can go over your case."

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"We don't always have to talk about the case Noma." "Well we kinda do if we wanna clear your name and keep you out of prison." he sighs and leans on the counter. "Did I maybe do something wrong?" I shake my head. "No. you did nothing. I have to go."

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I pour my coffee in a small travelling mug. I take my other things and then head out. Driving to the Nzama household I nearly get involved in an accident because of some drunk driver who was swerving from side to side behaving like he owns the road. Because of his reckless driving I end up spilling coffee all over my pajama top. Luckily the coffee was a bit warm so I didn't get burned. I use my remote to open the gate and drive in. as I park the car in front of the garage and climb off Lee is already waiting for me with a smile.

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"What a nice surprise tase. You look..." she studies me for a second and then looks at my shirt. "You know what? I am not going to comment. But you are in luck because I prepared one of you favourite dishes." She hooks her arm on mine and together we walk inside the house. We head to the kitchen where Butho is chatting with Zobizwa. I didn't even know she was in town.

"Hey Zo." She smiles and comes to hug me.

"Hey sis Noma. I didn't know you were coming."

"Neither did I but I was craving a full meal and since Futhy is out of town Lee was my last resort."

"Ouch. That hurts." Lee says causing Butho and Zobizwa to laugh.

I make myself comfortable on the barstool opposite Zo while she helps Lee with dishing up. The aroma just make it so obvious that it is inqina. She cooked it with ujeqe chakalaka and prepared the hot tomato salad. I wonder when she had the time to do all this. I don't think I can deal with being a full time wife and a lawyer. It's just not me. It seems like a lot of work. She first asks us to wash our hands and then hands Butho his food while Zo serves me. I go open the fridge and retrieve a flying fish dumpy.

"I need this." they all just laugh.

We eat supper while chatting about Zo's career and what's new. Turns out she is moving to Singapore. Her mom is not happy about that but she knows better than anyone not to stand on another person's way to success. When we are done eating Zo clears the table and packs the dishes in the dishwasher.

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"We will leave you two to chat and good night Noma."  
Butho says.

"Good night sbari." He kisses his wife and then pulls his sister out of the kitchen.

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"Am I going to need my notebook?" Lee asks in a silly tone and I just laugh. She takes a bottle of wine from the fridge while I take 2 wine glasses and we head to the patio. We sit down and I pour the wine for both of us. I sit back and take a long sip. "What's eating you?" I shrug.

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"Nothing much. I am just not feeling Lubah anymore. It has nothing to do with the case. We just lost contact for too long and I guess the spark dissolved with that time apart. Yeah he is still charming and all but you get what I am saying tase." I am also trying to get what I am saying. I am putting together pictures in my head and trying not to sound crazy. She chuckles.

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"Took you long enough. You always lose interest in men the moment you guys are apart for even a week. It's not wrong to feel that way. I am sure even Lubah moved on. It's just that maybe he doesn't want to say it because he thinks you will stop helping him or will just get him locked up for good." I roll my eyes.

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"I am not a spiteful person and I am doing this for his mother not him." she shrugs.

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"Either way tase you know what I am saying is the truth." I huff and close my eyes for a moment and try to picture my life. Right now the only thing going well is my career. Other than that I am just a lonely pathetic woman with married friends who are always busy with their lives but always try to make my feel better. "Hey." She clicks her hands. "Where did you drift off to?"

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"I was just thinking how shitty my life is." I answer without opening my eyes.

"Tase."

"Lindelwa you know it's true. The only thing I got right in this life thing is the career part. Other than that I am just an empty person. I need my own personal person. I am too old to be single ad lonely. Next thing you know I will be depressed and shit." She sighs.

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"Don't be too hard on yourself tase. Look at me. I am 32 years old and I only got married a few months back. All good things come to those who wait. Don't rush it because you end up settling with someone who is not right for you."

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"Maybe I should just agree to be Nsizwa's second wife." She pinches me and I open my eyes. "Ouch. That hurts."

"See? You are now thinking of settling and not your own happiness. Tase this is not a race. God is still preparing your man or woman." She winks and I just laugh.

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"As if Ndosi would allow that."

"He would probably arrange a marriage for you." we both laugh. "So you never did anything to find out who that young man was? The one that looked just like you?" I shake my head.

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"Lisa reached a dead end after a dead end and just ended up leaving it like that. She did find a Menziwa royal house but it also was a dead end because the family member whom she spoke to denied a 32 year old daughter." She sighs.

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"Maybe we should just go to church and pray. Maybe God is waiting for us to come through." I look at her with my eyebrows raised and we both laugh so hard.

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"Thatha MaMfundisi." She laughs. "Anyways tase let me not keep you waiting. Maybe bab Mfundisi u Nzama wants to start inkonzo yasekamelweni." She laughs so loud Butho ends up asking what's so funny from the balcony. "Nothing Pastor Nzama." I shout back and look at Lee who can't stop laughing. I chuckle and kiss her cheek. "Bye tase."

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"Yhu ayy hamba Noma." She says trying to catch her breath and wiping her tears. I laugh and head out.

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I pass by KFC to get myself a milkshake and a twister and then head home. I park my car inside the garage and

head to the kitchen. I place my twister in the warmer and go to my study. Lubah gave me those notes his boss gave him when we went to their house to get their stuff. I go through them and I just laugh to myself. She just made my job so easy. All I need is a document that has her handwriting to compare these notes to and all will be well. Lubah makes his way in my office. I look at him.

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"Heard you drive in. have you eaten?"

"Yes. Last time I checked you had two siblings. Where is the youngest?" he sits opposite me.

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"She stays with my aunt my mother's sister. They are very close and since my aunt is a widow and very lonely she asked to stay with her and mom agreed." I nod.

"Good to know that you take note of some things I say." I chuckle.

"You're being dramatic." He laughs.

"Am I now?" I roll my eyes.

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"So is there an official document that you have received from your boss?"

"Yes. Most of the manuscripts I read and edit she makes notes pointing out where I went wrong and what I should focus on when editing and what I should remove from a book."

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"Awesome. Is there a manuscript corrected by her that you by chance took home by mistake?" he smiles.

"Matter of fact there is."

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## CHAPTER 5

"This is just great. A tip of the iceberg. I mean how else would a rape victim explain threatening notes like these? This will definitely clear up the kid's name." Quinn says with a smile after hearing the evidence Lwanele came back with.

"This is what we needed. We should just make this trial go as fast as it can. We have so many cases lined up. Some we need to tackle as a team like this. So the sooner we get done with Mr Zindela's case the better." Kopano says looking at me. I nod in agreement. I am not one to stay in a case for a long time and I hate cases that drag for months even years.

"Miss Biyela there is an urgent call for you from the Jo'burg office." Onalenna says barging into the boardroom. I pack my things and stand up.

"We are going to be working all weekend so that we will have a very smooth trial. And don't worry pay will be tripled. See you tomorrow at 9." I head out and walk to

my office. I sit down and pick up my desk phone.  
"Biyela."

"Good day Miss Biyela. Lungisani here. We have a new client who is demanding to be assisted by you. Even after we told him you were busy with a case he said he can wait for you to finish the case and then assist him. His claim is against a logistic company." I sigh. Lungisani is the acting CEO at the Jo'burg branch. I am the CEO in all branches.

"What is the name of the client?"

"Mthombeni or something along those lines. He even said he will pay for your travelling and accommodation expenses." I roll my eyes.

"We have evidence to make us close this case as soon as possible so this year must be his lucky year. I will notify you when I am coming. Talk soon." I hang up.

"Also Mr. Cele called. He wanted to have lunch but I told him you were busy." Onalenna says. I look at her with my eyes popped out.

"Onna what did I say about Mr and Mrs. Cele?"

"That the only time I should take a message is when you are in the courtroom."

"And?"

"I am sorry. I just assumed you didn't need any distractions." I huff.

"What did he say?"

"He hung up on me." dear God. He can be such a drama king sometimes. "Also your supervisor called. She said

she sent you a feedback on your thesis on your student email but you never replied. She assumed you haven't seen it and asked that you get back to her as soon as possible so that you can talk about your thesis." I close my eyes and massage my temples.  
"You can go now Onna." She walks out.

My life is so busy. In fact I should be taking a well-deserved leave so that I can focus on my PhD but I guess there is no rest for the wicked. I wonder how Futhy is doing on her thesis. I take out my phone and text her. 'How is the thesis going?' I then pack my things in my handbag and head out. I go to the Shisanyama he loves the most and buy some meat. I then buy bread and juice. I drive to his office and the receptionist smiles when she sees me.

"Good luck. He was all grumpy when he couldn't reach you. He didn't even eat his lunch." She says and I laugh. This man has diva tendencies. I make my way to his office. I find the door wide open. I take off my heels  
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leaving them by the door and walk in. he is not inside. I quickly dish up for the both of us and then sit down. I dial Lee and Futhy and place the phone on the table. I know he is about to throw a tantrum.

"Daddy I am here. Where are you?" I shout and I hear the bathroom door opening. He walks out and comes to sit next to me.

"Hi." He says and starts eating.

"How long are you going to be mad at me?"

"I am not petty Nomalanga. I am just hungry because I skipped breakfast with hopes that I will be spending the lunch hour catching up with my daughter but I guess she is too busy for me." he says pouring the juice in a glass and downing it. I scoot closer to him and lay my head on his lap since we are sitting on a couch. "You look drained. Wanna talk about it?"

"I am sorry about the way Onna spoke to you. I am just busy with this rape case where the woman is falsely accusing my client for raping her. I also have a case that is waiting for me in Jozi. The client is specifically asking for me. And then there is my thesis which is stressing me out. Honestly I need some time out baba." I say and close my eyes. He runs his hand in my afro and starts massaging it. He knows that will send me to deep slumber.

"Rest. They can survive a few hours without you." he starts singing Beulah land in his rough voice but that doesn't stop me from drifting to sleep.

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I wake up and look around. I am in my room in Morningside. I guess Ndosi carried me here. I yawn and stretch myself. I am now wearing my old night dress. I guess mama is responsible for that. I spot my phone at the bedside table and take it. I have three missed calls. One from Futhy one from Lee and one from Lubah. There are messages from both my friends asking if I am okay. I text them back assuring that I am okay. I also text Lubah

telling him that I am at home and I will see them tomorrow.

I get off the bed wear sleepers and then head to the kitchen. The aroma inside makes my mouth water instantly. But I know better than to do as I please at mama's kitchen. I open the fridge and take out fruits. I then chop them and put them in a small bowl. I pour yoghurt inside stir and then head to the lounge with my bowl. I find mama and Ndosi cuddling in a couch and watching Isono. I go and squeeze myself between them which makes them laugh and shift a little to accommodate me.

"Olwani uchuku kodwa Noma?" Jabu asks and I laugh and start eating my fruit salad.

"You look better now. Refreshed even." Ndosi omkhulu says and I smile. "Tomorrow you are going to the spa with my wife. It's my treat."

"Yay! Thank you baba." I lean on his shoulder.

"Now mapha." Jabu says. I chuckle and feed her. We end up sharing the salad and Ndosi actually making another bowl because we didn't have enough. I have missed them so much and not to be petty or anything but it feels so good to have their undivided attention. I should come here often because I can tell they also missed me.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 6

Today is the first day of Lubah's trial. We have gathered enough evidence not only to clear Lubah's name but also get Khazimla locked for sexual assault. The prosecutor called his first witness Veronica Mbanjwa who is Khazimla's best friend and colleague. She was spitting a lot of shit about Lubah some of the things she said were just being spiteful saying she once was afraid for her life because Lubah gave him 'the eye'. Women Thixo.

Time comes for me to cross examine her. I stand up and fix my robe. I then look around the court room and then look at the witness.

"Good Morning Miss Mbanjwa." She greets back. "You and the victim have been friends and colleagues for a long time 6 years to be precise. Isn't that right?"

"Yes."

"So on the day in question the victim claims that she left my client's office and went straight to yours and told you about what had transpired in my client's office. As a concerned friend you then took her to the clinic to conduct a rape kit and then called the police on my client. That's correct right?"

"Yes."

"So besides my client's semen from the victim's private part there was nothing else that proves that she was indeed sexually assaulted. No torn shirt or skirt or even underwear?" She frowns a bit looking at her friend.

"Yes."

"Okay. Let's just stop there for now. 3 years back you were dating a guy named Siyambona who was an intern at Baloyi Incorporated. Now is it true that Miss Baloyi seduced and ended up sleeping with him which caused you guys to break up?"

"Yes but..."

"I just wanted a yes or a no Miss Mbanjwa. Now shortly after that another sexual scandal which involved you came up. An author named Innocent signed a deal with Baloyi Incorporated and you guys started dating. Soon after Miss Baloyi seduced him and your relationship ended. Is that true?" she blinks a lot before she answers with a 'yes'. I chuckle. "Miss Baloyi has a record of seducing and sleeping with new men at Baloyi. She did with two of your exes. Do you think it is possible that she might have seduced my client slept with him and when he rejected him after sex she went and cried rape?"

"Yes." She answers without hesitation and then looks around. "I mean no." I smirk and look at the judge.

"No further questions Your Honor."

I go back to my seat but throw a look at the prosecutor who gives me a death stare. Well you can kill me with the stares all you like. This is only the beginning. Cross examination comes with the prosecutor trying to close loopholes here and there but I have conquered Miss Mbanjwa and there is no come back for her. For now the judge knows Khazimla as a woman who uses her power to seduce and sleep with young men.

Day one of the trial comes to an end and we all head home. I am tired and I need some rest before Wednesday which will be next day of the trial. I get to my house and grab a quick shower. After that I wear my short silk nightie with no underwear on. I am in my house after all. I prepare a sandwich which I munch on while cooking my supper. When I am finally done cooking Lubah makes his way in the kitchen. He doesn't ask questions he just picks me up and pin me against the cold fridge door.

"You were so hot in court today. I was trying so hard to resist touching you." he says as he plants rough and provocative kisses on my neck. I giggle and wrap my arms around his neck...

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The second day of the trial comes. Today the prosecutor called a security guard to stand who was on duty on the day of the incident. His examination in chief is full of loopholes. You can tell that he is not sure about some of the things he is saying. Some of them are just made up. Luckily I came in prepared. When it's time for cross examination

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"Mr. Khandisa how long have you worked for Baloyi Publishing House or Incorporated?"

"2 years."

"How many years of experience do you have in your type of job?"

"This is my first job as a security guard so I would say 2 years." I nod.

"Not a matter of redundancy but please take us back to the events that happened on the day in question. Did Miss Baloyi look distressed when she left with Miss Mbanjwa? Did she inform you about what had occurred? Did she do something anything to indicate that her life had been in danger?"

"No. she did not do something to indicate to me that something bad had happened. But she looked like someone who was devastated. I was worried about her state so I followed them to the car and that's when Veronica told me that Lubabalo raped Miss Baloyi. That infuriated me and I had him thrown out of the building."

"So you didn't establish whether what you had heard were lies or the truth? You just jumped into conclusion

and assumed that he was guilty?" he looks at Lubah and then looks at me.

"Yes."

"Let me take you and the whole court down memory lane. A year and few months ago you had a sexual fling or relationship with Miss Baloyi am I lying?" his eyes pop out. "And before you answer that please remember you are under oath. If you tell lies you will be arrested for contempt of court." He clears his throat.

"Yes I was in a short sexual relationship with Miss Baloyi." Murmuring is heard from the audience.

"Interesting. If I didn't know better I would say Miss Baloyi is addicted to sleeping with every new guy that starts working at Baloyi Incorporated."

"Objection your Honor. The defense is making speculations." The prosecutor shoots up. The judge looks at me.

"Advocate Biyela." She gives me a scornful look.

"Apologies your Honor. By a court order I was able to attain Mr. Khandisa's 3 months bank statement. I would like to share them with the court. And before you object prosecutor the evidence I am raising is very relevant. If the court pleases." I look at the judge.

"You may proceed Advocate." I retrieve the copy of the statements from my files. I give one to the judge one to the prosecutor and one to the witness. "Can you confirm that this is your bank statement Mr. Khandisa?" she asks looking at the witness. After a few moments he nods.

"Yes Your Honor."

"I would like to bring to the court's attention that Mr. Khandisa's salary is paid into his account on the 31st of every month. Isn't that correct?" he nods. "Now please explain to the court the R50 000 you received from Mr. Sibonelo Baloyi the victim's brother 3 days back. And I don't need to remind you about consequences of lying while under oath."

"I... I"

"You seem to have developed a stuttering problem in such a short space of time. Now let me help you with that. You have always had a crush on Miss Baloyi. You were thrilled when you guys started sleeping together and were devastated when she threw you away like trash when she found a new boy toy. You knew that there was no assault that happened on the day in question because you were just around the corner. All you heard were moans and groans of pleasure. There were no screams which indicated danger or forceful penetration or cries for help. Now to buy your silence or kind words you were bribed by the Baloyi family. They thought we would never pick on that. You obliged with whatever they said because in your brain you still believe there is a chance for you guys to get together in the near future."

"THEY DID FUCKIN BRIBE ME AND KHAZIMLA WAS MOANING IN PLEASURE AND THAT SHIT MADE ME ANGRY!"

"Too bad for your wife though. No further questions Your Honor."

Khandisa bows his head down in shame. He doesn't even allow himself to be reexamined. The court day comes to an end and we head out.

"YOU FUCKIN ASSHOLE! I HATE YOU! I HATE YOU SO MUCH! I DON'T EVER WANNA HEAR FROM YOU! YOU WILL BE RECEIVING DIVORCE PAPERS SOON! THE NERVE OF YOU SLEEPING WITH HER WHILE I WAS PREGNANT! I HATE YOU!" That would be Khandisa's wife causing drama outside the courtroom. This case will leave many relationships broken. If only Khazimla would just admit to lying and close this case once and for all.

"BABE!" a squeaky voice shouts from behind us. All this drama is happening in the parking lot. We turn to a young lady who runs to us and jumps into Lubah's arms. O.K.A.Y. "OMG! Babe are you okay? I was here on Monday but I had to rush to a class soon after the court's session. Are you coping?" she asks kissing him and checking for invincible bruises. I look at Lubabalo in disbelief who avoids eye contact with me.

"I will see you guys soon." I say to his mother and rush to my car. I get inside and drive out in high speed.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySerie

CHAPTER 7

I park at the hotel's parking lot and bang the steering wheel in frustration. Why is my happiness always short lived? Did he have to do me like this? Why didn't he just tell me about his little girlfriend from the start? All this sex and romantic gestures that have been happening for the past 2 days were for what? His way of thanking me for the case? Fuck him! I scream and keep on banging the steering wheel until I am disturbed by a knock on my window. I jump and look at this person disturbing my crazy moment.

"I come in peace." He says with his hands raised in surrender. It's Nsizwa Mabutho's older brother. I sigh and open the car door. I step outside taking my robe off and taking my handbag. I lock my car and turn my attention to him. "Are you okay?"

"Yeah." I give him a small smile and then head inside the hotel. Okay. Why is he still following me? I check in and it takes time because I didn't book prior. Finally I get a room but a presidential suite because standard rooms are all full. "Nsizwa stop following Me." he chuckles.

"You will find me at the bar MaBiyela." I huff and make my way to my suite. I didn't even come prepared. Fuck me.

I take a warm relaxing bath. After that I wear the hotel gown. Lucky for me I am casual drinker. So I always have back up clothes in my boot. I wear my sleepers take my phone car keys and key card and then head to the parking lot. I retrieve my emergency bag of clothes and head back to my room. I get dressed in my plunging

self-tie top & tropical print shorts set. I guess my sleepers will have to do. I head to the bar finding Nsizwa with a drink in front of him.

"I have to eat first." I announce and he laughs. We move to the dining area and order food. "What are you doing here? Waiting for your mistress?" he chuckles.

"I was actually here for a meeting but the client stood me up."

"Lucky me then because you are going to cover my bill." I look at him and he just laughs. He is quite a good looking guy but he is married and he is like my brother in law. Meaning he is a no go area.

"Only if you let me hit it." He says teasingly.

"How typical of you. Dude I know your wife. And I am sure Lee would murder me if I were to do her like that. And let's stop talking about sex. I am very pissed off right now." I say frowning.

"What should we talk about then?" I shrug. "I heard you were working on a rape case."

"Anything but that." he laughs and shakes his head. The waiter brings us food and we thank her.

"Well our cab business is booming. Many people have booked some of the cars to hire them on December holidays. That is going to bring in more money. They also pay for insurance so it's good money for us. And you how about your side hustles?"

"I don't have time for any of those. I am dealing with cases day in day out. I am also doing my PhD which by

the way I should put my full focus into after this case. So nje yah Sponsored

how about your side hustles?"

"I don't have time for any of those. I am dealing with cases day in day out. I am also doing my PhD which by the way I should put my full focus into after this case. So nje yah ain't got no time for side hustles. Lapho I am even thinking of opening a branch of Biyela Attorneys in Polokwane and George."

"You love law neh?" he asks in an amused tone and I just laugh.

"Why are you asking like it's a bad thing?"

"No. it's not. It's actually good that you are doing something that you are very passionate about. Nobody or no parent is forcing it down your throat."

"I mean my passion for law started when I was almost sent to juvenile."

"Really? What happened?" I laugh and shake my head.

"I don't wanna relieve that moment but know that I will forever remember the mistake I made because it made me the woman I am today."

"I hear you. I also made mistakes that could make me rot in jail forever." I chuckle. He looks at me with a smile and licks his lips. "But you are so sexy Miss Biyela. How I am craving to bend you over here and now?" I choke on my food and he chuckles.

"Stop it. You're a married man."

"Who said marriage stops you from lusting over hot women like you? It's not like I am proposing marriage I just wanna tap that ass. And I know you also wanna release whatever that is inside you." I ignore him and stuff my face with food. After I am done eating I quickly down the beer and walk to the bar with him following closely behind me. "You are not going to ignore me forever." I roll my eyes.

"Disappear Nsizwa or else I am going to tell Butho that you are bothering Me." he chuckles.

"Fine." He raises his hands up in surrender. We settle in the bar and order our drinks. "Keep them coming." He tells the bartender. We are joined by 2 couples and one guy. It's just good vibes only. My phone rings and I check who it is. Lubah. I groan and just block him. I will see him tomorrow.

"Toxic ex?" the guy we are drinking with whose name is Trent yes he is white asks.

"Ain't even an ex. Doesn't qualify to be one. We just shagged and I guess I caught feelings and had expectations. Not a big deal."

"If it wasn't you wouldn't be drinking on a Wednesday afternoon." I chuckle and shrug. "Let's just forget about him and have a great time." He says kissing my cheek. I turn to him and our lips mistakenly meet which cause the other ladies to scream. I just laugh and down a shot.

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"This is just a onetime thing. It is never going to happen again." I say as he removes my top and short. He chuckles and nods.



"Yes mami." He starts showering me with kisses all over my body. I hold his head and bring it closer to my face.

"Trent."

"Yes baby."

"No foreplay. I am already wet. Just fuck me." he smirks. I should add 'fucked real good by a white guy' on my biography because the last time I slept with a white guy he sucked.

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#MissThick

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## CHAPTER 8

Checking out I laugh when I find out that Nsizwa settled my bill. Lapho I was only kidding when I asked him to do that. Nonetheless I grab breakfast at the hotel restaurant which is also covered by my bill. I then drive to the mall to buy some groceries. After that I head home. I know I will find Lubah there. I just don't want to see him. I park my car in the garage and head to the kitchen to offload the groceries. Onna knows that if I don't contact her by 8 am and also don't show up at work that means I am not coming.

I go place my things in my bedroom and change into a short orange summer dress. I head to the lounge just to chill and check what's happening on social media. While laughing at a video on TikTok the asshole makes his way

inside the lounge. I really should tell him to stop going in and out of my house as he pleases. He sits on the other couch. Great. I really need the distance between us before I strangle him to death for being too close for comfort.

"Can we please talk?" he asks in a very low voice.

"Sure." I say without even raising my head.

"I am sorry for not telling you about Limile. It's just that our relationship mine and yours was on and off. And you didn't even speak to me not until my mother approached you about the case. So I really thought I didn't stand a chance with you."

"There was never a relationship between us to even begin with. Except for the current one which is an attorney-client relationship. I only drove off like that yesterday because I was mad at you not disclosing the fact that you are in a relationship. You made me a fool but worry not I have learnt my lesson."

"Listen Noma you are way out of my league. And..."

"Let me just stop you right there. The fact that you got in my pants doesn't give you the right to analyze how I am and my worth. I know it which is why I am still single because I haven't met a man who is worth my time love and affection. From now on the only thing we will talk about is the case. Understood?" he sighs.

"Yes."

"You can leave now. And please don't come and go in my house as you please. Respect my private space." I look at him and he nods. He stands up.

“By the way we have a meeting with the detective handling my case. It’s scheduled for 1pm today at the police station.”

“Thank you for informing me.” he sighs again and then heads out. One of the things Trent said while we were drinking is that I should outline my boundaries to Lubah so that he won’t disrespect me and I am glad I listened to his advice.

Since I have nothing to do besides prepare for the 1pm meeting I go online to SHEIN and browse through their plus size catalogue. Their clothes are so beautiful I end up putting many of them in my shopping bag and checking my order out. I head to my room to wear my sandals

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I end up putting many of them in my shopping bag and checking my order out. I head to my room to wear my sandals I then take my handbag and head out. I am so bored I don’t know what to do with myself. I just decide to go and watch AFTER WE FELL at the cinema. It’s a really great movie and I love all the sex scenes there. When the movie ends I head out going to the toilet first. As I am fixing my dress a young girl who is maybe Amahle’s age walks out of one of the stalls. She tries to reach for the sink but it’s too high for her. She looks at me and smiles.

“Help me up please.” Her voice makes my insides melt. I pick her up and help her wash and dry her hands. She looks at the mirror and I imitate her. My eyes pop out

when I see a younger version of myself in the mirror. I turn her to look at me. This kid really looks like me. One would mistake her for my kid.

"What is your name?"

"Moyomuhle Biyela." What a fuckin coincidence. Did I get pregnant and maybe black out for a whole 10 months.

"Wow. I am also Nomalanga Biyela."

"Menziwa." She says with a smile and indicates that I put her down. I do just that. "Nice to meet you auntie." She kisses my hand and then rushes out.

I put my stuff in my bag and quickly head out with hopes to find her but it's futile because she is long gone. I am really cursed. Did I really just see someone who can lead me to my real family for the second time and lose her? Anyways I go collect a pizza which I ordered online and then drive to the station because it's already close to 1pm. When I get there I am led to the detective's office. I find Lubah with his nosy girlfriend the prosecutor and the detective. I greet everyone and then sit down.

"I will just go straight to the point as to why I called this meeting. The charges against Mr. Lubabalo Zindela have been dropped following the submission of evidence that cleared his name. You are a free man Mr. Zindela and we are sorry for the way you were treated at this station."  
The detective says.

"What evidence are you talking about?" I ask. Lubah's girlfriend looks at me.

"So like my boyfriend and I are very freaky. So we set up really small cameras in his office to capture our

spontaneous moments. When I found out that he had sex with his boss I was livid and I didn't want anything to do with him but after I attended the trial I figured it's not good for an innocent man to rot in jail for a crime he didn't commit. So I submitted the evidence yesterday." She answers in a squeaky voice. Gosh she sounds like an annoying mosquito.

"Since a video submitted by Miss Limile proved that there was consent and Miss Baloyi is the one who actually seduced Mr. Zindela we had no choice but to drop the charges." The detective says.

"Where is Miss Baloyi at the moment?" I had to ask because she should've been at this meeting.

"She and her family fled the country early this morning. Don't worry yourself Mr. Zindela. We are sorry for what happened to you. We will release a statement that will clear your name and hopefully all this will go away soon so that you can go back to your normal life." The prosecutor says shamefully. What a sad thing. I was looking forward to humiliating Khazimla in court. We sign a few documents and the detective asks to speak to Lubah alone. That's my chance I walk out of the station.

"Thank you for helping my boyfriend." The squeaky voice says after me. I turn to look at her. She looks like she is in varsity. Meaning she is very young and I can't be hating on her because of Lubah's greediness.

"I was only doing my job Limile." I say with a small smile and walk to my car.

It's still early so I go purchase Steers 2 burger meals and drive to SMG. I walk to her office to find her sleeping at her couch. I place the food in the table and go to her. I shake her.

"Mama." She opens her eyes and smiles when she sees me.

"Zewande mtanami. What brings you here? You look beautiful by the way." She says sitting up. I bring the food to her and she thanks me.

"Is it wrong for me to want to come and eat lunch with you?" she laughs.

"You are bribing me because you want something and you know it." I laugh and roll my eyes.

"Kodwa mama." She also laughs. "Anyways I saw a little girl today at the cinema who is Mahle's age. She looked exactly like me mama. I swear it was like I was seeing a younger version of myself. Her name was Moyomuhle Biyela." She stops eating and looks at me.

"Do you think maybe she is related to you?"

"Without a doubt mama. She is a spitting image of myself."

"Are you ready to find your real family?" I sigh and nod.

"Do what you must so that you can finally find your inner peace. And relax me and Ndosi will support whatever you decide." I side hug her.

"Thank you for everything mama. I don't know what I would've done without you."

"You don't have to find out because I will always be here for you." she kisses my cheek and I smile. I always wish God can bless the Celes with many years so that they can see what kind of kids they raised.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 9

"So you only have a name nothing else?" Lisa asks. I am at Kwa Dlangezwa. I had to come since I needed her help and I am used to her unlike Mihle. I nod at her question. "Okay. Her name is unique so it won't be difficult finding her. Can you please give me at least 24 hours to compile everything about her her whole family and what they are all about and then I will get back to you?" I smile.

"That's awesome. Thank you. So how much do I owe you?"

"I will take the bag." She says eyeing my bag which is a Lana Marks Skyla Tote in Black and it costs R95k.

"Yhu girl you're expensive." She laughs and shrugs.

"Okay I will go put my stuff in my emergency bag in the car and then I will be on my way."

"You won't leave before eating dinner with us and you are free to spend the night and head back to Durban early in the morning. My husband hates it when our

guests travel at night because we have plenty of room here." I sigh.

"Okay. But you gotta tell him first. Maybe he doesn't like surprises." She raises her phone.

"Trust me he already knows and he is the one who suggested you spend the night. Now allow me to give you a tour around my land. I will do your research at night. I work better in the darkness."

"Vampire much?" I say looking at her and we both laugh. She closes her computer and she leads me out. "Where is your mother in law?"

"At some book launch thing." She gives me the tour around the palace which is really big and beautiful. "Yeah it really is beautiful but I want a smart castle. My husband is building one for me with the help of DCC." She leads me to the driveway. "THAZIBA!" her guard is next to her within a few moments. "Please take us to the campus." The guard leads us to one of the cars in the driveway.

"So do you get along with your mother in law?" we climb inside the car.

"That woman is a saint and I love her so much. She has become my best friend here. And we always gang up on Enzo when he is being stubborn." She says with a smile.

"As if. King Enzo can never say no to you." Libongwe her other guard says and they all laugh. Lisa rolls her eyes.

"Whatever."



"Where is your mother in law vele? I didn't see her back at the palace?"

"She is at some book launch or something which is book related. Can you believe how much of a novel collector she is? That woman even has the latest Stiletto series by Sandisiwe Gxaba and His Destroyer by Cathrine Phiri."

"I heard those writers write too much sex."

"I think she uses the books to masturbate sometimes." We all laugh. I can imagine nje Jabu masturbating to a book. We first drive past the traditional court which seems to be under construction. "Zenzo ordered for it to be renovated. In fact he ordered for most community buildings to be renovated

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including the clinic the community hall and the police station. All the money is coming from his own pocket. I am in the process of building my people a huge shopping mall. It's a shame that they have to travel to Empangeni or Richards Bay just to get groceries and other essentials. This will also help the varsity students."

"And how is your marriage going?"

"How long does the honeymoon phase last? Because I think we are still in it. The love that Zenzo shows me every day is unexplainable. The only explanation I can come up with is that we are still in the honeymoon phase." I chuckle.

"What makes you say that?"

"Zenzo is not afraid to show his love for me. Even when we are dining with other royals. He even created social media accounts just so he can brag about me and our marriage. He is so romantic. He goes an extra mile just so he can show just how much he loves me. Some people even suspect that I bewitched him or something."

"Babes there is nothing wrong with him being over affectionate. He has proved to be the most affectionate one in your marriage. I am sure that puts pressure on you. And stop with the 'still in the honeymoon phase' phrase because you will end up believing it and not appreciating the love your man showers you with." She sighs and looks outside the window.

"Thank you. I guess I needed to hear that." she takes out her phone and it seems like she is making a video call. "Mababy I can't talk right now. I am in a meeting." Zenzo's voice comes from the speaker.

"I just want to tell you that I love you so much and I appreciate all the love you have been giving me and all your efforts. They don't go unnoticed Shamase. That's all. You can go back to the meeting." It goes silent for a bit before I hear him say...

"You were made for me KaMageba and I will live forever proving to you and God how thankful I am for being seen as worthy of you love." Lisa sniffs and wipes her tears. "See you later baby."

"I will come back early my love." Lisa ends the call.

"Are they always like that?" I ask Libongwe who just laughs.

"All the time." Lisa giggles and we just laugh at her.

"Leave me alone hawu." She pouts and looks out the window.

She gives me a real tour around the KwaDlangezwa area. Even the University of Zululand main campus. When we get to the students' residence area it only takes a minute for her to be noticed before we are surrounded by a number of students wanting to take pictures with her. We leave the campus and pass by Kwa Mokhethi to buy inhloko which we eat there. We then head back to the palace. The moment we step inside the house Lisa screams and runs to the lounge. We follow her only to find her in Zenzo's arms. I guess she heard his voice.

"Sis Noma why are you making my wife so many shed tears today? Do I need to banish you?" Zenzo asks looking at me and we all just laugh. We settle in the couches with Lisa sitting on Zenzo's lap. Zenzo's mother makes her way in the lounge and smiles at me.

"I don't think we have had the pleasure to meet. I am MaDludla Zenzo's mother." She says politely while extending her arms. I stand up and hug her.

"I am Nomalanga Biyela Futhy's friend. I mean MaCele's friend. I think you know her."

"Who doesn't? Washo wafana nabantu bakwa Biyela."

"Which Biyela family are you referring to mama?" Lisa asks.

"Blue tick Lisakhanya." MaDludla replies while sitting next to me. Lisa pouts and we just laugh at her. "Have they offered you something to eat kodwa noma Lisa is busy dragging you around?"

"Mama who is turning you against me?" Lisa asks in a tiny voice.

"She wants us to gang up on her mababy. Worry not mama. We are coming for you." Zenzo said. I get lost in their love. Even a blind person can feel how much they love each other. I love the fact that they are not afraid to show it. It's so beautiful and just so touching. Lisa winks at me and I just smile.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 10

'I have never been to this place before. It's a graveyard. There are so many tombstones. When I get closer to reading them they are all written Biyela. This is some fucked up shit. I swallow hard and continue walking. Maybe there is an exit from this fucked up nightmare. As I walk further something tells me to look beside me. My eyes pop out when I see a tombstone with my name on it.

-HERE LIES PRINCESS NOMALANGA BIYELA  
BORN IN 26 SEPTEMBER 1989

DIED IN 28 SEPTEMBER 1989  
TO THE DAUGHTER WE NEVER MET  
MAY YOUR SOUL REST IN PEACE KAMENZIWA-

How the hell could I have died 2 days after my birth? That doesn't make sense. None of this makes sense. This is a fuckin dream. I need Futhy to shed some light on this because this can't be happening.

"You're here. Finally." that voice causes the hair at the back of my neck to rise. I am at a cemetery for godsake. Who could be here with me? Unless they are dead. "Child I am not that ugly. Turn and look at me." I do some breathing exercises. I am literally shaking. I make peace with the fact that I am about to meet a real dead person who resides in a cemetery. Like that dude who had demons in the bible. I turn with my eyes closed. I don't think I am ready to see this person. The voice is one of a woman but you can never trust these things. "Open your eyes child. We don't have the whole night." I am shaking like a leaf. I open one eye to peek at her. She is human. That is a bit of a relief. I open my other eye and openly look at her.

"Who are you?"

"Your great-grandmother. I am here to take you home. It has been so long since you have left. They even lost hope that you would be found. Heck they even buried the wrong child in the family graveyard. Now come. Let's go."

"Why is my grave written 'Princess Nomalanga'? Am I royalty?"

"You ask too many things child. Come. We have to go."  
She grabs my hand and leads me to a clearer path. I can  
now see the gate. "Don't let go."  
"I won't." I say tightening my hand around hers.'

"NOMA WAKE UP! YOU NEED TO WAKE UP!" Someone is  
shaking me really hard. I feel myself landing hard on the  
floor and my eyes automatically open. I look around and  
I am shocked to see Lee and Futhy staring at me with  
teary eyes. There is also my neighbour  
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Mrs. Shozi.

"Is she okay now?" she asks.

"I think so. Thank you for informing us Mrs. Shozi. We  
will take it from here." Lee says politely at Mrs. Shozi.

"Please inform me if you need any help. Get better soon  
neighbour." She says looking at me with pity eyes and  
then walks to her gate.

"Let me help you up." Futhy says as she helps me sit up  
straight. "What happened? Are you okay?" I look around  
and I am in the street. I frown looking at her.

"What am I doing in the street Ntombifuthi?"

"Mrs. Shozi was taking a night walk and then saw you  
walking with your eyes closed and mumbling some  
things. She figured you were sleepwalking. So she called  
us and we came as soon as we could."

"Last time I checked you were overseas."

"Tase let's get you inside and get you warm." Lee helps  
me up and we all walk inside my house. She opens the

heater the moment we enter my bedroom and tucks me into bed. Futhy comes in with a glass of water and helps me drink it.

"I was sleepwalking?" I still can't wrap my head around that. How and why was I sleepwalking? Am I being bewitched? By who?

"Tase is there something that happened before sleeping? Like maybe a weird sign or voices calling you?" Futhy asks as she sits on the edge of the bed. I shake my head.

"Apart from my weird dream nothing out of the ordinary happened." She looks at Lee. There is concern in their eyes.

"What did you dream about?" Lee asks.

"A cemetery full of Biyela tombstones. Some of them didn't have names but only the Biyela surname. I also saw my tombstone or grave and it stated that I died 2 days after my birthdate. It was really weird. And I also saw this very old woman who claimed to be my great grandmother. I was spooked the whole time. She told me to follow her and I did. But then that's when you guys woke me up." Futhy sighs standing up and starts pacing up and down.

"I don't even know if we should leave you here alone or maybe take you to my house. Tase this has never happened before. Something triggered it. What happened to you a few days ago?" she stops moving and looks at me. I shrug.

"I don't know. I mean I met this little girl named Moyomuhle Biyela who looked exactly like me. She was around Mahle's age. I don't know tase. Maybe she had something to do with what happened tonight."

"We need an adult opinion but until we are sure nothing is going to happen to you I am assigning guards for you." Lee says standing up with her phone and heading out. I huff and lean back on the headboard. Yeah I have always wanted guards but not because of something like this.

"I think I should also get you a stay-in helper. I don't want you alone after what happened tonight." Futhy says.

"Are you going to tell the rents?" she shrugs.

"I don't know. I feel like I should. This is a really big deal Noma." She sits on the ottoman. "MaMnguni was right. I should start taking my gift seriously. I mean I could've seen this coming and prevented it."

"Futhy come on. I am alive unharmed. Let's not made this thing a big deal." She looks at me and then looks up.

"Your guards are going to be here tomorrow morning. They will take you anywhere you want to go." Lee says walking in. "Wait. Aren't you supposed to be in Jozi?"

"I was supposed to leave this morning but something came up. I guess I am leaving tomorrow during the day. You guys can go back to your husbands. I am okay now." Futhy's phone rings and she answers it.



"Baby. She was sleep walking but she seems fine now. Okay I will see you in the morning. I love you so much. Good night." She hangs up and looks at me. "All done."

"I also told Butho that I will be spending the night here. So I guess we will be sharing the bed." Lee says as she climbs in the bed. Futhy also climbs in.

"Guys you don't have to baby me. I am an adult. I can handle this on my own."

"Sleep Noma. You have a long day ahead of you tomorrow." Futhy says dismissing me as she switches off the side lamp. I huff and close my eyes.

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#MissThick

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## CHAPTER 11

"Good morning. My name is Azile Machobane and this is my colleague Qamatha Faku. We have been assigned to be your personal security and to take you anywhere you want to go." This fit and strong built female says as I enter the kitchen. She is with a male version of herself who has long dreads. They both look like a deadly combo and only a person with a dead wish would mess with them.

"Hi. I am Nomalanga Biyela. I guess I am your boss." Lee and Futhy left very early in the morning. Around 5 am and it's now 7 am.

"Gosh I am so sorry I am late. I got lost on the way. You look beautiful by the way. I am Simthandile Dlaba but you can call me Simmy. Her Majesty Princess Melamina said you needed a helper urgently and decided to transfer me to your house since they have more than enough helpers in their house." This medium sized woman walks in the kitchen. What a very outspoken person. Can you believe the pace in which she said all of that? she is a fast talker and I think we are going to have a problem because I sometimes have hearing problems and I always ask a person to repeat what they said.

"Hey Simmy. I am Nomalanga Biyela and this is Azile and Qamatha my bodyguards."

"Nice to meet you all. Damn you look cute Qamatha. Anyways where should I put my stuff? I was advised to stay in the main house because of your recent incident."

"You can choose any room you like here downstairs."

"Yey! Let me quickly put my bags away and then start with my chores." Before I can even utter a single word she is out of the kitchen and humming in the corridor.

"Wow." Qamatha says. Wow indeed. "I don't think I heard a word she said except for her name. Is it Siyamthanda?" he asks looking at Azile.

"It's Simthandile." He nods.

"I am supposed to be heading to Jozi today. So I guess I will go with you. Let me quickly freshen up and tell my

assistant to book tickets for you two and for the nosy miss. Please inform her when she comes back. And we will be in Jozi for a week max." I quickly leave the kitchen before they can say anything.

I tell Onna about the additional people we are travelling with since she is also coming. I then back a few clothes in my small suitcase. I also pack my gadgets and few other important documents in my laptop bag. When I am done I go take a long warm shower. I then get dressed in a black mesh sleeve backless bodysuit high waist rhinestone & pearl detail denim shorts and black old school Vans.

Onna responds by telling me that our flight is in two hours. I also tell her to set up a lunch meeting with the demanding client. I am going to show up dressed the way I am and give him my peace of mind. Who is he demanding my attention in a corporate matter? Only criminals demand my attention. Just for this drama I am going to double my costs. I head downstairs with my bags and place them in the lounge. I head to the kitchen and find my guards laughing their asses out while Simmy is chuckling.

"What's so funny?" they all turn to look at me.

"Simmy is such a character boss. I don't think we are going to be bored with having her around." Azile says while wiping her tears.

"Please sit boss. Your food will be ready in a few moments." Simmy says and I settle down in one of the barstools. "You look stunning. Don't you agree Q?" she asks looking at Qamatha with a smug.

"She does look beautiful Simmy." Qamatha responds and then gets busy with his phone.

Simmy serves us a greasy breakfast containing eggs bacon beef sausage grilled tomato and toast. She is serving it with litchi juice. The breakfast is so delicious  
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we can't stop complimenting her. After breakfast we all leave her to the kitchen and she joins us at the lounge after a few minutes with her backpack. I am not even going to ask.

"So which one of you is my driver?" I ask my guards.  
"Qamatha does most driving but I can also drive you when you want." Azile responds and I nod. I hand Qamatha my car keys.

"Let's go then." We all head out and we climb inside my metallic blue Tiguan R performance compact SUV. As we drive out my phone rings. It's Jabu. My heart skips a beat. Did Futhy or Lee tell her about my episode? I do some breathing exercises and then answer the call. "Hey ma."

"Hey baby. Are you okay? I have a feeling that something is not right with you. Is everything okay? Where are you?" my eyes get filled with tears. The love this woman has shown me I can never repay her. Look at her worrying about a 32 year old grown woman and choosing not to ignore her woman instinct. I choose to tell her the truth hoping it will set her free.

"I had a sleepwalking episode last night ma. I didn't even know it was happening until I was woken up by Futhy and Lee. I don't know what is happening to me mama. I dreamt of a very disturbing dream. I saw my grave in that dream but what was outlined was the fact that I died two days after my birth." She keeps quiet for a while and then speaks up.

"Where are you right now?"

"I am headed to Jozi to meet this important client. I think I will come back next week."

"Okay. Come straight home when you're back. We need to sit down and discuss this issue because it seems like it is related to your past your true identity and who you are."

"Okay ma. Please don't tell Ndosi for now. At least wait until I am back."

"Relax. I won't tell him. You know just how dramatic he is. He is going to start panicking and order you not to go anywhere and lock you at the basement until we find a solution." I laugh and she also laugh. She is right though. Ndosi may seem like a cool calm and collected person but if anything happens to his children he is the one who panics more than Jabu.

"Mah we are at the airport now. I will see you when I get back."

"Okay baby. Be careful. Love you." she hangs up.

We get to the airport and find Onna already there. Her eyes pop out when she sees the people I am with. She swallows hard and then looks at me.

"These are my bodyguards Azile and Qamatha. And that lady there is Simmy my helper. Guys this is my personal assistant Onalenna."

"Nice to meet you darling. You look pretty by the way."  
Simmy says already hugging Onna whose eyes are glued to Qamatha. I don't know if there is history there or she is just charmed and taken by my bodyguard.

"You can stop drooling now Onna." She looks at me and giggles shyly.

"Let's head inside."

"You are indeed beautiful Onna." Qamatha says with his strange hoarse voice to Onna who nearly loses her step. I just laugh and head inside the airport.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## Chapter 12

Arriving in Jozi we head to my house. I have a house here in Jozi one in Polokwane East London and Cape Town. Not living here is a problem because the grocery I bought last time I was here has expired. I go place my bags in my room and then head back to the others.

"Simmy please clean the kitchen and just dust around the house because it doesn't need much cleaning. You can use any of the rooms you wanna use." Simmy nods

and walks out of the lounge followed by Onna. Onna already has her own room here because most of the time when I am travelling I always go with her. "Guys make yourselves at home. And Qamatha there is a car in the garage. Please check if everything is okay and please go to the nearest petrol station and get a full tank." I say handing him my petrol card.

"Sure boss." He heads to the garage. I head to Onna's room and find her chatting with Simmy. Looks like they will be sharing a room.

"Onna at what time is the lunch meeting?"

"In 45 minutes boss." I nod and head out.

I need to freshen up but I am not going to wear another outfit. After my quick shower I head to the kitchen and find Simmy cleaning. I open the fridge to check if there is anything which isn't spoiled. I groan in frustration when I don't see anything appetizing.

"Are you flexible in cooking or you only know a small number of dishes?" I ask Simmy.

"I can cook almost anything sisi. I have a diploma in Consumer Sciences."

"Impressive. Okay we are going to buy groceries after the meeting so please prepare the kitchen. We will see you later." I head out just in time as Qamatha drives in. that was quick. He walks in and gives me a small smile.

