

THEIR LIVES BEFORE THE THRONE S2 S2 – EPISODE 01

“Junior, you need to drive your sister to her res to get her luggage.” Sheila informed Junior. She was standing behind the couch that Junior was seated on. Junior: “She can drive, mama, why should I drive her?” Sheila: “She doesn’t have license and you can never know when will the police be on the road. Please, go. You’ll help her with her luggage.” Junior: “Ay, she’s disturbing me now here. I am watching this show.” Sheila: “There’s something called catch up on DSTV.” Junior: “This one is not on catch up.” Sheila: “I don’t care then get up.” Junior switched off the TV and got up with his phone. He took the keys from his mother. “Did you speak to Kazi about your girlfriend? She didn’t seem comfortable

around her.” she asked. Junior: “She’s just jealous that dad allowed me to bring her here.” He said walking away leaving his mother shaking her head. “Why would she be jealous?” she shouted behind him. “I don’t know!” He shouted back. He went out to start the car and Danielle was already waiting for him. She stepped inside the car when it was by the gate. She closed the door of the passenger seat. She looked at him. Danielle: “Thanks.” Junior: “What’s your problem with Pamela because mom told me you have a problem with her and she also told me that you have a problem with her.” Danielle: “Would you believe me when I tell you that we are not friends and we have never been friends?” she looked at him. Junior: “How can I believe that because she told me that you hate her and she didn’t want to tell me the reasons but

she told me you know them.” Danielle: “I guess there’s no point in taking about it then if she told you that.” Junior: “No, just tell me.” Danielle: “Pamela is lesbian and she’s dating my roommate that’s how I know her. She’s not my friend.” Junior looked at her and he laughed shaking his head. “You don’t believe me, do you?” she asked. Junior: “Let’s stop talking about this.” Danielle: “No, she’s just playing you to get to me because I have once kissed her girlfriend and if you don’t believe me you’ll ask the girl who has my clothes. She’s our roommate too. Pamela doesn’t love you.” Junior: “Okay, I hear you but I am saying let’s stop talking about it.” Danielle: “I can’t believe that you would believe a stranger over me, your own sister, Junior?” She looked at him and Junior didn’t say anything. Danielle kept quiet and scrolled

down on her newsfeed on Facebook. She didn't know how she was going to find out Pamela's plans... "Thank you, Lilly for keeping my clothes." Danielle thanked Lilly, she was standing with Danielle's belongings outside the res. She had also come back to get her things and head back home. Lilly: "Okay, who's that in the car?" Danielle: "It's my brother." Lilly: "He's cute." She complimented and Danielle laughed popping her eyes. "Come on, I have eyes too." She said and laughed along with her. Danielle: "Okay, thank you, on his behalf... Junior can you take my things?" she shouted looking at his direction. Junior was busy speaking to a friend on the phone. He got off the car. "Look, I am not coming back second semester so this will be the last time you'll see me. Especially because I am far from other campuses." She said looking at

Lilly. “Sawubona!” Junior greeted Lilly and she greeted him back. Junior took his sister’s bags and walked

to the car with them while Danielle was chatting. Lilly: "Why are you leaving? Is it because of Amanda?" Danielle: "No, I just want to go back home." Lilly: "Okay, take of yourself girl." Danielle: "Thank you, and you do the same." She said, and they shared a hug. Danielle then took the bags that were remaining. "Don't you want a lift?" she asked looking back at Lilly. Lilly: "No, mama is coming to get me." Danielle nodded and stepped inside the car after she'd thanked Lilly for keeping her things. Junior drove off. Junior: "Let's go to Cubana. There'll be some celebrities over there." Danielle: "Haa! You don't look after me when we at the club together. You just see girls and go crazy! I am not going." Junior: "No, I won't be going there to get drunk, but I will be there for fun and the music. I will talk to dad and he'll let us go." Danielle: "Okay, we can go."

“Ziyasha!” He exclaimed and whistled as he was anticipating the good night ahead of them. He liked ‘fun’ and anything that had ‘fun’ Danielle was dressing up inside her room when Sheila stepped inside the room. She was on white pants with, pink, black and white zigzag lines. Sheila: “You are going with your brothers?” Danielle: “Yes, do you want to go with us?” Sheila: “No, I don’t go to clubs with children.” She commented, and Daniele laughed putting on a pink long-sleeved sweater. “You seem very happy these days and was Liam serious that he saw you with a guy?” she asked. Danielle: “Yes, he wasn’t lying.” Sheila: “You’ve moved on?” Danielle: “No, mama it was Mnotho. He called and took me to his mother’s hotel. Mama! His father came to our table and greeted us.” Sheila laughed looking at her daughter’s face.

“And I bet you were frustrated as you are right now. Just look at your face.” She commented. Danielle: “I have never been in that awkward position in my entire life.” Sheila: “This boy loves you.” Danielle: “Yes, he does and I am not willing to ruin things between us no more. I just want to be happy mama.” Sheila: “That’s all I want for you my baby.” she smiled and stood up as Danielle was making her way to the mirror. “Don’t tie your hair I like them loose and wear a pink lipstick. You’ll be beautiful.” She complemented. Danielle: “Okay, mommy! I will do just that.” She exclaimed happily and Sheila nodded before leaving her to finish up...

Danielle was with two of her brothers, Junior and Liam. The club was packed and had a good vibe that everyone was dancing to. Liam and Danielle followed Junior to the

bar area. The two brothers were dancing their way to the bar and Danielle was just looking around for the faces that she knew... Junior: "We will leave you here and you'll order for us." he told her on the loud club voice. You'll speak above your tone just to be heard. Danielle: "Hawu! It's gonna be like that?" Liam: "Yes, because if you are closer to us we won't get any girls." Junior: "And you mustn't drink alcoholic drinks. You are the girlfriend of the prince." He commented into Danielle's ear and she laughed, pushing Junior off. Liam: "What were you whispering?" Danielle: "Mind your business. Okay, give me a list of the things you want I will keep them here but when I want to dance. You'll have to come get them." Brothers: "SHO!" Junior: "Dance away from boys though."

Danielle: "Fusegi!" Liam: "He's speaking the truth." Danielle: "Please! I am a big girl." She said giving Junior her phone and they typed the things they wanted. Junior then gave her the money. They then left for the dance floor. Danielle placed the order by the bar man. "Hey, you are here!" Amanda greeted Danielle and sat next to her as she was still waiting for her order. She'd order a cocktail for herself. Danielle: "Hey, and yes, I am here." Amanda: "I tried to call you after you've called me but you didn't answer the call." She said placing an order. Danielle: "I just didn't want to speak to you." Amanda: "I spoke to Pamela and she promised that she'll leave you alone." Danielle: "And my brother?" Amanda: "I don't know about your brother then. Pamela and I broke up so I can't really tell her who to date. I don't have that say anymore." Danielle: "Oh, let me go

then.” Amanda: “I have found a table why don’t you go with me. The rest of the club is full and you won’t find space.” Danielle: “I am not alone I am with my brothers.” Amanda: “It’s cool. You’ll tell them where you are.” Danielle: “I will go with you if you’ll confirm that Pamela was your girlfriend. Like, show my brother proof because he doesn’t believe me.” Amanda: “Okay, sure. I still have some pictures I will tell him.” Danielle nodded and they led each other to the table... There other friends of Amanda that Danielle knew and she chose to vibe with them on the table because she didn’t want to keep speaking to Amanda. She was not over what happened between them and she couldn’t deny that her presence in her life always caused a disaster. And disaster? That’s what she was running away from... >> “I got her on our table now. What should