"All set and ready to go boss." I hand him my bag.

"ONNA!" she comes to the living room with her bag. "We can go now." Azile stands up and we all head out. Azile climbs at the back with me while Onna sits at the front

with Qamatha. Good because she is the one who knows where the meeting is going to be held. "So tell me about yourself. Who is Azile Machobane?" I ask turning to Azile.

"Well besides guarding people I am a big sister to three siblings. Both my parents are late  
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so I take care of my siblings. I am 26 years old. Growing up I wanted to be in the army but then my rents died. I settled for the closest thing which was body guarding. I didn't like the police force so that's why I am where I am today."

"Wow. Where do your siblings live?"

"Kwa Mashu. One is in varsity one is in college and the other is in high school."

"That's good. Don't they give you too much trouble? I mean I can imagine you being a female and all."

"Not at all. Respect is the number one principle in our family. So they are very respectful. In fact they fear me sometimes."

"I can attest to that." Qamatha says and we all laugh.

"How about you Qamatha?"

"Well I am 27 years old. I have been in the agency for 8 years. I even worked with Zamokuhle Simelane at some point. He was such a great person." I smile a little remembering Futhy's driver. "Anyways I have two crazy baby mamas who I am not in a relationship with but they



always find a way to ruin my current relationships.” Azile laughs loudly.

“You and your crazies.” She says in between her laughter.

“How old are you children?” Onna asks.

“Azongoba is 6 years old and Anothe is 4 years old.”

“When did you break up with them and why?” she is embracing her nosy part right now.

“Well they are psychos so the moment I found out about their craziness I would dump them but I would be too late because well I mean Azongoba and Anothe is proof just how late I was.”

“So when was the last time you were in a relationship?” I think we should just let them have this conversation between we are clearly being left out.

“You guys can drop us off at the next bus stop and continue with your talk.” Azile says loudly while I laugh. I mean that is exactly what I was going to say. Onna giggles and just looks outside the window. We arrive at the restaurant and we walk inside.

“Mr. Mthombeni is already here.” she says to me and then turns to the hostess. “We are here to meet with Mr. Mthombeni.” She says with a straight face. Didn’t know she could be this serious.

“He is expecting two people.” The hostess says looking at my bodyguards.

“I am sure you can find space for them.” Onna says with a non-negotiable smile. “Thank you so much for your

assistance. You can lead us to Mr. Mthombeni's table now." I can see that the hostess wants to protest but one stern look from Onna has her swallowing her words.

"You can follow me." she walks away and we follow her. She leads us to the table where one gentleman is seated. We greet him with handshakes and then sit down. "Your waitress will be with you shortly." She quickly walks away. Azile and Qamatha get comfortable on the table next to ours.

"We meet again Miss Biyela. I never forget the face." Mr. Mthombeni says. I frown looking at him. He has some familiar features but I don't know where I know him from.

"OMG!" Onna says looking like a light bulb just went on in her brain. "It's the blind date guy. Mandlakhe Mthombeni." She says looking at me with a playful smile on her face.

"Moses?" I say remembering the corduroy guy from my blind date. "OMG!" I say as I finally see the resemblance. Both Onna and I laugh.

"Dude what a makeover. Did you go to How Do I Look or something? Because you look superfly. You look so much better than you looked in your online dating profile pictures." Onna states as we continue laughing.

"Moses?" he asks with a slight frown.

"Excuse me. I wanna laugh in peace." Onna says standing up while laughing and heading to the restrooms.

"Man what happened to you? This change in your wardrobe has a woman written all over it." He chuckles.  
"Are we ever going to get down to business?"

"Let us have our moment. I mean you were ugly Betty the last time I saw you so allow me to take in your appearance." I say while holding back my laughter. "You still looking for a woman who will stay at home and keep it warm for you?"

He chuckles and shrugs. "Something like that but I am willing to compromise since love is all about compromising and keeping all parties involved happy all the time." The waiter comes and greets us. Onna comes back before we can place our orders.

"Can I please have a Beef burger with salad and fries? For drinks can I have a Pina colada cocktail?" I order and the waiter writes down my order.

"I will have 6 grilled chicken wings with savory rice and a tuna salad on the go. For drinks I will have a mango juice thank you." Onna places her order and the waiter continues noting down.

"I will have Rump steak Pork Chops with fries and a glass of milk please." Mandlakhe places his order. Glass of milk? Is he a cat? But I won't ask because we have made fun of him enough for the day.

"Will that be all?" the waiter asks.

"Please go and take their order." I point at my guards' table. "And yes that will be all." she smiles and head to the other table.

“Are those your...” before he can even finish his question I answer him.

“My bodyguards. Now when did your makeover happen? Man you even trimmed your beard. How many sweetcorn seeds came out of it?” Onna bursts out laughing and I follow suit.

“Can we get down to business already?”

“No. we can’t talk business on empty stomachs.” Onna says still laughing. Mandlakhe huffs. This is going to be a great lunch meeting.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 13

Well we discussed little business in that lunch meeting because Onna turned into a comedian and made fun of Mandlakhe the whole time. And silly me I entertained her. Luckily he doesn’t give up easily so here we are on another meeting. This time around it is in my Jo’burg office. He enters my office and we exchange greetings. We then get down to business. Apparently he is suing a company for failed performance and he has all the evidence to prove that they did not keep their end of the bargain.

“Well there has been a breach of contract and therefore I am going to outline remedies which are available for you.

I am actually going to charge you double since you demanded me for this case.” He chuckles.

“As long as you win it nje KaMenziwa.” I roll my eyes. I don’t know if he is trying to charm me or what but it won’t work. I am that 1% of a female specie which is not moved by clan names because I don’t know much about my biological family.

“Since there is incomplete performance in this case you can refuse performance until the other party has fulfilled their end of the bargain. I would advise that we compile a letter of demand and send it to this company. Should they not respond to it within the set days then we can carry on to claim the damages and even involve the court. After that we will claim for the damages lost.”

“Thank you for your help Miss Biyela.” I smile and close my notebook. “Now can I take you out on a date?” I roll my eyes.

“Thanks but no thanks. I don’t mix business with pleasure.” He stands up after collecting his documents.

“We will see about that.” he smiles. “You look lovely as always by the way. Keep your beauty flourishing like this until your surname is Mthombeni.” and with that he heads out.

Since I am not here for work I pack my things and then head out. I will definitely compile the letter of demand later.

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## LINDELWA NZAMA

The door to my office opens and Ndosi omkhulu walks in with a paper bag. He places it on my table and then sits down and stares at me. I smile nervously at him.

"Hey baba." He tilts his head to the side.

"You are avoiding me. All of you. So I came here to you the easy target to fish out what exactly is going on." He says in a chilled voice. I start feeling uneasy.

Even back when we were still in varsity if we had a secret he would just make sure he corners me because he knows I would spill the beans. Noma being a lawyer that she is you can never get her to say something and Futhy is just like Noma. They are both conniving.

"Baba you are being unfair right now." He smirks because he knows he has me right where he wants me. "I don't know what you want me to say. There is no secret we are hiding from you." he nods. "No I feel like my lawyer should be present in this meeting." He laughs. This old man is very intimidating. I clear my throat and close my eyes. I do some breathing exercises.

"Ready whenever you are Miss." I huff and open my eyes.

"Noma has a sleepwalking episode 2 nights ago and it was triggered by seeing a young girl who looked exactly like her and had her surname." I speak so fast I doubt he heard me but when I see the look on his face I know he heard me.

"You are kidding

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right?" I shake my head. "And you decided to keep such news from me? My child was sleep walking and you guys decided not to inform me? What were you hoping to achieve?" he stands up and starts pacing up and down. "You would think reaching your thirties would make you a bit mature but you are all still childish. Gosh I don't know what to do with you." he clicks his tongue and he heads out. I sigh and exhale loudly.

--NDOSI KNOWS!—

I send the text to both Futhy and Noma. I know they are going to eat me alive but I couldn't handle Ndosí's interrogation and they know it. I look at the paper bag at least he left food for me. I go open it and I frown when I find bottled water only. Wow. Way to go Ndosí. What a spiteful old man.

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NOMA

Yoh Lee can be so weak sometimes and Ndosí knows it that's why he always goes to her when he wants the truth. I know it's only a matter of time before he calls me and tells me to come back home. I will just use the client as an excuse. He wouldn't have come to me or Futhy because our level of lying and deceiving is on another level. We would probably lie even in our sleep. I think if we were to be kidnapped it would take a lot for us to break. Anyways I feel like spoiling myself so I ask my guards to drive me to Nuluh's Boutique. When we get there we go inside and we are welcomed by a very

friendly assistant who keeps stealing glances at Qamatha.

"What can I help you with?" the sales assistant asks.

"I want an evening gown. I am going to a jazz club tonight so dress me up."

"Please come this side." She leads us to a lounge. We sit down. "Please help yourselves to the beverages. Now which colour do you prefer and what shoe size do you wear?"

"I am flexible when it comes to colours and my shoe size is 5." She nods and then walks out. "Hhaybo Qamatha what type of umuthi wezintombi do you use? Coz wow." They all laugh.

"It doesn't really have to be Iyeza boss. As long as you are clean and dressed properly and smells nice ladies will always look at you wherever you go." He responds with a wink.

"You sure are a ladies' man." Onna says and he just laughs.

"On the contrary love I am a one woman man." he responds with a smile and Onna just blushes.

Ow she has it really bad. But last time I checked she was single and so is Qamatha. I am not trying to match make or what but they would really make a cute couple. The sales assistant comes back with three gowns and another is following her with three boxes of shoes. She leads me to a very spacious fitting room where she places the dresses in a hanging place and the shoes in the bench.



She heads out and quickly comes back with purses that match the heels.

I take off my clothes and try on the first dress. It's a dark green crisscross tie front backless sequin maxi dress which I pair with black rhinestone décor stiletto heeled gladiator sandals and a black rhinestone décor chain velvet box bag. I head to the lounge and twirl for everyone before looking at my reflection in the floor to ceiling mirror.

"I am at a loss of words." Azile says and I laugh.

"Your thoughts please."

"Is there an awards ceremony that you are attending which I don't know about? Because there is no way you would dress up like that because of a date." Onna says and I chuckle.

"We are going to a jazz club just for fun. Okay I am going to try on the other two dresses and then you guys will decide at the end."

"Can you please pose for the camera Miss Biyela?" a photographer out of nowhere says but I pose when I see that he is wearing the stores' uniform. "Thank you very much. We always do this with our best looking clients so that we can display our clothes around the store."

"Smart move." I say and he smiles. I head back to the dressing room and try on the second dress which is a floor length sequins bustier tube dress which I pair with silver crisscross rhinestone décor strappy sandals and a silver allover rhinestone décor chain box bag. I do the whole walk to the lounge and twirling thing. I then try on

the third dress which is a gold draped collar tie back satin cami dress which I pair with white clear rhinestone decor chain cross strap stiletto heeled sandals and a white faux pearls design chain evening bag. I head to the lounge.

"I love this one boss. It has that thing mann." Onna says and I laugh.

"I love the second one." Qamatha says.

"And I love the first one." Azile says. I chuckle shaking my head.

"Are you guys shitting me right now?"

"We are just being honest boss." Qamatha responds.

"Okay I will take all three looks but I have to decide on what to wear this evening."

"I loved the second one." A chubby woman who is standing at the entrance of the lounge says. It's Nuluh the owner of the boutique. "It makes your cleavage pop and you have really nice boobs to just hide them. Let the world see them. The dress fits you like a glove and I love the way it acts like a second skin to you." I smile while looking at her. I love it when a woman compliments me. It leaves that thing. "I am Nuluh by the way."

"I know exactly who you are and thank you for helping me decide." I say as we shake hands. "You have a very beautiful store and I think it is going to be my new addiction."

"Well we aim to please Miss..."

"Biyela Advocate Nomalanga Biyela."

"I feel so special right now to have the bulldozer in my store." We all laugh.

I go and change back to my clothes and before paying for my items I ask if Onna wants a dress for this evening. She just says she has plan with her siblings. By the way her whole family is based in Gauteng. I pay for my items and then we head out. I am somehow excited about tonight. Who knows? Maybe I might meet a special someone.

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#MissThick

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## CHAPTER 14

### THEMBELIHLE NKOSI (LEE'S YOUNGER SISTER)

Dating someone older than you and someone whom you know your family will not approve of can be very tiring. Sure the love affecting and everything is there but living in fear of being caught is not nice. You even have to go to other provinces just so you can spend time together in public. I do love him a lot and I know he loves me too. We are just afraid of what might happen if my family were to find out about us. I would surely be shipped back to Wales before I could even utter the word 'Sorry'. He is 32 and I am 20 but to us our age difference doesn't matter because of the love we share and the love we have for each other.

Anyways after attending my last class for the day I drive home which is sis Lindelwa's house but she no longer lives there. She lives at her marital home with Bhut Mabutho and Sthulikazi. So I live alone since dad didn't wanna live in a house owned by his daughter. I do visit him every now and then when I am not at varsity or when I am not doing my vacation work and Biyela and Associates. He lives with a woman and I am not saying I hate her but I actually don't feel anything towards her. Living alone gives me all the freedom that I want but that doesn't mean dad or sis Lee never stop by just to check up on me.

Upon my arrival I find bhut Nkosikhona's car parked in the driveway. Bhut Nkosikhona is Bhut Mabutho's younger brother. He and I share a strange bond. He always comes to me when he is bored or when he just wants to talk. Sometimes he always uses me to plead on his case on his crazy baby mama which his family doesn't know about. He also knows about my boyfriend and he doesn't approve of him because of his age but I love him and there is nothing he can say about it. I head inside the house and find him playing video games and having my boyfriend's beer. He looks so comfortable.

"I see you want me to end up single heh? What will Mlilo say when he finds out that someone drank his beer?" I shout as soon as I enter the lounge. He chuckles and pauses the game. He stands up and comes to take my bag. "You really want Mlilo to kill you." he laughs.

"How are you little sister? How was your day?" he asks leading me to the kitchen where I find sandwiches and

juice on the kitchen counter. My mouth waters. I didn't even know I was this hungry.

"I might forgive you because of this." I say grabbing a seat and munching on the sandwiches. He just laughs and heads upstairs. The kitchen door opens and Mlilo walks in. I frown. I didn't even hear his car drive in. "Hey babe."

"Food that important to you that I am not even going to get a hug?" he asks with a smug and I giggle and nod. He comes to my side and wraps his arms around me. I laugh and stop eating. I turn my focus to him and kiss him. "How are you doing my love?"

"I am fine Shibase. I just wasn't expecting you. But I am happy that you are here." I smile.

"I thought I heard voices..." Nkosikhona says as he makes his way inside the kitchen. "Oww you must be Mlilo." He says with a smirk. Shibase's arms lower to my waist and he holds me tight.

"And you must be Nkosikhona." Shibase says with no intention of letting me go. I giggle nervously.

"Babe I need to go freshen up. Maybe you guys can get to know each other but try not to kill each other." I say detaching myself from Shibase who surprisingly lets me go willingly. "Anyways Bhuti Nkosikhona this is my boyfriend Shibase Khoza and babe this is my brother in law Nkosikhona Nzama." I kiss Mlilo's cheek and then quickly head upstairs.

I get to my room and take a quick shower. I then change into a short tight dress and flip flops. I wear a bucket hat and then take my sling bag. Just as I am about to head out the door opens and Mlilo makes his way in. he looks at me from top to bottom and I giggle when he takes only two steps to get to me before picking me up and throwing me in the bed.

"I dressed up for going out. You can't lock me up in this room and sex me all evening." I plead with puppy eyes but I know that I want him as much as he wants me. "We will see about that." he climbs in the bed and quickly removes his shirt.

"What about bhut Nkosikhona?" he is already hovering over me.

"He is gone." He attacks me with a kiss.

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NOMA

I style my ice grey weave and put it on. I do some touch ups on my make-up and then put on my outfit for the evening. I look really sexy right now and I feel so confident. I take a few mirror selfies and send them to my friends and they immediately respond with a video call. I laugh when they ask who I am meeting up with. They are not convinced when I tell them I am going on a self-date. I head downstairs and find my guards together with Simmy

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together with Simmy already waiting for me. Simmy is looking exquisite in a white bodycon dress with teal block heels and teal purse. My guards are wearing black suits like always.

"You guys look proper." They laugh.

"Well you look really gorgeous boss." Simmy says.

"Thank you. We can go now." Onna has already left for a meet up with her sisters. We head to the car and drive to the Jazz lounge.

We get to the Jazz Lounge and head inside. As expected soft sexy saxophone is playing. It's so soothing. We settle in a table which is closer to the stage and the dance floor. By the way there is band playing live music. We place our orders and the drinks come as fast as possible. Our food also comes after a few minutes.

"Ladies and gentleman." A voice behind us makes us turn. Ow wow. It's Mandlakhe dressed so smart in a violet tight shirt dark purple dress pants and black dress shoes. He takes a chair from the table opposite ours and squeezes himself between Simmy and me. A waiter quickly comes and take his order. Azile and Qamatha are looking at him with intense gazes.

"Guys chill. He is just a client. Guys this is Mr. Mthombeni and Mandlakhe these are my bodyguards Azile and Qamatha and that is Simmy my helper."

"Nice to meet you all." He says.

"So are you stalking me?" he laughs and shakes his head.

"I love this spot very much. I usually come at least once a week alone just to listen to good music and of course the good food. So I guess meeting you here was a pure coincidence." He says with a smile as he places his phone wallet and car keys in the table. He hijacks my fork and starts eating from my plate. "You look very beautiful by the way. I can't wait to see your whole outfit when you stand up." I chuckle.

The MC asks the band to play a certain song and dedicates it to a couple who makes their way to the stage. As soon as the band starts playing they start slow dancing. It's an old black couple. I smile looking at them. They seem to be in their zone. I am brought back to reality by Mandlakhe shaking me.

"You want us to go dance?" I shake my head no. "So are you still unlucky as the last time we met or is there a man in your life now?" I laugh and shake my head. "Not that I know of. You can however tell me who inspired your change in wardrobe." He smirks.

"My little sister actually. I found her in my house one afternoon burning all my old clothes. I wanted to murder her but mom stopped me. The next morning I woke up with my wallet missing. As the day went by I kept on receiving bank notifications of my cards being used. I thought of freezing them or decreasing my limit but then chose not to. When I went back home that evening I found so many shopping bags in my bed and my wallet. She was like 'try these on and see if they fit'. And here we are."



"She deserves a Bell." He laughs. "And any special lady in your life?" he chuckles.

"You can be one if you like." I laugh and shake my head.

"Smooth." His food arrives and I just help myself to it since he is eating mine.

"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PLEASE OUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR MR. AND MRS. CELE. THIS NEXT SONG IS DEDICATED TO THEM!" the MC announces. There is no screaming and unnecessary sounds here just a few claps. I turn to look at the stage and I frown when I see Lele and Thobeka making their way to the stage. Mr. and Mrs. Cele? Wait? Are they married?

"That's Princess Melamina's brother right?" Simmy asks.

"And that's Thobeka Ngwenya." Qamatha says. When they are done dancing I quickly stand up and go stand in front of them. Their eyes pop out. I am just shocked about all of this.

"Can we please talk outside sisi?" Lele pleads and before I can say anything he pulls me to the smocking area. Luckily we find no one there. I fold my arms to my chest and look at the both of them who look like they are about to shit on themselves.

"It's a 6 hour drive from Durban to here but I am sure Ndosi can make it in 3."

"Please don't tell him sisi." Thobeka pleads.

"You guys get married and think you can just keep it a secret from everyone? Last time I checked marriage is a good thing in our family. Why hide it? Why get married in

secret? I really don't understand you guys. This is just childish."

"My baby daddy wants me back and he is using my daughter to get what he wants. Ever since he heard about my relationship with Sibuh he got mad and filed for sole custody of our daughter. It's not final yet but I think if he were to hear about this marriage he would surely take my daughter and move to another country with her." I look at Lele.

"Am I an amateur lawyer or a candidate attorney for you not to come to me with this matter?"

"Chabo sisi."

"Then why didn't you trust me enough with this? Why didn't you come to me or Futhy or even Lee? Aren't we your sisters?"

"You are."

"I am so disappointed in you Sibulele." I look at them once more and then head back inside. Mandlakhe stands up and opens the chair for me. I settle down and he also sits.

"Everything okay?" he asks. I give him a small smile.

"Nothing I can't handle."

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## CHAPTER 15

The minute I get home I send a message to Futhy and Lee to get to Jozi as soon as possible. I know they will be here first thing in the morning. We have to fix this Lele issue before it gets to Ndosi because things will be tense very fast. Dinner was amazing and Mandlakhe was actually great company. After that whole confrontation with Lele he was a great distraction and we even danced twice. I ended up agreeing to go on a date with him. Shocking I know. He is just a breath of fresh air. I just hope he won't disappoint too much and I hope he has really changed his whole attitude towards successful women because if not I will cut our date very short.

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The following morning I am woken up by noise coming from downstairs. I sit up and yawn. I then go to the bathroom to relieve myself and then take a quick shower. I brush my teeth and then go downstairs with a towel wrapped around my body. I am shocked to find Futhy with Kuhle and Lee with Mabutho sitting in the lounge. One would swear that these four are conjoined twins. I guess their husbands got worried about the sudden out of town trip and wanted to come and protect their wives.

"I wanted your wives not you guys." I say eyeing them and they all laugh. "Where are my children?"

"With their nannies." Lee answers. I nod looking at the four of them. I go to the kitchen and find Simmy already preparing breakfast. There is no sigh of Azile and Qamatha inside the house. I assume they are chatting

with the other guards outside. I head back to the lounge where the couples are at.

"Now aren't you going to tell us what is going on?" Futhy asks getting impatient by the second. I roll my eyes.

"I am in the presence of royalty. I have to be dressed proper." I bow a little. She raises her middle finger and I laugh.

I head back to my room and get dressed in a dark green satin zip up jumpsuit with a belt and white sneakers. I jog back downstairs and find Simmy already placing food in the dining table. I thank her and then sit down. We all help ourselves to the food.

"How is married life treating you guys?" I ask eyeing Kuhle and Mabutho.

"So much better than bachelor life." Kuhle responded with a playful voice and we all laughed. "It is so good to be married to someone who gets you. Someone who is a go getter. Someone who has dreams and ambitions although you can't call it dreams with Melamina because they always come true. Someone just as intelligent as you are if not more. Married life is great even though my wife can be very very stubborn sometimes. But I wouldn't trade her for anyone." He kisses her cheek and she blushes.

"You don't call someone you are married to 'stubborn' babakhe." She responds in a soft voice. He smiles looking at her adorably.

"Then what do you call her?" he asks with his eyebrows raised.

"Challenging." She answers with a pout causing us all to laugh.

"You got that right." Lee says and they hi-5. I just smile shaking my head.

"Lee when are you guys trying for a baby?" I ask and Lee's eyes almost pop out. She blinks fast before she can clear her throat.

"Eyasekamelweni leyo Noma. And we won't even announce that we will be having the second baby or third baby when. I am just praying for the condom to burst or the contraceptives to weaken and then boom I strike." Mabutho says playfully causing us to laugh while Lee chokes on her saliva.

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We finish eating and go place the dishes in the kitchen. The men excuse themselves to go catch up on some football game. I lead them to the patio and we just chill and talk about some hilarious iconic moments from our past.

"How was your night tase? That dress was a killer. You had to have caught at least one fish." Futhy says playfully and I laugh.

"Well it was definitely a night to remember. Remember that shembe guy whom I went on a blind date with before we went to the couples' retreat?" I ask and you can see them searching him in their brains.

"Ohh the one who wanted you to stop working and take care of the minions?" Lee asks.

"The corduroy dude?" Futhy asks already laughing. "Don't tell me you had another encounter with him. I chuckle.

"Turns out he was the client who had been rushing me to get to Jozi. And get this batase the man is actually well off. He has his own company he is independent and successful. Plus his younger sister put him on some 'How Do I Look?' conquest. Nigga looks like a fuckin panty dropper right now. And I don't know man  
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he is independent and successful. Plus his younger sister put him on some 'How Do I Look?' conquest. Nigga looks like a fuckin panty dropper right now. And I don't know man change of looks change of attitude and mentality because he is definitely not the narrow minded man I met not so long ago."

"Let's just pray that your blind date made him want to be better." Lee points out and I shrug. "Now are you going to date him?"

"Maybe after settling his matter. I don't wanna mix business with pleasure like Futhy and end up pregnant with two beautiful big heads. Aside from the pregnancy part." They both laugh. "Well I am meeting him tomorrow night for a dinner date. Let's hope he is interesting and worth messing up a professional relationship."

"So what's up? You didn't send an SOS message for a catch up session which we would've done once you were

back in Durban. Spill.” Futhy says as she gulps down the cocktail Simmy has served us no so long ago.

“Lele and Thobeka are married.” I drop the bomb and she drops the glass on the floor. Luckily there wasn’t much liquid left.

“I am sorry what? I can’t seem to understand what you just said. And I am pretty sure it’s a misunderstanding.” She says chuckling in a not so friendly manner.

“While in the Jazz Lounge last night a song was played and a certain Mr. and Mrs. Cele were called to the dance floor. Of course I am used to Ndosini and Jabu being called Mr and Mrs. Cele so I was curious. Only to get the surprise of a life time. When I confronted them after their dance they said something about the baby daddy wanting full custody of the child and a whole other bullshit which will drive Ndosini crazy.” She stands up and starts pacing up and down.

“Lele is testing. Sijabulile and Siyabulela’s son is really testing me.” she stops pacing and looks at us. “I am going to kill him.” we jump up and hold her as soon as she attempts to make her way back inside the house.

“Tase let’s calm down and talk about this. This is a critical issue because it involves a child and Lele is an adult. He knew what he was doing when he decided to get married. At least sit down with him and hear his reasons before going crazy.” Lee says in hopes to calm Futhy down. I am actually rooting for her to give Lele at least one smack. The fucker had the nerve to not come to me for legal assistance and advice. What he did was

very childish and wrong. He needs some serious beating from Ndosu to make him see clearly.

Futhy takes Lee's hands into hers. "Tase I love you very much and I respect you and your profession but right now is not the time for being a bigger person or reasoning. That immature boy deserves a beating and I am entitled to give him a few smacks before Ndosu takes over." She stands up heading inside the house and we have no choice but to follow her. "CARTER!" in a matter of seconds her guards are surrounding us. "Take me to Randburg." Carter quickly takes her handbag and leads her outside. Huffing I also follow with Lee close behind me.

"What is going on Mela?" Kuhle asks as soon as we are outside.

"I am going to kill someone today Konke." She makes a dramatic slide inside the car's back seat. Lee sits next to her probably to calm her down. Qamatha parks behind Futhy's car and I climb inside.

"Where are we going boss?" he asks as soon as we drive out.

"Just follow the car in front of us Q."

"Roger that."

I wonder what is going to happen. Futhy and Lele hardly fight. I remember their last big fight was 6 years ago when Lele allowed his friend to drive Futhy's car. The friend actually caused a car accident with which the car insurance failed to cover because the car was driven by young man without a license. Futhy was livid she almost



killed Lele. What made matters worse was that the boy was drunk and one of the passengers a girl sustained a permanent injury. The parents demanded that Futhy compensate them. It was a mess but Lele managed to work his ass off to repair Futhy's car.

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## CHAPTER 16

"SIBULELE! SIBULELE!" she shouts as soon as she is at the door.

The guard in the gate confirmed that he is in so that's why Futhy is shouting like a mad woman. He appears from the kitchen wearing shorts and an apron. In a blink of an eye he is down from a hard backslap produced by Futhy. We all gasp. She goes to him makes him stand and leads him to a guest bedroom. We follow behind them. When we get to the bedroom she throws him on top of the bed and signals for me to close the door. I close it after sending an assuring glare at Kuhle who seems worried about his wife's behaviour.

"SPEAK! NOW!" she shouts once again facing away from Lele. He gives me a look.

"Hey don't look at me like that. I don't keep secrets from them." I say with my hands up in surrender and sit back on the couch. Lee comes to sit next to me.

"Thobeka and I got married two months ago. Her baby daddy is a gangster who is very powerful and controls almost everyone. He is still after Thobeka. After he heard about us dating he terrorized her and made sure her visitation to her daughter are lowered to once a month. He said that if Thobeka were to marry me he would make sure that she never sees her daughter again. I love Thobeka very much which is why I married her in private. I know that my actions were..."

"What is the name of the baby daddy?" I ask. I have brought down so many gangsters before even gang lords. I am pretty sure this won't be that difficult.

"Tholumusa Mavimbela but he is known as Tholz."

"I have had an encounter with that man in the past. He is very dangerous. Perhaps King Zenzo can help us deal with him."

"How will Zenzo help us deal with a gangster?" Lee asks with a confused look.

"He is a former gang lord. He still has the connections. So he can help us." I answer with a smile.

"I am failing to understand why you couldn't come to me your sister about this matter. I thought you trusted me enough to talk to me about your problems. Or was I wrong? Am I no longer your shoulder to cry on?" Futhy asks in a pained tone.

"No sisi. That's not it." Lele stands up and goes to where Futhy is standing. Before he can reach her she stops him with a hand gesture.

"I don't care if the baby daddy is in the mafia or what. We are all going back to Morningside and you are going to tell Ndosu about this. You don't understand what you have done. Marriage is a lifetime commitment between two people who love and cherish each other. In our culture honoring both families is very important and what you have done just disregarded culture and customs. It is a total disrespect. You guys should've waited. You were wrong. It's not like this Thulz character would've abducted Thobeka or something. I am very disappointed in you." she looks at him for a long time and then heads out.

He looks down and sniffs. Lee stands up and goes to hug him. "I will speak to her. Don't worry. You just have to prepare yourself for the meeting with Ndosu tonight because it is happening whether you like it or not." She breaks the hug and pats him on the shoulder before heading out. I stand up.

"Don't think about running away because there is no place in this world where Ndosu wouldn't find you." I also head out. I walk to the driveway and find the couples there. "Have you guys told them?"

"The short version. They will have to hear the long version at the meeting." Futhy answers. "Since we are in Jozi let's have a spa day and we will see you guys lunch time." She kisses her husband and then climbs into her car. Lee does the same. I also climb inside the car and Q drives out.

"Did Onna come back last night?" I ask Q.

"No boss. She said she will come back this evening and then she told me that you have to be back in Durban by at least Tuesday night or Wednesday morning next week because you have meetings lined up." he informs me.

"When am I catching a break?" I ask grunting and he laughs.

"You can always go on a leave. You are your own boss by the way." He says chuckling and I just laugh. How I wish I can just go on a leave out of the blue. But I am not that type of person who abuses their power on things like these. The car comes to a halt and I look outside to see that we have arrived at the spa. I step out of the car and go to where Lee and Futhy are.

"Why are you guys standing outside?" I ask as soon as I reach them.

"My guards are checking to see if the coast is clear. Then we will head inside." Futhy says and I nod. I look at the sexy handsome Carter who is standing next to Futhy. I wink at him while licking my lips. He just clears his throat and look away. Lee and Futhy laugh. "Leave my bodyguard alone you horny child."

"I wouldn't mind me some pink dick." I say moving closer to Carter who just moves a bit to the other side. I laugh so hard and bite my lips. We are then ushered inside and taken to a private room. Perks of being friends with the princess.

"Ohh God I needed this." Lee says with a moan when the masseuse rubs her back.

“What happened with that Moyonjan njan child?” Futhy asks.

“I asked Lisa to do a research for me. I think I saw an email from her. I am just going to open it when I am back in Durban. And it’s Moyomuhle tase.” I correct her. “Oksalayo there is Moyo somewhere.” She says and we all laugh.

When we are done getting massages and some waxing we drive to A-CLASS restaurant. You have to book at least two days prior if you want to dine in this restaurant but since we are with the princess  
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that doesn’t apply to us. We get seated in our table and a waiter quickly comes.

“Good day and welcome to A-Class. I am Cassie and I will be your waiter today. What would you like to order?” such a pretty smile. I am sure it always get her many tips.

“I would like 300g Sirloin steak 400g grilled lamb loin chops 500g flam grilled pork ribs and half a chicken. A Bebida Del Sur cocktail and 2 Castle lite beers.” Futhy places her order. I know she is going to share with Kuhle when he gets here.

“I would like 12 grilled prawns calamari fried fish goujons chips creamed coleslaw and herbed green rice. My beverages will be an el Draco cocktail and just cancel the 2 beers Futhy ordered and replace them with a Castle

Lite six pack." The waiter nods and continues scribbling down the order.

"Can I have prawns and chicken strips sautéed in a chilli and garlic infused cream served on a bed of herbed green rice and finished with avo? A Diabolito cocktail will do." I place my order and then close the menu.

"Will that be all?" Cassie asks.

"Yes dear. If we need anything we will call you." Lee says. She nods and then walks away with the menus.

"I swear I could eat the pictures from the menu the way I am so hungry." I groan and my friends laugh. I turn to Futhy. "When are you hosting a house warming at your Mandlanzini house and are you guys going to move there officially?" she shrugs.

"Kuhle once mentioned something about us spending most of our weekends there. I don't think we are going to move there permanently because of DCC and Amahle and Zweli's school but it seems like we will spend most weekends there."

"Are you going to have a big housewarming like the one you had at your palace?" Lee asks. Futhy shakes her head.

"This time it's going to be a chilled vibe with close friends and family. Not even clients or business associates will be invited." She answers. Kuhle and Mabutho join us just as the waiter brings our beverages. We thank her.

"Have you guys ordered for us?" Mabutho asks and his wife nods.

"What about the state of the art Library? Did you eventually finish the sketch?" I ask and Futhy just laughs.

"You know it can never take me a month to finish a sketch. I even have floor plans or all the floors designed and laid out. I am thinking of placing it in Richards Bay or Empangeni. But building will resume after the opening of the mall which Lisa intends on building in KwaDlangezwa. I don't wanna steal the spotlight from her."

"That's very thoughtful of you wife." Kuhle says and Futhy blushes. Our food arrives and we start digging in. gosh it is so amazing. The chef and his or her team deserve all the compliments.

In the middle of our meal we are disturbed by a loud familiar laughter. Turning around we see none other than Thembelihle with Mbusowenkosi's friend Shibase. My eyes pop out. I am not trying to judge or anything but Shibase is so fuckin old and he is Mbuso's friend. That's a huge red flag. Lee drops the fork and knife in the table and stands up. She is usually the calm one and the voice of reason. So I wonder how she is going to react to this. She walks to the table we see her smiling at the couple and within a blink of an eye she slaps Shibase. She then straightens her dress and comes back to our table.

"Seems like Lele isn't the only who is going to be prosecuted for his crimes tonight." She says grabbing the

fork and knife but her hands are shaking very hard. You can see that she is trying to conceal her anger.

“Tase.” Futhy starts and Lee just shakes her head. What a drama these kids bring. I am sure they want us to age even before reaching our forties.

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## CHAPTER 17

“I wonder what this meeting is all about.” Ndosì says as soon as we settle down in the lounge after eating dinner. Futhy clears her throat and looks at Lele who has been staring down at his feet the moment we arrived at Morningside. Lihle is also here with red puffy eyes. When her father asked what is wrong she just said something about an allergy. I wonder how long this relationship with Shibase has been going on. Thobeka is not here. Well she is here in Durban but she is spending the night with her family.

“Baba something happened. I found out today that Sibulele is married to MaNgwenya and they have been married for a few months now. They went to get married secretly at Home Affairs. I don’t take marriage very lightly so that’s why I thought I should let you know about this as soon as I heard. So that you can reprimand Sibulele and we can talk about a way forward.” Futhy



says so politely you'd swear she wasn't the one who hit Lele this morning.

Ndosi just looks at Futhy and then Lele and then starts laughing. Out of nowhere Jabu stands up fast and backslaps Lele while everyone gasps. This woman is not violent. Never even once have I seen her raise her hand at someone or heard about her hitting someone. She is very humble and down to earth. So her acting out of character like this is shocking. She pulls him to stand up and then kicks his balls. Lele groans and goes down holding his package.

"Where did you learn that Celimpilo? Who taught you that? Did you have other parents that we don't know about that never taught you the importance and the value of marriage?" she asks standing in front of him with her chest moving up and down. Ndosi stands up and I think we all cringe. He goes to his wife and hugs her.

"Let's go rest mkami. This boy is not worth your attention." He holds her and leads her upstairs. Well that was unexpected. I was expecting him to beat him up badly but I guess he has changed. Lee's father turns to Lihle.

"What are you doing here Thembelihle?" he asks. She looks at him and then looks at Lee. I clear my throat. This Shibase issue is very critical and has to be handled better than this and handled with females. Only.

"Mr. Nkosi she only came to have dinner with us because she missed us. Nothing more." I say smiling and Lee

gives me a death stare. Well excuse me for saving the child's life because if the elders were to hear about this they would murder her.

While watching Lihle and her father talk we are startled by Lele jumping up from the couch and screaming. It is then we see Ndososi standing behind the couch carrying a sjambok. Lele doesn't ask questions he just runs out and Ndososi runs after him. We know Lele won't get anywhere because the guard at the gate won't open for him unless Ndososi says so. We all rush outside to find Ndososi holding Lele so close to him and just showering him with lashes. Thank God for the high fence because they could be trending right now. After what seems like forever Jabuh comes out of the house. She only screams once and Ndososi drops the sjambok.

"That's enough now. I hope he has learnt his lesson Khumbuza. Let's go to bed now." She turns and heads back to the house.

Ndososi looks at Lele who is shaking like a leaf and then follows his wife. Futhy gives him a mean stare before going to her car. After a few moments the car drives out. Lee also leaves with her father and Lihle. I sigh and go to Lele. I help him stand up and lead him to his room. I make him sit on the bed and go prepare bath for him. I put on bath salts on the bathtub and fill it up with hot water. When I am done I go strip him until he is left with his boxers and help him get in the bathtub. I go to the kitchen and get him pain killers. I place them on the bedside table with a glass of water and wait for him to

come back. He comes back wearing a light vest and boxers.

"Thank you." he says in a low voice. I give him a weak smile.

"That's what siblings are for. Good night." I head out and just as I am about to descend the stairs I go strip him until he is left with his boxers and help him get in the bathtub. I go to the kitchen and get him pain killers. I place them on the bedside table with a glass of water and wait for him to come back. He comes back wearing a light vest and boxers.

"Thank you." he says in a low voice. I give him a weak smile.

"That's what siblings are for. Good night." I head out and just as I am about to descend the stairs I see Ndosi walking towards me.

"Yah sleep walker." He says with a voice full of sarcasm. I swallow hard.

"Baba I was going to tell you."

"When?" he folds his arms to his chest and stares down at me. "Do tell Miss Biyela. When were you going to tell me about this? Or am I not that important in your life?"

"Baba I knew you were going to make a big deal out of this." he chuckles angrily. "I was handling it."

"Nomalanga worrying about you is my thing. That's parenting for you. So excuse me if wanting to be there for you and actually carrying for you is suddenly too much for you." he clicks his tongue and goes back to his

room but stops halfway. "By the way it's good that you nursed your brother back to health but I can just give him round two of the sjambok. This time it might be accompanied with a few punches and kicks." With that said he enters his room and shuts the door.

I sigh and head out. I find Q already waiting for me. I climb into the car and he drives us to the airport. I get where Ndosu is coming from. He is the most affectionate parent we have. He is always the one to talk to and he doesn't take things lightly. He always wants to get to the bottom of the problem and find a solution as soon as possible. So I understand his anger with my problem. I just hope he will forgive me.

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KUHLE

I finally breathe when I put Zobuhle down for her midday nap. Gosh the child is problematic and so demanding. I just hope she won't be a cry baby as she grows older. But who am I kidding? She definitely inherited the crying from me because her mother is one bad bitch who hardly cries. I head to kitchen and find her holding the kitchen counter. She looks really sexy in just shorts and tank tops but she doesn't look well.

"Baby." she raises her head and gives me a small smile. "Are you okay?" she nods. She stands up straight. "I am fine love. It's just that I..." she doesn't even finishes the sentence because she goes down. I quickly rush to her. She has fainted. I take her into my arms and shake her.

"Futhy!" she doesn't respond. I stand up and pick her up. I rush outside and find Mpendulo and Carter laughing about something. They keep quiet the minute they see me.

"What's wrong? Is the princess okay?" Carter asks. He is very fond of my wife. But who isn't?

"We need to get her to the hospital this instant."

Mpendulo quickly rushes to the garage and comes back with one of the cars. I place Futhy and the backseat and climb beside her. Getting to the hospital they quickly put her on a stretcher and attend to her. I go fill in all the necessary documents and inform my guards to make sure that news about Futhy being admitted doesn't reach anyone. I don't know what is wrong with her so I won't tell anyone about her being admitted until I know what is wrong with her. I know Lee and Noma are going to kill me but I just can't.

I go to the waiting room and just sit down. I hope whatever it is that brought her here isn't serious. I honestly can't lose my wife. I love her so much. She is my better half and I live for her and our children. I remember when she had that cancer scare 2 years back. I thought I was going to lose her and by that time she wasn't even mine. For me it was honestly love at first sight but I couldn't do much because I was married.

"Your Majesty." I am startled by someone calling me. I raise my head to see a doctor. I stand up.

"Yes. How is my wife?"

"There is nothing wrong with the princess. Normal stress caused her to overthink and collapse but she is okay. She better stop worrying about other things and just enjoy the gift life has given her." I frown looking at this Indian man with glasses speaking Japanese to me.

"Doctor what are you talking about?" he frowns slightly and then smiles.

"You didn't know? Your wife is 5 weeks pregnant. Even better she is carrying multiples. We are still not sure how many but we will do some tests and then get back to you guys as soon as possible."

"She is pregnant?" I ask in disbelief. I feel my knees shaking and then I sit down. When she said I should focus on giving her multiples so that she won't be pregnant every now and then she was actually prophesying. Gosh. But I know she was not ready for this and I am pretty sure she is going to kill me because that one time she was supposed to go fetch her prevention pills I sexed her the whole day and she ended up going after 2 days. Of course we didn't think something like this might happen. I am a dead man walking. Someone pray for me. I wonder how long the silent treatment is going to last this time around.

"Congratulations Your Majesty. Good luck. Because you are going to need it." He chuckles. "And you can go see her just for a few minutes. She should be awake by now." He heads out. I am a bit excited about this but I think I will fully embrace it when things are great between me and my wife. I stand up and follow the doctor. He shows me Futhy's room and I head inside. I

find her laying on the bed with her eyes staring at the ceiling.

"My queen." I say and she grunts but doesn't say anything. "How long will the silent treatment last this time around?" she gives me a mean look and then continue staring at the ceiling. "Well I am going to call your family and inform them about this." she shrugs which basically means 'do whatever you like'. I sigh. "Baby please. We are both at fault here. Well technically we are not because we are married and it is expected of us to have kids. There is nothing wrong with that." she takes the pillow and throws it at my direction.

"The twins are not even two Kuhlekonke. They are a fuckin work and a half and now you have impregnated me again. With multiples again." I am glad to have her talking. I am just going to keep on provoking her because I love her voice so much.

"But baby it takes two to tango. So I don't get why you're mad at me."

"You are so going to sleep at the guest room from now on. I swear."

"Sthandwa sami you know how much you love my dick when you're pregnant. So you are actually going to be the one who will suffer the most." She chuckles angrily and sits up.

"I can get your dick anytime I want it. Even now. It doesn't have to be on our marital bed. So what is your point?" I step closer to her and she raises her hand to stop me. "Don't come near me and don't you dare touch

me. I am super pissed at you right now and God knows how I am craving to crush your balls." I cringe and stop where I am at.

"Do you need something to eat?"

"Do I look like I am fuckin hungry to you? Go and ask that doctor when I am going to be discharged. I wanna be home in time for when the twins wake up from their midday nap." She says already removing the hospital gown.

"Baby they said they are doing tests to check just how many babies you are carrying."

"Well I am sure they can email me those results Kuhlekonke." God I hate it when she calls me Kuhlekonke because it means she is really mad at me. This is going to be a long 8 months.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 18

### NARRATED

Lele woke up and his whole body was aching. Nonetheless he went to shower and went downstairs to find his parents eating breakfast. He was a bit mad about the beatings but he had to act cool for him not to get beaten up again. He thought he was too old to get a



beating but I guess age is just a number to Ndosì. He greeted them and they greeted back. Jabuh was feeling a little bad about what had transpired last night but Ndosì couldn't care less.

"Where is MaNgwenya?" Ndosì asked and Lele raised his head. He cleared his throat.

"She is with her family Magaye." He answered.

"Tell her to be here in 20 minutes." He nodded and typed a message on his phone.

"How did you sleep?" Jabuh asked and he looked at him. He could see the remorse on his mother's face but his father couldn't care less. In fact he was holding his breath that he doesn't get a round two of beating because he heard the conversation Ndosì had with Noma last night.

"Better than expected ma. All thanks to sis Noma." Jabuh nodded and continued drinking her tea.

She always drank tea first thing in the morning before eating her meal because everyone knows how quickly tea becomes cold and she despises warm tea. It had to be sweltering. Ndosì simply remained silent while finishing his breakfast. He sat and waited for his wife to finish before collecting both of their plates. He threw them in the sink and walked out the door leaving Jabuh with Lele. He sensed she was about to turn on Lele. That's why he excused himself discreetly.

"I wish I can say I am sorry about the beatings from last night but I can't because you knew better. There is

something your father and I never told any of you. Before I went separate ways with my family they accepted ilobola from your father but that was the last time we heard of them. As a result we did umkhehlo and other things at my grandmother's. Well she passed on a year later. But what I am trying to emphasize here is the importance of honoring a girl's family even if you have beef with them." Lele sighed and looked at his mother.

"Don't you miss them though? Your family?" he asked. "We are talking about you here not me."  
"But mah I am asking because I want to know."

"Sbu a decision had to be made. I had to choose between my family and my child and I would definitely choose Busisiwe or any of you over and over without a single thought. My parents were selfish and only thought about themselves and their image. I would never force you to choose between your parents and your own child. It was insane of them to think I would ship Busisiwe to Ndwedwe and go live with a man who already had his own kids and..." she zipped her mouth when she realized that she was sharing too much information.

Lele's eyes popped out. It was the first time his mother was sharing a piece of what happened between her and her family. "Mom look I am sorry." Jabuh smiled and raised her hand to stop him for talking further.

"I have accepted my reality and learned to live without them and my life has been so peaceful. So let's not ruin it and don't breathe a word about this to your siblings."  
With that said she stood up and rushed to her bedroom

just in time as Ndosi was coming in. he looked at Lele already getting angry.

"I didn't do anything to her. She just told me something about her past." He quickly said because the look his father was giving him was intense. Ndosi didn't say anything. He rushed to his bedroom and found her sitting on the rug and weeping. He knelt in front of her and hugged him.