I do?" << Amanda texted Pamela. They've come to the club together as a couple. They didn't break up, Amanda lied to Pamela when she saw that Danielle didn't feel the same way as she did. She told Pamela that she lied that she loves Danielle. She was just scared that she was going to hurt Pamela because Danielle was obsessed with her. Even though Amanda's story didn't add up concerning Danielle's reaction when she saw Pamela. Pamela believed her and forgave her in a condition that she helps her get revenge for what Danielle did. Amanda agreed out of desperation but she didn't know what Pamela was planning. The plan was they take a video of Danielle drunk and dancing with men send the video to Mnotho. But Pamela had her own plan. The plan she'd suggested before but Amanda rejected it. >> "Try to spike her drink babe

and I will come get her for the dance floor.” << Pamela texted back. She was with the crowds dancing to performances but she was mainly avoiding to bump into Junior. >> “Okay, I will do that.” << Amanda agreed not knowing that her drink was also going to be spiked with sleeping pills so that Pamela could take Danielle and do what she wanted to do with her. Junior and Liam came to the table for their drinks and to check on their sister. They then left the table after they had confirmed she was safe with the people she knew from campus. Junior hadn’t seen Pamela and he’d gotten a girl to dance with on the crowds. Danielle could feel that she was feeling funny and she thought that she was just sleepy. She stood on her feet. “I will go to the bathroom.” She said. Guy on the table: “You’ve just gone to the toilet a few minutes ago.” Danielle: “Yes,

I have and now, I want to wash my face because I feel sleepy.” She said and they laughed at her as she walked away. Amanda had spiked her drink while she was busy speaking to her brothers and when Amanda went to the bathroom with Danielle, her drink was also spiked with sleeping pills. It was better for her because it was sleeping pills but Danielle had a drug on her system. Guy: “Shouldn’t you be going with blondie?” He asked looking at the sleepy Amanda, the guy was

the culprit on the table. Amanda: "No, she's a big girl she will be fine and you can follow her if you don't trust that. Just be a good guy and take her bag she forgot it. She will need it in there." She suggested and the guy nodded leaving the others on the table with Danielle's bag. The guy got to Danielle in time as she was barely standing on her feet. She was trying to pave the way through and he caught her just when she was about to fall. He held her waist. Guy: "Don't fall! And I think you need some fresh air not the bathroom." The guy said looking at Danielle and her vivid mind recognised that it was the guy she was with at the table. Danielle: "I can't... leave my brothers." Guy: "You are not leaving I will bring you back when the sleepiness is off your body. You won't enjoy the fun while you are sleepy." Danielle nodded without saying a word but

she could feel that her body was getting hot... Now, Pamela had gotten Danielle's phone cracked and the second girl was in the room with the hyper Danielle. Pamela was with the guy who was going to do the job for her. Guy: "Do you really want to do this to the other girl? I mean you are a girl too, what if someone does it to you?" Pamela: "I don't go around taking other people's partner looking for trouble. And I am not paying you to question me Bhiza. Or you don't want two free pussies?" she asked giving him the phone. Bhiza: "I need the money and well, the fun." Pamela: "Remember, that you shouldn't use the condom when fucking her. I want her to be pregnant with a baby that she doesn't know belongs to whom. And you will call her boyfriend so that he can hear everything. I want see her down for making me a fool.

She was laughing on my face while she knew that she was screwing the person I love. I will pay everything when you are done. And when you are calling her boyfriend make sure to call her name seductively.” Bhiza nodded and took the deposit. He turned back awe of women, he’d heard that women were dangerous creatures but he didn’t know that they would go this far to hurt another woman just for love! When he opened the door he looked at the prostitute who was seated on the chair having a drink. The main goal was to have a three sum and Mnotho would hear that his girlfriend was having a three sum. Pamela also wanted more not just to break Danielle’s relationship. Bhiza didn’t trust that he could impregnate Danielle and let alone rape her because this was going to be rape. He couldn’t just plant his seed on a

woman he barely knew and he was HIV positive. He couldn't infect her. He then sat next to the prostitute and looked at her. "Are you enjoying yourself?" He asked and smiled. Prostitute: "Yes, and I want to enjoy myself more with you and that yellow bone. So, let's get going." Bhiza: "Do you personally know Pamela?" Prostitute: "Who's Pamela?" Bhiza: "The woman who hired you." Prostitute: "No, I was hired by Danielle via phone. She told me she wants a three sum with her boyfriend and so, I agreed." Bhiza: "Okay, Danielle is that woman on the bed." he pointed her and she was laying on the bed moving her hand slowly touching her body as if she was feeling cold. "We will not have this three sum because a girl her age hired us to have this three sum and call her boyfriend while having it. I am telling you this because she