"Talk to me. What is wrong? You know I hate it when you cry." He said rubbing her back. She sniffed and stopped crying. "What triggered this my love?" he said removing her from his chest and looking at her. She wiped her tears and looked at the stains her tears left in Ndosi's chest. He saw what she was looking at and chuckled. "Don't worry about it. Talk to me dali."

"My older brother is dead. Ernest. I don't know whether to attend the funeral or not. I am not even sure if I am welcomed or not. At the end of the day he was my brother even though he was the one who kept my siblings away from me after the death of my parents." She looked up to stop the tears from falling again.

"Whatever you decide  
Sponsored

just know that I am 110% behind you and I will go wherever you go." He said kissing her head. "Now let's go clean you up before your daughter in law arrives and starts thinking I abuse you or something." Jabu rolled eyes while laughing. They went to the bathroom and she

cleaned her face. Ndosi then went to the closet and took off his shirt. As he was searching for a t-shirt he could feel someone standing behind him so he turned only to find his wife looking at him with a look full of lust.

"Damn those muscles Siyah." She said biting her lower lip and Ndosi just laughed.

"Stop eye raping me Jabuh." He said still laughing. She shrugged as she stepped closer to him.

"As if you don't like it when I undress you with my eyes." She said running her hands up and down his exposed abs and chest. He started breathing heavily. "Good to know I still have that effect on you." she winked at him and rushed out before he could do anything.

"I will get you for that." he shouted and she just laughed.

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"So that sums up the whole story." Lele said as he sat back watching his parents digest what he and Thobeka just told them. Ndosi sighed and also sat back.

"How sure are you that you are safe and that this Thuthu guy won't bring harm to you?" Jabuh asked with concern.

"Mah I am a musician who is always surrounded by guards so nothing is going to happen to me and Thobeka."

"No offence but I am not worried about her because I know she is more than capable of keeping herself safe

and alive. So what were you guys hoping to achieve with this? When were you going to tell us about this absurd marriage?" Lele scratched his head.

"In time mama. We were going to gather up the courage to come talk to you." he said while rubbing his hands together.

"Before we do anything we need to deal with this Thuthu character." Ndosi said. They wanted to correct him by saying Tholz but they knew that he would eat them alive. "Tell your manager to cancel any of your upcoming gigs for the next two weeks. You are not leaving Durban until this whole mess is sorted."

"But baba..."

"I didn't say it was up for discussion." He said with a stern tone and Lele looked down in defeat.

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FUTHY

I am so angry at Kuhle for impregnating him and I am mostly angry at his super sperms for dishing yet another set of twins or whatever in my womb. But I am going to show him flames once I have solved this Lele problem. Right now I am meeting up with Zenzo. If there is anyone I know who can help me it's definitely him because he is a former gangster so he knows these things. He walks into my office and greets me. He then settles down on the chair across me.

"Would you like something to drink?" I ask.

"A glass of water would be great. I just had a full meal so I am good." I nod and head to the bar fridge. I retrieve

bottled water and pour it in a glass. I hand it to him.  
"Thank you." I nod and sit down.

"Do you know someone who goes by the name of  
Tholumusa Mavimbela?" he frowns and places the glass  
on the table.

"Straight to the point I like it. Anyways I know Tholz.  
Why are you asking?"

"He is being a pest in my family and I would gather  
enough evidence to put him to jail but I know a man like  
that can't be contained by a prison. So I need someone  
to permanently silence him."

"You do know that I am no longer a gangster Princess  
Melamina."

"I know but gangsterism will never leave your blood. So  
are you going to do this tiny task for me?" he keeps quiet  
and stares at me for a long time. He then sighs and takes  
another sip of his water.

"Can this never reach my wife's ears?"

"Of course it also won't reach my husband's ears because  
God knows what he would do if he were to find out about  
me calling a hit on somebody." He nods and stands up.

"I will update you." I nod and he walks to the door but  
turns as he is about to open it. "Sis Futhy can this be the  
first and last time you request something like this from  
me or any person for that matter? It doesn't suit you. It's  
good that you are willing to do anything to keep your  
family safe but next time can it not be a death sentence  
and just keep things clean?" I sigh and nod.

"You have my word." He looks at me one more time and heads out. I exhale loudly and sit back. I am definitely going to hell.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## Chapter 19

This time around I am dressed in a white beaded cold shoulder sequins mini bodycon dress and plush ankle strap stiletto heeled sandals. Our date is at a hotel so Q is driving me there. We finally arrive and I head inside with Azile while he sorts out the parking space. We are led to a restaurant and a hostess leads me to the table where Mandlakhe is at. He stands up the minute he lays his eyes on me. They travel all over my body.

"You look stunning." He says after catching his breath. "That I do honey because I wouldn't have walked out of my house looking anything less than this." I say and he chuckles. He opens a chair for me and I settle down. He sits across me. "Full disclosure I don't do this with any of my clients."

"Well I am glad because I wouldn't feel really special if I knew that you fraternize with some of your clients." I roll my eyes and he smirks.

"What can I get for you?" the waiter asks. I didn't even hear her approach. "I would like to suggest the chef's special for today which is smoked Buffalo wings smoked

riblets pulled pork pockets boerewors bites onion rings homemade tortilla chips with cheese sauce served with honey mustard and barbeque sauce. It can serve from 2 to 4 people. It also comes with free dessert."

"We will take that. And please add a bottle of white wine for myself." I say and hand over the menu which I barely glanced at.

"Beer for me." Mandlakhe says and also hands back the menu. The waiter notes our order and then walks away. "So." He looks at me with a smile. "We never got to finish our first date properly. You actually chased me out." I laugh.

"But you gotta admit you aren't the same man you were few months ago. You were a narcissist who was so narrow minded. I am not sure if that has changed but maybe you are on your way to the clever path." He laughs and shakes his head.

"I have to agree. I came on a bit too strong."

"You think?" he laughs again.

"No need to attack me Miss Biyela. I am learning. I have a coach who is teaching me to be more open minded about women of the 21st century."

"Cheers to the coach then." He smiles.

Our food comes and we indulge in it. It is so delicious I even order a takeaway. We are connecting with Mandlakhe and talking about a lot of things. He opens up about his life. He has 3 kids. 2 from the same mother. Both his parents are still alive and his father is exactly like Mandlakhe when I first met him and his mother is a



very submissive wife. I could never. He also tells me that he stays in Bloemfontein and is only here for business. That's why he booked a hotel.

After we are done with our meal we head to the bar where we continue drinking and just teasing each other. I know that after this we are going to have sex. I wouldn't say I am an easy girl but I love sex very and I easily get attached to men. That's one of my major problems. I am not a bad bitch like Lee and Futhy. I fall for guys after having sex with them especially when we have talked or had a date first.

We head to his room when we have had enough drinks and when we get there there is no talking. Just clothes flying some kissing and fucking until we both pass out.

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The following morning I wake up and quickly put on my clothes. I sneak out of the hotel room only to find my guards standing right outside the door. I know I am old and I don't owe anybody an explanation but right now I am so embarrassed. Imagine having to wait on your boss to have sex the whole night?

"Don't be too embarrassed. We didn't wait here all night. We just booked the room opposite." Q says with a smirk and I cover my face with my hands groaning wishing for the ground to swallow me.

"I should've never fallen asleep. Gosh. Can we leave now?" I say already walking away and they both follow me while laughing.

"Are we doing the walk of shame now?" Azile asks.  
"It looks like we are sneaking out." Q says and I quickly run to the elevator. I get inside and they follow me but they haven't stopped laughing. The elevator closes and then descends.

"Did you guys settle the room bill?" I ask as we get to the lobby.

"We added it to your date's bill." Azile says. I frown and stop.

"How did you do that?"

"Ask no questions hear no lies." I shake my head.

"You guys are naughty." They laugh.

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Zah heard that I was in town so she asked that we have lunch. We are not that close but I guess since we are in the same friendship circle so she asked that we have lunch. We are not that close but I guess since we are in the same friendship circle private lunches should be included. We drive to the restaurant where we are meeting her. My phone rings once again and I ignore it when I see who is calling.

"Is it the one we left hanging?" Azile asks already laughing.

"Leave me alone Azile." I pout and look outside the window. I have nothing against Mandlakhe but I feel like our first fuck should've been a proper one. Like we shouldn't have drunk like that because it affected the sex. We get to the restaurant and I spot Zah sitting and tapping on her tablet. I walk to her table. "Hey Mrs. Thwala." She raises her head.

"Hey Advocate." She stands up and comes to hug me.  
"You look stunning as always." She says as we settle down.

"As do you. I see marriage and life in general is treating you well. Look at those adorable chubby cheeks." I play with her cheeks and she laughs while blushing.

"I guess that's the only fat I couldn't avoid." I laugh and shake my head.

"You look really cute though. Mbuso must be doing you good." She blushes and nods.

"Yeah. I love him so much and I love our life even though he has been hinting about wanting a child heir or heiress to be exact for the Thwala empire but we haven't gone into details in that area."

"Are you ready to have a child?"

"Yes I am but I am a bit scared. The human birth process can be very scary." She cringes a bit and I chuckle.

"Stay away from those child birth videos. They are torture."

"Noted." The waiter arrives and place our order.

"So how is being CEO treating you? Any chance of you starting your own company in the near future?"

"No. I love being CEO of DCC and I love working for Futhy. Not that I don't have high dreams or hopes but I know that I can achieve them still in DCC and I know that one day I will also get the Architect of the year award. It's not like I am scared of Futhy or anything I just love working for her and with her. You know when she is in Gauteng she doesn't keep tabs on me or just pop up at

the office to check up on me. Instead she sets up a meeting with my PA just to meet up. She trusts me and that's one of the things I love about her."

"That's good to know."

"Anyways what about you? What's happening in your life? Any potential husbands or suitors at least?" I chuckle and shake my head.

"My ancestors turned their back on me a long time ago when it comes to love. I mean they always come through when it is other things like success money and whatnot. But when it comes to love they blue tick me."

"But yesterday you posted that you were on a date with someone." I huff.

"Yeah everything was going great. We were vibing and all but I just didn't enjoy the sex. Nigga didn't go down on me. There was no foreplay. Just kissing and straight to fucking. I mean I am not fussy about the muff town thing and I am not saying I wasn't wet but the least he could've done is suck my boobs eat my neck or shower me with kisses all over my body." She laughs a bit.

"So he is being cancelled because of bad sex?"

"Also he has an average dick and it didn't hit the spot." She bursts out laughing and almost everyone at the restaurant turns to look at her. She mutters a 'sorry' and continues laughing but softly.

"Come on Noma not everyone is skilled to locate the g-spot or even hit it."

"I am sure your husband does." She giggles and shakes her head.

"We are not talking about him here but yes he did hit it the first time."

"Damn Thwala." She laughs again. "Anyways enough about me. What's next for you?"

"I purchased a car. Like I have been saving a lot. I hardly use my salary because Mbuso spoils me and takes care of the bills. So I went and bought a personalized car for myself but I haven't fetched it because I don't wanna go there alone." She pouts and I chuckle.

"Let's go." She looks at me with a frown and a half smile. "Come on let's go and fetch your car." She smiles widely and calls the waiter.

She settles the bill and we head out. I am riding with her while my guards are driving behind us. She calls the dealership on the way and they tell her the car is all ready and waiting for her. She plays some amapiano song and sings along with it. It's Bheka Mina Ngedwa by Khanyisa. I even take a video because she looks so excited right now. I send it to the group and everyone asks why she is so happy. Of course the twins are saying Mbuso gave it to her good they always think about sex these two.

When we get to the dealership she hands me her car keys and then we head inside. The moment I spot a car with a big ribbon I start recording. The sales person hands her a goodies hamper with the car keys. I scream when I see that it's actually a 2020 Porsche Macan Turbo JP. A dark silver one. She is jumping for joy and smiling like crazy.

"Come see the inside." She shouts and I giggle while walking towards the car. The number plate is written ZAH-THWA. The seats are written ZAH-NELERH. She looks so happy right now. She can't even contain her excitement. There is a sticker at the back written OKA MBUSO. This is so cute. Her excitement finally settles down a bit. She places her hamper at the back. "Come. We have to show hubby my new ride." I laugh as I hand Azile the car keys Zah gave me.

We climb inside her new beast and she drives to Mbuso's work. When we get there she parks in front of the front door and starts making so much noises with the car hoot that almost everyone from inside walks out to see this. Finally her husband makes an appearance. She just jumps out of the car and go throw herself into his arms. I also climb off.

"Look at our new baby." she says still excited. Mbuso smiles as he places her down and goes around to inspect the car.

"Beautiful car OKA MBUSO but not as beautiful as you." she blushes. "Can I take it for a spin?" he asks with a pout and she giggles.

"I thought you would never ask." She throws him the keys.

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"No need to attack me Miss Biyela. I am learning. I have a coach who is teaching me to be more open minded about women of the 21st century."

"Cheers to the coach then." He smiles.

Our food comes and we indulge in it. It is so delicious I even order a takeaway. We are connecting with Mandlakhe and talking about a lot of things. He opens up about his life. He has 3 kids. 2 from the same mother. Both his parents are still alive and his father is exactly like Mandlakhe when I first met him and his mother is a very submissive wife. I could never. He also tells me that he stays in Bloemfontein and is only here for business. That's why he booked a hotel.

After we are done with our meal we head to the bar where we continue drinking and just teasing each other. I know that after this we are going to have sex. I wouldn't say I am an easy girl but I love sex very and I easily get



attached to men. That's one of my major problems. I am not a bad bitch like Lee and Futhy. I fall for guys after having sex with them especially when we have talked or had a date first.

We head to his room when we have had enough drinks and when we get there there is no talking. Just clothes flying some kissing and fucking until we both pass out.

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The following morning I wake up and quickly put on my clothes. I sneak out of the hotel room only to find my guards standing right outside the door. I know I am old and I don't owe anybody an explanation but right now I am so embarrassed. Imagine having to wait on your boss to have sex the whole night?

"Don't be too embarrassed. We didn't wait here all night. We just booked the room opposite." Q says with a smirk and I cover my face with my hands groaning wishing for the ground to swallow me.

"I should've never fallen asleep. Gosh. Can we leave now?" I say already walking away and they both follow me while laughing.

"Are we doing the walk of shame now?" Azile asks.

"It looks like we are sneaking out." Q says and I quickly run to the elevator. I get inside and they follow me but they haven't stopped laughing. The elevator closes and then descends.

"Did you guys settle the room bill?" I ask as we get to the lobby.

"We added it to your date's bill." Azile says. I frown and stop.

"How did you do that?"

"Ask no questions hear no lies." I shake my head.

"You guys are naughty." They laugh.

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Zah heard that I was in town so she asked that we have lunch. We are not that close but I guess since we are in the same friendship circle so she asked that we have lunch. We are not that close but I guess since we are in the same friendship circle private lunches should be included. We drive to the restaurant where we are meeting her. My phone rings once again and I ignore it when I see who is calling.

"Is it the one we left hanging?" Azile asks already laughing.

"Leave me alone Azile." I pout and look outside the window. I have nothing against Mandlakhe but I feel like our first fuck should've been a proper one. Like we shouldn't have drunk like that because it affected the sex. We get to the restaurant and I spot Zah sitting and tapping on her tablet. I walk to her table. "Hey Mrs. Thwala." She raises her head.

"Hey Advocate." She stands up and comes to hug me.

"You look stunning as always." She says as we settle down.

"As do you. I see marriage and life in general is treating you well. Look at those adorable chubby cheeks." I play with her cheeks and she laughs while blushing.

"I guess that's the only fat I couldn't avoid." I laugh and shake my head.

"You look really cute though. Mbuso must be doing you good." She blushes and nods.

"Yeah. I love him so much and I love our life even though he has been hinting about wanting a child heir or heiress to be exact for the Thwala empire but we haven't gone into details in that area."

"Are you ready to have a child?"

"Yes I am but I am a bit scared. The human birth process can be very scary." She cringes a bit and I chuckle.

"Stay away from those child birth videos. They are torture."

"Noted." The waiter arrives and place our order.

"So how is being CEO treating you? Any chance of you starting your own company in the near future?"

"No. I love being CEO of DCC and I love working for Futhy. Not that I don't have high dreams or hopes but I know that I can achieve them still in DCC and I know that one day I will also get the Architect of the year award. It's not like I am scared of Futhy or anything I just love working for her and with her. You know when she is in Gauteng she doesn't keep tabs on me or just pop up at the office to check up on me. Instead she sets up a meeting with my PA just to meet up. She trusts me and that's one of the things I love about her."

"That's good to know."

"Anyways what about you? What's happening in your life? Any potential husbands or suitors at least?" I chuckle and shake my head.

"My ancestors turned their back on me a long time ago when it comes to love. I mean they always come through when it is other things like success money and whatnot. But when it comes to love they blue tick me."

"But yesterday you posted that you were on a date with someone." I huff.

"Yeah everything was going great. We were vibing and all but I just didn't enjoy the sex. Nigga didn't go down on me. There was no foreplay. Just kissing and straight to fucking. I mean I am not fussy about the muff town thing and I am not saying I wasn't wet but the least he could've done is suck my boobs eat my neck or shower me with kisses all over my body." She laughs a bit.

"So he is being cancelled because of bad sex?"

"Also he has an average dick and it didn't hit the spot." She bursts out laughing and almost everyone at the restaurant turns to look at her. She mutters a 'sorry' and continues laughing but softly.

"Come on Noma not everyone is skilled to locate the g-spot or even hit it."

"I am sure your husband does." She giggles and shakes her head.

"We are not talking about him here but yes he did hit it the first time."

"Damn Thwala." She laughs again. "Anyways enough about me. What's next for you?"

"I purchased a car. Like I have been saving a lot. I hardly use my salary because Mbuso spoils me and takes care of the bills. So I went and bought a personalized car for

myself but I haven't fetched it because I don't wanna go there alone." She pouts and I chuckle.

"Let's go." She looks at me with a frown and a half smile. "Come on let's go and fetch your car." She smiles widely and calls the waiter.

She settles the bill and we head out. I am riding with her while my guards are driving behind us. She calls the dealership on the way and they tell her the car is all ready and waiting for her. She plays some amapiano song and sings along with it. It's Bheka Mina Ngedwa by Khanyisa. I even take a video because she looks so excited right now. I send it to the group and everyone asks why she is so happy. Of course the twins are saying Mbuso gave it to her good they always think about sex these two.

When we get to the dealership she hands me her car keys and then we head inside. The moment I spot a car with a big ribbon I start recording. The sales person hands her a goodies hamper with the car keys. I scream when I see that it's actually a 2020 Porsche Macan Turbo JP. A dark silver one. She is jumping for joy and smiling like crazy.

"Come see the inside." She shouts and I giggle while walking towards the car. The number plate is written ZAH-THWA. The seats are written ZAH-NELERH. She looks so happy right now. She can't even contain her excitement. There is a sticker at the back written OKA MBUSO. This is so cute. Her excitement finally settles down a bit. She places her hamper at the back. "Come.

We have to show hubby my new ride.” I laugh as I hand Azile the car keys Zah gave me.

We climb inside her new beast and she drives to Mbuso’s work. When we get there she parks in front of the front door and starts making so much noises with the car hoot that almost everyone from inside walks out to see this. Finally her husband makes an appearance. She just jumps out of the car and go throw herself into his arms. I also climb off.

“Look at our new baby.” she says still excited. Mbuso smiles as he places her down and goes around to inspect the car.

“Beautiful car OKA MBUSO but not as beautiful as you.” she blushes. “Can I take it for a spin?” he asks with a pout and she giggles.

“I thought you would never ask.” She throws him the keys.

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#MissThick

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## CHAPTER 20

### **FUTHY**

*'It's done.'*

That’s the text I wake up to find early in the morning. It’s from an unknown number but I know who it is from. My heart skips a bit as I realize I have committed two

murders directly and indirectly. But they were all to save family members and I would protect my family at all costs. Even if I have to go to jail for my actions.

I get up from the bed and head to the bathroom leaving Kuhle snoring at his side of the bed. The separate rooms' thing worked once and after that he just forced himself back to our bed. Well I didn't chase him away because I had missed him dearly. And I nearly fainted when I found out that I was carrying quadruplets. When I told Kuhle that we are going to move to Lisa's house when I get to 4 months he just laughed and brushed it off. But I know I am going to move there and only come back at 8 months to the palace just in time for delivering the babies.

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After showering I get dressed into a maxi dress with flip flops. I tie up my hair. I should definitely go to the salon and so something about it. Maybe braids or cornrows but something different. I go and kiss Kuhle goodbye. He opens his eyes and looks at me.

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"Where are you going?"

"To Morningside and I am taking the twins with me. See you later daddy." I kiss him once again and head to the nursery. I find the twins all clean and dressed up. I thank their nanny and pick up Manelisi while she picks up Zobuhle. We go place them at the lounge and she comes back with a baby bag. A baby bag for them is always prepared because we can leave at any time.

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My guards place them in their car seats and they drive me home. I hope everyone hasn't gone to work. I also wanna tell them about the pregnancy so that they won't

dwell much on the fact that I just ordered a hit on someone. We get there and head inside. Luckily I find my parents with Lele and Thobeka eating breakfast. I greet everyone. Lele quickly goes to Carter and take Zobuhle from him.

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“Hello my princess.” He says showering her with kisses causing her to giggle like crazy. She likes kisses very much. Thobeka also comes to take Manelisi from my arms. He just rests his head on her shoulder causing Thobeka to giggle.

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“How are you guys doing? I am starving. Please dish up for me mawami.” I say looking at my mother with puppy eyes. She just laughs and dishes up for me. “Thank you you’re the best.” I say grace and then start digging in. “What about me? Aren’t I the best?” dad asks and we all laugh at him.

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“You can’t seriously be jealous of you wife receiving complements daddy.” He pouts and I continue laughing at me.

“He is always receiving complements and I am always feeling left out. Let him feel what I feel. Don’t make him feel better.” Mom says boastfully while laughing.

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“Please take your mouse sisi. She is helping herself to my bacon.” Lele says and I laugh as I stand up to take Zobuhle.

“She is allergic to pork. We learnt that the hard way when Kuhle fed her bacon. You know how manipulative she can get. Her face turned red and it started swelling before she passed out. Parenting can be so hard yoh.



Why didn't you guys warn me?" I ask looking at my parents and they just laugh.

"Would you have resisted the Zulu charm had we warned you?" dad asks and I shrug.

"Probably not." I dish up mashed potatoes for Zo and start feeding her. Unlike many kids she isn't fussy with tasteless food. In fact she loves anything that has potatoes in them. Her brother on the other hand has a sweet tooth. So we always feed him sweet food because if it ain't sweet then he is definitely not going to eat it. "Feed him something sweet but child friendly." I say to Thobeka and she nods.

"I am just going to pour lots of honey and a bit of lemon in his porridge." She says and hands him to Lele.

"So what's with the early visit? Not that we don't miss you but there has to be a reason for this visit. You didn't even bring your husband but you brought your mice." Dad says and I sulk.

"Don't call them mice they are royal babies. You will be fined for this." he laughs and rolls his eyes. "Anyways is it wrong to visit you guys? Ban me then

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they are royal babies. You will be fined for this." he laughs and rolls his eyes. "Anyways is it wrong to visit you guys? Ban me then so I don't visit you ever again."

"But it really is suspicious Lwandle. Plus you are not with you husband and that man gets sick when you are not near him. Just speak the truth child." Mom says and I roll my eyes.

–  
“Can my mouse and I eat in peace? Save the interrogation for later.” Dad raises his hands up as a sign of surrendering. Honestly there is no dramatic father in the world like Ndosi. This man is full of drama.

“So when are you having a house warming at your Mandlanzini house?” Lele asks.

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“In two months but it won’t be huge as the one which was at our palace. This one will be just close friends and family. We will also get just one photographer to capture the moment. No royals or celebrities will be invited.”

“You want a private ceremony?” mom asks.

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“Yeah. We deserve it. The media can be too much sometimes. We just wanna celebrate this special day with our families in private. I even wanna walk in sleepers on that day and not have to worry about making it on the front page for being basic.”

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“Plus you are always trending these days sisi. Anything you do always ends up on some newspaper or some internet blog. I honestly enjoy being a celebrity but I don’t think I will ever enjoy always being a centre of attention like you.” Lele says and I give him a small smile.

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“Well we won’t pity you because you chose this life.” Dad says drinking his coffee with that ‘unbothered’ facial expression. Mom gives him a scolding look. “What? She knew who Kuhle was when she agreed to marry him.” he turns to me. “Just be strong nje nana.” He does that

annoying sip thing from that coffee advertisement and mom just laughs.

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I just roll my eyes once again and at while feeding my baby. When I am done I clean him up and place him down. I know he is going to cause havoc but it's his grandparents' house. He is allowed to cause it. I also take Zo from Thobeka clean her up and place her down. She immediately starts screaming and runs out of the dining room. Her twin follows her.

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"I hope you are not planning on having another pair soon because these two are a handful." Mom says and I chuckle nervously. I didn't expect that to come from her. I was expecting for the forever savage Ndosi to say something like this. I chuckle nervously and clear my throat.

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"So I sorted out the baby daddy problem." I say looking straight at Thobeka. "He is never going to bother you again. He has been dealt with." She frowns. God do I have to spell everything out for her? "I had him killed. You can now go take your daughter and live with her." A cup drops to the floor and I turn to see that it's dad who has dropped his cup. I look around the table. Mom has her head bowed while Lele is just too shocked to say anything.

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"Why---why would---why would you do such a thing Lwandlelethu?" dad asks with a stuttering voice. I look down. I just wanted to protect my brother. Isn't that reason enough. "Answer me." he voice is now stern.

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"Difficult decisions had to be made and I just went straight for the kill. Delaying it would've cause more harm than good. I understand that I was wrong but putting him in prison wouldn't have been the solution because he would've been released or would've tortured Thobeka from the inside. I am Lele's big sister. I did what every older sibling would've done and that was to make sure that nothing poses a threat against his life."

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"But killing him Lwandle? How would you look at his daughter knowing that you are the one who killed him?" mom asks with a pained voice.

"He was going to die sooner or later mom because of his line of work. I just made things easy for him. And I did what I had to do." I start tearing up.

"Lwandle..."

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"Stop mom okay? I am pregnant and now you are hurting my feelings with all this guilt talk. If I didn't have him killed he would've killed Lele at some point in life if he found out that Lele married his baby mama. So would you rather have buried your own son or sacrifice a bad guy?" her eyes pop out.

"You are what?"

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"Yeah. With quads this time around." I stand up and head to my old room upstairs. Blame me for Tholz death I don't care. But given a chance I would kill him over and over again just to keep my family safe. I am a family orientated person so any threat against my family has to be eliminated. One way or another.

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## CHAPTER 21

I did give Mandlakhe a second chance. Not to redeem himself because for me sex is very important and the first sex always leaves an impression. Well the second third and fourth time we did it was better. But I just leant that he is not the foreplay type of guy. He gets you wet by kissing grabbing and dry humping you but not even once has he gone down on me and I have given up on that shame. I am not settling for him but I am just keeping myself busy and entertained with him.

Today he is taking me out. He said it's a surprise. I should only get dressed in comfortable clothes. So I get dressed in shorts a tank top and sandals. I head to the kitchen to find Q all cozy with Onna. I decide to stand at the doorway and just watch them. I don't mean to be nosy but I am curious to hear what they are talking about.

"So when are we going to our first official date?" Q asks. Onna giggles and plays with his dreads.

"Look at us planning our first date when we have already slept together." She says and Q laughs.

"I guess things are different with us." he places his fingers on her cheek and kisses her. I clear my throat and they both jump up. Their eyes pop out when they see me.

"Don't stop on my account." I say as I make my way inside the kitchen. I take out a peach from the fridge and rinse it. I then take a huge bite and look at them while chewing. "So you guys are sleeping together huh? Well good luck with everything and Onna don't get pregnant. You don't have a maternity leave remember?" she bursts out laughing. I walk out and head to the driveway where Azile is waiting for me. I climb inside the car and she drives out. Mandlakhe said something about us meeting at Gold Reef City so that's where we are heading.

"So how long has Q and Onna been sleeping together?" I ask Azile and she just laughs.

"I guess you already know about them. Well they started on the first night we got here. It was just talking and flirting and then boom I heard some moans and groans one particular evening and it just kept happening." She narrates playfully and I laugh. We get to Gold Reef City and find Mandlakhe at the entrance. I climb off the car and go to him while Azile looks for a place to park.

"Good morning nkosazane." He says with a smile. I greet him back. He hugs and kisses me. "Well let's head inside and see what the day has in store for us."

"I hope it will be adventurous."

"We will see." He smirks.

We head inside with Azile following us. We start at the thrill rides which leaves me high on adrenaline and so overwhelmed in a good way though. I always enjoy fun activities and I am enjoying this day so much. Honestly if I had ate breakfast I would've definitely threw up on one

of the rides. But luckily my date warned me not to eat something.

After the rides we go bowling. I don't know much about it but I make sure to concentrate when listening to instructions. So I win against him. He sulks but lets it go after some time. He buys milkshakes for us and then we head to the museums and take an underground mine tour. This is so fascinating and exciting. I keep on asking Azile to take pictures of me because I don't trust Mandlakhe behind the camera.

We go to Oldies Diner for our lunch. I didn't even realize I was hungry but I guess excitement sometimes overshadows hunger. When we are done eating we head to the Retail Store and he lets me buy anything I want. I pick up a few things and then we go to the lyric theatre where we watch one of the amazing shows being performed live. I don't even remember the name but I loved it so much. We go grab some ice cream and that concludes our day at the Gold Reef City. This place is so amazing. I am definitely going to take Zweli Amahle Zo Manelisi and Sthulikazi here but I am definitely going to let their nannies tag along just for control.

We drive to his hotel and he leads me to his suite where I find a nice evening dress with heels and a purse on top of his bed. I look at him confused and he just smiles.

"Let's freshen up and get ready for the last part of our adventurous day. The dinner date." He winks at me and heads to the bathroom. I quickly undress and go join him in the shower. He doesn't waste time he just pins me on

the shower wall and attacks me with a kiss. "I have been waiting the whole day to do this."

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he just pins me on the shower wall and attacks me with a kiss. "I have been waiting the whole day to do this."

"Then do it." I whisper looking straight into his eyes.

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We get dressed and head to the restaurant across the hotel which serves the best Italian food. We order four different dishes and we eat them all. It is so delicious and the service here is so great. I am definitely leaving a good review accompanied with 5 stars for them. When we are done we head back to the hotel and go to the bar to drown our sorrows while dancing to RnB from the 80s. I am having so much fun I don't even want this day to end.

My diamonds' safe with you comes on and we stop dancing. We laugh as we argue with anyone who cares to listen that this song is not from the eighties. The barman laughs at us and asks someone to change the song. 'I wanna dance with somebody' plays and we carry on dancing like crazy. Some people even join us on the dance floor. We form a circle and do some one on one dance moves which is so much fun. We leave the bar with everyone sulking and cheering on us. We laugh as we head back to his suite.



“Oh I love your company and I wish we can have more fun days like this.” he says as we lay on the bed with our clothes still on. I think we are too tired to take them off.

“Well thank you so much for such a fun filled day. I enjoyed myself so much. It has been a long time since I have gone out with anyone who isn’t my friend. So thank you Mthombeni.” He brings me closer to his body and kisses my forehead.

“How much do I have to pay to keep you this close to me every day?” I giggle and shake my head.

“Let’s not complicate things Mthombeni. Can we just keep each other company and enjoy this time we have together?” he sighs.

“Well as long as I get to spend my days and nights with the most beautiful woman on my chest.” I smile and look at him. He smiles back at me and perks my lips. “God you’re beautiful.”

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We are woken up by a loud knock coming from the door. He yawns and sits up straight. I also sit up and stretch my arms. The knocking doesn’t stop instead it grows louder and louder.

“This is harassment phela. Who knocks like that at a hotel room early in the morning?” I ask as I wear my

robe. Mandlakhe wears a vest with boxers and goes to open the door.

“YOU FUCKIN ASSHOLE!” a voice says before he is pushed inside. My eyes pop out when I see a medium sized woman who looks so angry if these were cartoons smoke would be coming out of her nose and ears. It doesn't take much time to realize that this might be his woman.

“Hlengiwe this is not what it looks like. Please give me time to explain.” Mandlakhe says already walking towards her. It's like she doesn't hear him because she comes charging at me and gives me one mean slap which leaves me so shocked.

“YOU BITCH! HE IS FUCKIN MARRIED! DON'T YOU HAVE SOME SELF RESPECT?” she asks which her chest moving up and down very fast. She squints her eyes while looking at me. “YOU'RE THAT HOT SHOT LAWYER ADVOCATE BIYELA! WELL YOU CAN KISS YOUR CAREER GOODBYE BECAUSE I AM GOING TO RUIN YOU. GOING AROUND SLEEPING WITH CLIENTS. DID YOU REALLY GET THAT DEGREE LAWFULLY OR YOU SLEPT WITH LECTURERS TO GET GOOD MARKS? WELL I DON'T CARE BECAUSE IT'S OVER FOR YOU!”

I choose not to say anything. I am pissed right now. First I didn't know the asshole was married. Why the fuck didn't he mention that to me? He took me for a fool. Second I am getting beaten up because of him and he is

standing there doing nothing. I stand up and look down on his wife.

“That would be the first and last time you lay your hand on me. I am not called the savage lawyer for nothing. You can keep your man I wasn’t going to do much than have fun with him. And full disclosure I didn’t know he was married. He even failed to disclose that in a blind date we had months ago. Well go ahead and try to ruin my career but rest assured that whatever you do won’t kill me but will make me stronger.” I take my handbag and head out. I don’t even care about the clothes I was wearing yesterday. I am so mad at myself for not doing a background check on this guy. And to think I was starting to fall for him. Wow you are such an idiot Noma. You never learn.

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#MissThick

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## CHAPTER 22

‘HOT SHOT LAWYER CAUGHT IN A SCANDAL WITH ONE OF HER CLIENTS!’

‘SHE GETS HER CLIENTS BY SLEEPING WITH THEM!’

‘A MARRIED MAN? THAT’S LOW EVEN FOR HER SINGLE SORRY ASS!’

‘THE BULLDOZER ADVOCATE A HOME WRECKER?’

'EVERY STORY HAS TWO SIDES TO IT.'

'IF SHE IS PRINCESS MELAMINA'S BEST FRIEND THEN THE PRINCESS MAY BE LIKE HER BECAUSE BIRDS OF THE SAME FEATHERS FLOCK TOGETHER!'

'THIS SEEMS LIKE A THINK SHE DOES EVERYDAY.'

'SHE ALWAYS HOOKS UP WITH DIFFERENT MEN SHE ONCE HOOKED UP WITH MINE BUT COULDN'T KEEP HIM!'

The beeps doesn't stop coming in. Onna suggests that I deactivate all my social media accounts and reactivate them when everything has settled down but I don't wanna seem like I am running away from this. The wife did keep her promise. She went to Twitter and trashed me like crazy. Of course there are women who are supporting me but many are taking the wife's side. Nobody knows the full story except for me but nobody is letting me tell my side of the story. Journalists have been calling me since morning but luckily Onna has been doing her job right. She has taken over my phone.

"Princess Melamina and Mrs. Nzama are here to see you."  
Simmy says walking in with Futhy and Lee behind her.  
"Those fuckers. They always cross the line. You do something good for them for a whole fuckin year and one mistake they turn on you. They even have the audacity to drag me into this whole shit. Fuck! I hate this." Futhy says throwing herself into the couch near mine. She is angry and I know she won't stop cursing.

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"Is it the corduroy guy?" Lee asks and I nod. "The nerve. He deserves some beating tase. Why the hell didn't he tell you that he is married?"

"Fucking idiot! Can I just have my guards go give him a small beating? I fuckin hate him." I know Futhy can have him beaten to a pulp if she wants.

"Leave it tase. It will cause more harm than good. I am thinking of doing a live video to clear up all these rumours. People need to hear my side of the story. They can't just conclude things based on one side of the story." I say sitting back.

"Yeah maybe that will make things better." Lee says with a weak smile.

I take my tablet and login to my Instagram. There are so many DMs but I ignore them. I set up my camera and then go live. In less than 5 seconds hundreds of viewers have joined in. I sigh and then start talking.

"Good morning everyone. I am just going to jump into it. I know rumours have been going around about me sleeping with a married man. I would like to make things clear to everyone who is waiting for my side of the story. I did fraternize with a client but it's not something I have done before. The thing is I met with Mr. Mthombeni months ago before I even knew that he will be a client.

We went on a blind date and I wasn't feeling him so I chased him away. weeks ago I heard that a client is looking for me

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so I came here and met up with him. we talked and concluded business and then he asked me out on a date. Of course I didn't agree at the beginning. He didn't take rejection into heart. We met again at a jazz lounge and things just happened. Not even once during our time together did he disclose his marital status. He didn't even wear a ring. So me finding out that he was married was obviously a deal breaker and that's why I left him with his wife at that hotel.

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I want everyone to know that I never knew that Mandlakhe was married. This was the first time I got involved with a client and the last time. To Mandlakhe's wife I would like to humble myself and apologize to her. I don't like the approach she took in dealing with this matter. She acted like I was having an affair with her man knowing that he is marriage but I didn't. so that's my side of the story. Thank you.” I end the live video. I didn't even read the comments.

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“Let's wait and see if things are going to get easier now.” Lee says trying to stay positive.

–  
“Don't you have a drink in this house?” Futhy asks already asks already standing up and heading to the kitchen. I walk to the cellar to retrieve three bottles of Lubelihle wines. I walk to the kitchen and place one bottle in the counter and the other two in the fridge. Futhy has the glasses out already. Lee takes out the ice and we chill around the counter. I pour for them and we start drinking.

–  
“Just like old times.” Lee says.

"Except we weren't this famous and didn't have annoying journalists always on our business. I hate this life sometimes." Futhy says as she plays with her ring.

"You are not having second thoughts about Kuhle are you?" I ask with a frown. She chuckles.

"Never. But I wouldn't mind moving to KwaNongoma to get away from all this drama tase and just live a social media free life."

"As if you would survive not having to go to the office every now and then."

"You know I can do my work anywhere. OMG!" she spits out the alcohol. "SHIT. I fuckin forgot." Lee and I both look at her.

"What's up?" Lee asks.

"I am pregnant once again. With quads this time around. God I hate this. Now I am not going to be able to drink for a whole 8 months."

"Pregnant?" Lee asks shocked.

"With quads?" I ask and she chuckles.

"Well let me finish this glass and then call it quits." She downs her glass so fast she has us laughing.

"Well congra..." Lee gets cut off by Futhy burping.

"Now you can congratulate me." She says and both Lee and I laugh. "I am pretty sure Kuhle is going to kill me when he smells the wine from my breath."

"Go to my room and use mouth wash." She stands up and walks out. "Kodwa nawe tase couldn't you wait for at least another year?"

"THE DICK IS TOO GOOD AND THE ANCESTORS WORK OVERTIME." She shouts from the passage and we laugh.

-  
"I also have to give Mabutho an heir. I know he loves Sthuli but he needs his own child his own blood. Gosh why did we wait this long to get into committed relationships? Look at us talking about having babies in our thirties. And do you know how tiring a new born child is like? You wife for wine all the fuckin time because their cries are just too much. Yoh ayy tase you are lucky you can't have them because I know you would ship the child off to Morningside." I laugh because I would definitely ship the child off if she becomes too much for me.

-  
Futhy comes back and goes to the fridge to take out some juice. "Cheers to me scoring a fuckin own goal. You wanna know how happy I was when I was back to drowning my sorrows? Not that my life is miserable but alcohol makes me happy." She sniffs a bit. "but I am fine I will survive." Then she breaks into a Destiny's Child song. "I am a survivor." We can't seem to stop laughing at her. I can't imagine how dramatic she is going to be for the rest of her term. God be with Kuhle. He must soldier on because he caused this.

-  
"OMG! Boss you have to see this." Onna says walking in with her tablet. "it's getting worse and worse. People are actually attacking you for trying to clear your name. Some are saying you are just doing this for your reputation otherwise you knew that he was married. Also some major clients are pulling out."

-



"But how?" Lee asks confused as hell. I also wanna know how my statements made things worse. I was trying to make things right. OMG! Ndosi and Jabu are going to find out about this now. God please take me immediately before I get into more trouble.

"Let me just call out publicist. Maybe she can do something about this." Futhy says already taking out her phone.

"Can she please do the cleaning up anonymously? Already people are dragging your name on the mud. I don't want things to get worse by publicly involving the royal family." She gives me a disappointed look before heading out while dialing a number on her phone.

"I think we need to get you more guards. Having two isn't safe especially at a time like this." Onna says and Lee agrees with her. I just want this thing to pass quickly. Can I wake up to find it all a nightmare?

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 23

Futhy thought it would be a good idea to go out and get some fresh air. So here we are at A Class restaurant. Her assistant made sure to book the whole restaurant so that we won't have any disturbances. Lele and Thobeka are joining us because they are back for the weekend only together with Mbuso and Zah Xoli and Phumudzo. I admit

hanging out with couples isn't really ideal but I need the distraction and I know my friends won't judge me.

"So where is that weak ass man you slept with? He deserves some punches. How can he just keep quiet and not comment on these rumours? Spineless man." Lele says and I can't help but laugh at his facial expression. It's rare to see him pissed off or angry.

"He is obviously being told what to do by his wife." Xoli says.

"Even if that's the case I mean if I had a mistress who has a company like Lee and is on the verge of losing clients I would definitely tell the truth and deal with my wife later. Him staying quiet shows how much of a coward he is." Mabutho says.

"Anyways Zah congratulations on your beast." Thobeka says with a smile. "I am so happy for you and when my husband saw me hyping it he said he will buy me one." Lele chuckles.

"I was drunk in love. Don't judge." We all laugh at him. "But married men knows if your wife adores something you just wanna give it to her with no hesitations."

"True that sbari. I mean if my wife were to say she wants an airline I would make a plan." Kuhle says and Futhy laughs.

"Well I want one." She says and we all laugh once again. She has the serious look on her face that she does before she says I am kidding. Kuhle looks at him with his eyes popped out. I see he hasn't figured his wife out yet.

"Baby I'm joking. Are you serious?"

"Yes. And I want it this year before the babies arrive."

"Which babies?" Zah asks.

"Cat's out of the bag. I am expecting multiple babies. Not sure how many yet." She answers with a smile looking at Zah and Xoli. I wonder why she didn't tell them the truth but these are royal babies and confidentiality is very important.

"I am so happy for you. I am also expecting. I found out this morning." Xoli says and her eyes immediately pop out. I think that slipped. "Did I say that out loud?" we all laugh at her as we nod.

"Is that true?" Phumudzo asks turning his chair to her direction. She giggles and nods.

"I wanted to surprise you babe. I was still planning on a way to break the news to you." She looks so adorable right now.

"Thank you so much my love." Phumudzo stands up makes her stands and hugs her tight while kissing her.

"You're next." Mbuso says to Zah and we all laugh because his tone is threatening.

"You better send your best soldiers for the work papa." Zah says looking at him with a challenging look. This is just too funny to watch. Phumudzo finally calms down and sits down but he brings his wife to sit on his lap. We all laugh at his drama.

"I am definitely planning your baby showers. You have to have one BIG baby shower even if it includes only friends and family." Thobeka says with a smile.

-

"You? Plan something? Are you sure?" Lele says and Thobeka gives him a mean stare. He raises his hands as a sign of surrendering. "I am just kidding my love. You are the best planner in South Africa. Even Elegancy Planners have nothing on you." He kisses his cheek and she giggles.

"When are you guys getting married?" Lee asks the question that has been lingering on my mind. I heard the baby daddy is out of the picture now so there is nothing stopping them from finally getting married officially.

"We wanna finish all the process of transferring my daughter to this side and then start with the wedding preparations. We wanna sort her out first." Thobeka says and Lee nods.

"We can go now." Kuhle says and we all laugh when realize we are done eating. When conversation is flowing you don't even take note of the food. You just keep chewing and swallowing every time you are taking a break to listen to someone talking. The guys settle the bill and we drive our separate ways. Well Futhy

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you don't even take note of the food. You just keep chewing and swallowing every time you are taking a break to listen to someone talking. The guys settle the bill and we drive our separate ways. Well Futhy Kuhle and I drive to my house along with the guards. Lee and Mabutho will be sleeping at Lele's house.

Getting to my house Futhy and Kuhle head to her room while I go to mine. I freshen up and get dressed in a short nightdress and short silk gown with sleepers. I

know I will only see the royals tomorrow morning because they will be fucking like rabbits all night. When I get downstairs I find the guards sitting in the lounge watching some soccer match. Q quickly stands up when he sees me.

-  
"Do you need anything boss?" he asks.

"Why? Did you think I was sleepwalking?" he chuckles and shakes his head. "I am all good. You can get back to the game. I think Robert scored a goal."

-  
"It's Ronaldo boss." Azile corrects me laughing and I just wave my hand to dismiss her. Q goes back to his seat while I head out. I sit on the couch in the porch and just think about my current predicament. I wonder why Mandlakhe hasn't come forward and come clean about our entanglement. I am tempted to call him but I don't wanna come across as annoying. I don't wanna give his wife the wrong impression.

-  
"Penny for your thoughts?" I raise my head to see Futhy's handsome white bodyguard Carter. This dude is so sexy and the fact that he hardly smiles or laughs intensifies his sexiness. I smile and shift a bit so that he can sit next to me. He does. "I hope you're not thinking about that douchebag called Mandlakhe because he doesn't deserve your time or thoughts." He says in an Italian accent. I never realized this until now. He is actually from Italy. I laugh at the way he pronounces Mandlakhe.

-

"Say Mandlakhe one more time." He rolls his eyes and attempts to stand up but I pull him down still laughing.

"Okay I am done laughing."

"It's good to see you laugh. There is that light that sparkles when you do." I smile and look ahead.

"What's your surname?"

"Why do you ask?"

"Because I wanna know the surname of the man I am about to fuck." He chokes on his saliva and looks at me with his eyes popped out. I stand up and fix my robe.

"My room is the first one on your left upstairs." I wink at him and make my way inside.

After a few minutes he barges in my room and locks it behind him. He walks to me with that predator look. I knew he wasn't going to resist me. God the look he is giving me right now is making me feel so sexy. He encircles his arms around me and smashes his lips against mine...

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'She looks at me and shakes her head. "You let go of my hand last time and that delayed our journey. That is not good." It's the same old woman I once saw in my dream when I had that sleepwalking episode. I frown looking at her.

"Where are you taking me?" I ask placing my hand on hers.

"Home. It's long overdue." We start walking on that same long path that has light at the end of it.

-

"Home? What is it like?" she gives me that shut up look and looks ahead. "Come on. I wanna know. Like at home my adoptive family it is so warm and we look after each other. We are always there for each other. My father Mr. Cele is so kind. He is always there for me physically mentally and financially but that was before I became a hot shot lawyer."

"You do know how to talk. Exactly like your mother. Now no more talking or questions for the rest of the journey."  
"That's boring don't you think?" before she can answer me sirens block my ears because they are ringing so close to me. I scream and try to block them by closing my ears. When I look up the old woman is disappearing with a disappointed look on her face.'

"I can feel a pulse."

"We need to rush her to the hospital."

## CHAPTER 24

▪

### **NARRATED**

Ndosi quickly sat up from the bed and shook his wife. She grunted and turned to the other side.

"Wake up Jabu. Something has happened." She sat up yawning and looked at him.

"What is it?"

"Noma has been involved in a car accident. We need to rush to Jozi."

"OMG!" she quickly got out of the bed with her hands on her head.

"My love now is not the time to panic. We need to get there as soon as possible. You know how Lee and Futhy are. Futhy is probably too angry and Lee is probably too emotional. None of them will do what's needed for Noma to get transferred this side. We need to go."

"Okay baba." Jabu said after taking a deep breath.

- She went to pack a few things for them changed into a long dress with boots and then rushed outside. Ndosu was already in the car waiting. She climbed inside and he drove off.

- Few hours later they arrived Jozi and Kuhle sent them directions to get to the hospital Noma was admitted in. When they got there walking inside journalists immediately crowded them with their phones and cameras.

- "Mr. Cele Mrs. Cele is it true that Advocate Biyela has been involved in a car accident a day after she had been rumoured to be sexually involved with a married man?"

- "Is it true that the police suspect the wife of Mr. Mthombeni to be the one responsible for the accident?"

- "Is it true that Advocate Biyela has slipped into a coma and the doctors are not sure when she will wake up?"

- That last question made Jabu cringe but she walked on and didn't dare to entertain the journalists. Just as they were about to get inside Ndosu turned and looked at one of the journalists.

-



"My daughter is fighting for her life in there and all you care about is some fucken scoop to make yourselves seem more interesting? You pathetic people. Leave now or I will have guards throw you out and that won't be nice." Nobody asked anything they all just rushed away because Ndosi is one intimidating man. Imagine how he is like when one of his daughters is fighting for her life and some people are busy carrying on gossips?

They both walked inside and they met Mabutho at the reception. They exchanged greetings and he led them to the waiting room. Futhy was standing with her back against the wall Lee was sitting on the cold tiles and others were seating on the chairs.

"Mamitha njalo why aren't you seated?" Ndosi said looking at Futhy and Lee just broke into laughter while Futhy pouted. "What? Stop straining my grandchildren and sit down." She rolled her eyes and sat on one of the vacant chairs. "You also want me to call you with your current predicament?"

"Nah. I'm good." Lee said standing up and sitting next to Kuhle.

"So have you guys heard anything?" Jabu asked making herself visible because she was standing behind Ndosi the whole time.

"Mama what did you do with your hair?" Futhy asked with her eyes popped out.

"You look really good ma in fact you're super cute right now. But why did you cut your hair?" Lee asked. Jabu just rolled her eyes.

"I have been cutting my hair for a while now. You just didn't notice because you always see me wearing a doek.

Anyways

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in fact you're super cute right now. But why did you cut your hair?" Lee asked. Jabu just rolled her eyes.

"I have been cutting my hair for a while now. You just didn't notice because you always see me wearing a doek.

Anyways we are not here about me. How is Noma doing?"

"The doctors haven't updated us." Q answered and Ndosigave him a piercing gaze.

"And then? Who are you?" he asked and Q swallowed hard.

"I am her bodyguard."

"Where the fuck were you when she got out of the house?"

"Baba something happened." Futhy said standing up. "My guards are always on high alert. In fact half of them never sleep and they are all light sleepers. But tonight they didn't hear a single thing. My husband and I also didn't hear a thing. It's like something was keeping us from waking up. Like a drug or a spell. She was found 2km away from the house and we only woke up the minute the accident happened. Which means the spell broke or something." She closed her eyes and a vision of Noma's dream flashed before her eyes. She nearly fell but Carter acted fast and grabbed her. She passed out in his arms.

-

"Your Majesty Boss." Carter shook her but she didn't respond. "She is not waking up." He said looking at Kuhle who stood up and came to take her from Carter's arms. "Someone get me a doctor fast." He said and Azile quickly rushed out. She came back after a few moments with a doctor who took one single look at Futhy and ordered Kuhle to follow her with Futhy. They left the waiting room.

"Can she also not be admitted right now? I think I am going to go crazy." Lee said already her whole body shaking. Mabutho rushed to her and smashed his lips against hers. Her breathing steadied and she stopped shaking. Mabutho broke the kiss and looked straight into her eyes.

"Are you okay now?" she nodded and wrapped her arms around him.

"You." Ndosi said to Q." Get me Nomalanga's doctor. I don't wanna be in Joburg anymore." Q quickly stood up and headed out. "Wena Mabutho." He said pointing his finger at Mabutho and he just laughed.

"Anything to calm your daughter down. You saw that she was having a panic attack. What was I supposed to do?" Lee nudged his ribs and he faked a pained expression. "I know an opportunist when I see one." Lee said and everyone laughed. Q came back after a few minutes followed by a man dressed in a white coat.

"Evening everyone. I am Doctor Backer attending to Miss Biyela. We are very sorry for not getting back to you in time. I have just come out of theatre. Miss Biyela is very lucky to survive such an accident. She shouldn't be alive

but whatever God she worships is keeping her alive. Her ribs were damaged and so were her legs. One of her ankles was dislocated. We managed to repair most of the damage. She lost a great deal of blood and she is going to need a donor as soon as possible. We need to do the blood transfusion as soon as possible so that we can determine when she is going to wake up or recover."

-  
Jabu sat down defeated while Ndosi sighed looking at the doctor. Not being blood related sucked at this time because there was nothing they could do but pray that a person with her same blood type comes through.

-  
"My blood type is O negative so I think I can donate to Miss Biyela. In fact I wanna donate." Carter said standing up.

"Are you sure?" the doctor asked.

"You heard the man he wants to donate so go and save my daughter. You will ask questions later." Jabu said in an annoyed tone.

"Lead the way the doctor." Carter said. The doctor walked out and Carter followed him.

-  
Kuhle walked in and went to sit down. "She is going to be okay. I think she had a vision or something. Mam Jabu and Lee please go and rest. You can come back tomorrow morning." Lee tried to protest but Mabutho shook his head.

"You need to rest my love. Tomorrow is still another day. The doctors are also still working on Noma so there is no way you are going to see her tonight." She sighed and stood up.

-

"Walk me out then." She sulked and he chuckled.  
"I am driving you home." They headed out. Ndosu also  
walked out with his wife.

"Damn that guy is super intense. Is he some kind of a  
gangster?" Q asked and everyone laughed at him.

"He is Princess Melamina's father and he is so  
intimidating. He has that aura that just scares you."  
Mpendulo said and they continued laughing.

"When my wife fell pregnant for the first time he called  
me and was like 'you couldn't wait to nut inside her?'  
imagine how scared I was." Kuhle said and everyone died  
of laughter.

## CHAPTER 25

### **NARRATED**

Mpendulo Q and Carter had been smoking and talking about things outside the hospital. It was early in the morning. They were walking past the reception area when they came to a halt hearing a guy enquiring about Noma.

"I am Mandlakhe Mthombeni and I am her boyfriend. Can you please tell me which ward she is at?" the man asked and the guards frowned. Wasn't this the same guy who was making her trend for all the wrong reasons. Q recognized him and he was pissed.

"It's not yet visiting hours and I have also been told to let  
only people on the list and you aren't in that list. So I am  
sorry Mr. Mthombeni but you won't be allowed to see her

unless someone comes to add your name on this list."  
The receptionist said and turned his attention to some  
paperwork. Mandlakhe sighed and turned around only to  
see Q and the others looking at him. He was relieved to  
see Q who didn't share the same feeling.

–  
"Ow man am I not glad to see you. Can you please take  
me to Noma's ward. I just wanna see her for a few  
minutes and then leave. How is she doing?" he spoke so  
fast and Q just starred at him and folded his arms to his  
chest.

–  
"You finally decided to show your face to the public. I  
honestly thought you were dead." Q said chuckling.  
"This is the married dude who didn't care about  
defending Noma's image in public? The one who just kept  
quiet while his wife dragged Noma's name in the mug?"  
Carter asked with his eyebrows raised. Mpendulo  
chuckled.

–  
"Chill dude." He said still chuckling.  
"I know that what I did was cowardice but I really need  
to see Noma. I need to know if she is okay." Mandlakhe  
said desperately.

–  
"She is in a coma. Who knows? Maybe your wife is the  
one who organized the accident. She felt so threatened  
and didn't like competition so she figured dealing with  
Noma like this will make all her troubles go away." Q said  
shrugging.

"If I were you I would leave before Mr. Cele sees you  
because he might have your head for breakfast."  
Mpendulo said while walking away whistling.

–  
“Please man. I need to see her.” Mandlakhe pleaded. Q sighed and gestured that he follows him as he also followed Mpendulo. Soon they all entered the waiting room to find Kuhle and Ndosi laughing but their laughter died when they saw the foreign man.

“Who is this?” Kuhle asked.

“Thee boyfriend of the hour Mandlakhe Mthombeni.” Q said as went to sit next to Azile.

–  
“Wow. You're brave.” Mabutho said chuckling. In a blink of an eye Ndosi stood up and slapped Mandlakhe so hard  
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he saw stars. He screamed a bit and balanced himself with the wall behind him. Ndosi was quick to get closer to him and punch him on his stomach. Mandlakhe held it falling down because the punch made him feel weak.

–  
“Nomalanga is my daughter. Not your plaything. She is my child and nobody has the right to humiliate and treat her like that. Your wife is very lucky that I don't know her or else she would've been on her way to meet the ancestors right now.” Ndosi said clicking his tongue.

“Baba calm down.” Futhy said appearing at the door wearing a hospital gown. Ndosi's face softened a bit. He then turned back to Mandlakhe and wrapped his hands around his throat.

–  
“I want you to go out there in public and clear my daughter's name. Tell everyone that she didn't know shit about you being married. Tell the whole truth. If you don't by the end of today I will find you and kill both you

and your wife. Now FUCK OFF!" he shouted and Mandlakhe ran out.

"Baba that was dramatic of you." Futhy said and Ndosi chuckled.

"How are you my second love?" he pulled her to the couch and sat next to her.

"Visions troubled me all night baba. I didn't sleep peacefully. They need her. The Biyela family need her home as soon as possible. Nobody can find them except for Noma. I called MaShezi and Mthembu before I came here and they told me that we should let her go the next time she is sleepwalking but we should follow her and make sure she gets to her destination safely."

"So we will be escorting her like Queen Elizabeth?" Ndosi asked and Futhy chuckled while nodding.

"I also need to do some ritual for the ancestors so that they will strengthen and intensify my gift." Futhy said and Kuhle cleared his throat.

"So when are we going to do it?" he asked.

"In 2 weeks. We need to start eNdwedwe. MaShezi will be heading all the formalities. I don't even know what is needed but she said she will send me a list of things I need to buy."

"Are you going to be able to carry out all the tasks in your condition?" Futhy rolled her eyes and laid her head on her father's lap.

"Daddy's little girl." Carter said sticking his tongue out and everyone laughed while Futhy sulked.

"Leave my daughter alone Carter."



"But I can't because she dies I perish." Ndosì rolled his eyes and they all laughed.

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"Her body didn't reject the blood. She was responding well to the treatment until she suddenly slipped into a coma. We don't know what happened but we are still working on her. Her wounds are recovering bit by bit. I will update you later on if there are any changes." The doctor said and then headed out. It was already midday and everyone was devastated to learn that nobody was still allowed to see her.

"Go and call that doctor again. He can't just drop a bomb and walk away. He has to listen to us first before walking away like some kind of a celebrity." Ndosì said in an annoyed voice and Q quickly went out. He came back with the doctor who was annoyed. "Why did you leave like that before we could ask you questions? You think you're better than us just because you're a doctor?" Ndosì asked with an intimidating voice and face. The doctor swallowed hard looking at him.

"Is there anything specific you would like us to shed some light on about Miss Biyela's condition?"

"When can I transfer my daughter to Durban?"

"Her condition is very critical right now. Moving her may make things worse."

"Did you hear my question?"

"I did sir. You can't take her out of this hospital right now. Maybe after a week only if her condition gets better then we can maybe talk about transferring her."

"Fine. You can leave now and we would like to see her for a few minutes now." The doctor cleared his throat and looked around hoping someone would say otherwise but nobody said anything.

"You can follow me but I am only giving you 10 minutes and only 2 people are allowed to go inside the ward at a time." He headed out and almost everyone followed him.

Futhy and Lee were the first ones to go inside. They didn't stay long. Noma looked horrible. Machines were connected to her. She looked like a mummy with many bandaged wrapped around her. Futhy just got too emotional to say anything and quickly walked out. Lee kissed Noma's forehead and also walked out. Ndosu and Jabu were the second ones to go in. Jabu just cried when she saw Noma's condition. Ndosu comforted her. His jaws were clenched. He was also emotional but he didn't wanna show it. He wanted to be there for his wife and daughters. When they got out he went to the head guards.

"I need you to find the people responsible for the accident and I want them held accountable." Ndosu said before he walked away with his wife. Kuhle and Mabutho also took their wives and they walked away.

Carter went inside the ward and his heart broke when he saw the condition Noma was in. She grabbed his attention the first time he saw her but he didn't want to make a move because he didn't think she would be interested in him. His heart almost skipped a bit that day when she made conversation with him even though it was awkward.

"Wake up so that I can tell you how I really feel about you." He whispered in her ear and walked out.

## CHAPTER 26

Two weeks they say. Two weeks I have been stuck into a coma. I would say that gave me time to rest but I would be lying. Nightmares have been haunting me. Not a night has went by without me dreaming about that same graveyard that the old lady is usually at. But this time she wasn't there. I saw dead people. They were haunting me. Some chasing me. Mostly women chased me while men stood there watching others trying to stop the women. What's most terrifying and annoying is that the graveyard is like a maze. There is no entry or exist but I always find myself inside. That's why I say I was living nightmares for the past two weeks even though it seemed like a long because I didn't even wake up in the morning.

It's my first day out of the comma and I already feel depressed. At least the affair news died down and now people have been suspecting the wife for the accident. This is just too dramatic and too much for me. I thought my parents would've transferred me to Durban by now but Jabu said something about the how terrible my condition was and they couldn't transfer me. I am slowly recovering but it's sad that I might never be able to drive again because of my leg injury. It's very intense unlike the arm injury. It's already night time when an unfamiliar man in a uniform walks in. He smiles a bit and looks down.

–  
“I was hoping I would find you sleeping I thought my colleagues were lying when they said you were awake.”  
He says looking away from me.

“Who are you?” I don’t know this man. This hospital uniform is not even making me comfortable. How did my guards even let him in?

–  
“I was one of the porters who brought you in. You were in a really bad shape. I have to go now. I just wanted to see if you're okay.”

“Who are you?” he takes out something from his pocket. It's chocolate a simple Aero milk chocolate. I chuckle.

–  
“I am Mzwakhe Khumalo. I thought this would be a bit cute. Flowers or a goodies hamper would've attracted attention. Keep well.”

–  
He places the chocolate in my lap and walks out. That was weird. Nonetheless I open the chocolate and take a bite. I don’t have a sweet tooth but every once in a while I eat goodies. Mzwakhe. I would be flattered but after what Mandlakhe did to me I am off relationships.

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“So I have to go through another sleepwalking episode just to get home? That shit is fucked up. How is it that you are so calm about this?” Futhy just explained a whole lot of shit about me and my real family. In order to get to them I have to walk there. Why can't they get to me? Why do I have to be the one going after them? Also she said the information Lisa gathered is useless because the

ancestors want me to do things the old fashioned way.  
Fuck those ancestors.

–  
“I may have enhanced my gift last week by  
acknowledging it and connecting with the Zulu ancestors.  
I have been getting very clear visions for the past week.  
Even your homecoming. Well I only see the gate at your  
home I don’t know how you get there and I also see a  
throne and a crown on your head.” She answers and then  
sits down on one of the chairs. “Sometimes the visions  
can be very scary and terrifying but knowing that I will  
be able to help my family and see danger ahead makes  
everything better.” Lee walks in and goes to sit next to  
Futhy.

–  
“So on a lighter tone I slept with Carter on the night of  
the accident.” I say giving them the ‘don’t judge me’  
look. Lee chuckles.

“What is it with you guys and my bodyguards?” Futhy  
asks and we laugh.

“They are too hot and handsome. We can't resist  
temptation.” Lee responds and I continue laughing.

“Next thing Carter will quit his job for you and I have to  
start afresh getting a personal guard and getting used to  
him.” Futhy sulks.

–  
“Well tase you can relax on that. I am off relationships.  
At least until I find my family. I need to focus my  
attention on that.”

“You're right tase.” Lee says. “Do you need some  
therapy?” she asks in a sarcastic tone and I hit her with a  
pillow. “Ouch.” She laughs.

"Well that hurt me more than it hurt you. I forgot I have only one functioning arm. Anyways I have an admirer but since I am off relationships I am just going to let him admire me only."

"Who is it?" Futhy is quick to ask. My friend is forever curious.

"A paramedic or porter working here at the hospital. He said he brought me in. He even gave me chocolate last night."

"Aww that's so cute. Anyways we will see him after homecoming." Lee says and we laugh.

"Good to hear that sound." Ndosi's voice says as he walks in. He smiles looking at the three of us. "How are you feeling today?" he asks looking at me.

"A bit down and depressed. I just wanna go home."

"Home as in?"

"Morningside as soon as possible." He nods.

"I will make proper arrangements." Lee says quickly and heads out.

"I need to rest. Please wake me up when it's time to leave." Ndosi kisses my forehead and then heads out.

"Rather I not touch you because I will have a vision about your life and then faint." Futhy says dramatically and I laugh. God the ancestors were high when they gave her this gift.

"I am sure only one ancestor was rooting for you to be given this gift. The others were against it." She laughs and walks out.

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## Getting to Durban Sponsored

the doctors decided to keep me for a week in the hospital just monitoring me and then I was cleared out. Currently I am being driven to Morningside. Luckily there is servants' quarters in the house so my guards will have a place to sleep. I have casts on my leg and arm and I am using a wheelchair to move. I was given crutches but they said I shouldn't strain my leg too much. I should walk around in them for at least once a day just for practice. One of the reason I wanted to come home was this. I know I will have more support from my parents rather than living with just my guards and helper.

–  
“We are here.” Azile says.

–  
Q comes to help me get on the wheel chair and I wheel myself inside the house. I got myself an electric wheelchair so that I won't be wheeled by anyone all the time. I am also going to donate it to someone who really needs it when I am back on my two feet. Gcino is here being nosy as ever. But I am happy because I will have someone to keep me entertained while the parents are at work.

–  
“Well you do look like someone who escaped death not in a bad way though.” He says as I settle in the lounge on the three seater couch. He places both my legs on the couch on top of a cushion. “How much am I getting for this gig again?” I laugh and shake my head.

–  
“How much do you want?”

"Now that you mention it" he pulls the coffee table closer to the couch. "I have been thinking of upgrading my phone. The last time Sthuli came here she damaged my phone speaker with her saliva."

"Why didn't you ask Mabutho to repair it?"

"Because I want a new one." I chuckle and shake my head. Ndosi Junior is such an opportunist.

"When you get back from your classes tomorrow we will look at different phones online and then order one for you."

"Thank you sis." He hugs me. "And no this is not me making you pay for taking care of you. It's just siblings' tax." He goes back to his couch leaving me laughing. Gcino is such a crazy kid. I am just happy there hasn't been cases where he impregnates a girl because I am pretty sure Ndosi would have his head for breakfast lunch and supper if he does something like that.

"Lunch is served." Simmy says entering the lounge with a tray. She places it in the table and brings it closer to me. "Thank you." She smiles and walks away. Since I have special needs I decided to bring my own helper so that I don't trouble the housekeepers.

"SO MINA VELE MY LUNCH WON'T BE BROUGHT HERE?" Gcino asks and I can hear Simmy laughing from the kitchen. He shakes his head and walks to the kitchen. Few moments later he comes back with his lunch and sits down.

"You are so dramatic." He laughs and continues eating. Since I am using only one hand to eat I am very slow but



1 hand is better than having no hands at all. When I am done Gcino helps me to my bedroom and opens the TV for me before leaving. I tune in to Netflix and watch Blood and Water. How typical that I have identity issues and end up watching a show about something similar to that?

## CHAPTER 27

My leg is recovering slowly but surely. My arm is almost healed. The doctor said with the progress I am making I might be up on my feet and ready to conquer the world in less than 3 weeks. A press conference was held by my vice following the rumours about Mandlakhe and I. He presented a statement I wrote and I think it had a positive impact because Biyela Attorneys is signing in new clients almost everyday. And the cyberbullying has decreased. I have also stopped trending as Noma the home wrecker. Futhy decided to move to Nongoma temporarily but she said when the time for my journey to start she will come. She will be notified by the ancestors. Ukuth which ancestors will those be only God knows.

Mam Jabu and Ndosu have been very supportive. And Gcino has been keeping me entertained almost everyday with his jokes and efforts to make more money. That kid is a hustler. he ended up making me order an iPhone 13 for him. He and Azile get along like wild fire in a forest. Onna comes in every morning and leaves at the evening. I think her visits are more inspired by Q rather than me but I don't mind. I am no enemy of love even though love hates me.

| -

I stand up and take crutches. Q is next to me in a nanosecond. "Do you need help?" he asks. I smile and dismiss him. I limp my way to the bedroom. I have this unexplainable fatigue falling upon me. Maybe sleeping it off will make things better.

{ "Your majesty you are very close to giving birth. You shouldn't be overworking yourself. Sit down. I will ask one of the maids to get you anything you need."

The pregnant lady dismissed the talking woman with a mere hand and continued packing up things in her storage box and arranging almost everything in her room. The pressure was upon her. She was carrying the first princess the next queen in line. It was both a blessing and a curse to carry the first princess because as much as the nation was rejoicing about this some people were not happy. Especially a few members of the Biyela family. Her life and also the baby's life was in danger. She knew the Biyela ancestors were going to protect her baby girl no matter what because the ancestors always favoured the females in this family. Her husband walked in she stopped what she was doing and looked at him for a few moments and then got back to what she was doing clicking her tongue in the process.

"What have I done now my love?" he asked in a soft tone.

"When you see me you see a fool Biyela? Is it written FOOL on my forehead in bold letters? The audacity to go out there and spend your time with that young maiden doing God knows what. I could go into labour any second from now and you don't care about that. Instead you are

entertaining young maidens. Is this how you treat me? After everything we've been through you are just going to throw me away like dog's leftovers?" she was now crying really hard. She wasn't supposed to be this emotional while carrying the first princess because if she was angry it means the ancestors were also angry and anything could happen. The weather changed and there was hard thunder and lightning.

-  
"My love please calm down." He said hugging her very tight. She just broke down in her arms and the weather got worse.

"How could you do this to me? Have you no shame? You don't love me anymore? Don't I matter to you now?" she asked in a pained voice in between the sobs. He sighed and kept on apologizing until the weather went back to normal.

-  
"I am not doing anything that might put our marriage in jeopardy. I love you and I will never do you like that." He kissed her forehead and continued hugging her.}

-  
I wake up gasping for air that seems to be getting sucked out of my lungs. Q Azile

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Gcino Simmy Ndosu and Jabu are inside my room. They all look terrified. A loud thunder scares me and I jump up hurting my leg and arm in the process. I scream and the lightning and thunder gets worse. I can hear heavy rain falling outside.

-

"Calm down my baby." Ndosì says coming closer to me.  
"Let's go to the basement and camp there until the  
weather has cleared." I nod. He scoops me up and we go  
to the basement. He places me in the double bed and  
mam Jabu comes to sit next to my head. She places it on  
her lap and run her hands on my hair. She starts singing  
softly. Simmy brings me pills. I down them and go back  
to mam Jabu's lap. I feel myself calming down. Her  
weather is soothing.

-  
"The weather is back to normal." Gcino says walking in  
the basement after an hour. Ndosì's phone beeps.  
"It's Futhy. She says They have been notified and it's  
about to get really messy. Stay alert and keep your  
guards close to you all the time."

•

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I am still heartbroken. After 3 days since that dream I  
can still feel that woman's heartbreak. I can hear her  
cries anytime I am alone. She is in pain and she is crying  
for a savour. I don't know who she is. In the dream their  
faces were not clear. I have a feeling they are connected  
to my real family maybe even my parents. Anyways I am  
not going to sit around and wait for danger to come to  
me. I need to go out and see new people fresh air. Yeah  
that's what I need. I stopped using the wheelchair a  
week ago but I haven't donated it to anyone. I will do so  
once I have recovered fully. I wear a short summer dress  
with a denim jacket and a sleeper on my fine leg. I am  
still wearing a cast on the other leg. Limping my way to  
the lounge my guards quickly stand up.

-

"Are we going somewhere?" Q asks already wearing his coat. I chuckle.

"Yeah. We are going to grab lunch at the mall. I need some fresh air. This environment has become depressing for me."

-  
We all head out leaving Onna and Simmy cooking. Getting to the mall I first go and buy some new underwear. I wasn't planning on buying them but now I just want a few new lingerie. When I am done with my little shopping we head to the restaurant. It's facing the road and the view is just calming for me because I have been locked up in one place for a while. We place our orders and wait for the food.

-  
"Nomalanga Biyela? Is that you?" I raise my head to see a dude I went to varsity with. I have forgotten his name. I smile.

"Long time no see." I say with a smile.

"I am pretty sure you don't remember my name."

"Guilty as charged." He laughs.

-  
"I am in town for a few weeks. Maybe we can meet up just to catch up and you can maybe give me some advices and tips on litigation." I chuckle.

"You would have to pay me for that." He laughs.

"Okay just dinner for old time's sake." I smile and nod.

"You would have to Google and contact my PA to set up the dinner because I am very busy with personal things at the moment."

-  
"Okay. It was nice seeing you again."

"Likewise." He walks away.

"He is cute." Azile says and we laugh.

"Well he can keep his cuteness. I am not interested in it."  
They continue laughing.

Our food arrives and we start eating. It is delicious by the way. When we are done we head out and we bump into Kuhle with his guards.

"Thought you were on house arrest."

"And I thought you were in Nongoma." We both laugh and walk to the parking lot.

We are just chatting about useless things when gunshots gets fired. He quickly pushes me down. Q pulls me behind one car. The gunshots haven't stopped. Now my guards together with Kuhle's guards are exchanging bullets with the unknown threat. Suddenly the firing from the other side stops. Tires screech and it seems like the shooters are fleeing.

"Are you okay boss?" Q asks as he checks me out.

"I am fine Q. Where is Azile?"

"Right here. I got hit but it's nothing intense." She crawls to us while holding her arm which is bleeding. She quickly takes off her coat.

"It's all clear now." Mpendulo says and we stand but we fall back down pushed by the impact of a car blowing up my car. I can't feel my body. I slowly lose consciousness.

## CHAPTER 28

"There is no need for this. Really. I am fine. I feel fine."  
This doctor is starting to irritate. That explosion didn't

harm ne. Q was quick to cover me and as a result a glass got stuck on his back. I am relieved that the damage on him was not that bad. He is going to be discharged tomorrow.

"Miss Biyela I was supposed to remove these casts this week but because you couldn't stay put at home I will be forced to let you have them on for two more weeks." The doctor says and I scoff.

"Are you fuckin serious right now? These things aren't fun. Have you ever had them on?" he shakes his head.

"Now can I go see my bodyguard?"

"You are a very stubborn patient Miss Biyela."

"You're done with checking me out. I don't see why I should stay longer in this bed. Or you want to eat my money?" he sighs and hands me my prescription together with my crutches. "See you on Friday for the removal of these crutches." I say as I limp my way out of the ward.

"In 2 weeks Miss Biyela."

"Friday doc. Danko." I meet Futhy with Carter and her other guards in the corridor.

"You idiot. I can't leave you for even a week and already you're back at the hospital. Yoh you're problematic Noma shame." She says folding her arms to her chest.

"But tase." I hand Carter my meds and lean on his shoulder. "I was tired. Being on house arrest is no fun. Anyways where is Kuhle?"

"I am off to see him. Mpendulo said he had a concussion."

"Let's go then." We walk to Kuhle's ward. We find him sitting and talking to a nurse. "Thought you had a concussion."

"That's no way to talk to someone who practically saved your life sbari. You were outnumbered back there. If I wasn't there we would be preparing for your funeral right now."

"Futhy will thank you on my behalf." He laughs and shake his head.

"Are you okay baby?" Futhy asks as she sits on the bed. We all head out leaving the two couple together.

"Boss. Thank God you're okay." Azile walks to us. She is wearing a white vest with dress pants and heels. She has a bandage on her lower arm. "I panicked when I didn't find you on your ward. Qamatha is awake." We walk to his ward.

"Let's go see him. After that you Carter will drive me home because both my guards are injured and my cars are at my house. Have you been able to track who was responsible for the shooting and the explosion?"

"Mr. Nzama and Queen Lisakhanya are working on it."

"Okay then. Have you seen Ndosi?" she shakes her head.

"They didn't come. I told them that you're fine and you will be home tonight." We enter Qamatha's ward and find him sleeping. Onna is sitting next to his bed.

"I thought you said he was awake." I turn to Azile.

"He was but the medication they gave him is too strong. He has been drifting in and out of consciousness." Onna says and I nod.



"Are you going to spend the night here?" she nods. "Okay then. See you tomorrow."

"You shouldn't visit him?" she says and I frown.

"Excuse me?"

"We don't know who attacked you. You being in public is very dangerous because you have a target on your back. Please stay at home boss because they seem to be afraid to come near Morningside. I will also organize more guards for you from the Agency. If you go out again I will be forced to put you on lock down."

"Aibo Onalenna who is the boss here?"

"You are but if you're dead I won't have one or a job for that matter. So I will do anything to keep you alive. Even if it means going against your orders." I huff and walk out.

Carter drives Azile and I home. I would give anything to get back to my house and just have a peaceful evening but right now that won't be possible. I am pretty sure Ndosu is fuming because I went out and got myself in danger. Arriving at home Carter parks the car near the front door. The guard who was seating with him at the front comes to open my door and hands me the crutches. I thank him.

"Let me walk you in." Carter says with my meds on his hands. I nod and limp my way inside. I frown when I see Ndosu and Jabu sitting with the King MaShezi Mthembu and Lee.

"You are a die hard." Lee says laughing. She comes to hug me and then leads me to a vacant couch. I settle

down. She takes the meds from Carter and he heads out after bidding farewells.

"I don't even wanna say anything. I am just going to keep quiet." Ndosi says and looks at the mute TV.

"Drama." The king says and Lee laughs.

"You have to go home MaBiyela. Any day from today you will be lead to your home. Your ancestors couldn't protect you well because there is an important ceremony which your family didn't do for you because you somehow died 2 days after your birth. All has been revealed but you have to find out everything from your family and you have to rescue your mother wherever she is." I frown.

"Why would I bother rescuing someone who didn't bother looking for me?"

"If Melamina or Lindelwa were to die  
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would you go out there looking for them or would you sit down and grieve?" Mthembu asks and I huff.

"You are very stubborn Noma. You need to tone it down a bit when you finally get home and you need to give them a chance if they want to explain things." Jabu says. My stomach grumbles.

"I am hungry." Simmy appears from the dining room. It's like she was waiting for me to say I am hungry.

"Dinner is ready." She says. We all move to the dining room. We settle down and start eating.

"So can someone please explain the thunderstorm and lighting that occurred after I woke up few days ago? Why

was it exactly the way it was on my dream? Or was it a dream or a vision?"

"Your ancestors are very powerful MaBiyela and you are about to experience their full power in a few days."

Mthembu says.

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"This is utterly unfair. You guys are drinking and I am just cheering on you." Futhy whines and we laugh. We are chilling in the patio with her Lee Mabutho Kuhle Sbo Thembisile who came back from overseas last night Carter Mpendulo Azile Onna and Q. Simmy is visiting her boyfriend. Q came back 2 days ago and I also forced the doctor to remove the casts. I am healed now but standing too long can tire me.

"Angeke sphike no mamitha njalo." Lee says and I broke into laughter. Ndosi is very creative when he is pissed off. I am sleepwalker while Futhy is Mamitha njalo.

"Wait until he gives you your own nickname." Futhy says pointing at both me and Lee.

"He called me sleepwalker." I say and everyone laughs.

"Babu Ndosi is savage." Thembisile says laughing.

–

"He doesn't even talks to me these days. He just looks at me and shakes his head. I am pretty sure he has killed me a number of times in his head." Kuhle says and we laugh at him.

"Let's stop all this talk about him before he comes out and deals with us." Mpendulo says and we all laugh but we really move on to another topic.

–

"I need to go use the restroom." I stand up and head inside the house. After doing my business I go to the driveway and find that young girl Moyomuhle standing in the yard with a cute frown. She looks at me. She is dressed in a brown long dress and there is a cow skin material covering her shoulders.

"I am here to take you home. You are needed." I am not dreaming. I am not sleepwalking. She is actually here. In front of me. I can't even look back because my head doesn't wanna turn. Anyways I hold her hand and she leads me out of the gate.

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### **NARRATED**

"She is gone. Noma took off on feet." Carter said to everyone at the patio. Futhy was the first to stand up followed by everyone else.

"We have to follow her. Now. We have to rush." She said already rushing to the driveway.

-

Kuhle and her got into one car and Carter drove out to the direction where Noma went to. Lee quickly went to tell Ndosu and Jabu about Noma and she also rushed to the driveway where Mabutho was waiting for her. They also drove out followed by many cars. After wearing tracksuits Ndosu and Jabu also got into a car and drove off. Jabu was on the call with MaShezi. She was informing her about the current situation which she was very much aware of.

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"Where are we going?" Kuhle asked his wife who was starring ahead. All their cars were fleeking hazards and all the sirens on Kuhle's cars were on.

"Emvoti." She said absentmindedly.

"But that's 2 hours away and it will take her a day to reach that place on foot." Mpendulo said tapping on his tablet.

"Baby." Kuhle shook Futhy but she didn't respond. Her eyes were wide open. He sighed and brought her closer to him.

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## CHAPTER 29

### **NARRATED**

They stopped by the side of the road because Noma suddenly sat down and then slept right there on the road. They had to move her away from the road and place her on a throw. She was sleeping peacefully and it had been 4 hours since she dozed off. Everyone was camping outside the cars and they were eating. Futhy was sleeping inside the car and Kuhle was keeping an eye on her. He also eventually dozed off.

"I feel so sticky. Isn't there a lodge nearby?" Thembisile asked talking softly to Sbo. They were near St Cathryn's on the R74 a few minutes away from Kranskop. Last night Noma walked all night and only took a break in the morning at 6am.

-

"I don't know. Let me ask if it's okay to move to a nearby lodge. You can start searching." Sbo said kissing her forehead and then stood up. He went to Futhy's car and knocked on the window. Kuhle woke up and opened the door.

-

"What's up bafo?"

"I was wondering if moving to a hotel or lodge nearby will maybe disturb anything because everyone needs to shower mf2 and we need some real food." Sbo said and Kuhle sighed.

"I don't think that is going to be a problem. My wife did say that we are going to Emakhabeleni and that's like a few minutes from here. So yah we can go to a hotel." Sbo nodded and went back to Thembisile. He told her the message and then told her to go to Onna so that they can find the lodge and fully book it just to avoid any unnecessary attention.

They all drove to the lodge. Noma was at the back seat of Ndosi's car and Jabu was sitting with her. They got to the Kranskop Hotel and checked in. Everyone went to their separate rooms. They all freshened up and some took some quick naps. Ndosi and Jabu took turns sleeping just so one of them can keep watch of Noma. At 7pm Noma woke up. She didn't say anything to anyone. She just stood up straight and walked out. Ndosi followed her while Jabu informed everyone and they went after her. It took her three hours and thirty minutes to get to her destination. The minute she set her feet before a large long gate written MVUNDLANE WASOKHABENI heavy rain fell followed by loud thunderstorm and terrifying lighting. Everyone wanted to get out of the cars but Futhy stopped them. This was Noma's path. She had to take it alone.

"NTSHANGASE MENZIWA NJEZI KA XHOKO. NDABEZITHA. MVUNDLANE WASOKHABENI.

MBENG'OSINDA ABOSI. MGAZI. LUZUMANE KA NDABA. BAZUME NDABA BALIBELE." Noma shouted and the gate opened immediately. She walked inside and continued citing the Biyela clan names. "MGAZI OMPONJWANA DINANE WAMAKHOSI ZIYANKOMO MASIPHULA KA MAMBA. NGONGA ZIMAWA ZIMAKHELEKETHE NGISABATHE NGIYAZIBIZA AZASABELA KWAZE KWASABELA UPHUNGA NO MAGEBA BATHI BUYA MVUNDLANE NEZWE LABUYA. MVUNDLANE WESINIKINIKI ESIMASHOBA OMSUTHU ESAQEDA ABAKWA NKENTSHANE. NGIYISIZUKULWANE SENDLU KA XHOKO YASO BUKA. SENGIFIKILE EKHAYA EKUGCINENI!"

-  
Everyone from the main house had come out and they were all standing at the end of the stairway looking at Noma. They didn't care about the weather. They were more interested in the stranger that made such a grand entrance. She looked at everyone  
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looked up and then fell down. Ndosu quickly drove in and the other cars followed suit. He got out of the car and rushed to Noma.

-  
"Baby girl." He shook her and she wasn't responding. He picked her up bridal style and walked to the stairway where the Biyela family was standing. "Are you seriously going to stand there and watch your daughter freeze to death?" his face was hard. He was staring at the man who seemed old enough to be Noma's father. A man who looked like he was in his late thirties walked to Ndosu.

-

"I will not have someone die in my kingdom under my watch. Please get inside the house. But you have to explain to me who she is." The man said and led Ndosi inside the house. Futhy and the others got out of their cars and followed everyone inside the palace. They entered the lounge and Ndosi placed Noma on the large rug on the floor. Futhy smiled looking at the man who let them in.

"I am Princess Melamina Zulu and this is my husband Prince Kuhlekonke Zulu. We are from the Zulu kingdom in KwaNongoma. We are with our close friends and family. We have brought your long lost daughter home. She was presumed to be dead but she somehow lived. Her name is Nomalanga Biyela and she is 32 years old." The old man fainted and others were still in shock.

"She is home. She is finally home. The ancestors can now fully protect her." A weird looking man says with a smile and then sits down on the cold tiles.

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### **NOMALANGA BIYELA**

Have you ever walked more than 8 hours in your life and never got tired instead kept on walking because something or someone was pulling you and another giving you strength to go forward? If not you're lucky. I have and I don't wish to go through something like that again. My body feels so heavy and my feet hurt like hell. I need at least a weekend at the spa after this because this is just too much for little old me.

I open my eyes and I quickly see that this room isn't familiar. The last thing I remember was entering the



large gate. After that everything just went blank. So that's why I am a bit uncomfortable waking up in a strange bed. That usually happens after a wild night out. I sit up and yawn while stretching my arms.

–  
"Hello." Holy shit. I nearly jump up. I didn't even realise there are people in this room with me. I look around and I am seeing a lot of me in these strangers' faces. What the fuck? It's like one person but in different stages of life. It is really weird. Am I dreaming or something?

–  
"Who are you people and what the fuck is going on?"

"There are kids in here Nomalanga so language." A woman says. She looks a bit younger than me.

"How do you know my name? What am I doing here? How did I even get here or end up on this bed? Where are my guards?"

–  
"You are asking too many questions. Why don't you shower and then come downstairs to eat breakfast? We will talk after eating." An old man says. I frown.

"Then why come to this room in the first place if you aren't willing to give me any answers?" he smiles a bit and heads out.

–  
"Hello auntie." A young girl says. I am not sure if it's Moyomuhle or not because these people look so much alike. It may be another child from this family. "I am Moyomuhle. Don't you remember me?" I smile a bit. I have a soft spot for kids but that doesn't mean I love them.

"I do remember you. How can I forget your unique name and that cute smile?" she smiles widely.

-  
"Your bath is ready. Please go before the water gets cold. You will find anything you need in there?" a woman says coming from a door inside this room. She doesn't look like any of these people. She may be a daughter in law or a helper.

"Okay then. Let me quickly make this bed." I climb off and she stops me before I start making the bed.

"That is someone else's job. Just go bath." She says sternly but politely. OKAY.

-  
I go to the door she came out from. It's a big bathroom with a shower bathtub sink and a toilet. I first pee brush my teeth and then take a bath. When I am done I wrap a towel around my body and head back to the bedroom. They are all gone but there are clothes on top of the bed. I wonder what happened to the ones I was wearing because I woke up in a nightie. I get dressed in this long dress with new underwear and flip flops. Someone who knows my size must've bought these. I walk out and stand on the corridor for a few moments. Which way is the lounge or stairway? I think I am going to get lost.

-  
"Your highness." A guard appears and bows. Strange. "I was sent to come get you."

"Okay. Lead the way. But next time stick to just Noma or Advocate if I am too old." He shakes his head.

-  
"I can't Your Majesty." can't or won't?

-  
Anyways I don't have time for that. I still need some answers. Where am I and are those people my real family? If so where have they been all my life? Did they

ever try to look for me? Who are they? Are they royalty? What's my title? All these questions are just buzzing in my head but I know I need answers. Even if I have to use cross examination to get it out of them.

## CHAPTER 30

I was surely going to get lost if it wasn't for the guard. We are walking past many rooms. We are already downstairs but it's like a maze. Without the stairs I don't think I would be able to tell which room I slept in. We finally enter the dining room. I quickly go sit at a vacant chair and then take my time to look at everyone in this table. No maan. This is so weird and a little uncomfortable. These people look so much alike. It's like one person being born over and over. I am sure if these females didn't have make up on or hair I wouldn't be able to tell the gender of everyone in this table. They are also beautiful and handsome I guess.

"Y'all look like that old woman who make me sleep walk twice." I say and dish up the food. As I start eating I notice nobody is eating. They are all staring at me. "I know I am the 8th world wonder but you can eat now." They laugh. There are no kids in the table. Just elders.

"I am your father." The old man says. He is sitting at the head of the table. He has grey hair but you can see that he doesn't wanna age. He has a nice cut and his beard and side burns are trimmed.

"Oww. Wow. Okay." I pour juice and then drink it. I don't know how I am expected to react to this.

"Aren't you going to say something?" he asks.

"What's your name?" he laughs and shakes his head.

"Didn't you say we will talk after eating?"

"I am Prince Maphikelela Biyela." I frown.

"Prince? Does that mean there is someone older than you who is king?" he shrugs with a smile on his face. "I know talks are reserved for after breakfast but where is your wife and my supposed mother?" he clears his throat and drink whatever that is in the mug in front of him.

"I am Nomthunzi Madlanduna Biyela. I am your father's wife." A woman says. She is sitting next to the man who claims to be my father.

"No offence but you look nothing like the woman from my dreams who might be my mother." She frowns and just gets back to her food.

"I am Prince Phiwokwakhe Biyela. I am the regent and Moyomuhle's father." The guy who looks like he is in his early thirties says.

"Who is older between you and I?" he laughs.

"You are by 10 months." I nod.

"I am Nkosenye." A guy next to the woman near Phiwo says. I look at him with my eyes squinted.

"I saw you. Months ago at a restaurant in Durban. Just as I was coming to you you somehow vanished." He smiles.

"Well I don't remember seeing you but welcome home sisi. By the way that's Uluthando she is 22 years old; that's Ayize he is 27 years old; that's Khazimula he is 18 years old and that's Kungothando she is 29 years old. That's aunt Linomtha and sis Zimfefe bhuti's wife."

"How old are you?" he chuckles.

"24 years."

"Wow. How old is the last born?"

"13 years old."

"Damn. How many kids do you have?" I ask looking at Maphikelela. He chuckles.

"23."

"Thixo onofefe." I exclaim and they all laugh. "So where is the rest of your brood?"

"Table manners sisi." Khazimula says and I chuckle raising my hands up in surrender mode.

I start eating this greasy breakfast. Nobody is talking. Only cutlery is heard. After we are all done eating we move to another room. A very huge one a lounge. Everyone takes a sit. The only vacant couch near everyone is where Phiwo is seated. I wonder why isn't his wife sitting next to him. Maphikelela clears his throat and looks at me.

"You are Nomalanga Limamkele Biyela. You were born on the what's your birth date?"

"26 September 1989 but on this graveyard I saw in my dream it was written that I died on the 28th of September same year and it was written the daughter we never knew or met. Something along those lines. Now can you explain how I died and how I am still alive?" he sighs.

"Your mother has so many complications while pregnant with you. You are the first daughter of your generation. That's special and it's a blessing. So she couldn't deliver

you at home due to many complications. You had to be delivered at a hospital. When we got there her condition worsened. She gave birth to a still born child. It was a very hard time for us. We didn't even get a chance to see the child. We just buried her before your mother was even discharged. After she was discharged she was never the same. We had Phiwokuhle Kungothando and Ncamisile who died at age 14. Your mother never recovered from your death. She has spent the last 10 years in a mental institution because she started hallucinating and kept on telling everyone who would lend her the ear that you never died. You are still alive." I look down and nod.

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"But ke Bhuti  
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Kungothando and Ncamisile who died at age 14. Your mother never recovered from your death. She has spent the last 10 years in a mental institution because she started hallucinating and kept on telling everyone who would lend her the ear that you never died. You are still alive." I look down and nod.

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"But ke Bhuti we don't know if this is really Nomalanga. Who knows? She might be an imposter or something. She might've gone for surgery just so she can look like the rest of us." I raise my head and look at Linomtha. I already hate her.

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"Do you know who I am Linomtha? If not go online and search Advocate Nomalanga Biyela or even Biyela and Associates. I have my own money and I have a family

who loves me. What would I gain from pretending to be someone I am not? Heck I didn't even know that this place existed until last night or this morning rather.

Where are we anyways? Where is my phone?"

"You didn't bring any of your belongings." Khazimula answers.

"Ohh." He chuckles. "But then what would I exactly gain Linomtha? You tell me. For all I know you could've been the one who sold me to that wicked woman who raised me."

"Tell me about your childhood. What do you remember?" Maphikelela asks. I sigh and sit back.

"For as long as I can remember my mother was this woman named Velile Sikhakhane. I always asked her why my surname was Biyela. She used to say my father was at the Kimberly mines working. She was very abusive. I never knew what parental love was until I got adopted during my first year in varsity."

"How old were you then?" Kungothando asks.

"18 years old. The woman who raised me died when I was 15 years old. On her death bed she revealed that she stole me at a hospital and that I was using my real name and surname. I couldn't do anything with that information because I was soon kicked out of her house after her burial. I made it to varsity and I met Ntombifuthi Cele which many people now know as Princess Melamina Zulu. She was the one who saw me worthy of being loved and on the first recess she took me and my other friend Lee to her parents' house. From that day I got to learn the true meaning of family love. When they adopted me they didn't change my identity."

"Are you sure the woman who raised you was Velile Sikhakhane?" Maphikelela asks. He seems shaken spooked rather.

"Yeah. She had a mole near her left eyebrow. She was light in skin. She has some leg injury back in the days as she would say. So she was limping like all the time. A friend of hers once came to the house. She called her Beauty."