wants me to impregnate her.” he added. Prostitute: “So, what’s hard there? You are getting two free vaginas.” Bhiza: “I can’t just give my seed to a woman I don’t know. That child will have my blood and identity I can’t do it. And I can’t rape a woman.” The prostitute looked at the guy with a different eye and nodded. “But how, will you confirm you did the job?” she asked. Bhiza: “We will call the guy and act as if we having sex and I will call your name and her name, you must respond when I call her name but when I call yours. You’ll just moan. We will then text the girls’ mother or anyone who seems as family on the phone and we will tell them to come get her. How’s that?”

Prostitute: “You are so noble and can I get some noble dick? I will act more when I have you in me. We will use protection obviously.” Bhiza: “Awu! Ziyasha. She will be dead sleeping soon and we will put her on the couch and do, our thing.” He supported feeling his blood getting warm. The prostitute gave him a seductive smile and a nod...

S2 – EPISODE 02

Mnotho was busy working his mother’s feet and ankles. He was seated on the cushion on the floor and Thembelihle was on the couch. Mntwana was laying on the couch he had been watching TV but now, he was sleeping. Mnotho was home for the week because his father was in the hospital. Him and Dalingcebo had failed to convince Dalisu to go to the hospital. And so, Mlamuli used force on him. He came home on a

Friday morning with his sons and manipulated his father into believing that the boys wanted to go see the growth of his livestock. Dalisu agreed to go with them even Thembelihle told him that he mustn't go because he wasn't well. But to prove a point that he was fit and well, Dalisu insisted he wanted to go. Thembelihle made a warm shake for him that Mlamuli spiked with sleeping pills. Dalisu fell asleep on the car until they reach Richards bay. Mlamuli had covered him with a blanket once he was asleep. They had a fight when Dalisu woke up in the hospital bed with Mlamuli and his sons next to him. He reminded his father that 'You've taught me to be the man of my word and my word was, I will force you to go to the hospital. Now, I have kept my word.' Dalisu was silenced by those words and he was compelled to agree to get the

treatment. He'd been in the hospital for the full two weeks. Thembelihle had been in the beach house for a week and just got back this week... Mnotho: "You should stop standing on your feet 24 hours." He commented looking at his mother and Thembelihle playfully slapped his head. "Hhayi, mama. I am not a boy!" he said. Thembelihle: "You'll always be a baby to me." Mnotho: "Okay, don't you miss your husband?" Thembelihle: "I do, but it's better because I know that he'll come back feeling better. It's relieving." Mnotho: "You did a good thing by telling us mama. The man wanted to die!" Thembelihle: "Hheyi! Don't even remind me." Mnotho: "If Mlamuli didn't drive him we would have been doomed." Thembelihle: "Yeah, he's stubborn to do that to his father." Mnotho: "It was for the best mama." He said taking his phone that

was ringing from his pocket. "I have to take this call mama." He said getting up with his phone. Mnotho made his way to their room... "I thought you'll never call." That was the first he said to 'Danielle' but he was hit by the sex sounds not the Danielle's voice. He closed the door of the bedroom and walked slowly to the bed. "Yes! Yes! Yes!" The woman moaned louder and Mnotho could hear that was not Danielle's voice but even if so, Mnotho sat on the bed and listened. Because he was wondering why Danielle was calling him for such. "Nelz, give Danielle a chance!" The guy said boldly and 'Nelz' made an agreeing sound. "Nielley!" the guy called her. "Yes, babe, come!" A voice that sounded exactly like hers was what Mnotho heard. He was certain that it was Danielle and he closed his eyes realising that the woman he loves

was having a three sum! But he didn't know that the prostitute had listened to Danielle's voice notes and listened to her voice. She then imitated it perfectly. Mnotho heard the moans going on and on, he was extremely angry. He then dropped the call and his hands moved faster as he blocked Danielle's number without even giving it a second thought. He was feeling hot and even sweating because of anger. He couldn't believe how low she could be and she was going to come back and sleep with him!