"Ohh Nkosi yami." He says with his hands on his head. He stands up and walks out.

"What's that about?" I ask looking at Phiwo.

"I never met her but I heard that she was a nurse the royal midwife. She went missing after your death. Of course nobody thought she might have had a hand in your death but mom in her episodes always mentioned her."

"Where is she? Can I go see her?"

"Nobody is allowed to see her." Nomthunzi says.

"You're her competition of course you would say something like that. But I don't care what law governs you around here. That woman got locked up in a loony because of me. If I am back then she deserves to know and I need her out of that place. As soon as possible."

"We don't know who you are. So we are not about to take orders from you. Go back to where you came from and save us all the trouble." Linomtha says.

"I wish I can but I can't. I am a long way away from home I have no phone or wallet. So I am staying here. At least until my family comes through for me."



“Stop calling another place home. This is your home and we are you family. You don’t know how much happy I am to see you. I wanna spend some time with you.” Phiwo says placing his hand on mine.

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

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## CHAPTER 31

“So how does that shit work? How are you a regent while your father is still alive? And who are you regent to?” I ask Phiwo as we take a stroll on the royal garden. I have accepted that this family is royalty and I might also be a princess or whatever. He chuckles.

“I am holding down the fort until Moyomuhle is of age but it seems like that won’t be necessary anymore because you’re back.” I frown.

“How does me being back has to do with the throne?”

“You might have to sit for this.” he leads me to a bench and we both sit down. “So our oldest great-great-great grandparents were twins. The firstborns. They fought over the throne a lot. Until their ancestors decided to choose their older sister the first daughter to be the queen and ruler of the kingdom. Of course they came for her but the ancestors struck them down. From there on males from this family were deemed unfit for the throne

and the duty for the next ruler was placed upon the first daughter of the first son of every generation.

The last queen was aunt Bafikile. She died a few years ago almost the same day as Moyomuhle's birthdate. So Moyomuhle is the first daughter of this generation. She is supposed to be the next ruler but now that you're back you are going to have to take your rightful place."

"Don't say such things out loud. You might just start believing that crap." He laughs and shakes his head.

"You are as stubborn as our mother." His face is suddenly serious.

"How is your relationship with Nomthunzi?"

"At least call her Mamncane." He says chuckling.

"Aibo what for? For all we know she might have bewitched your mother and made her go crazy." He laughs.

"I don't involve myself in women squabbles but they never liked each other from the first day they met and they have never pretended to like each other. Mom was friends with aunt Bafikile while Mamncane is friends with Linomtha. And stop saying 'your mother'. She is also yours and once you acknowledge that she is yours I will take you to her." I chuckle and shake my head.

"You're good." He shrugs.

"I try."

"But what about your other family members? They don't believe that I am your long lost sister. I am pretty sure they even want me to do a DNA test." He laughs.

"That would be crazy. Even a mad person can see that you are a Biyela. Our great-great grandfather had strong genes. Each and every one of his descendants is his split image." I huff and brush my hands on my thighs.  
"So what's next?"

"You have to be introduced to the ancestors officially and we also have to host a huge homecoming celebration on your behalf and invite everyone. We are a very private family we don't like the media snooping on our business but your homecoming will force us to publicize it." I nod and stand up.

"Well let's go in before everyone starts thinking that I already have a favourite sibling." He laughs and also stands up. As we are heading back inside we meet Moyomuhle and two other kids who are a bit younger than her.

"Kids this is Aunt Noma but you can call her Aunt omdala because she is older than me." Phiwo says.

The kids come to hug me. Ncoaw. They remind me of Mahle and Zwe. I hug them back and we head inside the house. They go their own way once we are inside. I spot Kungothando sitting at a corner that has a bookshelf. She has a book on her hand and she is wearing reading glasses. Lee is a reader and I know just how much she hates being disturbed while reading. Nonetheless I make my way to her and sit next to her because the couch is a two seater. When she sees me she puts a bookmark on the page she was reading and then place it on the small cute table before her.

"I had a feeling you were going to come and disturb Me."  
she says with a smile and leans back on the couch.

"How come you're not queen? You should've been the one who is regent." She laughs.

"I suppose bhuti told you most parts about our family. Well he failed to mention that had I taken the role of being queen I would have only been regent until Moyomuhle was 21 years. Then I would've handed the throne to her. In our family the throne is only for the first daughters only. So that's why I am not the queen. Plus I am not very social

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I am a nerd and I love my own space. I wouldn't be the right candidate."

"Ohh okay. So what do you do around here besides reading?" she chuckles.

"I own some bookshops and libraries in most parts of South Africa and 90% of the books found there are written by African authors. I am a qualified librarian."

"That's great. My friend wanted us to build a huge library in the middle of Durban. She even designed it. She has the same goal as yours. It's just that life has been so busy but after this we will get down to it. Maybe we can make you a shareholder or a partner." She smiles.

"That's a great idea. I would definitely like to be a partner. I know many authors who would love to have at least a shelf of their books displayed at your library." I nod. "So what do you do?"

"I am an advocate. I mostly help criminals escape justice." She laughs. "I have my own firm and I have branches in Durban Jozi Cape Town and East London. I am in the process of opening a few others in other towns in the provinces I don't have branches in."

"That's great. But once you take your position in the family you will work less and do more royal duties." I chuckle.

"Are you in a relationship?" she laughs.

"I am considered too smart for my own good. So guys lose interest in me after a few minutes of a deep conversation because I don't hold back and I always speak English unless I am here at home." I nod. "What about you?"

"I always attract bad guys. And the last time I got involved with someone I ended up being humiliated and almost lost a lot of clients. So I am abstaining from relationships for now. I also want to get used to my new life and connect with my new family before I can like get into a situationship." She nods.

"So you are now moving to another sibling?" I laugh and shake my head.

"Aibo I am still enjoying your company."

"I am also enjoying your company but I really wanna get back to my book."

"What are you reading?"

"By Sin I rise. Written by Cora Reilly."

"Does it have sex in it?" she laughs.

"Yes."

"Then give me a copy." She continues laughing.

"You would have to read the Bound series first in order to understand this. It also has a lot of sex in it." I laugh.

"Okay. Buy me my own pack and I might consider reading it." She smiles and side hugs me. A helper comes to where we are and bows before speaking.

"Your Majesties. Princess Nomalanga your friends are here." I don't even correct her. I stand up and quickly rush to the lounge. I find my friends with Ndosi and Jabu standing there. I just go and jump into Ndosi's arms. He hugs me tight.

"I am so glad you're okay and in one piece. Or I swear to God I would've killed everyone in this palace even the kids." Ndosi says kissing my head numerous times. We all laugh. I can't believe he is issuing death threats as if we are alone. But then this is Ndosi omkhulu. He fears no one. Everyone take turns hugging me. I am more pleased when Onna hands me my gadgets.

"So what's happening? What did they say?" Futhy asks as she leads me to the lounge. I am pretty sure she is already tired of standing. "Can you please ask one of your helpers to make me something to eat? Something with avocado preferably. I am craving it." I laugh as we settle down on a couch.

"I will get right to it Your Majesty." The helper who called me says bowing and heads out.

"Mmm Your Majesty?" Futhy smirks. "And the bowing?"

"I also don't know much tase."

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#MissThick

#MissChubbySeries

## CHAPTER 32

I really didn't think I would one day be a princess. Either by birth or by marriage. I really don't know how to react to this new position forced upon me. I am trying so hard to seem normal but I am failing. I should be at home regrouping and trying to get my life in order. But here I am in this village with my life turned upside down. There is less hope of it being peaceful now. My other family left a few hours ago. They said they will come back on Saturday because that's the date my supposed father chose for the welcoming ceremony to happen. Only my guards and Simmy stayed behind. Well I wanted Simmy to be in charge of my meals seeing that there are people I don't trust around here. In fact I don't trust anyone because power can change people.

"A word." I raise my head to see Maphikelela standing at the door of my room. I sit up with my back on the headboard and indicate that he may come in. he does come in but sits on the ottoman. "How do you feel about all of this? Aren't you overwhelmed?" I look at him and exhale loudly.

"I didn't expect my life to take such an unexpected turn. Yeah I have always wondered about my real family but the love I got from the Cele family made my worries less. I actually got comfortable and enjoyed life because I knew they had my back no matter what. I don't know how to feel about this sudden revelation of my life but what I do know is that I want to see the woman who gave birth to me. Maybe things will fall into place once I see her and talk to her." he sighs and nods.

"She has been sane for 4 years now but she refuses to come back home. She says that the nightmares of you crying will haunt her every night if she comes back. In there she is no longer a patient but a friend and assistant to the doctors. Even that hell hole can't change the woman she is. A brave courageous and kind hearted queen." he speaks so highly of her. There is even love in his voice.

"Is Nomthunzi the woman you cheated on her with while she was pregnant with me?" he frowns.

"Where did you hear that from?"

"I had a dream about it. She was pregnant and she confronted you about it. She was crying a heartfelt cry and there was heavy rainfall thunderstorm and lightning accompanying her cries. A day after that dream I was attacked in a parking lot. Luckily I survived but my car was bombed." His eyes pop out.

"Don't you know who attacked you?"

"We didn't have time to catch the attacker because we were waiting for this homecoming." He nods carefully.



"You think the attack may have come from here?" I shrug.

"My friend who is a seer told me that they have been notified about me and they were coming for me. So I must brace myself. So I have a feeling that someone doesn't want me to take the throne. So they will do anything to stop Me." he looks down. "So did you cheat on your wife with Nomthunzi back then?"

"I didn't cheat. I was still courting her. I was an idiot for going after a woman while your mother was heavily pregnant with our first child. I blamed myself for your death and she also blamed me. I didn't hold that against her." he looks at me. "Whenever you want we can go see her." I regard him for a few moments and then nod.

"I don't care about how anyone feels about her being in the palace. When I go to that loony bin I am bringing her back. If that makes anyone uncomfortable

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I am bringing her back. If that makes anyone uncomfortable they will have to deal. So take me to her tomorrow morning." His eyes pop out. "That would be all for now. I would like to rest. I still feel tired from walking for 2 days. My body needs to recuperate." He nods and stands up. He does that a lot. Nodding.

"I will see you tomorrow morning. We will leave after breakfast. Sleep tight princess." He squeezes my hand and then heads out.

I go to the door and lock it. I am not a person that can be easily scared off but I don't trust anyone and you may never know someone might come and strangle me in my sleep. I change into my nightdress with my friends brought earlier on. They actually brought a small luggage with clothes that I can use for week. I then climb onto the bed and close my eyes.

'She looked from side to side. She was uneasy. This was a very difficult task. Switching babies. He had done this before but this time it was different. A royal baby. She was worried that they might catch her and she knew that her actions would be punishable by death. Queen Mawenzokuhle didn't play when it came to her family. She was a queen many loved but she didn't spare people who had wronged her her family or anyone in the village. If you were reported to her and there was enough evidence she would have you burned to death while everyone watched.

She quickly wrote the report and placed the file near the small cot bed. She exchanged the tags and then placed the dead baby on the cot bed. She took the royal baby and quickly rushed out making sure that no one saw her. On the way to her hut she was walking so fast. The baby was fast asleep in her arms.

When she got to her hut she placed the baby in her bed and changed her uniform. All her clothes were packed in bags. She knew that she had to leave the village before people could suspect her or worse see the child. A knock startled her.

"Who is it?" she asked in a shaky voice. The door opened and three women stepped in. she held her breath but was relieved when she saw who it was.

"Where is it?" the older woman asked with a disgusted face. The state in which the hut was in disgusted her but also the baby angered her.

"This way." She led the three woman to the bed. The older woman tried to reach out to the baby but loud thunder roared outside and it was followed by heavy rainfall.

"That is all confirmation we needed. Leave with this child Beauty and don't ever set foot in this village. Whatever you do never tell her about her real family. That would be you digging your own grave. Make sure she never learns about her past and her background." The woman said and she turned to head out. The young woman walked to the bed and peered down at the baby.

"How I wish I could strangle you right this moment? I am sure it wouldn't take even a minute for you to die." She said with a small smile playing on her face. Lightning hit on the window and she jumped back. "Fuck your ancestors." She looked at the baby one more time and she headed out. The other woman looked at Beauty until she shied away.

"Your Majesty." Beauty bowed a bit.

"If my family finds out about this not only will you be in trouble but you will bring us all down with you. Leave after this storm and never look back. I will make sure

you don't suffer financially." Beauty nodded. The royal woman looked at the baby and then also headed out.'

I jerk up and look around with my heart threatening to break out of its ribcage. I am drenched in my own sweat. I recognize the young woman from my dream. It is not hard to recognize her because she hasn't changed a bit just aged well and her voice hasn't changed. Why did she do this? What was she hoping to achieve? I wish I could recognize the royal woman but I don't. I have a feeling that she is dead.

## CHAPTER 33

"Are you okay?" Maphikelela asks sitting next to me on the back of the SUV. I nod at him and then continue looking outside the window. He woke me up at 5 am and just told me that we are leaving in 30 minutes. I didn't even waste time making the bed. I just showered got dressed in jeans turtleneck trench coat with sneakers and a beanie and waited for him at the lobby. We are travelling with my guards and his. We have been on the road for about 2 hours now. "We are almost there." he says holding my hand. I give him a small smile.

"Did you tell your wife about today's trip?"

"There was no need for me to tell her. I don't report to her everything I do and I don't share with her anything that concerns your mother. It's none of her business."

"At least you are doing one thing right. So how much do you love my mother? Or do you still love her? Maybe you

fell out of love with her since she wasn't near you." he chuckles.

"It's not that easy falling out of love with someone who was your first real and true love. Our marriage was arranged because we are both royalty but we fell for each other months before our wedding. She was just too beautiful and too kind but was feisty and never submissive or obedient. She had so much fighting spirit in her and she loved hard. She still possesses the same qualities but I think being in the loony bin may have messed up her mind a bit." I nod.

"She and I have some similar qualities." He smiles.

"I am happy that you are calling her your mother and acknowledging her." I chuckle.

"Do you think there may have been people from the royal family or in the community involved with my disappearance who worked together with Velile?" he looks at me with a frown and shakes his head a bit.

"I don't know but I don't think that's possible. Everyone in his kingdom knows just how protective the Biyela ancestors are towards the future queens and most if not all females in our family." I nod and rub my hands on my thighs.

"Is Nomthunzi's mother still alive?" he nods.

"Why do you ask?"

"No biggie. Queen Mawenzokuhle was the last queen who ruled before Moyomuhle?" he frowns with a small smile.

"Yes. She was my aunt and her reign was the longest. She was super fierce and ruled with Grace. Everyone

respected and most people adored her. But she was very tough and she took law into her own hands. During her rule the police didn't have jurisdiction in our village but that changed after the year 2000. It's good to know that you are doing your research about our family." I shake my head.

"I didn't do research. At least not yet. Last night I dreamt about the night when Velile stole me. 3 women came to see her before she fled. One was a Biyela but I didn't catch their names." his eyes pop out. "Can you show me a picture of Queen Mawenzokuhle and other older females from the family?" he sighs and takes his iPad. He taps on it a few moments and then hands it to me. These women look so much like me. It's really weird. I stop when I recognize one woman. "Who is that?" I show him the picture.

"That's Aunt Anna. She is Queen Mawenzokuhle's younger sister and Linomtha's mother." I frown.

"Linomtha is not a Biyela?"

"Well she is a Biyela because her mother never married but her real surname is Hlongwane." I nod.

"What happened to her mother?"

"It was a mystery really. She died in her sleep 2 years after your birth. She and Queen Mawenzokuhle were always on each other's throats. She once challenged the queen for the throne. She was very troublesome and thrived on chaos. Linomtha is exactly like her mother. And the queen hated Nomthunzi. She was really fond of your mother. They were like best friends and she was against me marrying Nomthunzi."

"Then why did you go against the queen's orders? Why didn't they banish you or shun you?" he chuckles.

"I didn't do something that was against her law. So there was no need for her to take extreme measures to stop me from marrying Nomthunzi." I nod.

"Why did you marry her?" he smiles a bit.

"Matters of the heart cannot be questioned."

"Is she royalty?"

"Her grandfather was a chief so she is royalty." I shake my head a bit and look outside the window. After a few minutes the car comes to a halt in front of a mansion. I frown and look at Maphikelela. "Celebrities royals and rich people are in here. So it has been disguised as a mansion just so it won't attract the attention of the public." Clever. The gate opens and we drive in. there is even a parking lot. The cars parks and we climb off. We head inside the house. This is like a lodge of some sort. I haven't been to that resort Futhy always go to but I think it looks like this. A nurse comes our way with a smile already plastered on her face.

"Good morning your Majesty." She bows. "She is at her office. Please follow me." she turns and leads the way. We follow her towards a small office. She stands aside after opening the door. "You may go inside." She bows once again with a smile and walks away. Maphikelela walks in first and I follow him but stay next to the door and not go further. A beautiful thick woman is sitting behind a small desk. She raises her head and a small smile plays on her face when she sees Maphikelela.

"Hey. I didn't know you were coming."

"As if I announce my visits prior." She snorts and stands up. She stops moving when her eyes settle on me. She has a hesitant smile on her face. It's like her mind is telling her something but she is finding it hard to believe. She comes around the desk and stands at least a foot away from me. She tilts her head to the side.

"Am I hallucinating?" even her voice sounds like mine.

"No you're not darling. Let your imagination run wild."

She raises her hand and strokes my cheek.

"You are alive. You are real. Your skin is so soft." Tears gather in her eyes and fall like crazy. She wraps her arms around me so tight around me and starts wailing.

"Do you know who I am?" I ask. I am shocked by her reaction.

"How can I not know who you are? How can I not know the child I carried for 9 months in my womb and lost hours after meeting her? You are my precious daughter. My first born. How can I not recognize you? I spent all my life longing to touch you to put you to sleep to sing lullabies for you till you fall asleep to advice you about boys and everything a woman can do for her daughter. I longed your presence so much. Do you know who I am?" I chuckle. I am very emotional right now.

"You are the incredible woman who gave birth to me." I wrap my arms around her. She hasn't stopped crying. I also shed a few tears.

"I have dreamed of this all my life but I never thought it would be real. I have so many questions to ask you but I just want to have you in my arms." She unwraps her



arms around me but keeps me at shoulders' length. "My name is Nontobeko Ngwabe and I am your mother."

## CHAPTER 34

"So everyone knows that you're back? When I say everyone I mean the whole family." mom asks as the car drives out of the mental institution. I thought she would be reluctant to leave the place but she is actually the one who decided to cut her stay and pack her things and come with us.

"Well I don't know the whole family but I think most people have been informed about my arrival. Maphikelela said there is going to be a ceremony performed for me so I think he invited the whole family." Maphikelela looks at me in the rear view mirror but doesn't say anything.

"She calls you by name?" mom asks and then bursts out laughing. "Oww I fall in love with you with every passing moment." She says caressing my cheek and I giggle.

"Phiki can we pass by at some restaurant? I want to eat real food and be surrounded by real people."

"We can go to a Shisanyama eMbilu maybe even in Berea. You will even get to see my house."

"You live eMbilu?" mom asks with her eyes popped out. I nod. "Wow. Is it safe for you though? Who do you live with? Do you have a boyfriend?" I chuckle and squeeze her hand.

"One question at a time mom." She exhales and laughs.

"I am just too excited to finally meet you. I wanna know everything about you. I feel like we should have our own getaway to a secluded island where we will just catch up on the last 32 years. After all the dramatic ceremonies we will definitely tour around the world." I smile at her.

"They are not dramatic Dali. You know how necessary they are." Maphikelela says and mom rolls her eyes.

"Anyways tell your driver to drive us to a Shisanyama at Umbilo so that we can eat some real food and go back to that terrible place called home." I look at her with my eyes popped out. "Oww don't look at me like that. You will soon know why I call that place a terrible place. Witchcraft is performed during the day with no care on the world. I don't know how many times they tried to kill especially when I was pregnant with you Phiwokuhle and Kungothando. It was worse with you though. It is a miracle to see you alive and this big today. When I thought of the possibility of you being stolen I imagined you thin and suffering from Malaria Fever. So what do you do for a living?" it's safe to say that my mother is a radio gogo and such a while vibe.

"I am an advocate and I have my own law firm."

"That's what I am talking about. You couldn't be Nontobeko's seed and not be successful and just shine." I laugh and Maphikelela also laughs.

"So where is your family from?"

"Our family is originally from eMondlo. That's where my umbilical cord is buried. But then we moved to Endumeni after a few years of my birth. Well only me and my siblings moved because dad was on this huge war with

his brothers. They wanted to dethrone him but he was strong so he defeated them and we moved back to eMondlo but I had caught your father's eye by the time we moved back. Fast forward a young man from Emakhabeleni village came to ask for my hand in marriage. After my wedding my family moved to Bantry Bay. But they do visit Mondlo from time to time and they host ceremonies there."

"Bantry Bay as in Cape Town?" she nods. "Damn. That means your family is filthy rich. Like stinking rich. Like that family from Crazy Rich Asians." She chuckles. "Well I don't know Crazy Rich Asians but the Ngwabes are very rich. They own a few private hospitals and airlines overseas."

"Girl when are we visiting them?" she laughs.

"Soon." The conversation is just flowing between mom and I. we don't even realize that we have arrived at the Shisanyama. Dad informs us and we climb off the car. Mom doesn't wanna leave my side but dad puts his arm around her waist possessively and leads her inside the Shisanyama. This makes me laugh but I don't blame dad. Mom is a hit. She is one of those hot women who age like fine wine. She is thick and very beautiful she is even more beautiful without make-up.

"Boss your mother is thee Nontobeko Ngwabe? The Gcaba princess?" Q asks as he walks besides me.

"Yes. How do you know her? Did you somehow fantasize about her being your cougar?" he laughs and shake his head.

"Even without her affiliation with the Biyela family Princess Nontobeko is one of the richest princesses in South Africa. She has many young siblings but she and 3 of her siblings are the equal shareholders of the private hospitals and the Gcaba airlines. I don't even wanna tell you her net worth. Even if you retire today from Biyela and Associates you won't suffer because you are set for life." I laugh and shake my head. How come I don't know Nontobeko Ngwabe? Not that I keep up with rich females in Mzansi

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you won't suffer because you are set for life." I laugh and shake my head. How come I don't know Nontobeko Ngwabe? Not that I keep up with rich females in Mzansi but how do I not know her?

"We can sit now." Mom says looking at me and Q with a smile.

"Ohh mom these are my bodyguards Azile and Qamatha. Guys this is the woman who brought me into this world." they shake hands.

"Please adopt me." Q blurts and we laugh at him. I sit down on a chair next to mom while Maphikelela sits across us. The waiter comes and we place our orders. Her eyes pop out when she looks at mom and then back at dad.

"Yes it's Prince Biyela and Princess Biyela now young lady please get us our meat and try to be quick." Mom says with a tight smile.

"Yes Your Majesties." She quickly rushes inside the establishment. I turn to mom and chuckle.

"Was that necessary though?"

"Yes." I laugh. She is such a savage. "So how about you give my daughter and I some alone time while we wait for the meat?" I don't think this is the same woman who was emotional just an hour ago. Dad frowns.

"Aibo she is also my daughter and I haven't spent time with her. I also wanna know more about her."

"Not my problem. You should've spent as much time with her as you could back at the palace but you didn't. Instead you were busy with Nomthunzi. Now go sit with your guards Prince." Dad looks at her in disbelief before he moves to another table.

"Are you always like that with him?"

"Your father can be annoying sometimes and even though I love him his actions have made me not wish to be with him all the time. Plus you're here now. I wanna spend time with you alone. Not with him crowding. I even wanna know about your sex life but I don't think he will be comfortable hearing about that. So yah he is okay there not here." I nod.

"So what do you wanna know about me?"

"Are you in a relationship? Do you have kids?"

"I always have a bad luck when it comes to relationships. Recently I have been burned like three times in a row. So I am taking a break from relationships. I don't have kids and I won't be able to have them ever unless I adopt. I was involved in a car accident in varsity that damaged my womb which led to doctors removing it."

"Ow My God I am sorry about that. It must have been terrible to accept that. How did you cope?" I smile at her.

"During my first year I met Princess Melamina I don't know if you have heard of her. She became my best friend together with u Lindelwa Nzama. Melamina's parents took both Lee and I in and adopted us. They practically raised us even though we were much older when we were introduced. The Celes were strict but they were very loving and caring. They showed me love and they were always there for me when I needed them and when I didn't need them. So that's how I coped with the removal of my womb. I got their support." Tears stream down her cheeks and she wipes them.

"To think that you were less than 2 hours away from us is like a lie. How could we not have bumped into you or even noticed you on TV or internet?"

"Let's not dwell on the past now. I want us to move on and create new memories. I am happy that I have found my real family and I wanna get to know everyone."

"I wanna meet the Celes. I am so grateful to them. I wanna see these amazing people who took you in and showed you love. Even your eyes sparkle when you mention them." I smile and nod.

"They are phenomenal people. Sijabulile and Siyabulela Cele." She smiles at me.

**After eating we pass by my house and mom is impressed. She keeps nodding at everything. I lead her to the gallery room where I keep most if not all of the pictures I have taken alone with the Celes with my friends colleagues and with practically everyone. There is a huge one which is in the center of all the pictures. It was taken on my last graduation. I have a proud smile plastered on my face on that picture. Gcino is the one who took it and it was so much better than the pictures taken by the professional photographer. He also has a camera which he carries in most family functions. His passion in photography is a hobby he developed in high school but he loves art more because he is in art school. He is doing illustrator essential training but it's not his first course with Pixel Craft Training. He has done about 4 other courses. I guess art runs in the Cele family.**

**"When was this taken?" mom asks tracing my smile on my favourite picture.**

**"On my last graduation about 2 years ago."**

**"You are a Masters graduate. How can I not be proud of you?" I giggle and look at the other graduation photos.**

**"I think you will be more proud once you learn that I am a doctorate candidate."**

**"You are still studying?" she asks in a shocked voice.**

**"The aim is to become Doctor Nomalanga Biyela. I can even retire from practicing and become a lecturer." She nods with a smile.**

**“You look so much like your mother in that picture.” Dad says leaning against the door frame pointing at my favourite picture. “I would like to have that picture at the palace. Well not only one but this one belongs in the main room amongst all of our pictures.”**

**“Your father is right. If you can contact your photographer so that he can make the same copy for us.” mom says and I nod. “We can leave now. Feel free to pack some of your stuff. You will find us in the lounge.” They head out and I walk to my room.**

**Talking about education reminds me just how much I have been careless with my school work. After the dust has settled I will surely go to a secluded place and just focus on my PhD for at least 2 weeks. I pack some of my clothes shoes make-up and important documents in my medium sized luggage. I drag it to the lounge and Q quickly takes it from me. I go to my cellar and load 3 bottles of vodka and a 12 pack of Smirnoff Storm in my green bag. I feel like I am going to need alcohol more than anything during my stay at the palace. Azile quickly takes the bag and we all head to the cars. As soon as the cars drive out I receive a message from Futhy.**

**‘Beware of everything you consume in the palace. Trust no one but your mother. Everyone is an enemy even unconsciously. Be careful. I love you.’ My hands shake a bit and I shove my phone inside my handbag.**



**“Is everything alright darling?” mom asks and I give her a smile.**

**“Yes. Everything is perfect.”**

**Getting to the palace we head inside and find everyone in the lounge. The children quickly come and embrace mom and after that her kids follow suit. Amidst all the chaos I catch Zimfefe’s expression. She doesn’t seem like someone who is happy to have her mother in law back but she is trying to hide it from everyone. Unfortunately being an advocate requires you to be vigilant and be able to read people even across the room. Nomthunzi doesn’t even hide her unhappiness so does her best friend Linomtha.**

**“We shall have a family feast to welcome you back home mother and to informally welcome sis Nomalanga home.” Phiwokuhle says.**

**“I agree with you brother. I will personally be in charge of cooking.” Kungothando volunteers and everyone laughs. “Okay I will assist in the kitchen ke if you have so little hope in Me.” mom giggles and wraps her arms around Kungothando’s shoulders.**

**“Don’t worry my angel. You and I are the ones who will be doing the cooking for the feast. It’s been so long since I ate food prepared by my own hands. Plus I don’t trust the staff.” She says in almost a whisper but because I am near her**

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**so does her best friend Linomtha.**

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**“Let me go put away my bags. Maybe I will also help you with the cooking or even keep you company.” I say to mom who smiles and nods.**

**“I am definitely going to crowd you in your room so please make some space for Me.” she says and I laugh.**

**“Save some space for me too. I am joining in on the fun and bonding.” Uluthando says with a cute smile.**

**“I am also coming. We are turning this into a full blown pajama party.” Kungothando says. I look at Zimfefe who also looks like she wants to join us but shy to admit.**

**“You can also come Zimfefe.” Her eyes pop out and she regards me with a small smile. My guards help me carry my bag to my room. They place them on my bed as per my request. Azile sits on the ottoman while Q sits on the vanity chair.**

**“So how long are you staying here boss?” Azile asks. I sit on the edge of the bed and sigh.**

**“I don’t know Azile. Only time will tell but it might be a long time seeing that I am expected to ascend the throne.” They both frown.**

**“Ascend the throne? How?” Q asks. I explain to them the whole dramatic story of the Biyela royalty. By the time I am done they are both shocked. “So that means we will be head guards of the queen?” I nod.**

**“And with that comes great responsibility. We still don’t know who attacked us at that parking lot and the person might still be out for blood. Everyone in this palace is an enemy so you guys are going to be my eyes and ears all the damn time. Don’t trust anyone and keep an eye on Simmy. Not that I don’t trust her but these are royal people and they have all the money in the world. They can even pay her millions just to execute me. Keep watch and if she starts acting differently or dishing out fake smiles deal with her.” they both nod. “Do you have a good place to sleep though?” Azile laughs while Q chuckles.**

**“There is a Sandton mansion in the backyard which is referred to as the servants’ quarters. We also live**

like royalty so don't worry boss." Q says and I smile.

"That's good then. Please take shifts guarding my door. I think I am going to need more guards and it will be better if they come from your agency people you trust so that they won't betray me but we will extend after I have been ordained." They both agree. "You can leave now." They both stand up.

"Let me check something before I leave." Azile says and walks to the bathroom but stops before entering the door. "Boss come quick. You have to see this." I rush to her and she stops me before I can enter the bathroom and she points at some black powder in the floor which is lined with the door frame. "I wanted to check if there is something suspicious in here or in the balcony and I stumbled upon this. I think it's some kind of witchcraft." My eyes pop out and my heart goes up my throat.

"I am not sure but I think that's umbhulelo." I say and they both frown. Gosh I forgot they are Xhosa. "It's witchcraft. Its aftermath includes migraine paralysis stroke and others." I take my phone and video call MaShezi who answers after a few rings.

"I have been waiting for your call. What is wrong?" she asks. I turn the camera to the bathroom door and zoom in on the black powder. She whistles and shake her head. "That was supposed to kill you nkosazane. If you had stepped on it or went over it you would've gotten the worst migraine ever had a rapid nose bleed and died on the spot." I swallow

hard and quickly sit on the bed because I can feel my legs failing me. "Ask the royal healer to remove it and cleanse that room. After that you need to change the locks and only your guards should have the spare keys."

"Noted mama. Thank you." she smiles.

"Don't worry MaBiyela. They will try but they will never succeed because you were born to be queen and nobody is going to take that away from you. Take care." She hangs up. I am happy she didn't say I should pray because that's not my strongest point.

"I think we should have micro cameras installed in this room so that we can catch whoever did this the next time they try." Q says. "But firstly we should get the camera dictator and check if there isn't any spy camera that has been placed in this room." I nod at him.

"We should also have at least 2 installed in the kitchen just in case someone tries to poison you through food." Azile says.

"I am glad to have you guys here with me. I don't know what I would've done if I were alone. I would've probably died a few minutes ago."

"Well your death means we are jobless so we are going to make sure you stay alive for as long as you want." Q says and I just laugh.

"These witches! They are going to know me today. Whose daughter did they try to kill? I am going to deal with them one by one." Mom says pacing up and down after I have told her about umeqo. She can't even contain her breathing patterns. Simmy hands her bottled water and she drinks at least half of it. She hands the bottle back to Simmy and looks at me.

"Ma we don't know who tried to do this but we are going to make sure that it never happens again. We are going to be extra careful and we are going to put in extra measures to make sure it doesn't happen again." She sighs and comes to sit next to me.

"But that's not how you are supposed to live at your own home. You should be comfortable and free. And in order for that to happen the evil ones must be eliminated or called to answer for their actions." She says in a firm tone and I sigh. I definitely inherited the stubbornness from her. The royal healer finally comes in. he greets us and starts working. After a few minutes he asks us to step outside the room and he sprinkles some liquid around the room and even on the balcony. When he is done he comes to us.

"There is still going to be many challenges you are going to face before and after your coronation my queen but rest assured that the Biyela ancestors will be with you protecting you and guiding you all the way. You are the chosen queen to lead the Biyela nation in this era and no one is going to take that away from you. I will see you

tomorrow evening for when we start the welcoming ceremony." He bows with a smile and walks away.

"Do you trust him?" I ask mom as we head down the stairs.

"Yeah he is trustworthy and one of the few people who believed that I wasn't going crazy. He is really genuine and serves only the ancestors. His duty is to make sure that the current and future queens are always protected and warned against danger." We enter the kitchen and find Kungothando and Uluthando already waiting for us. We start preparing the food.

"So Uluthando are you dating anyone?" I ask and she smiles shyly. She steals a glance at mom who rolls her eyes. She giggles and nods.

"It's not that serious. He lives overseas and comes every once in a lifetime here but we always make sure we meet at least once in 3 months." She answers. She is already a blushing mess.

"Where do you guys meet and how do you survive this long distance thing? Don't you get horny? I think I would die of hunger if my man lived thousands of miles away from me." I tease and she laughs.

"What is his name and what does he do for a living?" Kungothando asks.

"His name is Muzikhona Zulu and he is an intern at some huge company. I usually fly over there to see him. When he is here we usually meet in Cape Town."

"Muzikhona Zulu? Why does that name ring a bell?" I ask in a low tone and the light bulb goes on. "You are dating

Lisa's brother? Who has a twin whose name is Muziwabo?" she frowns.

"How do you know so much about him?"

"My best friend is Princess Melamina Zulu so I have met the twins at least 3 times. I thought they came to the country only on special family occasions."

"He is a Zulu prince?" mom asks. "Wow so how serious is your relationship? Is he the one who broke your virginity?" Uluthando nods shyly and goes to take out a small tub of ice cream from the freezer. She sits down on a barstool and devours the ice cream trying to ignore our curious gazes.

"He never told me that he was a Zulu prince but he mentioned that his mother didn't marry his father. So I didn't connect the dots." She says with a small shrug.

"Guess I was drunk in love."

"Hey no one is blaming you here. The royal idiot is going to get a taste of my palm when I finally see him."

Kungothando says and that seems to cheer Uluthando up because she laughs whole heartedly.

After a lot a cooking we finally finish preparing dinner. Mom instructs Khazimla and Ayize to set up the table. When they are done we finally finish preparing dinner. Mom instructs Khazimla and Ayize to set up the table. When they are done they help us carry the casserole dishes and cutlery to the dining hall. Azile and Simmy keep watch of the food while we go freshen up. I am the second from last to join the family on the dinner table. As soon as I place my butt on the chair mom makes a grand entrance wearing a beautiful floor length butterfly print



bodycon dress with a head wrap and sandals. I still can't believe how beautiful she is and how much of the same features we share. She greets everyone and sits down next to dad who smiles at her. I steal a glance at Linomtha and she doesn't even hide her unhappiness. Nomthunzi is just focusing on her phone. I look at her long enough for her to feel my eyes on her. She raises her head causing our eyes to meet and she frowns. I just smirk and look at Moyomuhle. She says grace and we all start eating.

"This is so delicious gogo." Moyomuhle says and the rest of the kids follow suit. Mom smiles accepting the compliments. "Are you going to leave again?" mom shakes her head.

"Not ever angel. I am staying now and we are going to do so many fun things together. Where do you want us to go first? Spa? Park? Resort? Cinema?" mom asks. Moyomuhle smiles widely.

"We will talk after dinner." She says in a low tone and we all laugh. We end dinner in a peaceful note and we let the helpers clean up as we settle on a gazebo in the backyard sipping on wine.

"I could definitely get used to this again." Mom says taking sip on her wine.

"Didn't you miss your husband? Don't you crave some welcome home sex? I mean how long has it been since you let him in?" her eyes pop out and she giggles.

"Nomalanga you are not supposed to ask your mother those questions." She says shyly but continues. "But who said anything about being sexually deprived all those

years? My husband loves my pussy too much to just not taste it just because I am locked up in a loony bin. Nigga ate me out and fucked me at least once a week on our regular visits." I let out a scream and they all laugh. Look at mom talking out language. And I must commend dad on his sex game.

"But you are glowing even now. Did he give you some before dinner?" Kungothando asks hiding behind the wine bottle and we laugh at her.

"He gave me a little something to remind me who owns my body. But anyways can we stop talking about my sex life? It's starting to make me feel uncomfortable." Mom says pouting.

"Mom that's all ladies night is all about. Sex talk gossip and drinking all night." Uluthando comments and then turns to Zimfefe. "How is my brother in bed? I once walked in on you guys doing some strange position but I quickly ran out before you could notice me because it was super weird." Zimfefe laughs while covering her face with her hands.

"What were you doing sneaking up on a married couple? What did you expect?" Zimfefe asks.

"Well it's not like you were discrete about it. You did it in the 1st bathroom downstairs. He was standing with his hands balancing your thighs while you were upside down sucking his dick and him eating you out. You were both naked by the way and your legs were wide open like you were doing a stretch" Uluthando elaborates and Zimfefe just stands up and runs towards the garden leaving us laughing like crazy.

"But nawe dade why did you have to explain it like that? Now I can't stop picturing it in my head." Kungothando says.

"Maybe it will give you some orgasms at night." Uluthando says sticking her tongue out at Kungothando who stands up and they start chasing each other all over the backyard. Mom laughs but happiness is written all over her face.

"This is your doing ma. All of this laughter it's because of you. They are all happy to have you back home. Kungothando spent all her time at her sanctuary while Uluthando locked herself up in her room but your arrival changed all that. You are a true mother who makes a home warm and welcoming." She smiles looking at me and wipes a lone tear which has fallen from her left eye.

"I am also happy to be surrounded by my family but I am happier about being reunited with you. This is the best gift if the decade and I am super grateful to the Biyela and Ngwabe ancestors for keeping you safe and alive all these years. I hope they will continue doing so until the day you reach 100." I laugh.

"No ma I don't wanna reach 100 and look all old and wrinkly and be peeing on myself." she laughs picturing the picture I have painted for her.

"Oww also mark me absent on the 100 years part." I laugh at her and shake my head. My mom is a whole mood.

## CHAPTER 37

The healer together with my father and brother does the ritual or informing the ancestors of what is about to happen in the yard and then informs them about safe return home. The huge feast is tomorrow. That's where I will also be introduced to the whole Biyela nation. My ceremony will be done in the morning with every member of the Biyela family present. Heading back to the palace we find mom standing with some old but rich couple. You can tell by the way they are dressed.

"Langa babe come." She rushes to me and practically drags me to the couple. She seems so happy. "Guys this is her my daughter Nomalanga." She turns to me. "Baby these are my parents King and Queen Ngwabe. They are your grandparents." They both hug me.

"I have read about you guys somewhere and I also saw you at my friend's wedding." They smile at me.

"Who is your friend?" the queen asks.

"Princess Melamina Zulu."

"You must be the lawyer friend." – Queen.

"Queen Ngwabe knows I exist. I have made it in life." I whisper in mom's ear but I guess not low enough because the royals both laugh at me.

"We are your grandparents child so please call us grandma and grandpa." The king says.

"Am I also allowed to come to your palace and vandalize your fridge and steal some jewelry from your jewelry box?" I ask enthusiastically.

"Please do. Or better yet I will give you a few of my jewelry boxes that I no longer wear." Grandma responds and my eyes pop out.

"Kante how many do you have?"

"A whole closet and they are categorized by year and place where she bought them. Every time we visit a new place she makes sure to buy their expensive jewelry. She wears it once and moves on." Grandpa comments and grandma pouts.

"You are making it sound like I am a spoiled brat."

"And aren't you not spoiled?"

"Cut it out you two." Mom says and I chuckle. They are so cute though. "Come let's go to the lounge so that you can sit down." We all move to the lounge.

"Where is that bitter woman who has tried to kill you so many times?" gogo asks looking mom who just rolls her eyes.

"Don't ask stuff like that mom. This is Langa's weekend. I don't want some beef or bad blood that might make her ceremony not a success." Gogo rolls her eyes and sits back. She pats on the space next to her.

"Come sit here Nono. I am definitely taking you to Western Cape with me and just spoil you rotten. Nonto and her friends don't appreciate our spoiling moments anymore." I laugh as I go sit next to her.

"Hawu ma I never turn down a spoiling spree. Plus I need it after being locked in one place for years. I need to travel the world but with my daughter of course." She stands up. "Now let me make you some snacks." She quickly heads to the kitchen.

"You are really cute yazi. I just wanna keep on playing with your cheeks." Gogo says brushing my cheeks making me laugh. God is this how people with loving grandmothers feel like when they are being smothered

with love? I don't want it to end. My heart is on overload mode but I am borderline happy.

"So which firm do you work under mzukulu?" Mkhulu asks.

"I own Biyela and Associates Mkhulu."

"We are officially hiring you as our lawyer. Fuck our previous lawyer." Hearing him curse makes me laugh.

King and Queen Ngwabe are always serious when they appear on TV. They are all about securing a bag that was already secured before they were even born and they also love donating to charity. They always help out in countries that are deep in poverty. I never thought I would one day be in one room having a conversation with them or even dream of being related to them. Mom comes back with some sandwiches and juice.

"I hope you guys still like them like this." she says serving them both.

"Even after 34 years we still miss your presence in the palace and we mostly miss your normal sandwiches."

Mkhulu says and mom smiles. She also hands me a sandwich. It contains of scrambled eggs cucumber

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lettuce and tomatoes.

"This is actually nice." I say after taking a bite. Mom laughs.

"Mapha anti." Moyomuhle says rushing in. I turn my sandwich to her laughing. She takes a bite and closes her eyes while chewing to 'savor the moment'. "Delicious." She opens her eyes and squeals when she sees the king

and queen. "Khokho." She jumps into mkhulu's arms and wraps her small arms around his neck. She also does the same to gogo. "When did you guys arrive?" she asks taking a bite at gogo's sandwich.

"Not long ago mzikulu. Where is your father? Go call him with his siblings and tell them we have arrived. They should come and greet." Gogo responds. Moyomuhle takes another bite and dashes off.

"I would've loved to see you being a busy body like her." mom says looking at me with a teary smile.

"We can't change the past ma. We just have to live in the moment and make as many beautiful memories as we can." She nods and looks up to stop her tears. Within a few minutes the lounge is crowded with my siblings greeting the grandparents.

"Are you still single Kungothando?" gogo asks and we just laugh. Kungothando rolls her eyes with a smile.

"Bring me a billionaire from one of your overseas trips and we will talk." She responds and gogo laughs. Dad also comes to greet his in-laws but I notice the fake smiles they give him. I think he is not their favourite son in law. After a few minutes Futhy walks in with Kuhle and their guards. I didn't even know they will be coming this evening. I smile widely and stand up to hug them.

"Tase I didn't know you were coming."

"Neither did I" she says with a smile and I laugh. "But the danger required my presence and we also found out who sent that attack to you. Don't worry they will reveal themselves soon but before that many people are going to be collateral."

"Are you a full blown sangoma now?" she rolls her eyes. She looks behind me and she screams when her eyes land on the Ngwabe royals.

"OMG! Queen Ngwabe and King Ngwabe such an honor to meet you." she shake their hands and you can see that they are not hostile towards her. "If my ancestors showed me that you would be here I would've arrived earlier." They laugh. "Anyways this is my husband Prince Kuhlekonke Zulu and I am Princess Melamina Zulu. But you can call me Futhy. Noma is my best friend and practically my adopted sister."

"We are Nomalanga's grandparents." Mkhulu says with a smile. He seems to be warming up to Futhy but who doesn't? Futhy has that charm about her that just makes you love her without even knowing her fully. Part of her aura.

"Tase and I are definitely visiting you to ravage your fridge and steal some of your jewelry." Gogo laughs. "She also said something like that." she says and I chuckle. Q appears behind Kuhle and indicates that I should follow him.

"I will be right back." I walk to him. Futhy has already forgotten I exist because of my grandparents. I follow him and he leads me to the garden where nobody is wondering around. We find Carter standing looking really handsome in his usual attire.

"Good day Your Majesty." He bows and I snort. "As if." He chuckles and hands me an envelope. "What's in here?"



"All you need to know about your recent assassination attempt."

"I don't think you have information about my latest assassination attempt." He frowns.

"Someone else have tried to kill you recently?"

"The day before yesterday actually. But I am the future queen and you can't get rid of me that easily." He gives me a tight smile and nods. I sit down and open the envelope. The information I see makes my insides freeze. I can't believe this person did this to me. I am shocked. To the core.

## CHAPTER 38

I am a bit nervous about this feast. Mom said I had nothing to worry about. I just have to be myself but I can't. What if they all have Linomtha's mentality? What if they think I am an impostor?

"Tase your father is about to speak. We are going inside the marquee now." Lee says brushing my shoulder. She is carrying her beautiful daughter Sthulikazi on her hip. This kid looks so much like Sbo but luckily she took her mother's lips and eyes.

"Thank you for being here with me batase. I really appreciate you." I state with a smile and Futhy rolls her eyes. I know she is about to say some crazy shit.

"Come on we made a vow that we will always be there for each other in sickness and in health in good times and bad times. So wena you don't have to thank us. We are

not those on and off friends. You know us moss." She says pouting and she picks up Manelisi with a few struggles. "Gosh look at me suffering at 3 months. Next time Kuhle should be the one who will carry the last born." We just laugh at her. They both head out with theirs kids and I am left with my guards. Onna makes her way in with an iPad. She sits next to me and clears her throat.

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"Do you need a speech or something like that? Because I prepared some words for you." I chuckle.

"This is not a press conference Onna which you still need to organize after this because I know there are going to be so many questions." She nods and bites her lip. "But you can hand me the speech just in case I am required to say something." She smiles and hands me the iPad.

"Your father is starting." Azile says and we all keep quiet.

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"GOOD DAY EVERYONE AND WE WELCOME YOU ALL TO THIS PRESTIGIOUS EVENT. I AM PRINCE MAPHIKELELA BIYELA. I WOULD LIKE TO GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT AS TO WHY WE ARE ALL HERE. 34 YEARS AGO PRINCESS NONTIBEKO BIYELA (NGWABE) FELL PREGNANT AND GAVE BIRTH TO A BEAUTIFUL BABY GIRL WHOM WE NAMED NOMALANGA BIYELA. A DAY AFTER HER BIRTH SHE WAS SWITCHED WITH A DEAD BABY AND WE LOST HER. WE BURRIED THE WRONG BABY AND WE LOST OUR QUEEN.