He clicked his tongue repeatedly as he deleted everything that had her on his phone. He stamped there that he was done with her. He groaned and slammed his phone against the wall, he dropped his head placing his hands on his head. He moved them down to his neck and he felt emotions overwhelming him. “Mnotho! What’s going on?” Thembelihle asked looking around the room and she saw his phone on the floor. She’d heard the sound of it being slammed against the wall and his groan. But she wasn’t sure what it was. Mnotho: “I want to be alone, mama.” He said on his voice, deeper and huskier as he was angry beyond words. Thembelihle: “Okay, I will leave but don’t do something I won’t be proud of.” She said softly not sure whether she should just stay or leave. But she knew that staying wasn’t going to be a

good idea. She left the room only when Mnotho nodded his head... ----- "Hey, Danielle is gone I fell asleep and woke up, the guys were drunk and she wasn't there." Amanda told Pamela. They were inside the bathroom; she'd dragged her from the crowds just to inform her. They haven't taken the video and she didn't want to fail Pamela because she'd made a promise to her. Pamela: "Oh! She got what she deserved by now." Amanda: "What do you mean?" Pamela: "I couldn't listen to your lame plan and stick with it and so, I decided to stick to my original plan." Amanda: "WTF! Are you insane? You had her raped Pamela?" Pamela: "Yes, and that will teach her a lesson to respect other people's relationships. She wanted to take you from me." she informed her holding her hand but Amanda pulled her hand preventing her

from holding it. Amanda: "You are more sick than I thought! Where's she?" Pamela: "Why are you worried about her?" "WHERE'S SHE?" She burst holding Pamela by her shirt and Pamela told her where Danielle was. Amanda was angry beyond measure as she couldn't imagine what Danielle was feeling at the moment. "It's over between us. I don't want to ever hear from you, twisted bitch!" she spat on the floor and left her astonished. But as soon as she was sane she followed Amanda... "Why are you following me?" Amanda asked as she realised that someone was following her. Pamela looked at her with sad eyes. "What?" she asked. Pamela: "I don't want to lose you." Amanda: "You should have thought about that before hurting another woman. I told you that I don't support this but you went on and did it

anyway. So, please stop following me.”

Pamela: “Please, don’t tell Danielle that I did this to her. Amanda I am begging you. Please!”

Amanda: “Why shouldn’t I?”

Pamela: “She’ll send me to jail and I don’t want to go to jail.”

Amanda: “Don’t you think you deserve it?”

Pamela: “I do but let’s not forget that I wouldn’t be doing this if she didn’t seduce you and if you didn’t give in to that seduction.”

Amanda: “Even if she did Pamela, you had no right to hurt her!” she shouted looking back at her as they were following each other still. “And for the last time. Leave me the fuck alone!” She pleaded and Pamela nodded her head. She walked back slowly. And Amanda walked forward faster... --- Danielle had woken up on the bed naked with a heavy head and a vivid mind. She didn’t remember what had happened and as soon as she saw that she

was naked. She screamed and looked around her. She was alone and her clothes were on the floor. There was an empty bottle of vodka on the floor and as she stood on her feet. She felt that she was wet and a little uncomfortable... The prostitute had advised Bhiza to at least finger Danielle so that she would feel that something had happened. Bhiza did that because he didn't want his cover to be blown. He'd seen that Pamela was wicked and he didn't want to be further involved with her.

Danielle quickly took her panties and wore them along with her clothes. She was wearing them with a heavy heart as her mind was trying to think about what had happened in that room. She couldn't help but cry as her mind had already concluded that she'd slept with a guy she didn't know and he left her naked. How did this happen? She couldn't find the answers and she knew that she wasn't going to ask anyone about this. How was she going to ask her brother about waking up naked in a room she didn't remember entering? Who was she going to ask? She cried! Amanda budged inside the room without knocking. Danielle was still busy dressing up while she was crying a flood of tears. Danielle looked back and she saw it was Amanda. Danielle walked closer to her. Danielle: "Do you know what happened to me?" Amanda: "No." Danielle:

“How can you not know, Amanda because I was with you and I left the table for the bathroom because I was feeling funny.” Amanda: “I don’t know because I went to the dance floor I then went back to the table but you were not there. I just looked for you.” Danielle: “You looked for me?” she looked at her with a different eye and a questioning eye. She wiped her tears along with the mucus that was flowing out of her nose. Amanda saw that the lies she’d told her were not bullet proofed. “You looked for me and you were lucky to find me here?” Amanda: “No, I asked around and they told me that you came in here with a guy and some girl. I asked at the foyer and they directed me to this room.” Danielle: “I came in here with a guy and a girl?” she sat down and tried to think but her phone rang disturbing her thoughts. She took the phone

and answered her brother's call. Danielle: "Junior?" Junior: "Junior my foot! Where are you because you are not home!" he shouted and Danielle stood on her feet. She looked at Amanda. "Ntandokazi! Why are you quiet?" he exclaimed. Danielle: "I saw some friends and got lost with them. I am coming back." Junior: "Are you crazy? Mom and dad are angry here because you are not home and why did you lie to that Bhiza guy that you were going home because we weren't going to go home without you." Danielle: "Bhiza?" she asked confused by that information because she knew that she didn't tell anyone about leaving? Or maybe she did? Junior: "Yes! The guy that was with you on the table. He said you were feeling sleepy and you said you are going home." Danielle: "I am coming!" she promised and hung up the call she looked

at Amanda. “Did Bhiza follow me to the bathroom?” she asked. “Eh!” She felt her tongue being tied and she didn’t know whether to tell her the truth or just lie. Danielle kept giving her the eye that was pressuring her. “He followed you to the bathroom and I don’t know what happened then. But Bhiza is gone and I don’t have his numbers.” She saw it fit to tell her that. Danielle held her forehead and grabbed her bag afterwards she left feeling angry, hurt and ashamed! “Where are you going?” Amanda asked following her but Danielle didn’t stop on her account. She wanted to get home and face her parents because she knew they were going to scold her. Danielle: “Just stop following me because where there’s you around me. There’s always disaster happening in my life so, please! Leave me alone!” she pleaded with her

bringing her hands together and Amanda was heartbroken by her words. They crashed her and she nodded with shame... Danielle got home to her parents seated on the lounge waiting for her with Junior and Liam. Liam was dead sleeping on the couch, he was drunk even though he was under age but he could party with his brother. But Jake had always advised him not to drink and he always did anyway. Junior wasn't really drunk. She looked at her wrist watch and the time was just after 1am. She didn't know whether to sit down or stand. Jake: "You are looking at your watch for what?" he asked looking at her. He was the first to realise that she was inside the lounge. Danielle: "I didn't expect to find you awake."

Sheila: "You didn't expect to find us awake? You are insulting us, Ntandokazi. That's a total insult!" Danielle: "I am sorry but I just saw my friends and thought we should drive around with them. I thought I was going to get back to the club in time." Sheila: "We've been calling you, why were you ignoring our calls? I have been worried sick about you!" she shouted standing up and Danielle took a few steps back because she knew her mother well, she wouldn't mind taking a broom and beating the shit out of her. Danielle: "I am sorry mom. It won't happen again." Jake: "Yes, it won't happen again because you are never setting your feet in any club. Not while you are still under my roof." Danielle: "Hawu! Daddy, you can't do that I just made a mistake and as you can see I am unharmed." She said but her heart told her that she was lying! She'd been

harmful and she didn't know who hurt her. Sheila: "Listen to her. She's unharmed!" she shouted louder and Danielle ran through the hallway making her way to her room. Her bedroom was located downstairs while the others were upstairs. "WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?" Sheila screamed behind her and Danielle didn't stop running. Danielle: "You want to hit me!" she shouted back closing her bedroom and she locked it behind her. Jake: "We are not do speaking to you." he informed her standing outside her door after he'd tried the door. Danielle: "I am sorry and can we speak tomorrow when mom is more calm. Dad, I don't want to be beaten by a broomstick." Sheila: "I won't hit you!" Danielle: "No, I know you will and again, I am sorry for worrying you and keeping you awake. I didn't mean to do that." The parents didn't say anything they

just left her door... Danielle sat on her bed with her phone and she realised there that her phone had no pattern like it had before. She then checked her WhatsApp, the conversations were as she'd left them but she noticed that Mnotho had no profile picture. She then quickly checked his profile and realised that he had blocked her! She panicked from there and she checked her call log and Mnotho was the last on her call log, the person she'd made the call to except the missed calls but she didn't remember calling him. She checked the call duration and it was 6mins32secs. She held her chest as her heart beat faster than before she called him but the number didn't go through. She didn't need to crack her head she just concluded that Pamela had ruined her relationship. She didn't know

how she did it but she concluded that she did. She cuddled her legs and cried...