–  
A FEW DAYS AGO A YOUNG LADY BY THE NAME OF NOMALANGA BIYELA SHOWED UP HERE AND SHE WAS LED BY THE ANCESTORS. WE HAVE DONE MANY RITUALS AND CEREMONIES TO CONFIRM HER IDENTITY

WE CAN CONFIRM TO EVERYONE THAT THIS IS THE NOMALANGA BIYELA THAT WE LOST ALL THOSE YEARS AGO. SHE HAS COME BACK HOME TO TAKE HER RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THE FAMILY. I KNOW MANY PEOPLE ARE GOING TO DOUBT HER BUT YOU HAVE NO REASONS TO WORRY BECAUSE SHE IS NO IMPOSTOR. SHE IS MY DAUGHTER AND THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE INTERNET YOU MIGHT KNOW HER AS ADVOCATE NOMALANGA BIYELA." People start rumbling and saying inaudible things.

—  
"WITHOUT FURTHER ADO I WOULD LIKE YOU ALL TO HELP ME WELCOME ON STAGE MY DAUGHTER AND YOUR FUTURE QUEEN PRINCESS NOMALANGA BIYELA." I stand up and walk towards the huge frame tent which is beautifully decorated. But royal people are dramatic shame. If a home coming is like this then how much more glamorous will the inauguration be like? Most of the people bow as I walk towards the front. The Biyela family is seated at the long table in the front. I go to where dad is standing. He holds my hand and turns me to look at the people.

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"SIZWE SAKWA BIYELA THIS IS YOUR DAUGHTER. SHE HAS COME BACK HOME. PLEASE GIVE HER A WARM WELCOME AND MAKE HER FEEL AT HOME. TREAT HER WITH KINDNESS AND RESPECT. I AM SURE SHE IS GOING TO GRACE SOME OF YOU HERE WITH VISITS. ACCEPT HER WITH WARM HEARTS AND DON'T HARM HER. IT IS YOUR DUTY TO PROTECT HER AND KEEP HER SAFE." He turns to me. "Is there anything you would like to say?" I smile and nod. Now I don't feel like saying what Onna wrote for me

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THIS IS YOUR DAUGHTER. SHE HAS COME BACK HOME. PLEASE GIVE HER A WARM WELCOME AND MAKE HER FEEL AT HOME. TREAT HER WITH KINDNESS AND RESPECT. I AM SURE SHE IS GOING TO GRACE SOME OF YOU HERE WITH VISITS. ACCEPT HER WITH WARM HEARTS AND DON'T HARM HER. IT IS YOUR DUTY TO PROTECT HER AND KEEP HER SAFE." He turns to me. "Is there anything you would like to say?" I smile and nod. Now I don't feel like saying what Onna wrote for me so I am just going to speak straight from the heart.

"Good day everyone. Firstly I would like to thank you all for accepting and honoring our invite. I know it was short notice so thank you for coming. I am Nomalanga Biyela. I was raised by a woman who I later found out that her real name was Beauty and she was a royal midwife before she fled with me. She never treated me like her own child and she finally came clean on her death bed. Life was not easy for me but it became real hard when she died. I don't know how I ended up in varsity but I am glad that I ended up there because I got adopted by the most wonderful family the Celes. Mr. S. Cele never treated me otherwise. He would reprimand me spoil me advice me and comfort me. He would literally be there everytime I need him. His wife wasn't any different. I am shining light on Mr. Cele because I know some men have become monsters. But he was the sweetest and kindest. I wanna thank them and assure them that just because I have found my biological family it doesn't mean I will forget about them." I clear my throat because my voice is failing me.

“Anyways back to the reason why I am here months ago I saw this guy who looked so much like me but before I could reach him he disappeared. I thought that my mind was playing tricks on me so I shoved that memory at the back of my mind and locked it away. Then a few months ago I met this adorable young lady who introduced herself as Moyomuhle Biyela. Honestly I was so shocked by the resemblance. I nearly went to my gynae and demanded answers because I was sure she was my daughter or something. And then recently I started sleepwalking. This old woman whom I got to learn that she was Princess Nonzwakazi and my grandmother came to me on a dream and told me to go home. I finally found my way home and I am grateful for the welcome I got. Honestly I thought I was going to get chased away or something but none of that happened. The biggest highlight of all was reconciling with the woman who gave birth to me and when she recognized me without even being told who I am that's when I finally felt like I belong.”

“Thank you for welcoming me and please know that I will do pro bono cases for most disadvantaged family if they are in need of a lawyer. Okay that's a joke.” Everyone laughs. Dad ushers me to a seat next to my mother who holds my hand and smiles at me. I love this woman.

The festivities begin. There are some singing and dancing items. There are also some poets abasho izibongo zakwa Biyela. Some royals from different families come to shake hands with me and formally welcome me. There is one guy a king who shakes my hand longer and stares at me.

I know from his look that he thinks I am going to be his wife or something but that ain't gonna happen. People are served food. My mouth waters since I couldn't eat breakfast because I was too nervous. Futhy looks at me and shakes her head with a smile. Fuck. Now someone is even risking poisoning me in front of all these people? I push my plate forward and take my phone.

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"Aren't you hungry?" mom asks.

"I am craving a fruit salad so I am going to make one for myself and quickly come back." I stand up before she can say anything and walk to the palace but not before being stopped by a few villagers who greet me some even asking to take pictures with me. Q joins me and follows me to the kitchen. Before we can reach it we hear voices and I quickly stop Q.

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"Make sure that Nomalanga drinks this." I hear Linomtha's voice say.

"Yes Your Majesty." Simmy's voice says and my heart nearly breaks into pieces. Q takes my hand and leads me to my bedroom. My whole body is shaking as I sit in the ottoman.

"Let me call Azile so that she can get you something to eat." Q says before walking to the balcony. Kanti ngoneni kubani?

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## CHAPTER 39

Simmy enters my room and she shuts the door after her locking it. She turns to me and exhales out loud.

"Honestly you have to get out of this place boss. I don't know how many times I have discarded poison directed to you. These people want you dead like six feet under." She says sliding down the door sitting on the floor and taking out. "Your aunt Linomtha; your stepmother Nomthunzi and Zimfefe. Yoh those women would stop at nothing to see you gone." I sigh and look at Q who walks closer to Simmy but stops a few feet away from her.

"How much have they offered you?" Q asks and she chuckles.

"Linomtha has already deposited R500 000 in my bank account. Nomthunzi threatened grandmother and Zimfefe gave me her expensive watch. She said it's worth R75 000."

"You're so rich." Azile says. "Why didn't you continue with the poisoning?"

"Hha I am not a killer. Plus boss hired me to be loyal to her. And what the hell am I going to do with thousands of rands in my account? I am sure the Celes would kill me before I even pass Kranskop." She says and she stands up. "I honestly don't mind cooking for you and serving you but I think you should buy your own grocery keep it in your room or just switch plates with any of your siblings every time someone else has dished up for you."

"Now that's a plan. I swear to God I thought you had betrayed me a few moments ago at the kitchen when I heard you talking to Linomtha." I state as I stand up and go fix my make-up in front of the vanity.

"I think that one is the most retarded one of all. I honestly don't understand her story. She isn't even supposed to be here. Her mother was your father's aunt. She is like a cousin to your father or niece?" she frowns trying to piece things together. "What's important is that she is not Biyela by blood so there is no reason for her to fight for the crown. And I think with Nomthunzi it's all about your mother and her grudge against Princess Nontobeko."

"Let's go back to the feast before people suspect anything." Q says. "You are coming with us. You are no longer safe in this palace. They might try ending you because they fear you will spill all their dirty secrets." Simmy smiles and comes to the vanity. She applies a lipstick.

"All set." She says. We all head out and returning to the frame tent Q grabs a chair for me and I go squeeze myself between Jabu and Ndosi.

"Kodwa sifelani?" Ndosi groans and I just giggle and start eating his food. "Shwele. What happened to your food?"

"These people are trying to kill me baba. So that's why I am eating your food." I say as I dig in. God it's so delicious. Jabu stands up and dishes another plate for her husband. I take his glass with my plate and return to the Biyela family table. I sit down and continue eating my food.

"Is everything okay?" Kungothando asks and I nod with a smile.

When I am done eating I drink my juice and then go to my grandparents' table. Their kids who are also my aunts



and uncles are here today. I get introduced to them and we chat a little before I go around socializing with other guests and even the villagers. One of the villagers comes to me.

"Your Majesty I am sorry for wanting to burden you with my problems before you can even be ordained but I need your help." She says with a small smile. She is carrying a baby on her back.

"Come let's go sit. I am sure the young one is tiring you." I lead her to a bench outside the frame tent. "Now what is bothering you?"

"My husband died few months ago and left me with this little one. She was still inside my belly when he died. His family took everything and I was only left with a shack. I can't afford to maintain our living. 2 months after her birth we discovered that she has breathing problems so I can't afford her medical fees and monthly expenses. I am not asking for much

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so I can't afford her medical fees and monthly expenses. I am not asking for much your Majesty. Just at least help me with her medical fees." I smile at her.

"I am going to help you but I have to ask how come have you never asked anyone of the royals to help you?" she sighs.

"I don't know when the last time we were allowed inside the palace was. The royals love keeping everything to themselves. We hardly even see them around. I came to

you because I hoped that you are different from them and that you will help me.” I nod.

“Azile please call Onna for me.” she nods and walks away. “Can I carry her for a bit?” I say to the woman. She smiles and takes the baby off her back. She places her in her lap and then hands her to me. “She is so beautiful.” She is wearing a beautiful t-shirt with a tutu skirt and some white tights. “What’s her name?” the woman laughs.

“I am so rude I didn’t even introduce myself. My name is Sinokulunga Mathenjwa and she is Zemvelo.”

“And I am Nomalanga Biyela.” She giggles. “Ohh konje you already know that.” I turn to the baby. “Hello princess Zemvelo. How are you doing?” she gives me an adorable smile. Azile comes back with Onna. “Onalenna please take this woman’s contact details and her home address.” She nods and bends over next to Sinokulunga. “Who is this cute angel?” mom asks already smiling. She takes baby Zemvelo from me and plays with her. Zemvelo giggles. “Gosh she is so adorable. I wish I had my own bundle of joy.”

“Hawu ma you have me nje. You still need to smolder me with that baby love.” she rolls her eyes and keeps on playing with the baby. I just laugh and turn to Sinokulunga.

“We will talk on Monday sis but I am not a politician. So I don’t do empty promises. When I say I am going to do something for you I mean it.” She smiles. The baby starts getting fussy and she stands up to take it from mom. She then heads off.

"Who is that?"

"Some woman from the village who needs my help. How come you guys don't help villagers?"

"Mina I did help them and actually socialized with them before I got locked up in that hospital." I nod and stand up.

"Come I want to introduce you to my other parents." I take her hand and lead her to the Cele table. "Hey guys. This is my awesome mother and ma this is Mrs. Cele the woman who raised me from my teens until now." Jabu stands up and faces my mother.

"Your daughter is troublesome and really rebellious." Jabu says and my eyes pop out.

"Hawu mah."

"But you look like you have the same personality as hers so I think you will manage." This woman madoda. My mom laughs and opens her arms. They both hug. "She is also unfiltered."

"I have noticed." Mom says and they both laugh.

"And mah this is Babu Ndosu. He is very tough and scary but be a teddy bear sometimes and a very great therapist. He also has been my number supporter and cheerleader. And honestly my favourite parent. No offence mah." I say looking at Jabu.

"Trust me you meant it." She says laughing and I chuckle. Ndosu steps closer to mah and extend his hand. Mah shakes it.

"The first night I left my daughter here I wasn't comfortable because I felt like she wasn't safe. But now I am a bit relieved that you are here and you won't let

anything bad happen to her.” Ndosi says in a serious tone and mom nods.

“You have my word.” Ndosi goes back to his seat.

“And that’s Gcino Lele and his wife Thobeka.” They all come to shake mom’s hands. Q rushes to where I am and softly grabs my arm.

“Come with me.” before I can even answer he drags me inside the palace and I let him. In the corridor I am met by Simmy’s body on the floor. She is bleeding but her eyes are wide open and she is not moving.

“OMG.” I drop next to her and feel her pulse. It’s not there. She was shot on the side of her head.

“I think they thought she will sell them out so they silenced her but it was too late.” Azile says crouching and closing her eyes. Before I know it my family comes in and they are shocked by the sight before them. The Celes also come. Someone grabs my arms and make me stand up. I can’t believe this. How can someone go to such an extent just to keep someone from spilling their beans? Simmy didn’t deserve this. She didn’t. She died because of me and I am going to make sure I will make her killer pay.

## CHAPTER 40

I am sitting in my bedroom with Lee. Futhy dozed off an hour ago. She is sleeping on my bed. The morgue people

came to take Simmy's body. What happened to her really broke my heart. I didn't think the family members would go to such an extent in order to conceal their bad deeds. I am just too sad that Simmy died for something which is considered my sin my existence that's the sin I have committed. Lee squeezes my hand bringing me back from my thoughts.

"We have to face the family sooner rather than later. They are expecting answers." She says and I sigh.

I tried to get along with everyone tried to blend in tried my best to give out some love but I am done with that bullshit now. They are going to know the real me today. I stand up and wear my sleepers. I then head downstairs with Lee following me. Kuhle quickly steps inside my room as he sees us exiting. We find the Biyela family the Ngwabe family and the Cele family in the living room but the kids aren't here. Good. Lee quickly finds a seat but I remain standing.

"I am honestly tired of telling people my story and having to explain my background." I start and I hear some thunder but I pay no mind to it. "In this house there are three and if not more people who are trying to kill me. Few moments before my good friend Simmy was killed she disclosed to me that one of those three people gave her a poisoned juice she was supposed to hand to me so that I can drink it and die. I am pretty sure that that person is the same person who ordered for her to be killed. I didn't even know about the fuckin throne before I came to this house. I didn't even know that there was a Biyela royal family to begin with. How long am I

supposed to justify my existence? How long till people actually stop trying to kill me and accept that I am part of this family and I am not going anywhere? How long huh?" the thunder becomes louder and lightning starts flashing. Mom stands up and comes to me.

"Honey I understand that you are angry right now but please calm down or else your mood might cause harm to innocent people." I frown at her.

"What do you mean?"

"You know that our ancestors are with you. They are one with you. They feel what you feel and they react to their feelings. They feel your anger and that is how they are reacting to it." She points outside at the storm.

"But I am tired ma. I really am. I haven't even ascended the damn throne but already I have a price on my head. Why me ma? Didn't I suffer enough why I was still living with Beauty? Why do I have to continue suffering even now when I am with my family? Is that fair? Am I not supposed to feel at home? Go wherever I like and eat whatever I like without the fear of being poisoned?"

I can't control my voice. It's stern and very high. Mom steps back. I see Ndosu standing up and he comes to me. He doesn't say anything he just wraps around me and brings me closer to his chest. All my walls break down and I start crying sobbing. He just holds me tight. After what feels like eternity I finally calm down and the storm quiets. He releases me and turns to everyone.

"Biyela." He says looking straight at my father. "This is my daughter and this is the last warning I will give out.

The next time she cries like this because of your family I won't warn you but you will feel my wrath." He goes back to his seat. I clear my throat and wipe my tears.

"I am the rightful queen of this generation and I won't do anything to prove myself. My last name and blood is enough proof. I know the names of the people who have been trying to kill me even the ones who sent hitmen after me when I was in Durban. I want you all to know that I am pardoning you for now. I am already a queen in my heart. So if anyone attempts to murder me in these two weeks while we prepare for my coronation please be warned that should I catch please be warned that should I catch your actions will be punishable by death. I am going to raise the spirit of Queen Mawenzokuhle and let it reside within me if I have to in order for everyone to acknowledge me. The people who are involved in Simmy's death all I can say is that sleep with one eye opened." I smile. "The coronation is on Saturday two weeks from now. Go and prepare yourselves." I look at everyone. Most of them are shocked. Ndosi has that pride look on his face. I bow before heading back to my room. Futhy is no longer in my bed. I assume Kuhle moved her. I sigh as I throw myself in the bed.

"That was hot." A voice disturbs me and I sit up quickly only to find Carter sitting on the chair near the vanity. I didn't even see him there.

"How did you..."

"We installed small cameras in most of the common rooms including the lounges kitchens library and patio and even by the pool. Lucky for us we installed them last

night while everyone was asleep so we were able to see who exactly shot Simmy." I climb off the bed and walk to him. I take his tablet from him.

"Who?" I see a video of the exact moment Simmy was shot. The guy was standing just a few feet away from her.

"One of the guards who is having an affair with Linomtha. They have been seeing each other for 3 years now but apparently she can't officialise their relationship because of her status." I nod.

"Where is he now?"

"In the servants' quarters. What are you thinking?" I shrug.

"I don't want to play dirty like them. But at the same time I can't let this shit go away." I lean on the wall. "I can always take him to court and embarrass the shit out of him. He might even crack and let his affair with Linomtha slip up." he smiles.

"So what do you suggest we do Noma?"

"Go to Detective Ncebakazi Shabangu who works at Greyville Police Station and give her this footage. If it was someone else I would've publicized it but I don't think Simmy's family would like to trend for a video of their daughter taking her last breath." He nods. "Just get this to the celebrity detective and give her all the details she needs to know about the guard and the whole case." He walks to the door. "Carter" he stops. "Please wait for Q to come back before you can leave."



“Okay then. I will make myself comfortable in the couch.” He walks to the couch and I head to the closet. Q Azile and Mabutho went to pay their respects to Simmy’s family and officially inform them about her passing. I could’ve also went there but I couldn’t be the bearer of bad news. It’s already night so I change into my short silk pajamas and head back to the bedroom. Carter has taken off his blazer he is only left with his sexy tight shirt black pants and shoes. His guns are strapped in. I clear my throat and he raises his head.

“We never really talked about that night.” I know he knows exactly which night I am referring to. He chuckles.

“You have a lot on your plate so I just pretended that it didn’t happen and that I was dreaming when I fucked your tight wet pussy. I also know that I was lucky because you are going to be a queen now. You have already caught eyes of some princes and kings so I stand no chance with my foreign non-royal ass.”

“If you really pay attention Carter you would know by now that I don’t care about what people say. I make my own life rules and just see where it takes me. I don’t care who says what as long as I am happy and satisfied.” I say as I walk closer to him pull him down and then smash my lips on his.

## CHAPTER 41

Onna makes her way into the garden with her iPad on her hand. I already know that whatever she is going to

say is work related. She smiles at me before bowing. I roll my eyes and she laughs.

“Well a guy named Wamashudu Rametsi was killed by his man’s girlfriend.” She says settling next to me. I frown and she chuckles. “So here is a full story Wamashudu also known as Wammy was a proud gay man. He dated Mmoloki Banyane for like a year or so. Mmoloki wasn’t openly gay and had a girlfriend of 4 years who is also his baby mama. Wammy was feminine and really soft. So the girlfriend found out and she was really mad. She spotted them in bed went to look for a knife. She then came in and stabbed Wammy while Mmoloki was shocked by being caught in the act. The girlfriend stabled Wammy until she took her last breath. She then sat on the crime scene until police came and arrested her.”

“So who approached you? Mmoloki? So that he can get justice for his lover?” Onna chuckles.

“As if. Nigga is very spineless. So the girlfriend Dikeledi Mphotoane has a rich family and friends in high places. Now here is the client that approached you. The gay community wants justice for their friend because Dikeledi got out on bail and that angered that very much. They have even started ‘Justice for Wammy’ campaign. There is all the evidence that points to Dikeledi being the perpetrator. Luckily the detective in charge of the case has made sure the evidence doesn’t disappear and also the docket. Here is some of my notes.” I take her notepad and go through the notes.

"Dikeledi pleaded not guilty? She is really confident. And the prosecutor isn't taking the case?" she shakes her head.

"Due to Dikeledi being a rich kid the gay community fears that the state will not ensure that justice is served for Wammy. That's why they want you to make sure Dikeledi rots in jail." I nod.

"I am taking it. I need something to keep me busy or else I will go insane. When is the trial starting?"

"On the first Monday of next month. I will inform the community about this and then set up a meeting with Wammy's friend. Also I already have the list of the people the defence will be bringing to testify in favour of Dikeledi."

"Is Mmoloki one of those people?" she shakes her head.

"But we can bring him to the stand. In fact subpoena him. He will have no choice." I chuckle.

"Good thinking. Where are these people located vele? And where is this trial going to take place?"

"North West. In Lichtenburg. They said they will make sure that your accommodation is up to your standard and they will provide you with anything you need plus your legal fees." I nod. "I will get you all the information you need on the deceased Mmoloki and Dikeledi. I will bring it tomorrow morning or just send them via email."

"Okay. Are you coming to Simmy's funeral?"

"Yes. I will be there. Walk me out your highness." I laugh and shake my head. Onna can be dramatic if she wants to. We both stand up and walk inside the palace. We find

mom cuddling with dad on the couch in the lounge. This is a rare sight. Usually she is ignoring him. She stands with a smile when she sees Onalenna.

"Hello young lady. You thought you were going to leave without greeting me?" Onna giggles before shaking her head.

"How are you ma?"

"I am fine. How are you doing?"

"I am good."

"Now did they offer you anything to eat or drink?" Onna shakes her head.

"I was already on my way out ma."

"Nonsense. NELISIWE!" she shouts and her personal maid appears. "Please prepare some cakes and juice for Onalenna." She nods and bows before heading out. "Now come sit." They go sit and I follow them. "So what's happening?"

"I just came here for a work related matter." Ma looks at her hoping she continues and I laugh.

"Work means confidential ma." She looks at me and rolls her eyes.

"Where is the fun in that? Come on spill the beans. You know whatever you are working on will be public knowledge soon. So just tell me. Come on." She will do or say anything for a scoop.

"Well this gay got killed by his man's baby mama. It's just a normal case ma no drama there." I say and she leans forward.

"Honey where there are gays there is always drama. I am definitely coming to watch your trial so that I can see you in action." I chuckle and look down.

"Mama there is no need for that. It's just a case."

"Well it may be just a case to you but it's your first case as my daughter

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officially. So I want to be there to support you and watch you kick butt of that hypocrite of a woman."

"Why are you saying she is a hypocrite?"

"Because she didn't kill the man. She was supposed to deal with the man no matter what the other woman or man in this case did to her. She was supposed to face her man before looking at the gay. This is going to be interesting." She squeals and we just laugh. "So when is the trial starting?" Nelisiwe comes in with a tray. She places it in front of Onna and quickly walks away. Onna starts by pouring and giving juice to dad who thanks her with a smile. She also does the same for me and mom before pouring some for herself and sitting back.

"It is starting on the Monday after my coronation." Onna gasps and puts her food back on the table.

"Your coronation is next week? What are you going to wear? Who is doing your make-up? Where is it going to be held? Who is crowning you? OMG! Why didn't you tell me this earlier? I shouldn't have come to you with this case. You have a lot on your plate and I have a coronation to plan. In 11 days. God I have to make some

calls I have to go." Mom looks at Onna with an amused look. Onna is already panicking.

"Relax Onna we have everything under control. You can just worry about Noma's outfit." Mom says bringing her thigh. She smiles and relaxes.

"What kind of a dress do you want boss?" Onna asks and I give her a disbelief look.

"How long have you known me?" she rolls her eyes and chuckles.

"Noted. I will contact Mami so that she will design your dress and maybe have some girl from Nongoma named Azanda Buthelezi add some beads to your work so that it will have that African touch."

"What work has this Azanda done before?" I ask.

"She has worked with Joburg celebs and she is really good at what she does. Almost like Bayanda. Her best work was a dress B-Lady wore at some awards show. She is also part of Yakhanathi Organization." She states. She also shows me some of this Azanda's work. Her work is really good.

"Okay. Contact her. But will she be able to do the dress in a week?"

"We hope so." We are disturbed by some noise coming from the foyer so we all stand up and go there. We find about 5 cops at the door. One of them steps forward when they see us.

"Your Majesty we are so sorry for disturbing your peace but we are here on official police business." The police

states already carrying a warrant in his hand. I see Linomtha walking in with her side dish. The dish goes to stand with the other guards. He looks so young up close. Now his life is about to go downhill and I am sure his girlfriend will not help him. I mean how else is she going to explain helping a guard who was caught red-handed?

"How can we help you officer?" dad asks stepping forward. The police hands him the warrant.

"I am here for Sakhizwe Radebe." The officer says and I look at Linomtha who is frowning.

"What do you want from our guard?" mom asks.

"Where is he? Can you bring him to us?" the officer says in a polite yet demanding tone. Sakhizwe comes forward.

"That's me officer. How can I help you?" the officer retrieves handcuffs.

"Mr. Sakhizwe Radebe you are under arrest for the murder of Simthandile Dlaba. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in the court of law. You have a right to an attorney. If you don't have one the state will provide for you." the officer says before turning him around.

"Can I please remove my guns first?" Sakhizwe says.

"Go ahead but if you do something stupid I might be forced to use force against you." the officer says and steps back from Sakhizwe. He shocks us all when he takes his gun and blow his brains within a minute. All the women scream while the men are just shocked. His body falls to the floor and Linomtha releases a loud wail.

## CHAPTER 42

"You guys are trending. Two deaths in the palace and I don't know who but someone went to the media and told them that the guard was paid by someone to kill Simmy. But he didn't wanna come clean so he decided to end his life. The source is anonymous." Onna says as she keeps on scrolling on her tablet. "The Dlaba family is demanding answers. This is getting out of hand and chaotic." I huff and throw my head back. I did not foresee this much drama. Why the fuck did Sakhizwe kill himself? Is there some kind of crazy loyalty thing that he swore to that witch Linomtha? "Boss. Boss." Onna shakes me and I look at her. "Are you okay?"

"Yeah. Yeah I am fine."

"Are you sure? It's like you zoned out there for a bit." I sigh.

"I am fine Onna. Please as Q to drive you home. I will see you on the funeral and please send me more information on the case." She nods.

"Okay boss. You are going to be fine. This too shall pass." She squeezes my shoulder and walks out with Q.

Ever since I found out about my true identity it's been drama after drama. Honestly it is tiring and I wish I could give up but I know that I can't. I can't abandon my family and my rightful position like that. Only because of some death threats? Then Simmy would've died for nothing if I quit. I am not a quitter and I won't start now. I get up and walk to the garden. I smile when I find my



mother sitting on my bench. Well it's a royal bench but I usually sit here so it's mine now.

"Shit is hitting the fan and we are trending but you are smiling to yourself? Did the witches get to you?" she asks and I laugh before settling besides her. "Are you sick?" she touches my forehead and I continue laughing. Mom is crazy. "Huzet baby girl what are you smiling about?" "I am fine ma. I am just happy to see you. Even though you are sitting in my bench." She chuckles.

"Bitch I was here before you so this is my bench."  
"And I am the queen so I am entitled to it." She laughs.  
"Sasha." Our eyes meet and we break into laughter. "So what did you come out here for?"  
"To think. I was actually going to go look for you after the thinking session."  
"Why?" I exhale out loud and look ahead.

"First I am going to tell you some ice breaking news because I know you aren't going to be too excited about listening to them after I tell you the actual reason why I wanted to talk to you." she nods and that's a sign for me to go on. "I think I like some boy. He is white though. Yoh ma he is so sexy and he knows how to put it down. Like nigga is gifted and he fucks like a fuckin BLACKED star." Mom's eyes pop and she breaks into laughter and even stands up.

"Baby girl you're naughty. You can't be talking to your mother about this."  
"If you know BLACKED then you definitely are my mother." We both laugh. She sits back down.

"But I have heard that white guys don't know how to put it down. The only thing they are good for is foreplay." I chuckle.

"That's just stereotype. Konje you have never fucked any other man beside Maphikelela?" she gives me a side glance and laughs. "Ow no. mom! Damn you're nasty."

"Hey don't judge. Don't you dare judge me." I laugh. "I was in Greece just to get a breather. After your death I didn't have a life. I was miserable. The birth of your siblings managed to cheer me up but to some extent. I never recovered. This is the life I lived. Sitting around and doing absolutely nothing. So I started travelling the world after Khazimla was four years. When I got to Heraklion I just decided to get loose and there was this one man in particular who I was attracted to. That night you were all I was thinking about and I wanted to forget even if it was for one night. So I went for him. The sex was so good like legs shaking and all. I enjoyed the whole night. Then the next morning I got a call that Uluthando was sick. So I had to come back and I never saw the guy again. I don't even remember his name."

"If you didn't get a call you wouldn't have come back?" she laughs. "Would you have continued with the Greek dude?"

"Honey if you are married should you decide to cheat should you decide to cheat have a one night stand. And don't ever go back to that person because it will end up becoming an affair. One of you will catch feelings and shit will hit the fan. So you gotta be clever on that aspect."

"Does Maphikelela knows about it?" she shakes her head.

"I wanted to tell him about it the first moment I got home but I found her making out with Nomthunzi on the lounge and I got super mad. One thing about being in a polygamous relationship you shouldn't show affection for the other partner in the presence of the other because that will cause so much conflict. Even if you're a lover of PDA not in the presence of the other woman. That's just pure disrespect. At that moment I just wished to go back to the Greek god because I was super mad but I just banged the door and made my way to Kungothando's room."

"Intense. So am I like expected to marry a prince or king just because I am a queen?" she chuckles.

"No. you are not compelled to do that. one of the good things about this position is that you are free to choose your partner and you can get married but you won't do a traditional wedding to introduce you to the guy's ancestors until a child is involved or until the next queen is of age." I nod. That seems so cool. "So you really like the white boy huh?"

"With me and my friends we always sleep with guys first just to determine how much we like them because our love language is sex. So I have slept with him four times and I just love how passionate he is with sex and how he can shift from making love to fucking in a nanosecond."

"Borrow me him for a night." Mom says laughing and I also laugh. "So if you like him go ahead and be with him. Don't let your title stop you from pursuing a relationship." I nod and rub my hands on my thighs.

"You're nervous?" I give her a small smile and nod once again.

"I know who has been trying to kill. Like ever since I got here or even before I got here. It's four people really. I don't know the fourth one in detail and I don't even know why they are doing what they are doing. What are they going to gain?" she turns her whole body to me. I huff. "Linomtha Nomthunzi Zimfefe and Beauty's nephew Bengizile." She frowns and then her aura changes instantly.

"What did they do? Each and every one of them and what proof do you have?" I groan and sit back.

"Footages and every other thing to put them in prison for a long time. I also have witnesses." She chuckles darkly.

"Nomalanga you still have a lot to learn about this family but one thing you must know is that if a person has wronged one of our own even if it's a family member we don't report them to the cops. We bring law to our own hands. We are the law. If you sin against any royal member you will be burned to death and that is not even negotiable."

"But..."

"No buts Noma. These people tried to kill you numerous times. An innocent girl died because of their actions. I can only spare one person and that's Zimfefe because Moyomuhle is still young and she needs her mother but the rest are going to die. Zimfefe is going to prison."

"What about Maphikelela? What do you think he is going to say when he finds out this? His wife?"

"I don't give a fuck about Nomthunzi. She tried to kill me before but they let her go. She is not going to do that

shit with my kids and get away with it. I will deal with her even if I have to do everything myself I don't mind." She says angrily. I rub my temples looking at her. Everything is out in the open now so I think I should just tell her all the information I have.

"She is one of the people who worked together with Beauty to make sure that I disappeared. Together with her mother and Linomtha's mother." She frowns and immediately stands up like something is pushing her. "Are you sure?" I nod. "I dreamt of it." She chuckles.

"This bitch is going to know me today." She storms towards the palace and I run after her fearing she might do worse. God and here people thought I was a short fuse. Wait until you meet my mother. Life in the palace deserves a reality show. She rushes inside the lounge. "NOMTHUNZI! NOMTHUNZI YOU FUCKEN STUPID BITCH PIECE OF SHIT! COME FACE ME RIGHT NOW OR ELSE I AM GOING TO GET MORE ANGRY AND FUCKEN SQUASH YOU LIKE A BUG THAT YOU ARE!" suddenly there is chaos in the palace.

## CHAPTER 43

Nobody anticipates her movements. Even dad jumps off the couch when he sees her walking in looking like an angry lioness. She doesn't explain she just jumps on Nomthunzi and starts hitting her. Everything is going too fast. She is hitting her everywhere and Nomthunzi is not doing anything to defend herself. She is just screaming.

Finally someone courageous steps in to stop the fight or rather the beatings. Phiwo comes and pulls ma from Nomthunzi.

"Mah calm down. What is wrong?" Phiwo asks restraining ma as hard as he can but being careful.

"This witch here has tried to kill my child ever since she was born. I will not let her harm another hair on my daughter's head. Today is the D-Day." she says trying to escape Phiwo's hold.

"Skoni calm down. We are still in mourning. There is no need for all this noise." Linomtha says walking in wearing black. I am tempted to laugh but I decide against it. Mourning who?

"Fuck you. What the fuck are you still doing here? This is not your home. You should fucken leave with you fucken witchcraft. Mourning who? We didn't lose any family member last time I checked. Just a guard who was paid to kill Simmy." Mom says spitefully looking at Linomtha. "We have been too lenient with you. Pack your shit and leave or else you are going to leave in a coffin and that can be arranged as soon as possible." Yoh. Mom is dishing out threats and it's not even funny.

Dad moves closer to her and indicates that Phiwo should let her go. He does. "Mkami calm down. What is going on? Talk to me. You have never behaved in this manner ever before. What is happening?"

"Your beloved Nomthunzi her mother and Linomtha's mother were the masterminds in the disappearance of Noma. They even paid Beauty handsomely for her to keep Noma far away from the village. You went outside

our marriage and brought a witch who intended to harm our children. How could you Maphikelela? Why wasn't I enough for you?" she asks already punching him in his chest. He holds her hands.

"Can we please all calm down and talk about this?"

"There is nothing to talk about. As long as she is here I am leaving. I am going home and I am taking all my children and my grandchild with me. Fuck the coronation. I will not live in this roof a minute longer with these witches." She is a fire breathing dragon.

"Let's not blow things out of proportion. Let's talk about this. As a family." he says brushing her arms but mom won't hear none of that.

"This is what you did. When I told you that our daughter is alive somewhere out there. You downplayed my opinion and sent me to a mental institution. You don't love me wena Maphikelela. Even if you once did it all ended the day you met her. You just tolerated me because I was your first wife and the mother of your children. But I am not going to stand this any longer. Either you believe and give her the deserving punishment or I am leaving with my children."

I clear my throat. "We are not leaving mama. This is my home and this is where I shall rule from. If he chooses her he is free to leave with her. They will see where they are going to stay." I say and my mother smiles. I turn to Nomthunzi who is still crying but silently. I smile and look at Maphikelela. "She tried to kill me together with her mother and Linomtha's mother. They paid Beauty to disappear with me when their plans to kill me didn't

succeed. Now I understand that you might not love my mother but are you seriously going to choose a woman over your own blood your own daughter that you lost and which you are supposed to be bonding with?"

"Don't listen to them baba. They are lying." Nomthunzi finally speaks up and I laugh.

"I dreamt of it just like I dreamt of everything my ancestors wanted to show me. Just like I saw how you poisoned my mother while she was carrying Phiwo but he didn't die. Instead his twin sister did." the room goes silent. My mom looks at me with her eyes popped out and tears forming.

"They showed you that?" she asks with a shaky voice. I nod. She just breaks down and starts crying. Maphikelela tightens his arms around her.

"You were sitting with dad. She served you both tea with the intention to make peace. She was not married at that time. She was just a girlfriend. I don't know how stupid you guys were to let her inside the palace illegally. You both shared each other's tea. That night you bled mother while dad had a runny stomach. You didn't even know you were pregnant and only found out after that incident. The truth is she knew you were pregnant before you did and she thought killing the child will guarantee her future child the throne."

"Where did you get all this? You are a liar. You are lying. You are only hear to break this family apart." Linomtha says and I smile at her.

"I will not dig into the past with you I am just going to show the recent events which led to two deaths in the



palace. Your conversation with Simmy in the kitchen on the day of the feast how you ordered your boyfriend to kill her because you feared she would grow cold feet should I carry on?" I ask with my eyebrows raised. She looks shocked. "Three people in this house have tried to kill me and mom told me that we don't involve the police in our business. We handle it ourselves so after my coronation

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so after my coronation be prepared to receive your punishments including you Zimfefe. I know you sent a hitman to kill me. Unfortunately Q caught him and fortunately he confessed before kicking the bucket."

Phiwo looks at Zimfefe who looks down. Probably ashamed. Mom is still crying but softly. I go to her and touch her shoulder. She turns to me.

"It's going to be okay mother. They are all going to pay one by one for every crime they committed. come." I hold out my hand and she takes it. "Nomthunzi Linomtha and Zimfefe if you dare try to flee or attempt to commit another murder your punishment will be more severe and Zimfefe you won't be granted the mercy my mother was thinking of granting you."

I pull my mother and we head to my bedroom. I make her sit on the bed and go fetch some sleeping pills for her. I make her drink them with water and help her lie down. I cover her with a throw and go sit on the couch. Nomthunzi has put my mother through so much shit. I honestly think she is more kind hearted than me because

my friends and I especially Futhy we would've long killed Nomthunzi. She starts snoring lightly. The door opens and Carter walks in.

"Oww you have company? I will come back later on." He says already closing the door. I chuckle and stand up. I pull him inside and close the door locking it behind him. I lead him to the closet and make him sit on the bench there. I sit on his lap.

"What brings you here?"

"I was in the neighbourhood so I thought I should stop by just to say hi." I laugh and roll my eyes.

"What neighbourhood Carter? Durban is like 2 hours away from here. You just drove 2 hours just to say hi?"

"I was also hoping for one round and then go back." He says turning me to straddle him. I chuckle.

"Do you like me? Like do you have strong feelings for me? Or is this all just a sexual thing to you?" I ask with my head tilted to the side and my hands on his neck.

"I like you. More than I should actually. Even though I know we won't have a future I picture you pregnant with cute coloured babies and having a huge rock on your finger with your last name as Carter." I smile and then eventually end up laughing.

"Carter? Your last name is Carter?" he smiles.

"Yes. Prince Kuhle is the one who called me it once because he is like a huge fan of Jay-Z and everyone just followed suit. My name is Nicholas. My family and friends call me Nick."

"Mmm. So do you have any kids or baby mama or even wife?"

"I don't think I would be entertaining you if I had any woman in my life. I know how jealous your gender can be. I am however a divorcee."

"How old are you?"

"37."

"Holy fuck. You look younger. Like you are in your late twenties or even early thirties." He chuckles and rests his hands on my waist bringing me closer to him. "What made you divorce your wife?"

"She was very demanding. I really thought she would change after we got married but she just got worse and this one time I nearly lost my job because she started complaining about me going to work every day and even suspected me of having an affair with a fellow colleague. Then she started cheating on me with a garden boy. I caught them the first time. They apologized and the foolish Nick forgave them. But that was the start of their affair. Until I just realized that I don't deserve this. So I divorced her." I nod.

"You have been through a lot." I remark and he smirks.

"Which is why you should give me at least three rounds because you just made me relive some trauma." He says faking a tear and I laugh.

"You sly son of a bitch." I start dry humping him and he groans. Someone knocks on the door but we just ignore them and continue what we are doing. They eventually give up and walk away.

## CHAPTER 44

We are woken up by shouting and some cries. What the fuck is happening at this house so early in the morning? Honestly I would give a few bucks for a drama free day. This shit is tiring. After 3 rounds with Carter in my closet he left and I slept with mom. But it wasn't a peaceful night because she was jumpy and sometimes she woke up and just cried. I had to give her some sleeping pills again and that seemed to work because she slept after that. Honest to God if I was evil I would've strangled Nomthunzi to sleep for all the heartaches she has brought to my mother.

I shake her and she mumbles in her sleep before turning to face away from me. That's exactly something I would do if someone tries to wake me up before my alarm has rang or on a weekend. I laugh and shake her again. "What do you want Noma?" she mutters turning around to face me.

"Seems like there is some drama happening downstairs. So let's go check it out." she rolls her eyes and covers herself with the comforter. I laugh again. Mom is such a vibe. "Mah come on. Aren't you curious?" she grunts before uncovering herself.

"Fine I guess it wouldn't hurt to see what these witches are up to today."

We go brush our teeth before wearing robes and heading downstairs. Okay this is more dramatic than what I anticipated and even more interesting. Mom quickly

dashes to the kitchen and comes back with two packets of Simba chips fruit chutney flavour. She pushes me to the two seater couch and I chuckle before sitting down. She opens her chips and I mirror her actions. Well what is happening is that Maphikelela is ordering the guards to go take Nomthunzi's belongings and throw them outside. The front door is wide open. All my siblings are here except for those who don't stay in the palace. Luckily the children aren't witnessing all this. They have a room a playroom which is soundproofed. They always take them there when drama starts.

"I can't believe I fucken trusted you. I brought a snake a witch into my home. I endangered my wife's life and lost two daughters in the process. Why? What could I have possibly done to offend you that much? Your hate for my wife is understandable because you shared a man but was your hate towards my children necessary? Is this what you wanted? Are you happy that you have managed to destroy this family? Is this what you came here for? Didn't they advise you that when you go to your man's house you are there to build and not destroy? What kind of a woman are you?" Maphikelela is fuming. He is even crying. Mom seems so unbothered by this drama. Instead she is enjoying it.

"Myeni wami whatever you heard is not true. I didn't do it. They are lying against my name. Believe me. Please. They are trying to break us up. Don't let them. We are happy the way we are. We were happier even before she came back. Don't let her take away our happiness. Don't let them win. Please my love." Nomthunzi is on her knees pleading.

"Don't beat around the bushes when talking about me. Just say my name clearly and out loud so that I can deal with you without any misinterpretations." Mom says with a smile before continuing eating. "Nelly bring me juice. All this drama is making me thirsty." She shouts and Nelly rushes out.

"Nobody told me shit Nomthunzi. I saw everything with my own eyes. How you and your mother went to Mandlezulu to get umuthi to make me even desire you. How you planned to kill my firstborn and failed but ended up selling her. How you killed Phiwo's twin. How you made my wife go crazy with umuthi. Why did you do all that? You can't say it's because of love. Killing my children that is not love. That's murder. I can't believe I brought you here trusted you loved you and in turn you destroyed me from inside out. My sister was right about you." Dad says before grabbing her upper arm and dragging her out. She is kicking and screaming.

"They are manipulating you. Can't you see that? They want us to break up. They don't want to see you happy." Nomthunzi pleads once again. Maphikelela laughs before handing her over to the guards.

"Make sure you take her faraway from here and keep an eye on her. We wouldn't want her disappearing before the queen has punished her. Also make sure that she never sets foot in the palace." He orders the guards. They drag her out. He closes the door after them. Mom stands up and claps her hands.

“What a show you put on Maphikelela. Unfortunately it is not going to make me forgive you for being spineless and bringing that witch into our home.” She looks at him one more time before walking upstairs. This palace is never without drama I tell you.

I look at Linomtha with a smile. “You are next. Angihlali nabathakathi mina (I don’t live with witches).”

...

Simmy’s funeral was a dignified one. It was full of press and most of them were actually interested in me rather than in the service. The guards eventually chased them out because every corner I turned they wanted to pull me away for two minutes just to ask how I ‘feel’ about the whole thing. As if you are supposed to feel anything else than grief sadness and heartbreak after losing a loved one. My grandparents also pulled through and I was happy for their presence. They seem like those people who have so much affection and love. So I have decided to go visit them even for a weekend if I get any chance.

I am currently at work and going through some of the notes about the dead gay lover. There is so much proof of the affair on his phone. I will definitely head to North West a few days after my coronation. I have also made a request to the court for the trial to be postponed by a week. Of course that made the defense attorney angry and he even tried to contact me but I am not interested in talking to him or his client before trial. The door to my office opens and Mandlakhe walks in. where the fuck are my guards? They know never to let anyone in while I am working. Well Ndosu is an exception because who can say no to him?

"Before you chase me away please hear out what I have to say." He says with his hands raised in surrender mode. I stare at him and he smiles awkwardly. "I am sorry for what my wife did to you. I never got the chance to apologize. So please forgive me."

"Anything else?"

"Umm I would like for us to try again. This time all my cards are on the table. I would like you to be my second wife. I know my timing sucks but please give me a chance." I laugh tilting my head to the side. This nigga is full of jokes.

"Have you been keeping up with the current news?" he frowns but nods. "Did you see who my parents are and who my grandparents are?" he clears his throat.

"I have done my research and I discovered that a Biyela Queen can date and actually marry a man while she is still queen but cannot change her surname." I chuckle.

"What makes you think you stand a chance? You were spineless and never cared to defend me when your wife humiliated me in front of the whole nation. What makes you think I would even consider giving a weak man like you a chance? You are clearly delusional. Please get out of my office before I call my guards and have you thrown out."

"Let's talk about this Noma."

"GET THE FUCK OUT OF MY OFFICE!" the door opens and my uncle Bonginkosi Ngwabe walks in. he is my mother's



younger and the few times we were together we actually got along very well.

"Hello my flower." I smile before rushing to hug him.

"Hey uncle. What brings you here?"

"I am here to see my new favourite niece. Now what were you shouting about? What is going on?" he asks looking at Mandlakhe.

"I was just on my way." He says backing away.

"The way my niece was screaming before I got in says otherwise. Man do you have a problem?" uncle asks.

Mandlakhe shakes his head quickly before rushing out.

Uncle rolls his eyes before turning to me. "Who is that?"

"An ex. He is such a non-factor. Anyways why are you here?" he smiles.

"Drop whatever you are doing because I am here to take you out. I cleared my schedule just for you. So I will be waiting at the foyer for you. Nice office you got here by the way." He kisses my cheek before heading out.

I am still not used to having uncles and aunts let alone parents but they have been so welcoming so I am keen on spending the day with him. I just hope he doesn't take me to a museum or any boring place like that. No don't get me wrong. Museums are not boring but going there with the intention of having fun is not my thing. But he is cool so I hope he will take me to some place exciting.

CHAPTER 45

Spending the day with uncle Bonginkosi was so cool. He allowed me to be a child and actually spoiled me rotten. He is a crowned prince the next one in line after my grandfather so all of the stores we went to they were cleared out of customers just because Princess Noma wanted to shop. I won't lie that felt really good. He told me that once I am queen; that is how my life is going to be. Rooms are going to be cleared out just because I want to utilize that particular place at that particular time.

Anyhow Carter has kidnapped me. I don't know if I will ever get used to calling him Nick. He wanted a few hours with me and after informing mom about it I allowed him to kidnap me. It's a lawful kidnap by the way. With only a few days until my coronation I need to go out and clear my head.

"So where are you taking me?" I ask as he drives to north of Durban. My guards are driving in a car behind us to give us some privacy. He smiles and shakes his head. "I am not telling. I am finally happy that we are alone and we are not getting naked and getting down to business. That's what we do most of the time when we are together." I bit my lip and nod in agreement. We are always fucking.

"If you really love me we can pursue a relationship and see where it takes us. Me being queen doesn't decrease your chances with me. It is even so much better because you are white. There won't be no ancestors fighting over me should we decide to take this union to another level."

"I am happy to hear you talk about the future. We will talk more about it once we have settled down where we are going."

He even made Azile pack an overnight bag for me. We get to Ballito and he drives in to the At Don's B&B. I am impressed. The view of the ocean is spectacular. We are escorted to a private entrance and he goes to check in before leading me to our suite. He has booked a suite next to ours for my guards.

The moment we are alone I pin him on the door and attack him with a kiss. He chuckles and wraps his arms around my waist bringing me closer to him.

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We get dressed and then head to the Sibaya Casino. My friends and I have gambled before but we were highly intoxicated. We made sure however to go with limited cash and no other important things like phones and wallets. There is a motor race day today. Carter is participating and I am excited about it. In fact I get wet just thinking about him racing. We get to the casino and play a few games before the time comes for the race to start. My guards and I go sit on the auditorium while Carter heads to wherever he is needed.

"Carter is a good guy. If you want me to get a file on him I can do that." Q says and I chuckle shaking my head.

"Don't. You say he is a good guy I will hold on to that. I wanna give him the benefit of the doubt. If he doesn't have any bad skeletons in his closet then I am game. I

have been burnt in love for the past months. I shouldn't be opening my heart so soon but there is something about him. Something Mann that makes me wanna give him a chance and just see where this goes." I answer honestly. I am also scared about this decision I am taking but I have always been fearless and bold and I won't stop now.

"I will do a background check just for control and if he has really dark skeletons I will have no choice but to inform you for your own safety." Azile says and I nod at her.

The race starts and we focus on it. Carter is really good. There are about 20 racers and they are all good at racing. The race finally comes to an end and Carter takes the second place. That's a victory and I am happy for him. After celebrating a bit with the contestants  
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he comes to where I am and he kisses me. I giggle and blush like a teenager.

"The money I won is for you. This day is all about you." he pulls me and then we walk out.

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Our day was just perfect. I have been in good relationships before but I think Carter definitely is the one. I have told my friends about him and they are very happy but Futhy is mad that we always take away her guards. She asked what it is about them that attracts us. I couldn't put it in words. It's not his profession that

attracted me to him maybe it contributed a bit. I am yet to come with reasons why I am attracted to him.

By the way Noma Futhy and I were born in the same month just different dates. Each year we always make a huge celebration on the 15th day of the month and we always celebrate it in the Cele Morningside household. Our huge celebration is next month. There is a lot happening in my life I don't know if I will have the time or be in the right state to celebrate my 32nd birthday but this is the first time I will be surrounded by both my adoptive and real family. So I know mom is going to make a big deal out of this.

It's the day before the coronation and people are busy going up and down making sure that everything goes smoothly tomorrow. I was told by the healer that I will receive some instructions from the fallen queens on midnight on how to start this journey. I am shit scared I don't wanna lie. I just hope I won't have another sleepwalking episode just so I can communicate with these queens.

Nomthunzi and Linomtha are both not at the palace and will not be attending the coronation hopefully. I consulted with the Zulu king Kuhle's father and asked for some guidance on how to deal with these both witches. He said killing them will make me like them. I am not a killer and I shouldn't start now. However I should find a punishment that will belittle them and make them ashamed and regretful about their past decisions. Which is why I have planned on making them cleaners to the community public clinic. I will announce all that at my

coronation dinner just so no one will give them some kind of special treatment and I want everyone to know that they are both guilty of treason and anyone who helps them in any way is also guilty of the act.

Futhy walks in rubbing her growing bump and hands me a gift box. "I prayed for those things just like the ancestors instructed me to. It's incweba yasokhalo and a bracelet. Do not remove them under any circumstances and once you put them on they won't fall off willingly." Both these items are made of white pearls and of small diamonds here and there.

"The ancestors have class." I comment as I take off my top and put incweba on. Futhy laughs.

"The diamonds were my idea." She responds shrugging. "Anyways I need to leave. My husband is waiting for me at the hotel. See you tomorrow Your Majesty." She bows a bit with a smile. "You are going to nail this royal shit." I laugh and she heads out giggling.

I also put on the bracelet and put my top back on. Something compels me to get dressed in tracksuits and sneakers I just follow my instinct. After that I head downstairs and find the whole family seated around the dinner table waiting for me.

"Going out for a night jog?" Kungothando asks assessing my dress code and I chuckle before nodding. I sit down but only drink bottled water because I don't feel like eating anything.

"Nervous about tomorrow?" Maphikelela asks.

"You have no idea." They all laugh. We chat about a few things and after dinner I excuse myself for some fresh air. Just as I am about to exit through the backdoor Moyomuhle comes to me. She is followed by her mother. "Hello princess." She smiles.

"You are going to do great. They chose you for a reason. They trust you. they don't expect too much for you because you are also human and you are bound to make mistakes but they are happy that you are home and that you will ascend the throne just as they planned before you were even conceived." My eyes pop out. Such strong and wise words coming from a 5 year old. Wow. "Now go show them who's boss." She bows a bit and then walks away. Her mother steals a glance at me and she quickly follows her daughter. That was weird but I have had weird encounters with Moyomuhle since the first day we met.

I heard to the garden and sit down on my favourite bench. I should definitely have more benches installed in this garden so that people will stop sitting on mine. I close my eyes and start thinking about how my life has been since the beginning of the year. I never thought I would find myself in this position ever in my life. Sure at some point I wanted to meet up with my biological family but I didn't expect them to be fuckin royalty. But I am happy where I am. I am at peace and I am just content. I open my eyes and nearly freak out at the sight of the gorgeous woman standing in front of me. She smiles. Fuck. She looks exactly like me but slightly older.

"You know who I am." She states matter of factly and I nod.

"You are Queen Mawenzokuhle Biyela." She nods.

"Precisely. I have been very keen on meeting you. Now come. We don't have all night." She extends her hand and I take it.

## CHAPTER 46

This doesn't feel weird and scary like it did before. I am wide awake and I am exploring the royal garden well with a ghost acquaintance. She is really friendly and keeps on smiling. I can't believe she was one of the toughest queen to rule the Biyela kingdom. This garden is so big. I have never reached this part before. It has strawberry trees plums grapes and peaches.

"Once you are crowned the queen a fruit tree of your favourite fruit is planted here. As a queen you have to eat fruits planted specifically for you. So after the coronation you will order one of the servants to plant the tree of your favourite fruit. What is your favourite fruit by the way?" aunt Mawenza asks. She said I should call her aunt Mawenza because I am her niece and I never got to call her that.

"I love peaches and mangoes. I also love bananas and litchis." She nods. We approach a large row of black roses which form some kind of a fence.

"I don't want to say 'enchanted' but no one who is not of the Biyela royal blood direct descendant of the line can pass these roses. Our daughters can't pass here. Only



those with the last Biyela name can pass. After these roses lie our final resting place. Queens are buried in one place the queens' garden. That's why the garden is your favourite place of the palace. It's because that's where you feel the most connected to us. Other family members are buried in the royal cemetery in the royal mountain."

"That's very specific. Why the garden though?"

"Rulers are not supposed to leave the palace after their death. In the older days they were not even allowed to go to the mortuary. Even now when a queen dies her body is placed in the cold room behind the servants' quarters to prolong it and make sure it doesn't stink then she is buried after two days. For other normal royal members it's three or four days and they are also stored in the cold room."

"That's scary. Isn't it a bit terrifying to stay with a dead body?" she chuckles.

"It's not that deep and there is no other choice. A person is actually not allowed to stay that long on the ground after his soul has been separated from his flesh. Anyways walk through the black roses they will pave way for you and you won't get stung by thorns."

I breathe out loud and walk closer to the black roses. The moment I try to move them out of the way they miraculously shift out of the way. Scary. I walk through and at the end of the path I find Aunt Mawenza already waiting for me. She points with her head ahead of me.

"This is where all the fallen queens are laid to rest."

This looks like a really enchanted garden. There are tombstones those huge tombstones which look like mini houses and they are all surrounded by different flowers. We proceed with our journey and she leads me to a shelter not far from the graves. We find maybe about 6 women seated there chatting. They don't look old. In fact they look like in their late forties or fifties. They all turn and look at us well me. They all bow and I also bow. They are all carrying spears and knobkerries which differ in colours. They are wearing traditional beaded attires.

"Mzukulu." The old woman who made my sleep walk and caused me to get involved in an accident says. She is carrying a white spear and knobkerrie.

"You nearly killed me." I say and she laughs.

"You didn't listen to me. If you did you wouldn't have ended up in that position. You shouldn't have let go of my hand."

"We could've walked on the side of the road the pavement preferably." I say shrugging and they all laugh.

"You are going to excel in this job." One of them says and they continue laughing.

"Come sit down child." One who has a serious face says. I go sit and they sit on the bench in front of me. "I am Queen Bazumile Biyela

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the first Biyela woman to ever rule a kingdom without leaning on her husband. The first daughter of the first son. The record breaker. I don't remember my birth name. I was supposed to be Bazume but that name was too masculine."

"I am Queen Zimbalizikayise Biyela. The second queen. I was my father's daughter and I spent a lot of time with him."

"I am Liyabonelela Biyela the third queen."

"I am Mfulongashi Biyela. I am the fourth queen and I have a river that flows below the palace. That is where I was born. My mother was going out for fresh air and then I decided to make an appearance. I was born by the river."

"Just like Sam Cook." I mumble and she chuckles. "That's a manly name though."

"And I was manly during my rule. I think I am the only queen who died without committing herself to a man or a woman." they all laugh.

"Well you scared every man with your masculinity." One who hasn't introduced herself states and they all laugh.

"I am Zimawizindonga Biyela the fifth queen. My name is derived from our clan name Ndonga Zimawa."

"I am Busizwe Biyela the sixth queen. Well my name is explanatory. I was born to lead and I did just that until my last breath."

"And you already know me Mawenzokuhle the recent fallen queen. Now that the introductions are out of the way let's get to the guidance and advice section."

"Now you no longer going to live for yourself. Every time you do something your nation should always be at the back of your mind. Your people should be a priority. Don't get too hooked on the royal drama or fanciness and forget about the real nation you are supposed to lead. Do check up on the people regularly. Don't lock yourself up in the palace and go around telling people that you are the queen of the Biyela nation. Which nation? The palace?" Bazumile states.

"If available do make appearances on occasions hosted by the villagers. You don't even have to stay for the whole occasion. Just make an appearance. Also do attend to invites sent by other royal houses. Making allies with other royals is very important."- Zimbalizikayise.

"Don't change who you are in order to fit in. you are a queen. You are not supposed to fit in but to stand out because a queen that blends in is not a queen. People must see you as a queen even without your royal regalia. Own that crown be that crown. Be arrogant if you want to but not too much. Also don't forget who you are. Don't let power rule you rule power."- Liyabonelela.

"Date even get married if you want. But don't let a man rule over you or influence your decisions about ruling your nation. If you do that we will all forsake you and you won't have protection from us because that would mean you have sold our nation our whole legacy to a

man. We have fought so hard to prove that we are superior. Don't let that slip past out of your hands." – Zimawizindonga. That sounds like a threat.

"Lastly you don't have to forget about your profession. In fact do pay attention to your job so that you don't go crazy because the throne can drive you insane." Busizwe says and they all laugh. I guess it's an inside joke.

They continue giving me many advises and even sharing their stories everything that happened during their rule. Most of them have had men but they never got married. They make fun of Carter and Bazumile even approves of him because of his race. There won't be any war between the ancestors. Time flies they even feed me fruits because there is so much we are discussing. We don't even notice the sun rising.

"Time flies when we are having fun." Busizwe states before standing up. "Take off your clothes."

I quickly do as she says. Mfulongashi comes with a basin filled with water. She bathes me and then she walks away with that basin. I don't know when the last time someone bathed me like that was. Like a new born. Zimawizindonga comes with traditional clothing and puts it in the bench. She folds a clean fresh black towel into two and then wraps it around my waist. She pins it with a huge pin. "You have a nice body." She comments and I giggle.

They help me wear isidwaba with other beads izimbadada and isicholo. "You look like a true queen. Don't put on

those things on your face today. Maybe tomorrow.”  
Bazumile says and I laugh. She means make-up.

“I will do as you say gogo wam.” She comes to me and  
hands me a black spear and a black knobkerrie.

“You are a courageous leader and bears the mark of a  
true queen. Lead with wisdom kindness transparency and  
sincerity. Never let other people tell you otherwise. You  
are a queen and you are worthy of the throne. You are  
no longer an ordinary girl. From today on wards you are  
Queen Nomalanga Biyela.”

“Thank you Queen Bazumile Biyela.”

## CHAPTER 47

*“Simenyiwe indlovukazi isizobekwa  
Simenyiwe indlovukazi isizobekwa  
UBiyela uNtshangase waseMgazini  
Simenyiwe indlovukazi isizobekwa  
UBiyela uNtshangase waseMgazini  
Simenyiwe indlovukazi isizobekwa.”*

I walk around the yard and approach the front gate. I have my bitch resting face on. Many people are standing on the side lines singing and dancing. Rejoicing on this wonderful day that has finally come. Everyone is dressed in their traditional clothing and they look breathtaking. Before leaving the garden Queen Mawenzokuhle took off her cow skinned cape and made me wear it. It is so long and is literally picking up the dirt. She said I should only

wash it myself and only when there is a huge ceremony that is going to happen at the palace.

I come to a halt before the gate. All my family members are inside the gate. Also the Ngwabe family and the Cele family. I raise the spear in the air and silence reigns. Phiwokuhle comes forward and stands only a feet away from me.

"Sizwe sakwa Biyela bantu baseMakhabeleni. Today we are gathered here to witness the coronation of our new queen the long lost first daughter of Prince Maphikelela Biyela. I Phiwokuhle Biyela the regent hereby handover the throne to you Queen Nomalanga Biyela. We are yours now lead us." he kneels and everyone else mirrors his actions. I lower the spear and raise the knobkerrie.

"BIYELA! MGAZI! NTSHANGASE!" Everyone shouts.

I look at Phiwokuhle and he stands up. He then comes around to hold the end of my cape and I walk inside the yard. Light showers of rain fall and everyone else commences with the singing and dancing. I guess they were waiting for a sign. The rain passes. Moyomuhle comes to stand before me. She bows a little with a smile and I bow back. She giggles and runs to my mother. Honestly the ancestors make this child matured at a very young age.

Maphikelela comes and leads me to another entrance of the palace. I have never been to this side. It's the throne room. I step aside and allow everyone else to get inside. This is the biggest room in the palace. After everyone has

settled down I enter and they all ululate dance around sing. I get to the front and all the Biyela is seated on their seats. The healer is the only one standing near the throne. They provide a cushion for me and I kneel on it still holding my weapons tightly. The healer removes isicholo from my head and hands it to someone whom I don't even know.

"Please give someone your weapons so that you can be able to raise your hands to take the oath." The healer Bukhosini says and I shake my head.

"Handing them over to someone else means I will be handing over my power and the throne to another." I state sternly and he laughs before nodding.

"Good answer." I place my knobkerrie on the ground before me.

"Are you willing to take the oath Your Majesty?"

"I am willing."

"Please raise your left hand." I do so. "Will you solemnly promise and swear to rule the people of Emakhabeleni and the whole of country according to the rules and privileges bestowed upon you?"

"I solemnly promise to do so."

"Do you promise to always answer the call of the village put them above your own needs consider them in any decision pertaining them or their land?"



"All this I promise to do."

"Do you promise a fair trial to anyone who causes trouble or commits a crime during your reign?"

"As a qualified legal practitioner I promise to do."

"Do you promise to do all the aforementioned duties?"

"All this I promise to do. The things which I have here before promised I will perform and keep. So help me God." he smiles. They bring a huge ass crown to him and he takes it.

"I Ntsikayezizwe Bukhosini the Biyela royal family healer by the power vested in me by the ancestors crown you Queen Nomalanga Biyela the ruler of Amakhabeleni village and South Africa. Lead with courage and wisdom until time comes for you to pass the crown to someone else."

He places the crown on my head and then steps back. I pick up my knobkerrie and carefully stand up. I walk to the throne and settle on it. I can feel it. The power vested in me by the ancestors coursing through my veins. It's my birthright and it feels so good.

"BIYELA NTSHANGASE MENZIWA!" everyone says bowing and then they continue with the singing and dancing. A young lady wearing only beads covering her private body parts and on some other parts of the body steps forward with a smile and the noise quietens down.

"She is a queen  
She's something special  
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She's something special  
Similar to a candy coated dream.

The God in her will sooth your soul as if you were  
listening to the sound of the rushing river streams  
Her spirit shines brighter than a car's high beams.

Her love is sweeter than brown sugar  
And me oh my she is looker  
Her big chestnut sultry eyes reveals the beauty of her  
soul inside

I can just smell the aroma of her Shea butter and  
coconut fragranced skin as it glows due so her internal  
flame shining within.

Cocoa brown is the color of her melanated bronze  
complexion.  
Man her smile drives me wild.

That luminous smile her glorious smile is as gorgeous as  
the clouds when she shows her pearly whites.  
It brightens my day like a lamp in the darkness of the  
night.

And her mind is a secret treasure that only her King can  
discover and uncover the bountiful mountains he'll climb.  
She's artistic and musically inclined and at the drop of a  
dime shell bust out in a poetic rhyme.

And her words Gosh her blissfully profoundly spoken  
words will send chills up your spine.

She's my own personal ray of sunshine

She's simply divine

She's a peacemaker staying serene

From the inside out she is a beautiful human being.

She's good for your mental hygiene

Kinda like how your body needs protein.

Royalty is embedded in DNA gene

And her crown is made of lustrous flowing locks shining  
like oil sheen.

She is royalty she's my sister from another mister. She is  
an unshaken strong melanized beautiful queen."

She bows and walks away. Damn that was good. I nod  
and do some clapping gesture because I can't clap my  
hands freely with my weapons. A young man also steps  
forward wearing ibheshu nomqhele.

"Ntshangase Menziwa Njezi Ka Xhoko. Ndabezitha.  
Mvundlane Wasokhabeni. Mbeng'osinda Abosi. Mgazi.  
Luzumane Ka Ndaba. Bazume Ndaba Balibele. Mgazi  
Omponjwana Dinane Wamakhosi Ziyankomo Masiphula  
Ka Mamba. Ngonga Zimawa Zimakhelethe Ngisabathe  
Ngiyazibiza Azasabela Kwaze Kwasabela Uphunga No  
Mageba Bathi Buya Mvundlane Nezwe Labuya. Mvundlane  
Wesinikiniki Esimashoba Omsuthu Esaqeda Abakwa  
Nkentshane."

The young man ends with a bow and he gets cheers. Kungothando stands up and heads to the podium. My sister is a book worm who keeps it to herself. I wonder who made her do whatever she is about to do.

"Greetings to all of our guests. We are honored that you respected our invite and joined us in crowning my sister and our new queen of the Biyela nation Queen Nomalanga Biyela. My task is very short. Firstly I would like to greet all the royal houses present here today on this occasion. It was a short notice but we thank you for coming. Now many of you don't know my sister but I will let you in on her little history."

"Queen Nomalanga Biyela was born on the 26th of September 1989. She was raised by a former royal midwife who actually stole her 2 days after her birth. She grew up in Durban and later moved to Joburg where she did her Bachelor of Laws and BSc in Civil Engineering. She served her articles at Mngoma Attorneys and she gained so much experience that she started her own law firm shortly after passing her board exams. The name of her law firm is Biyela and Associates and it is still growing strong till date. She also did her Master of Laws which was based in Criminal Justice. Currently she is pursuing her PhD and as soon as she is finished with her doctoral thesis the whole of the Biyela nation will be invited to celebrate her achievement." Everyone ululates. "That is who Queen Nomalanga Biyela is. Now don't go around telling people that you don't know the new Biyela queen." everyone laughs. She is such a natural. She goes back to her seat and mom goes to the podium.

"Greetings to the royal houses the press the people of Emakhabeleni our other guest and most importantly Bayede to the new Biyela Queen."

"BAYEDE!"

"I won't be long. I am pretty sure my daughter is feeling so uncomfortable in that isidwaba." I chuckle. "So we are all going to move to the tent where all celebrations will commence while our queen goes to change. I am actually a proud mother today. Congratulations my love." she winks at me and I smile.

People stand up and they head out. I stand and mom leads me to an exit that leads you to the palace library. We head to my room and I finally breathe out loud. She laughs.

"Pressure neh?" she asks and I chuckle.

"You have no idea." I place my weapons on top of my bed and stretch my sweaty fingers.

"Let me quickly help you out of that isidwaba." She comes and helps me undress until I am left butt naked. I take a towel and cover myself. I am not supposed to bath today.

"Where is my dress?" the door opens and Onna walks in with what I suspect is my dress.

"Hebana can you believe these new guards? Busy saying 'miss we would love to get some clearance from the boss before letting you in. clearance my foot.'" She complains

before even greeting and I just laugh while mom chuckles. "God I forgot you are a queen now I can't curse in your presence." She squints her eyes. "But you curse even in your dreams so I am in the clear." I just laugh again. "No make-up?" I nod.

"Yes. Just get me some cleansing wipes face lotion and a lip balm."

"Ku rough." Mom laughs this time around. I sit on the vanity chair while Onna gentle places the dress in the bed before getting what I have asked for. She cleanses my face and then applies the lotion and lip balm. "I feel like a real makeup artist right now." Why is Onna being so savage today? "I have never seen so many royal people in one place. I feel so inferior but at the same time I am feeling myself because I am like a close friend to the queen."

"Onna did you drink something today?" I ask and she snorts.

"You think I would be sober-minded at a day like this with this much people? I would tripping over my feet like nobody's business." We all laugh.

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(The poem was written by Tashea Young – She is a Queen)

## CHAPTER 48

My dress is a yellow mermaid gown with a long trail. The top part is filled with green white red blue black and yellow beads. It is just amazing and it feels so good. I swear I am getting married or something. Bayanda Khathini really outdid himself here. When I am done putting it on Onna helps me put on my green beaded block heels. I put on my 30" brown Peruvian weave and my mom carefully places my crown on my head. She helps me with the cow skinned cape. This thing is really heavy.

I take my weapons take a few deep breaths and then walk out of my room. The guards bow as I pass them. Azile and Q are both on my sides. The moment we step out of the palace ululations cheering and singing resumes. People are happy really happy about their new queen. Inside the tent they are seated in round tables. There is a clear area designated for the royals and it is surrounded by guards. I have never been into such a huge tent. I swear it's like a stadium or a huge hall like Durban ICC. I make my way down the aisle to the front where there is a vacant throne. I settle on it and silence reigns. My brother Ayize the quiet one stands up and heads to the podium. I guess their quietness means nothing when it comes to performing their duties.

He clears his throat. "I would like to start off by greeting the new Biyela Queen and my sister Queen Nomalanga Biyela. Singabakho dadewethu. Sihole." I smile.  
"Anyways today is the only day I am allowed to call her

by her name so please let me enjoy this.” everyone laughs. “I would like to greet the Zulu King uBaba u Ndabezitha. Ungenhla wena thina singezansi.”

“BAYEDE!”

“My sister has been so privileged to actually know you personally and even dine with you. That’s a luxury many people wish to get. I would also like to extend my greetings to the whole Zulu royal house present today. I would also like to greet the Ngwabe Royal house grandma and grandpa. The Mkhwanazi Royal house. The Jama Royal house.”

The Jama royals are actually very powerful. The queen there is a seer and a healer. She is very strong spiritually and can heal literally anything well except for terminal illnesses. Ayize goes on to mention all the royal houses present and also some special people like the ministers mayors councils and media houses.

“I would also like to acknowledge the Cele family who have helped shape my sister into the woman that she is today. Your kindness your guidance your morals and just unconditional love raised her and made her this powerful woman and for that the Biyela family will forever be indebted to you.” I smile looking at Ndosi and he just looks down. I know he is crying. Mam Jabu blows me a kiss and I catch it giggling.

“I would also like to greet the people of Emakhabeleni who have been blessed with a new queen. Hopefully you will treat her with kindness and respect. She is worthy of



the crown and she is a true Biyela descendant. No one should ever question that. I would also like to greet our other guests here with us today. Please feel welcomed and help us in celebrating this special occasion. And before I forget a special shout out to Mrs. Lindelwa Nzama and Mrs. Ntombifuthi Zulu. You mean a lot to my sister and just know that her home is also your home."

Futhy is a crying mess right now. Hormones are really toying with her emotions. It's no surprise that Lee is also shedding a few tears. My friend is weak shame.

"Anyways my duty is very simple. To greet you all and welcome you to the second session of Queen Nomalanga's coronation. The master of ceremonies is my sister Princess Kungothando and she is going to be assisted by Prince Nkosenye. Now I greet you all and please feel at home. Today is a wonderful day for our home and our village. Rejoice with us because today makes the beginning of a new era the rule of Queen Nomalanga Biyela."

"NTSHANGASE! MGAZI!"

He goes to take a seat and my other siblings head to the podium. They announce some entertainment while waiters serve starters to everyone starting with the royals. I am so fucken overwhelmed by everything I am not even hungry. I hear some chaos before seeing two little toddlers running towards me. I laugh when I see that it's Zobuhle and Manelisi. God these kids are so troublesome.

"Heyo mama." Manelisi says innocently while trying to climb into my lap. Zobuhle is staring at my spear like it's some rare piece of art. Then she starts jumping trying to reach it. At times like these I am glad I can't have kids. Carter comes forward and picks up Zobuhle who struggles a bit but relaxes when she sees who is carrying her. He tries to take Manelisi but I stop him.

"You can put him on my lap and maybe fetch him after a minute because I know he will also get curious about my weapons." I tell Carter and he smiles.

"Are you sure this is about Mane or you are just enjoying seeing me?" he whispers and I giggle SMH.

"Something like that." he places Manelisi on my lap and walks away with Zobuhle. I make small conversation with this cute boy on my lap. He is very naughty but I can see a lot of Zwe in him. He will grow up being polite and kindhearted.

"And who is this cutey pie?" mom asks taking Manelisi from me. "God now I want to have a toddler running around my house." I laugh.

"Mom that's Prince Manelisi Zulu Futhy's child and he is a twin."

"Where is his twin? Phela twins never separate."

"She was here a few moments ago but she is too naughty so her guard took her away." she nods while kissing Manelisi's cheeks. Lapho Manelisi is more interested about the cow skinned cloth on my mother's shoulder.

"You can take him back to the Zulu table before he starts getting fussy." She nods.

"Do you need anything to eat?" I shake my head.  
"Just water. I am still overwhelmed." She smiles.  
"Understandable." She walks away.

The programme resumes and I get advised from most of  
the rulers. I smile when Lisa gets called to the podium. I  
thought Zenzo or their spokesperson would be asked to  
talk on behalf of the Mkhwanazi royal house.

"Greetings to all the royal houses present all protocol  
observed. I would also like to greet the new Queen sis  
Noma. I am so happy to be standing here and  
congratulating you. Before I carry on I would like to  
personally greet the best husband in the game my love  
King Shamase." People hype her and I just laugh. Seems  
like she is no longer that shy nerdy girl I first met few  
years ago.

"I am probably the youngest queen in here but that  
doesn't matter. Sis Noma I am so happy that you have  
finally found your biological family. You are a very strong  
woman. You are opinionative and you are just loving. I  
pray that you don't change the way you are in order to  
become a queen that you think people what. Instead  
change be who you are now

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unapologetically and the world will adjust to you. Before I  
became the Mkhwanazi Queen I was known as  
Lisakhanya Zulu the humble princess. I didn't wait for a  
crisis to hit home in order to take action. I will let you in  
on a short funny story before I sit down. When my

husband was still courting me this other day we were supposed to go on our first date but an orphanage burnt down in Tanzania. I went there to help without even informing him or cancelling our date."

"What I am trying to say is that you are not only the queen of Emakhabeleni but you are queen to the whole world. But you don't have to force any kindness. Never shy away from lending a helping hand to anyone who needs it. Being royalty is what we are. People didn't vote for us or anything. So whatever you do must come from the bottom of your heart but always be the helpful queen to everyone. This journey you are starting is not an easy one. You need someone by your side who will support you in everything you do criticize you without fear in private and I do pray that you find someone worthy of your time and love. I wish you all the best in this journey you are about to start. It's not an easy one but it's bearable. Thank you."

People give her a standing ovation as she steps down of the podium. I go hug her and she smiles widely. Although she might have a strong voice now she still wears her specs and has some cute weirdness in her. Her husband meets her halfway perks her lips before leading her back to their seats. Her words were very wise and I will surely carry them with me till the day I die. My siblings call the Zulu king to the podium and everyone bows as he stands up. He gets to the front but first opens his arms to me. I smile and go hug him. He kisses my forehead.

"Congratulations." He says with a smile.

"Thank you baba." I then go back to my seat.

"I would like to greet everyone present here today. This young lady is very strong-willed just as my daughter has mentioned. She and her friend showed me their true colours when an incident occurred at the royal house. She is so carrying and is never afraid to speak her mind. She is stubborn but as a ruler you have to be hardheaded sometimes in order to make the point clear and get the message across. Many rulers have spoken before me and said many valuable advices. I have only one thing to tell you my child. Okay maybe two." I chuckle.

"One the throne can be very lonely if you don't have someone to share your life with. So find someone whom you love and loves you back. Don't choose someone who you think is right for you or your family. But go for what your heart wants. Two if ever you feel like the walls are closing in and everything is becoming too overwhelming and heavy on your shoulders my doors are wide open for you. Ndosì's doors are also wide open for you. We are here for you we are still your fathers and we still care. Congratulations on your coronation and may the ancestors and God be with you on this journey you are about to start." He smiles and then heads back to his seat. That was a mouthful.

My eyes meet Carter's and he just winks at me smiling. He has Sthuli in his arms now. These kids love him. Ndosì is called to the front. So he comes. He is not smiling. I know that's because he is battling with his emotions and he also doesn't wanna appear weak in front of all these people.

"I am a type of father to treat all my children equally. With equal love affection and time. Noma and Lee were no exception. I was also very strict on them. They have grown to become very powerful individuals. Futhy is now a princess and her company is one of the top architecture companies in Africa. Lee's heart has shown in the initiatives she has started. Noma is now a queen and a very wise advocate. As a father I couldn't be more proud. Now Noma mtanami you may be a queen but rest assured if you misbehave you will be punished like a child." Everyone laughs but I know he is serious.

"The Cele family is really proud of you and the person you have become. We wish you all the best in life and I wish that you find true love. Of course I would have to approve of that boy first." People laugh once again. I go hug him for a few minutes and then he goes back to his seat.

Entertainment follows and the main course is served. I am still not hungry. One of my employees come to the podium to congratulate me followed by my parents. Royals come to shake hands with me and place their gifts next to me. I am a lover of gifts so I can't wait to unbox all of these. Villagers also come to hand me gifts mostly fruits vegetables and livestock. When the gifts' session is about to end Futhy comes walking hand in hand with her husband. She hands me a small box.

"Open it." I chuckle and place my weapons on my lap before opening the box. My eyes pop out when I see car keys. Not just any car keys keys of an Infiniti.  
"Am I allowed to scream?" they both laugh.

"Maybe later." Kuhle says and I giggle before leaning up and giving them both a hug.

"Thank you so much guys. I love you."

"You know how I feel about you." Futhy says in and unbothered tone and I laugh. The gifting part comes to an end and I am called to the front to say my first speech as the Queen of the Emakhabeleni kingdom. I stand up and walk to the podium.

"Ngiyanithulisa."

"MAKWANDE!"

"Firstly I would like to thank everyone on here who came to celebrate with me this important day of my life. Not once in my life have I ever dreamed of such a day. I am grateful to everyone who has made me the person I am today. I am grateful and thankful to my parents for bringing me to this world. I am thankful to Ndosi omkhulu and Mam Jabu for being patient with me even when I was too problematic. Thank you to all my friends for every support they have given me."

"I won't make any promises about the future because it is not guaranteed. But what I can assure the people of Emakhabeleni my people I am going to be your friend and confidante. I will open these huge palace gate to anyone and everyone who needs my help and some guidance. There are so many great opportunities coming your way just you wait and see. Also before I close this part of the celebration I would like to officially inform everyone about the situation behind the absence of Nomthunzi Madlanduna and Linomtha Hlongwane. Many

of you know them as Princess Nomthunzi Biyela and Princess Linomtha Biyela.”

“Both have sinned against me and against the royal house at large. They have tried to assassinate me a couple of times with no success. As a result an innocent woman died because of their actions. They are a danger to the community and to the royal house. Which is why I have banished them and I am still thinking of the best punishment for them. When they come for assistant knocking at your doors don’t let them in. don’t allow them to manipulate you because they are very dangerous. My main objective is to restore peace and harmony in our village and I will do so with all your help. So please work with me to make sure perpetrators don’t get away with crime.”

## CHAPTER 49

“So you didn’t get me anything?” I ask folding my legs on the bed and staring at him. He chuckles and takes off his tie. Many people have left. It’s just my family the Celes and the Ngwabes.

“I am naturally shy so that’s why I didn’t come forward. Plus I was on duty.” I roll my eyes and he laughs. “Your new guards are a bit of dickheads.” I chortle.

“Why do you say that?”

“They are too strict. They nearly didn’t let me in. they are just dramatic. I know they are doing their job but damn they should loosen up on the drama.” I laugh so hard. I



have never heard him complain before. This is entertaining.

"Aren't they from the agency?" he scoffs.

"They are but I didn't train with them. They are from the Polokwane branch."

"Onna also complained about them." he chuckles.

"At least you don't think I am bitching about this." I laugh.

"They are just doing their job which is protecting me."

"Trust me I can do that." he takes off his shirt and pants. He then takes his coat and retrieve a small box in his inside pocket. He hands it to me. "They say you save the best for last." I smile and open it. My heart melts. This is the most beautiful bracelet I have ever seen. It is made of blue diamonds and it has some writing engraved on the inside. 'Yours Nick.'

"OMG! I love it so much. It's so beautiful." He smiles.

"I am glad you like it. Never take it off." I stare at him with my eyebrows raised.

"Did you put a tracker on it?" he shrugs guiltily.

"For your own safety." I smile.

"Just because it's beautiful and you're really cute right now I will let it pass. Come put it on Me." he chuckles and does as I say. "Masterpiece." He comes to sit next to me.

"Hi queen." I blush and look away. "Don't go all shy on me now. You were fierce out there. Now continue being fierce Nomalanga." I laugh at the way he pronounces my name.

"I like you and I want us to officialise our relationship. I know that publicizing it will attract you some unwanted attention. But I just wanna know if we are on the same page." He sighs and takes my hand. He kisses it and looks at me.

"Well I don't like you." I frown and just as I am about to say something he shushes me with his index finger. "I love you and I would like to be your man both in public and in private. I also want to introduce you to my family. So I think we should let our families know first before going public."

"That means you want me to fly to Italy soon?"

"It doesn't have to be soon plus they can come down here. You are a queen. You don't have to fly oceans just to meet my family." I sigh.

"I am not a queen to them but I am your woman. So I have to humble myself and act like a humble prospective daughter in law rather than an arrogant queen of Emakhabeleni village." He nods.

"I hear you. Can we now rest?" he doesn't wait for me to answer. He just cups my face and kisses me. "You are so beautiful." He whispers.

...

Nick spent the night in my bedroom and this morning he asked Q to bring him fresh clothes. We have just finished bathing. Today we are supposed to have celebration as a family that's why the Celes and the Ngwabes didn't leave last night. I have a plan or rather I am planning to make a huge announcement to everyone during breakfast. I

get dressed in a mustard short sleeve bead mid-calf bodycon summer dress and gold strappy block heels. Nick stops buttoning up his shirt and looks at me. No he stares at me.

"Is there something wrong with my outfit?" I ask brushing off invincible dust on my dress.

"Is there a special occasion you are attending?" I chuckle.

"I am queen now. I must represent."

"Well you look too beautiful you deserve a rooftop date." I smile.

"We do have a rooftop here. Maybe I can ask the servants to set up a table for two for brunch." He nods with a smile. "Leave the blazer." He frowns.

"How am I supposed to hide my gun holster?"

"You won't need it."

"Well I am deciding to trust you." I perk his lips and then do some touchups on my makeup. I put on a small tiara which was one of the gifts I got from my grandma.

"We can go now." I grab his hand and lead him downstairs. His body tenses when we enter the dining hall but doesn't let go. Everyone is sitting down they all turn to look at us. "Good morning everyone. Meet my man Nick Carter. Nick

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Nick Carter. Nick you probably know everyone in this room." I look at one of the helpers and they quickly bring an extra chair for Nick. We settle down side by side.

"My money." Lee says extending her hand to Futhy who huffs before taking out a few notes from her wallet and hands it to Lee.

"Wait you guys made a bet?" I ask already laughing.

"I told tase that you have fallen for Carter and you were going to make things official with him sooner than expected. I know you Noma. You don't love secretly. When you are happy in a relationship you want everyone to know about it." Lee says and I smile looking at Nick. He winks at me. Ndosì clears his throat and I snap out of this love trance.

"Yah Bo 'love lives here'." he says sarcastically and I know shit is about to hit the fan. I clear my throat and divert the attention into something else.

"I just want to thank everyone for the tremendous support you gave me yesterday and for making sure that my day was a success. Today marks the beginning of my new journey in life. I am excited but a bit scared about what lies ahead. What I want my family to know is that as much as I am queen I still need your assistance in running this kingdom. So rest assured I will come to each and every one of you if I need any help."

"All you need to do is shout." Gcino says and we all laugh. What can I possibly need from him?

"We are very proud of you mzukulu. Our home is your home. You still need to visit us in Western Cape." My grandpa says and I smile.

"I am coming for the whole weekend next week." my grandma smiles.

"We will be glad to host you with Nicholas." She says eyeing Carter. I chuckle. "Will you come son?"

"I will have to ask my boss." Carter answers.

"You can go." Futhy quickly chirps in. we all laugh.

"Then it's settled." Grandma says smiling.

We finish breakfast on a high note and Phiwo asks me to come to his study. I close the door after me and he hands me some documents. "You have to sign a few documents dude. I am sorry for requesting this on a Sunday. This is to officially state that you are a queen and you have rights and privileges to many things if not all in the kingdom." I nod and sit down. I scan through them quickly and sign them. "Also this will be your office from now on. The servants will move your things in here as soon as they are done moving my things."

"Okay." I finish signing the documents and hand them back to him. "Is there anything else?"

"You have a meeting with the royal council first thing in the morning tomorrow. After that a meeting with izinduna and councilors. I had my PA forward your schedule to Onna but I will company you to all the meetings tomorrow just to introduce you and then my wife and I will go tour around the world."

"SBWL." He laughs.

"You also have to have lunches or dinners with all of the royal families that attended your coronation. You don't have to go to them immediately but you should before the year ends for good faith and relationship. So what's the deal with your man?" I chuckle.

"You will have to talk to him and also teach him what he needs to do since he is Italian and is not familiar with our culture."

"You have balls though." I laugh and he also laughs. "Honestly I would've never introduced my girlfriend ow wait 'woman' like that." I break into laughter again. Dear God. "I wish I can keep you in here for all day to avoid some confrontation but you gotta go face the music."

"I am queen now. I don't have to be questioned about my actions."

"Girl you are Nontobeko and Maphikelela's daughter. Whether you like it or not you have to answer to them sisi." I roll my eyes and he laughs.

## CHAPTER 50

As I make my way out of the office I find Ndosu already leaning on the wall eating an apple.

"Hie." I say cheerfully and he chuckles.

"Let's take a walk Miss Universe." He walks away and I follow him. We head to the patio and take a seat. The helpers immediately bring cookies and tea also juice. "This is your life now?" I chuckle and nod. "Well I am proud of you."

"Thank you."

"About the white boy..."

"His name is Nick." I cut him off.

"The white boy..." I laugh. "When did that happen? I thought you were still dealing with the heartbreak from the spineless man who was married. When did that happen?"

"Why are asking as if you are my gossip partner? We never tell you things like these because you always overreact baba." He rolls his eyes.

"My overreaction is justified. I honestly would've warned you with that married man." he holds my right hand. "I trust you and your judgement. If you think he is the right man for you then don't let anything stop you from loving him. Just show him respect and don't let the queen title drive you crazy." I smile.

"Since when are you this cool with me dating?"

"Ndiyakusizela. You are the only unmarried one now. At some point I thought Thando was going to get married earlier than you." I break into laughter. Damn that was some shade. "So have you met his family?"

"No."

"What if they are ugly and what if his mother is a witch?" aibo what did they feed this guy at breakfast? I just bury my face in my hands and try laughing silently. I compose myself and look at him.

"Baba that's all in the movies and books. There are no witches overseas. In fact it's all a myth."

"How sure are you? I am confident that they even fly in broomsticks that side."

"That's it. I am out of here." I stand up and he laughs.

"Ahh ulala nondlebe zikhanya ilanga. (You are sleeping with a white man.)" He says before laughing again. He definitely woke up with Gcino's personality today.

I head back inside the house and my guards lead me to the rooftop. I am initially expecting to find Nick there but my smile grows so much wide when I find him with my friends and their husbands. Futhy and Kuhle. Lee and Mabutho. Thembisile and Sbo. Zah and Mbuso. Thobeka and Lele. Xoli and Phumudzo. I mean they are all here. Even the twins Lisa and her husband Thembelihle and Shibase. My siblings are also here. I am looking forward to them getting along with my friends.

"SURPRISE!" they all scream and I giggle.

"Guys. What is this?" I walk in further and they all take turns hugging me and congratulating me. "When did you all get here and who prepared all this?"

Xoli raises her hand. "I am guilty of the décor and the cake." she says innocently and I laugh before hugging her.

"Thank you. Thank you all of you guys for being here. Wow. I definitely wasn't expecting this."

"But you are dressed for the part." Isaac says and we all laugh.

"I hope we are not late." Danny says making his way in with Afee. I scream and go hug them both. "Hey queen."

"Wow. You are also here."

"I wouldn't miss your coronation after party for the world." I laugh.



"Let's get this show on the road people." Zah says and we all settle down. There isn't a formal setting. Just couches and coffee tables. There is booze platters and hubbly on the tables. I am sitting next to Nick. There is a vacant seat next to Zenzo but Lisa chooses to sit in his lap. God they are so adorable. Look at me being inspired by young love.

"Oww by the way guys this is Nick Carter my man." I announce and they laugh.

"We heard about your dramatic announcement." Phumudzo says and I laugh. "Tell me how did Mr. Cele take it?" I look at Nick and just laugh remembering the words that Ndosini said to me few minutes ago.

"He was like 'ahh ulala nondlebe zikhanya ilanga'." I imitate his voice and they all laugh.

"What does that mean babe?" Nick asks.

"Basically translated to 'you are sleeping with a white man'. Yeah there is no direct translation like word for word for this saying." Thembisile says with her British accent. Nick chuckles.

"He is savage."

"So he let you off the hook because you are dating a white man? Wow I am jealous." Kuhle says and I nod before we all laugh. "I actually thought he would give you a hard time after he said 'yah Bo love lives here'."

"I nearly peed on your behalf." Lele states and I laugh harder.

"Stop it now." I say out of breath. "Actually he said 'uyandisizela.' He thought at some point Thando would be

the first one to bring a husband home because I am hopeless."

"I guess I should bring my British man then." Thando comments. Lee

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Futhy and I laugh.

"Honey you have a long way to go until you are allowed to bring a boy in Ndosí's presence. Hell it took us 2 degrees to actually be able to live freely. Go out and drink. You will be no exception and please make sure you don't host that British man of yours regularly in your apartment because Ndosí will pay you a surprise visit and kuyonuka umsunu if he finds a man there." Lee says and all the Cele kids laugh.

"I actually remember when he saw sis Lee kissing this other guy at a restaurant. It became a huge issue. He swore all day and kicked anything in his way. Well except for mom of course." Lele says laughing and everyone joins him.

"Sounds like the man is super strict." Nkosenye comments and I chuckle.

"He is super strict I can tell you that. But he is also the best parental figure you can ever have. Sure he disciplines you and even treats you like a kid at times but he gives out the best advice guidance affection and hugs. That's why I had no problem agreeing to being adopted at the age of 18. First weekend with the Cele family he was soft and all on the first day but the following day he

behaved like a father and has been doing that job ever since." I state with a smile.

"You speak so highly of him. I am sure you would give him the world if you can." – Ayize. I know I would.

"So what are you doing for your birthday and where would it be held?" Thando asks. "I have already designed your dresses." She adds excitedly.

"I think we should host it at my grandparents' palace in Cape Town. Just celebrate the whole weekend." I respond and she nods.

"Whose birthday?" Uluthando asks.

"Our birthday. We were all born in September and before I married Kuhle we used to host a huge celebration in the middle of the month that will accommodate us all and then just have a small lunch on the day of one's actual birthdate." Futhy says. "I was born on the 2nd of September Lee on the 13th and Noma on the 26th."

We continue talking about our birthday and making more plans. Khazimla comes to us with a huge speaker.

"Don't worry. Nobody will say a word. I just figured all this talking will get boring at some point." We all laugh because we were anything but bored. When you are adults talking and catching up can be the most exciting thing you can do because our lives can be so busy and we don't get time to sit down and chat.

"You can play the music but keep it low." Phiwa says and we all agree with him. Khazimla nods before playing

some Pop music. I see Lisa yawning and I frown before smirking.

"Hey Lisa had a rough night?" I ask and her eyes pop out.

"The opposite actually." Zenzo comments. "She slept at 6pm and woke up 2 am to demand some food before going back to sleep and waking up at 7am. That was the only time we had..." Lisa covers his mouth giving him a stern look making us all laugh.

"Congratulation sbali." Sbo says with a smile before shaking Zenzo's hands who is looking rather confused right now. "You guys are expecting. You know my sister is not a fan of sleep and she never sleeps more than 8 hours. I am talking about a person who can go 4 days without sleeping. Imagine her being drowsy after sleeping for more than 10 hours." Zenzo and Lisa's eyes pop out.

"Nothing is certain." Lisa says.

"I do have pregnancy tests in my room." Kungothando chirps in and we all look at her. "What?" she shrugs. "I am nearly thirty and I am no celibate."

"I see you all want dad to kill you." Phiwa says laughing and I roll my eyes.

"Baby I want danone." Futhy says looking at Kuhle adorably. His looks shocked.

"My love where am I going to get danone?" she shrugs.

"You will make a plan but I need it now." Kuhle sighs.

"You don't want yoghurt?" she shakes her head. "Coming right up." he stands up.

"Ask one of the helpers to give you two from Moyomuhle's fridge." Zimfefe says. Kuhle nods before walking away. I decided to forgive Zimfefe and not punish her. Only because of my niece. Otherwise I would've sent her to the loony bin if I wanted.

Kuhle comes back with the danone and Futhy claps cheerfully before devouring it. Pregnancy can make you crazy neh. Our little party continues. I swear this is exactly what I needed to kick start my reign. Just some hours with my friends and being real.

"When are we having another couples' retreat?" I ask and my friends laugh.

"Now that you have a man you love you are looking forward to a getaway?" Phila asks and they all laugh.

"Come on I need to show him off." Nick laughs looking at me. He has a nice laugh.

## CHAPTER 51

The council meeting was bearable. Phiwayinkosi did the handover and introduced me to all the council members. I am an advocate by profession so I have a skill of reading people and I could tell that some were not fond of me. That didn't matter though because I am not here for them. They made me the chairperson of the council and they told me what the council is all about. But I wasn't pleased by the fact that it consisted of old men and a few old women only. And I was going to raise this in two weeks. I was told to appoint an advisor but they

were already suggesting someone an old 'wise' man from the village. I chuckled shaking my head during the meeting. I knew I was going to choose one of my siblings preferably Kungothando or Ayize.

The second meeting was with the community leaders and the religious leaders. Fortunately I didn't feel unwelcomed there. They were really happy about me being their queen. After the meeting I was actually invited to a lunch but as a queen you can't just dine with anyone and you have to have your personal chef with you everywhere you go so that she or he will cater to you.

I walk back to the palace sighing. Damn that was a long day. And here I was supposed to be in Lichtenburg for the gay case but I don't think I will be able to make it. Now I have to delegate one of the hardest working advocate from my firm. I get to the lounge and find my mom with my dad talking and laughing. It's good to see them working things out. I am not going to be petty about wanting my parents together but this is a really good sight. I huff and squeeze myself between them.

"That bad?" dad asks and I chuckle.

"This queening thing is not as easy as Queen Elizabeth makes it to be." They both laugh.

"How bad was it?" mom asks.

"I don't like the council members. They are too old and ancient for my taste. I want new blood in the council for fresh new ideas not people who live backwards. I also want one of my siblings to be my advisor." Dad frowns.

"Usually an advisor is an outsider." He comments and I look at him.

"Is it illegal to have an advisor from the family?"

"No but it has never been done before."

"First time for everything dad. Revolution is here. I am revolution and I intend on changing things around here. There are many things going wrong in the village and those council members don't do anything about it. Instead they are being paid to voice out their useless opinions."

"Calm down my love." mom says placing her hand on mine. I sigh and close my eyes. "You won't change everything overnight. It will take time but at the end everything will be the way you want it. Just don't forget to breathe and live your life." I nod and smile.

"I am lucky to have a mother like you." I open my eyes to find her smiling. "Now where are my siblings?"

"Somewhere in the house. Don't you have a WhatsApp group?" she asks and I shake my head.

"Not yet." I stand up. "Let me freshen up and then talk to them."

I ask one of the helpers to tell my siblings to meet me at my office in 20 minutes. I then head to my room and take a quick shower. I put on knee length cotton shorts short sleeved shirt and sneakers. I take my laptop and then head to the study. I find them already waiting. Phiwayinkosi Kungothando Uluthando Ayize Nkosenye and Khazimla.

My father is really a ladies' man. Mom has only three kids. Nomthunzi has Ayize Uluthando and two other young ones who are currently at boarding school. Nkosenye and Khazimla's mother dated dad but dad didn't wanna marry her so she just dropped the kids over and disappeared from the face of the earth. What I love about my siblings is that they don't let parents' politics affect our relationship.

"Shall we bow?" Khazimla asks with a smirk and I chuckle before settling down on my chair.

"First of all thank you for coming here at such a short notice. I will just cut straight to the chase. I have met up with the council the religious leaders and the community leaders. All I can say is that I am not happy about the council. I need you guys to go out and find me new young council members who will bring fresh and lovable ideas to the table. Maybe I will leave only one old council member but I am definitely kicking out the rest."

"I knew someone would agree with me at some point. Those old folks are just too backward and ancient. Can you believe how much they always criticize the way we live our lives? They are just too much." Ayize chirps in and I smile. Good to know I have his support.

My eyes travel from him to Uluthando. I clear my throat. "How do you feel about your mother being banished from the palace?"

"She is our mother. We won't lie and say all is well. But the bad things she has done to our family mam Nontobeko and you those things are unforgivable and it's embarrassing actually. So yeah



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we have nothing against you or your leadership. We are hundred percent behind you mtakababa.” Uluthando states and I nod. That’s good to hear.

“So I want one of you guys to be my advisor and another to be the secretary of the council. Others will be involved in other things here in the village and I will delegate from time to time. So we are going to be working together to lead this kingdom.”

“That’s good mtasekhaya but please don’t choose me. I have a long overdue honeymoon with my wife.”  
Phiwayinkosi says with his hands raised up in surrender. I just laugh at him.

“That laugh means she wasn’t even thinking about you.”  
Nkosenye jokes and we all laugh.

“Anyways the person who I have chosen to be my advisor is Ayize.” I say and his eyes pop out. Well he is an intellectual and I love how he can be neutral on most occasions. The siblings cheer for him and he blushes looking down.

“Wow. I was not expecting this. Thank you very much sisi. I won’t disappoint you.” he says standing up and coming to hug me. I smile and hug him back. He goes back to his seat. He is still shocked.

“The new council secretary is Kungothando.” I announce and we do another mini celebration with the siblings.

“Moving forward Nkosenye I need you to be my eyes and ears. I want you to be the eye of the royal family in

anything that contains the community. Most of all you will be the one meeting up with the community leaders and whatever they say or decide on you will report back to me."

"At your service dade." He says with a smile. I look at Uluthando.

"I can handle it." She says without even hearing me out and I chuckle.

"You will do Nkosenye's job but in the religious part of the village. You will be the one meeting with the religious leaders and reporting back to me. You are also allowed to voice out your opinions if you feel like something isn't right."

"This is good. I am proud of you sis." Phiwayinkosi says with a smile.

"Now that the formalities are out of the way we are going swimming. Inform the helpers and tell them to bring us cocktails and some snack by the poolside." I say looking at Khazimla. He smiles and then heads out. "Meeting adjourned."

We all stand up and head out. I go change into my swimwear and rush to the pool. We spend some time chatting and laughing about anything and everything. Ayize is engaged or was engaged but it turns out the lady was in it only for the money so he dumped her. They have one kid who now lives at the palace. Nkosenye has a girlfriend. When Uluthando tries to comment they just cut her off saying she is too young to have a dating life. These hypocrites though yeah men are hypocrites with

their double standards. We get tired of swimming and then chill on the pool chairs.

"So when you guys said dad has 23 kids did you really mean it?" they all laugh.

"Well minus 10 on that number." Khazimla says.

"The number is still pretty high for a person with 2 wives."

"Isoka ubaba." Phiwa comments and I chuckle.

We continue chatting and getting to know each other on a deeper level. When it starts getting dark we head back inside the house freshen up and go join the rents for dinner.

"Your Majesties you have visitors." Debra one of the helpers states standing on the doorway.

"Who is it?" dad asks.

"The Mchunu royal family." she responds. Mom rolls her eyes. Okay what drama does this family bring and why the hell would they visit unannounced and this late at night?

"Let them in." Dad says but his facial expression says otherwise.

It looks like he isn't comfortable about letting these people in. after a few moments Debra walks back in followed by 5 individuals. My eyes meet one particular individual. The king who showed interest in me during my welcome home feast. And I suddenly know why they are here. I am already bored to death already.

## CHAPTER 52

They get settled in and the helpers quickly bring them food. The Mchunu king can't keep his eyes off me. Literally. And everyone can see. It is making me feel really weird but I don't wanna shy away from his stare and have him thinking he intimidates me or I feel something for him. My phone beeps and I send dad an apologetic smile before checking it. Just a text from Onna reminding me about the trial preparations. I sigh. I will call her after dinner. I remember that I didn't tell her about dropping the case. I am supposed to go to the office tomorrow morning. I will see her then.

"Sorry about that." I say before putting my phone on silent mode.

"Is everything okay?" mom asks and I smile.

"Just work stuff."

"You are still working even after being crowned queen?" one of the Mchunu men the king's uncle asks. I chuckle and nod. "Why? The kingdom should be your baby. You should be paying all your attention to it and not going in and out of courts."

"Table manners please." Khazimla says and I snort.

When we are finished eating we head to the lounge. I am wearing pajamas and a night gown. I am not about to go change for surprise visitors. My younger siblings head out leaving my parents Phiwo Kungothando Ayize and Nkosenye together with the Mchunu family.

"I am sure you are probably wondering why we decided to come unannounced at this time of the night." The uncle says and dad nods. "We will just cut straight to the chase. We respect the Biyela royal house and the queen very much. Which is why we would like her hand in marriage to our king King Bhekabantu Mchunu. He lost his wife months ago and he is now ready to move on. He has taken interest in Queen Noma Biyela and he would like to court her after getting permission from her parents." Nkosenye laughs while Ayize chuckles.

"No." Ayize states in a stern voice leaving the Mchunu men confused.

"What do you mean 'no'?" the king asks and it's the first time I am hearing his voice. It's not pleasant.

"I mean just that. What I am about to say right now I have proof of it. King Mchunu is a narcissist and treats women as objects. His main aim in a relationship is to make a woman submit to his every command and make her powerless and voiceless. He knows that if he were to succeed in courting my sister he will manipulate her and end up having power and authority over two kingdoms. My sister is not weak but you have ways to make her your submissive your slave and blind her with fake love. So no. as her brother and advisor I am not going to allow that to happen." I chose well shame. I never knew that my brother can be this intimidating and just exude authority.

"Your points are invalid son." The king's advisor states.

"What you have mentioned is just how marriage is like. I can't expect you to understand because you haven't been

married before and you are too young to understand how these things work.” He finishes off with a smirk.

“But I don’t think we would want our sister and queen to be wedded off to a woman abuser. If you think I am lying then fine but you know what you did to your late wife.” Uluthando says walking in and she comes to sit next to me. “You abused her emotionally physically and sexually. She couldn’t take it anymore so she committed suicide. Your family covered it up but everything comes to light eventually. She is not the first woman you abused. I have about 5 of your previous lovers who have the same story. So no. I also say you aren’t going to be given a chance with my sister. Plus she is in a relationship.” She shrugs innocently. I see the king’s body language changing. He looks like he wants to strangle Uluthando this moment until she takes her last breath.

“Not that you deserve it but I am a law abiding citizen and I believe in all parties given a chance to defend themselves. So Mr. Mchunu what do you have to say for yourself.” I ask with a smirk. He clicks his tongue before standing up. “You might get fined for that.” I laugh and he just walks away. His family follows him. I turn to my siblings. “I love how you guys handled that. I have no doubt that together we will take this kingdom and the world to greater heights.” I smile at them and then stand up

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what do you have to say for yourself.” I ask with a smirk. He clicks his tongue before standing up. “You might get fined for that.” I laugh and he just walks away. His family

follows him. I turn to my siblings. "I love how you guys handled that. I have no doubt that together we will take this kingdom and the world to greater heights." I smile at them and then stand up heading to my bedroom.

...

Getting to work I wasn't expecting this kind of welcome. Literally all my employees came out to welcome me with hugs. Tuesday morning was definitely chaotic at the Biyela and Associates Durban law firm. Onna was surprised to see me. She says she was on her way to Amakhabeleni since I wasn't responding to any of her texts. She is dramatic. We head to my office and she opens the windows.

"Would like me to get you something to eat?" she asks and I smile settling down on my chair. I missed it more than anything.

"No. I have a breakfast date with some princess. I have forgotten her surname or the kingdom she comes from."

"Ohh I remember that. So what do you need?"

"Get me Othalitha now." She nods and heads out. After a few minutes she comes back with Othalitha. I love how she dedicated most of her time in her work. She works hard like me and she always wins cases. "You can sit down Litha." She smiles before settling across me. Onna sits next to her. "As you know I have become a queen to a kingdom. I won't be able to attend to some cases. Especially the ones that demand me to be away from home for a long time. I will be tending to some Durban cases here and there but not all the time. With that being

said I would like you to take on the dead gay's case in Lichtenburg. I know I am giving you short notice but you have until Sunday to prepare for it because the trial starts on Monday next week. Onna will hand you all my notes for the case. Oh before we go any further I don't want it to seem like I am ordering you. Do you have other important cases you're working on?" she smiles and shakes her head.

"No boss. My recent case was dismissed due to not enough evidence brought forward by the other party."

"Okay then. Please take over this case."

"No problem boss. I would be happy to tackle it."

"I am happy to hear that. You can go back to work now." She nods and then heads out.

"I think you are going to need a second PA to tend to all your royal needs because I have to be here and make sure the company progresses." Onna says and I chuckle.

"You are right. Do some interviews then but just say we are looking for an office administrator assistant. We don't want people coming here with other ulterior motives."

"That is wise. Let me quickly tend to Othalitha." She heads out and within a few seconds Thembelihle walks in wearing casual jeans a t-shirt and takkies.

"Don't judge sisi. I was attending classes and then I heard you're around." I laugh.

"I am not judging."

"But you are assessing my outfit."

"It is weird."

"It fits my age." I laugh once again. "Anyways I know you are not in town forever which is why I rushed here."



she sits down. "So there is this orphanage Ntuzuma called Scars are beautiful. I saw a post about it being flooded a few days ago so I thought maybe as a queen you can buy blankets and some food supplies for the kids staying there." I look at her and then shout Azile's name.

"Yes boss." She peaks in and I indicate that she should come in.

"Get me everything I need to know about Scars are beautiful in Ntuzuma. I am giving you 5 minutes."

"Yes boss." She heads out.

"I am going to a breakfast date in 45 minutes but after that I will be free. I can come pick you up or you can meet me at the mall and we can shop for these things and deliver them today."

"Thank you sisi." She jumps for joy comes to kiss my cheek and hops her way out of my office leaving me laughing like crazy.

...

"I am in town for a few days and I thought I wouldn't miss the opportunity of dining with the newly ordained Biyela queen." Princess Bonokuhle Myeki says. She is the first daughter of King Zigizendoda Myeki of the Myeki kingdom in Bisho. I chuckle.

We are dining at some fancy restaurant in Arena Park. There is paparazzi right outside the restaurant. I am sure they are following Princess Bonokuhle because I haven't gained that much fame. She is South Africa's sweetheart.

With about 10 million followers on Instagram and 15 million followers on Facebook. 5 mil on twitter. She is very opinionative but always makes sure to not bring shame to her family name. She doesn't live a private life and she is very kindhearted. She adopted a child a few years ago and the way she is close to the baby you would swear the boy is her biological kid.

"You are actual the first royal I have dined with after my coronation. This feels new and kind of different and a bit overwhelming but I know I will get used to it." She smiles.

"You will get used to it in no time. Now what's next for you? Any projects you are thinking of embarking on?"

"I am not sure. I still have to know my boundaries and borders. I don't wanna step on some royals' toes by making change in their kingdoms change they failed to bring for years and years. But I will start by fixing my village and making sure we have everything we need including a hospital mall public library and a skills development centre amongst other things."

"That is wise."

"I also wanna build an orphanage but I don't want to overwhelm myself with many projects at once. Just one project a time."

"I support you in every initiative you wanna take. So any man in your life?" I giggle.

"You will have to wait with the rest of the world to find out." she laughs.

## CHAPTER 53

We settle the bill and as we head out we are bombarded with journalists taking pictures and asking us questions. The guards are trying to keep them away and they are succeeding. Out of nowhere Onna makes her way to us.

“And then?” she laughs.

“You guys are breaking the net.” She turns to the journalist. “Good morning everyone. There is nothing to see here. Just our recently ordained Biyela queen having a casual breakfast with Princess Myeki. They would love their privacy as they now go their separate ways. Any questions you have on then would just have to wait for another day. Thank you.” she smiles and our guards lead us to our cars.

“That was so natural and just powerful. The way you dismissed those journalist.” I say to her the moment we settle at the backseat of my car. She smiles. “You should definitely be my I don’t know the royal spokesperson. You went from being a normal PA to being Abby Whelan in what a few seconds? Girl that was power.” She laughs.

“I don’t know what came over me. When I saw the paparazzi I just knew I had to come and rescue you guys. And thank you for the job offer. I will consider it.” “Boss is right that was sexy.” Q says turning to wink at Onna before focusing on the road.

"Hey. Eyes on the road man. You wanna kill me?" I exclaim and he laughs.

We go drop Onna off at work before proceeding to the mall. Azile found out that the Scars are beautiful orphanage has about 25 kids residing there and two helpers who also live with them. The owner lives not far from the orphanage. She is a widow and doesn't have kids of her own. She is just a struggling business woman and the orphanage survives on handouts from famous people. I sent Thembelihle a text and she arrives at the mall after twenty minutes. We head inside and start off by buying blankets about 30 of them accompanied by matching throws 3 chest of drawers rugs kitchen utensils also toys and we conclude our shopping by buying groceries.

When we are done we order Big Mac meals for everyone and then drive to the orphanage. It's already 3pm so even the kids who are attending schools are back now. When we get there we find a car with a huge sticker 'UMSHUTHI OCLEAN PHOTOGRAPHY'. I turn to Thembelihle and she gives me an innocent smile.

"This is your first act of kindness as a queen. It deserves to be documented." I chuckle and shake my head. "You're crazy." We climb off the car.

I now travel with 20 guards excluding Azile and Q. so I travel in a convoy of 6 cars. Azile walks inside the building. It looks worn out. I should definitely add it in my to do list. I should give this orphanage a makeover and I am sure if it was in a good state many children

would be staying here. Azile comes back with an old woman carrying a toddler in her arms. I walk to the gate to meet her halfway.

"Such an honor to meet you your Majesty." She says bowing a bit. I smile.

"I am also happy to be here. I am Queen Nomalanga Biyela."

"And I am Khethiwe Mavuso. The owner of this small establishment." We shake hands. "Please don't mind the falling walls. We are trying so hard to get funding so that we can do some renovations."

"I heard about your orphanage from my little sister. She actually said the place got destroyed a few weeks ago with floods. Now I know what I have bought won't make much change but I hope it will make the kids' lives bearable until there is a permanent solution." She smiles.

"Even your presence here  
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but I hope it will make the kids' lives bearable until there is a permanent solution." She smiles.

"Even your presence here my queen is making so much difference. I didn't believe Miss Azile when she said there is a queen outside here to see you. I was actually putting this trouble maker to sleep." I smile at the kid in her arms. He looks sleepy. I think he is four to five years old.

"Can you please give me a tour?"

"With pleasure." We head inside. The toddler wants to jump into my arms but she stops him laughing.

"It's fine. You can give him to me." she smiles before handing the toddler to me.

"His name is Imithandazo Dube. His mother dropped him off at my doorstep when he was a year old. He is now 4 years about to turn 5 in three months."

"Does he attend crèche?"

"We have our own day care here and one of the staff members teach them all they need to know. She also teaches them how to read and write. Well the reading part is an ongoing process." I laugh. We get to a big room and find all the kids there with two women who seem like the staff members. "Guys this is Queen Nomalanga Biyela. She decided to pay us a visit today. Let us treat her with respect and not bombard her with crazy hugs." The kids laugh before greeting me in unison. I smile and greet them back. Imithandazo asks for me to let him go and I put him down. He goes to join the other kids on the floor.

"I just want you guys to know that I understand your situations. I have been to where you have been before. I was actually stolen from my parents a day after my birth. The woman who stole me did not have a good heart. The day she died she told me about my family. Not in detail just that she wasn't my biological mother and she stole me. After that I was homeless and a friend told me about some orphanage. I carried so much anger in me that the woman who was in charge of the shelter threatened to chase me out a number of times. I was very smart so when I was in grade 12 I applied to study for law. During

my first year in varsity I was actually adopted but that's a story for another day. I have bought a few things for the orphanage I don't know how you guys are going to sort it out." I look at Khethiwe.

"Your people can bring the things inside." I look at Azile and she heads out with a few guards. They walk back in with the things we bought. Khethiwe's eyes glistens with tears. The guards make numerous trips until they are done bringing everything in. Umshuthi Oclean is busy taking pictures of every moment. Thembelihle is also holding her phone. I don't even know what she is doing. "This is too much your Majesty." I shake my head.

"It's not. I wish I knew your situation. I would've bought more things but I promise to bring more the next time I come back."

"Thank you so much." She attacks me with a hug and I giggle hugging her back. "That was random. Sorry." I laugh. She turns to the kids. "How about we say thank you to Queen Biyela?"

"THANK YOU SO MUCH QUEEN BIYELA FOR STOPPING BY. WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH AND MAY GOD BLESS YOU!" my cheeks heat up.

Khethiwe orders the kids to take some of the things in the bedrooms. My guards help with carrying the heavy stuff. They come back and we hand them paperbags which they again thank me for before indulging in them. I walk out with my people leaving the kids still eating. As much as I would love to stay I still need to head back home. Khethiwe catches up with us as we are exiting the gate.

"Thank you for everything you did for us your Majesty. We really appreciate it and we wish God can bless you with everything your heart desires." I smile.

"Thank you for having Me." we hug once again and she heads back inside.

"Sisi look this way." Thembelihle says and I turn to look at her. She is taking a video. "This is a live video. Say anything you would like to say." I chuckle.

"Well I just wanna pass a message to all my friends. My birthday is coming soon. Instead of worrying about what you are going to buy for me please find an orphanage shelter or charity to donate to. I also want proof that you guys donated. Thank you." I wink and she ends the live video.

"That was cool." I smile.

"Thank you for bringing me here. I know I had a lunch commitment but I guess Onna would have to reschedule. Now let's go eat late lunch. I hope Lee cooked." She laughs.

"Maybe bhut Mabutho did." I chuckle.

"Yeah maybe."

## CHAPTER 54

"Have you been to the last floor at the palace before the rooftop?" Phiwo asks as we make our way inside the private airport. After over three weeks as queen I finally made time to see Carter's family in Bologna. Our birth month is in a week so I will be spending the week with



Nick's family and come back to South Africa just in time for Futhy's birthday.

"I haven't why?" I question turning to him.

"That floor was specifically designed for the reigning queens. Since you can't be given a whole a whole floor seems fitting. Everything is in there. A huge ass bedroom with two guest bedrooms on the side. An indoor pool a Jacuzzi theatre room gym kitchen and an office. It's actually a whole house in one floor."

"Why was I never given a tour to that floor?" I ask astonished. Like why ngempela? He laughs.

"Your stuff will be moved there and you will officially move in once you're back. Anyways let me not keep you waiting. Go serve your in-laws." I laugh hugging him and he also laughs because he knows that's not how overseas in-laws work.

I say my goodbyes to my other siblings and board the family's private plane. All royal houses I believe have their own private jets around here. Imagine standing in line with a king or rubbing shoulders with a queen at a public airport waiting for a normal flight. That would be strange. Carter has already taken a seat. While my guards look for somewhere to sit I go sit next to him. You could believe that because I'm travelling to a distant nation where no one knows me I won't be in danger but this is not the case. It turns out that I should always have my guards with me. I unbuckle my seat belt and climb into Carter's lap after takeoff. He just chuckles and encircles me with his arms.

"Couldn't stand the distance?" I shake my head with a pout and he laughs.

"So I am only meeting your parents or..."

"My parents own a modern hi-tech mansion so my three younger siblings live with them. My brother and his wife visits them occasionally it looks like they stay there. My married sister lives with her small family in Ferrara but they are all going to be home since they are keen on seeing you."

"I'm not that interesting. What is there to see?" he laughs.

"Well they are interested so let them be."

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We arrive at Bologna Guglielmo Marconi Airport after over 19 hours in the air. Carter has arranged transportation for us so we pile into the cars and are transported to his family's home.

"So don't you have a place to live in town?" I ask and he chuckles.

"I have one that I never use for obvious reasons but my younger makes it a point to clean it at least twice a month."

"You should take me to see it maybe tomorrow or the day after and we can just spend the whole day there."

"I like your thinking love." he winks at me.

Outside this stunning glass-and-steel home the cars finally come to a halt. How much did this actually cost? It's safe to assume that the Carters are well-off. The sun

is warm against my skin. I am only wearing a vest track pants and sneakers. You can't fly in a formal attire and expect to be comfortable for the duration of the flight especially if your flight is as long as mine. I even wore a sports bra to allow my boobs to breathe.

While late August in South Africa has a bit of warmth here you can tell that the sun was blazing hot during the day. We come through the front door with Nick holding my hand. We enter to see this gorgeous lobby. Futhy would create something like this. It is simply breathtakingly lovely. We walk to what I believe is a lounge where there is a lot of white individuals with brown hair some black hair and some blond hair.

"My God Nick. You're finally here." a woman in her late 40s leaps from her seat and rushes up to Nick to hug him. "I missed you so much."

"I missed you two mom." He returns the hug. She turns around and smiles broadly at me.

"You must be Nouma." She also hugs me. "I am Jean Marie Nick's mother." I love the way she pronounces my name.

"It's an honor to meet you Mrs. Carter."

"Fuck that formal shit call me Marie I insist." She says casually chuckling and I nod. If I called an African mother in law by her name

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I believe I would definitely be fined. The entire family rises to greet me and hug Nick.

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"I am Leonardo." Mr. Carter senior.

"Morgan." Nick's older brother. "And this is my wife Maddison."

"I am Rachele" Nick's married sister. "And this is my husband Corey."

"I am Jessie."

"Kendra."

"Jamie." Jessie and Jamie are twins. They also tell me the kids' names but I am too tired to catch them. I just hope I will remember them tomorrow because I don't wanna find myself saying 'yey wena' to an Italian kid. We exchange all the pleasantries.

"As you know guys South Africa is far. We are tired and feeling sticky. So we are going to freshen up and take a power nap. Maybe we can join you for dinner." Nick says already leading me upstairs earning a few complaints from his family.

We walk into this stunning over-the-top bedroom. To be honest I could live here indefinitely. It is designed in three different colours; light grey dark grey and white. It is just stunning. I just roam around his room taking it all in. I also enjoy seeing out the balcony sliding door at the lovely scenery outdoors. The breeze is calming and relaxing. Before leaning on the rails. I feel his arms around my waist and I smile.

"What do your parents do for a living?" he actually laughs at my question.

"My father is a film director and my mother a film producer who in her spare time teaches film production at a community college."

"How much do they earn?" he laughs again.

"As a child you are not supposed to know the money your parents' earn. Just in case you earn more than them." I nod. "Now let's go shower and take a well-deserved nap." He says this before bending behind me and actually picking me up which makes me squeal.

"Uzongiwisa." He laughs.

"Don't you trust me?" he says with a smirk walking inside the bedroom and heading to what I assume is the bathroom. I am shit scared of being carried because I fear he might drop me but the little girl in me is relishing this moment only her not the queen Noma.

...

I am woken up by someone moving around the room. I open my eyes and find Nick moving up and down in boxers.

"What's up?" I mumble rubbing sleep off my eyes.

"I was actually about to call a doctor because you were waking up il mio amore." I blush sitting up.

"What does that mean? Il mi'amore?" he laughs.

"It's il mio amore babe and it means my love." I knew it meant something romantic from the way his face softened when he said it.

"Well let's make a deal. You teach me how to speak Italian and I will teach you Zulu like the deep kind from

eMsinga Nquthu and Nongoma.” He laughs before joining me in bed.

“That seems like a challenge. I mean I only know how to try and pronounce Non-goma because my boss frequencies there.” I break into laughter. God I have never heard someone butcher Nongoma like this. It’s like he is saying ‘non gomer’. He just rolls his eyes before chuckling. “Well enough about that. How about you greet me properly? Say ‘Buon giorno piccola’.” I clear my throat.

“Bion giorno piccola. Did I get it right? And what does it mean?”

“Buon my love and it means good morning baby.” I giggle.

“Well buon giorno amore mio (good morning my love).” “You are a fast learner.” He cups my face and places a seductive kiss on my lips.

“BREAKFAST WILL BE READY IN 10 MINUTES NICK AND NOUMA!” his mother shouts from outside the door causing us to stop kissing and actually giggle like two teenagers caught.

“There is still time for more.” he whispers in my ear before getting up and pulling me to the bathroom. Last night we ended up not having dinner without everyone because we were too tired. The nap actually turned into a long slumber.

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We finish showering and I get dressed in a teal long sleeve mid-calf lace-up plain A-line dress with nude block heels. I put on a brown bob wig and take my phone and

go to Nick who is already waiting for me by the door.  
"Looking as beautiful as ever my Queen." I smile.

"Grazie amore. (Thank you love)" He also smiles before  
we head downstairs where the family is seated in the  
dining hall. "Buongiorno famiglia. (Good morning  
family)." They smile before greeting back. Nick and I  
settle down.

"Sai parlene Italiario? (You know how to speak Italian?"  
Nick's mom says and I swear it's like she is speaking  
Afrikaans. Nick laughs.

"She doesn't know how to speak it mamma but she is  
willing to learn and I am willing to teach her. Provided  
she also teaches me Zulu." He answers.

"Zoo loo?" one of the kids asks and I try by all means not  
to laugh.

"It's IsiZulu actually but don't worry I will teach you a  
few words before leaving." I wink at the kid and she  
smiles.

"Are you guys off to somewhere?" Maddison asks.

"Oww no guys Noma is a queen. So she is used to getting  
dressed up every day. It's a norm to her." Nick explains.

"Like Queen Elizabeth?" another kid asks and I nod with  
a smile. "Where is your tiara?"

"In my room."

"Can I wear it?"

"Okay that's enough. Let Nouma eat and you ask her  
whatever you wanna know later on." Rachele gives me  
an apologetic smile and I shake my head.

"I don't mind."

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## CHAPTER 55

### FINALE (PART 1)

I had so much fun with the Carter family. I nearly cried when it was time to come back. What happened was that on the first full day Nick's mother took me out. We went sightseeing and then went grocery shopping. That was the only night I cooked or did any chore for that matter. The following day Leonardo took me out with Morgan. We actually went to play some golf. Of course Nick came with us. I had so much fun with the Carter men.

The next day I went out with Nick's sisters and sister-in-law. Then I spent the rest of my days with Nick. He even took me to Milan so that I can do shopping. The last full day I was there we went out to Rome as a family. Overall I had the best time of my life with the Carters and they even promised to come to Cape Town for my birthday. I posted a few appropriate pictures on my social media and then just flooded my WhatsApp story with all the great photos and videos from my vacation.

"Noma we have to get out of here." Lee says pulling me back to reality. I smile. "You're thinking about your time in Italy?" she asks already rolling her eyes and I laugh. "Jealously will make you nasty tase."  
"It's just unfair that you get foreign in laws and I don't." she says pouting and I laugh to a point that I choke on



my saliva. "Look at me pulling up in a prison cell because I killed a queen."

"Stop it Lee." Futhy chirps in. she is also laughing. "But we should go out now. Everybody is waiting on us and I am hungry."

"You are hungry every minute of the day nawe." She gives me an evil look and I laugh.

"Come on the person is eating for 5 people cut her some slack." Lee adds.

"I am leaving." Futhy stands up and we laugh.

"It's our party not yours only. Stop being dramatic." She rolls her eyes. I look at my reflection in the mirror for the last time and then walk to the door. "Let's do this thing."

We walk out and head to the ball room. My grandparents' house is literally like a Disney castle or an English castle expect that it has been modernized and is friendly to the ecosystem. We walk inside the beautifully decorated ball room and everyone turns to look at us.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!" Futhy exclaims making everyone laugh before they hug us and wish us a happy birthday.

After all the pleasantries we go take our places in the end of the ballroom where there are three thrones with our names on it. Futhy sits on the left one Lee in the middle and I sit on the right one. In the middle of the room there is a huge space made just for dancing. The guests take their seats and the party starts. Phila and Phiwa the twins who are Kuhle's friends are the ones who are the

Masters of Ceremony for the day. They make a grand entrance and then head to the stage.

"Today is a very special day for us. We met this ladies 3 if not 4 years ago. Honestly I didn't a friendship between us was going to be formed. Well we are not besties like the three of them" we chuckle "but we are friends and I am happy to be hosting such an important occasion in their life." Phila says winking and we blow kisses his way.

"You are so young though. 33 years? With all the amazing things you have done? What's left for you guys? Like you have depleted all your goodwill bundles." Phiwa jokes and we laugh. "So those of you who are plus ones we are gathered here today to celebrate these three queens in front of us. Prince Kuhle don't kill me" Futhy laughs. "Miss Ntombifuthi Lwandlelethu Cele who was born on the 2nd of September 1989; Mabutho you and I are cool Miss Lindelwa Nkosi born on the 13th of September 1989 and lastly Vele Carter hasn't changed your last name Miss Nomalanga Limamkele Biyela born on the 26th of September 1989. We are just going to pretend that today is the 2nd the 13th and the 26th of September." We laugh.

"The programme won't be long. Just speeches by the brothers sisters mothers fathers mother-in-laws father-in-laws and friends. A minute each speaker. We all just want to rush to the private beach party." We all laugh. "Without wasting any time we would like to call the first set of speakers Sibulele Cele Mbusowenkosi Nkosi and

Ayize Biyela the brothers of these amazing ladies.” – Phila.

“Hello everyone I am Lele sis Futhy’s younger brother. These two are also my older sisters which I always brag about to my peers.” I smile at him. “I just want you guys to continue being the people you are now

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don’t change. Well except you sis Futhy. You are meaner now.” Futhy takes off her heel and threatens to throw it at him. He laughs. “See what I am talking about?” Everyone laughs. “I am just lucky you have you all in my life and after my wife you are my pride.”

“You idiot.” Futhy mumbles and he laughs.

“You are amazing sister and I just want you to have all that your heart desires. Happy birthday.” Mbuso says and nods with a smile. “Happy birthday to also Futhy and Noma. I swear to God I feel like I personally know you guys. One moment we are talking about something else and then next she would be leaning in and like ‘yuh utase did this or is going this’. Sometimes I would be sitting there confused about which one she is referring to. At times she differentiates you by your marital statuses but trust me not a day goes by without her uttering the word tase.” We all laugh. That definitely sounds like Lee.

“Well I haven’t known my sister or Princess Melamina and Mrs. Nzama for too long but I know that you guys are strong women and you actually have the power to encourage a man to be better and want to reach greater

heights in life. I love you and I wish you nothing but the best in life.” – Ayize.

“Wow gentlemen I love how you kept things sweet and short.” – Phiwa.

“Next up is the gender that likes to complicate things.” – Phila. Immediately all the females in the room attack him and he laughs. “Yuh I was just kidding. Anyways I would like to call Thando Cele Thembisile Nkosi and Kungothando Biyela.”

Their speeches are also short but they warm my heart especially when Thando breaks into a mini song. Our mothers also speak beautifully. When it’s time for our fathers Ndosi doesn’t stand up instead he takes the mic and hands it to Mr. Hlongwa (Futhy’s first and former boss) who smiles at Ndosi before taking the mic. Their words are more like guidance and advices but you can feel the love from them. Our mother-in-laws and our friends also wish us well in life. On between the speeches food is served. My grandparents also say a few words. When it’s time for us to make the votes of thanks Ndosi stands up and heads to the podium. He clears his throat and everyone turns to look at him.

“I didn’t stand when Futhy’s father was called because I am not only her father but I am a father to all these three women in their own thrones.” He starts off and silence reigns. “I don’t wanna lie raising them was hard. It was raising triplets with the same mind. They moved in sync and they were very mischievous especially on their final years when they were doing their first qualifications. My wife is soft but sometimes she has that

unapproachable face so that's why I fell victim to their actions even though I was strict. I remember this one time at night I called Lee because I wanted to hear her voice. A boy answered her phone and I swear all the hidden places in body had formed sweat." We all laugh while Lee bows her head succumbing to shame. We are put on a spot and we are going to be executed by him.

That night Lee actually came to my room wearing only a nightie walking no shoes. She was legit spooked and as much as I sympathized with her I couldn't help but laugh anytime I got a chance. Futhy was worse she laughed the whole time.

"She actually changed her number and I was forced to drive to Wits just to have a conversation with her. She became an athlete that day and I had to chase her all over the students' residents. I am glad it wasn't this era because I know I would've trended." We laugh again. He has many embarrassing stories of us and I know we are going to get burned. Futhy and I were actually tasked to get Lee after Ndosu grew tired.

"U Lwandle is the worst. She actually made the biggest mistake of making me meet with her second father Mr. Hlongwa. Whenever she did something suspicious he would inform me."

"Hawu baba you were a snitch?" Futhy asks looking at Mr. Hlongwa in disbelief and he laughs staring at Ndosu. "Where is the bro code?"

"Ikumkami." I give up. "Lwandle actually came here to Cape Town to see some celebrity on a concert without

informing us. Shit went quick sideways when she was robbed and called us from a police landline asking that we help her." Futhy is a hero actually. She told us about her trip the same day she was taking it. "That was the most extreme thing she had ever done. I just booked her a flight to Durban airport. When she arrived home I had omama bomthandazo waiting to pray for her because her actions were just pure demonic." Everyone laughs. We are ruined. It is officially our roast. After that stunt Futhy actually stopped drinking for 6 months.

"And u Noma yuh." He shakes his head and people are laughing already. "So this one time at night I received a call from a friend. He was like 'Ndosi I see one of your girls here. She is dancing on top of tables.' I was super confused because I didn't have any side chicks or girls I pimped. Then he gave me a clear description of Nomalanga. I went to her room and found it empty. I quickly drove to the club and yes I found her dancing on the tables. When she saw me she fell on the floor and she didn't care about the pain or the bleeding she just said 'ohh shit' before running. I don't know why they resorted to running all the time." I still have scars from that fall.

"Anyways I just wanna remind you that you are still children to me even when you turn 50 I will remind you of your stupid moments." We laugh. "I love you and I wish you nothing but the best in life. Happy birthday my angels with devil's horns." We laugh before standing and going to hug him.

**(FINALE PART 2)**

“How can we have possibly been excluded from the programme? I mean we are the ones who have to endure all the things these women put us through every day.” Kuhle complains snatching the mic from Phila. We just laugh at him. “Mabutho and Carter you are next.” They chuckle. “Anyways I am so happy that another year has been added to my wife’s life. You know how much I love you and how much you mean to me so I am not about to recite my vows.” Futhy giggles. “Happy birthday my love and cheers to many more years. Babu Ndosi is it safe to kiss her?” everyone laughs while Ndosi rolls his eyes. “I will take that as a ‘yes’.” He steps forward and kisses Futhy for a few seconds before hugging Lee and I.

Mabutho stands up and heads to the podium. He is naturally shy just like Carter so I am sure they feel uncomfortable about being summoned like that. “Wifey happy birthday. I love you so much and I wish that God can grant all that your heart desires as long as I am kept in your heart and life.” Lee laughs before standing up to hug him and kiss him because she knows he is done talking.

Carter is next. My handsome Italian man looks so uncomfortable shame. I just stand up and go hold his hand to give him courage. He chuckles before clearing his throat. “You mean so much to me. When I started seeing you I never thought you would give me a chance because

I believed that since I was not royalty I wasn't fit to be your boyfriend. But you proved me wrong and actually showed that you genuinely liked Me." he speaks so fast you can tell that he is nervous. I perk his lips and he chuckles before taking a deep breath.

"I love you and I know this may sound cheesy but I see my future in your eyes. I would love nothing more than to make you my wife right now but I don't want you to feel pressured or anything. Umm..."

"What are you saying Nick?" I ask impatiently and people laugh.

"I would like you to be my fiancé. Fuck." He mutters taking out a triangular green velvet small box. "I think I should be asking you. This is all too stressful." He is literally shaking and all this is just too cute. I can't help but giggle.

"Just pop the question already boy." Ndosi shouts and people laugh.

Carter goes down on one knee in his white pants and opens the box to reveal a really beautiful white gold and heart-shaped diamond eternity ring. Fuck this looks expensive. "There is nothing more than I would like than to share my life with you. I know yours is complicated and comes with many responsibilities. Trust me when I say I am willing to be with you through it all. I am willing to be your human diary your confidante and your new best friend. In all my 37 years on this earth I have never met such a captivating and wonderful soul like yours."

"Point made. I will marry you." I cut in and he laughs.



"Nomalanga Limamkele Biyela will you do me the honors of becoming my fiancé and later my wife?" I nod multiple times.

"Yes. I would love to." I jump up and he chuckles before taking the ring off the box and sliding it in my left ring finger. I have never seen a ring like this before. It is so beautiful and I love the hearts. He stands up and bends down a bit to kiss me briefly.

"Thank you." everyone cheers for us and he smiles briefly before hugging me.

"Let me see the ring." I hear Futhy squealing behind me. Nick knows that his time is up. He laughs before taking a step back. "Congratulations Carter. I am so proud of you even though I am shattered by losing another trusted guard." She hugs him and Lee also hugs him before they turn to me.

"What the hell is that thing?" Lee squeals taking my hand and staring at the ring in complete awe. "I have never seen anything like this before. Tase it is beautiful."

"Seconded. The man has good taste." Futhy chirps in and we do a group hug before jumping up and down with so much excitement.

"Can I please see the ring?" I hear mom's voice and we all turn to show her our rings. She laughs. "Noma's ring." She takes my hand. "Aybo did this man design this ring specifically for you?" I shrug with a smile.

"Congratulations mtanami. I am so happy for you. You are going to make a wonderful wife. He is lucky to have you." I hug her and also hug my father behind him. Next up is Ndosu and Jabu.

"Did he get your blessing?" I ask Ndosi who laughs before nodding.

"He did or else I would've rained on his parade and said no on your behalf." He says pouting and we laugh.

"Well I am happy for you my child. You deserve every bit of happiness you get." Mam Jabu says hugging me and I smile.

"I will make sure he pays lobola to you. The Biyelas don't deserve it."

"True that." Ndosi says unbothered and mam Jabu rolls her eyes.

More people come to congratulate me and then we do our vote of thanks ending the formal session of the party. A few people leave while others prepare for the after party. I go change to a red draped detail satin slip dress with black stiletto ankle strap heels. I heard to the outside where the after party is going to be held and I am stopped by Jean Marie.

"I am so glad I finally get a chance to speak to you in private." I smile at her not knowing where this conversation is headed. "He was very nervous when he bought the ring. You guys haven't dated for that long so he thought you were going to say no." I chuckle.

"He is too sexy to say no to him." she laughs.

"Anyways I am happy that you will be joining our family soon. I just wish that you guys can come and visit Italy at least once a month because I really miss him. It's not easy living oceans apart from your child." I smile.

"I hear you Marie. I am not promising anything but I will try my best to make sure your wish comes true." She smiles widely and hugs me. When she breaks the hug I spot tears on her face.

"Don't mind me. Even the happiest moments can be emotional to me." I hold her hand.

"I understand. Now are you joining the after party?"

"Oww no

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the real adults are having their own party at the ball room so that's where I am heading. Have fun." She kisses my cheek before walking away.

I head to the backyard to find the party already in full swing. I greet a few guests as I pass and some ask to take pictures with me. I finally walk to my friends' table. Every now and then our circle is expanding. The next time we go to a couples' retreat I am sure we are going to fully book the whole hotel or resort. I go sit next to Carter and he hands me a cocktail.

"I hope you added more vodka." I mutter as I take a sip instantly recognizing the gin used here.

"I know my fiancé is a drunkard." He comments and everyone laughs.

"I was just thinking about our next couples' retreat." Xoli starts off and we all turn to her. "I thought maybe we should go to another resort here in Africa maybe in November and then to another maybe in Australia next year February. We can celebrate Valentine's Week there."

"Don't you guys work?" Phiwa's date asks and we try not to laugh at her but it's futile because Phiwa is the one who laughs first.

"Baby girl our circle is full of CEOs entrepreneurs and just rich people. We don't need wait for December in order to go to a holiday. Plus a mere week at a resort doesn't bankrupt us." Phila drawls with a smirk and the date laughs uncomfortably.

"Well his response was cocky but he is right." Zah chirps in. "Some of us have rich husbands we don't even need to work but because we love a bit of independency we work. Plus they may love a submissive wife but nothing turns them on more than a woman who can do anything for herself. My husband for example he gets hard every time he comes to my office and finds me sitting on my chair." we all laugh.

"I don't care. You know what she is saying is the truth." Mbuso defends himself and Kuhle adds.

"You are definitely right. I mean I never thought I would be turned on by a simple tracing paper pencil and ruler." Futhy is the first one to laugh.

"I don't wanna say this but I am turned on by seeing her seated on her talking couch and carrying a notebook." Mabutho says and Lee breaks into an ugly laugh causing everyone to laugh.

"So where will the resort be? Maybe my husband and I might join you guys this year." Ethel Lee's sister in law states.

"I was thinking Roslane Boutique Hotel in Meknes Morocco." Xoli responds. I have never thought about visiting Morocco before.

"That sounds interesting. I am definitely coming."  
Thembisile says looking at Sbo with a smile. Young love.  
"Has anyone ever visited Morocco?"

"I was just passing by. I slept for one night." Zenzo states. He and Lisa are really cute and they are my favourite couple. I just love them. I am also happy that they are expecting their first born.

"Okay. It's settled then. We are going to Morocco." Oscar says cheerfully and we all do a mini celebration dance before laughing at our silliness.

"Tase." Futhy says looking at both Lee and I "Let's take a walk." All three of us stand up and we follow each other inside the house. "I meant a drive actually. I just didn't want our better halves to follow us." she takes a key from one of the valets and we climb into the car.

"Kuhle is going to go crazy." Lee states as Futhy drives out of the palace.

She just laughs. She drives us to the beach and when we get there we leave our heels in the car and walk towards the sea. We sit on some rocks not far from the water and just breathe in the sea breeze. It's calming and soothing. Just exactly what I needed.

"We have come so far yaz. 15 years is a pretty long time. To be honest I thought I was just going to be a local business owner not an international one who is also a future queen. God works in mysterious ways. And to

think we don't even go to church." Futhy says in a low tone and we chuckle.

"I know exactly what you are talking about. I never thought I would be where I am career wise. I also never thought I would reconcile with my family. Life is just good and I wish God can continue blessing us abundantly." Lee adds.

"Look at me the rebellious teenager. I never thought I would end up where I am right now. I never thought I would find my biological family and get to know them better. I never pictured myself as a queen of a whole kingdom. I am just blessed. We should go to church tomorrow." Both Futhy and Lee laugh.

We keep quiet and just enjoy the calming waves. We don't know what the future holds but we are looking forward to it. We are startled by voices coming to where we are.

"Good thing I gave you that bracelet or else we wouldn't have been able to track you guys." Carter's voice beams and I chuckle before standing up and turning to face him. Kuhle and Mabutho are also here. They take their wives and walk away. Carter sits on the rock and brings me to sit on top of him. He kisses my hand and then just keeps quiet. I take a deep breath.

"I can't have kids. I had an accident back when I was in varsity. It was so bad a glass cut through my womb and damaged it so they had to remove the glass and also my womb. So I can't have my own my kids." He sighs.

"Thank you for telling me that even though I already knew it. Don't worry. We will find a surrogacy to carry our child in the future should we want it. But I really don't mind living my life with just you in it. You are full of life and I won't ever regret asking you to marry Me." my heart melts.

"I love you Nick."

"I love you more Nouma." He imitates his mother and we both laugh.

---THE END---

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