S2 – EPISODE 03

Nandipha was inside Ngcebo's room, she was packing their clothes because they were going to KZN for the weekend. It was July and she couldn't wait to go home and see what her sister had been complaining about, weight gain! Nandipha had laughed at her because she found it hard to believe that Nontobeko was gaining weight. She'd been happy with Ngcebo and she loved how special he made her feel. She felt that she was needed by him and that was everything to Nandipha. Even though he had a busy life they appreciated each time they always got to spend together. It was difficult for Nandipha but she was trying to adjust and accept that she was never going to see him as much as she wanted to. "I am

only going home for the weekend, Duma.” Nandipha said to Duma, a guy friend that she’d just got. They’ve been closed since their first day in class but they weren’t friends. But now, they’ve made their friendship official because Nandipha needed a friend. Palesa was a good roommate but she also had her own friends. Duma was a 22 years old Zulu guy, tall dark skinned and skinny. He was the loudest guy Nandipha had ever met but he was friendly and free spirited guy. They complemented each other because Nandipha was just as loud as he was... Duma: “But you promised that we will hung out this weekend.”

Nandipha: “Yeah, but plans changed and I don’t trust your mischiefs that you always want to get me up to.” Duma: “Don’t be like that. I thought you’ll meet my girlfriend and I will meet your boyfriend.” Nandipha: “Ntwana, I told you that you are not meeting my boyfriend.” Duma: “Why don’t you tell me that you don’t have a boyfriend?” Nandipha laughed. “Why do you think I am going to KZN this weekend?” She asked and screamed after asking the question. She moved away from the bed and did some dance moves. Duma: “Why are you screaming?” he laughed. Nandipha: “Turn the volume of that song!” Duma: “FUSEGI!” He exclaimed and on the other side of the line, he switched off the house song he was listening to. “We are still talking!” he pressed. Nandipha: “You are fuckin boring.” Duma: “You amaze me because you don’t

like parties and clubs but you love loud music, you love house music and dancing.”

Nandipha: “You are boring!” “Why are you screaming?” Ngcebo asked appearing from the door. He’d heard her scream as he was seated on the lounge downstairs. Nandipha: “Eh, it’s nothing I am talking to my friend.”

Ngcebo: “Ay, don’t scream then. You got me running up the stairs to check on you.” He said and closed the door behind him. He moved to the door and marched to the bathroom... Nandipha sighed after rolling her eyes at his back. Duma: “Umjita wakho lowo? You were really serious that you have a boyfriend? I can’t believe this.” he laughed. Nandipha: “Why are you laughing?” Duma: “Nothing ntwana.”

Nandipha: “I don’t look like someone who can have a boyfriend?” Duma: “I always tell you that you have a childish behaviour and

that innocence and boys around this city are not innocent.” Nandipha: “Goodbye because you are talking rubbish!” Duma: “Hawu-” Nandipha: “Yeah, I will see you on Monday.” She dropped the call and finished up her packing. She clicked her tongue as the music she was playing on her phone before the call proceeded. She’d even forgotten that she was playing music. She moved her body side to side as a new song began. Nandipha: ~singing~ “Something must’ve gone wrong up in my brain. Got your chemicals all in my veins Feeling all the highs, feeling all the pain Let go on the wheel, it’s the bullet lane Now I’m seeing red, not thinking straight Blurring all the lines, YOU INTOXICATE ME!” she sang the last line louder and she laughed at her loud voice. She didn’t realise that her boyfriend had left the bathroom when he first heard

her sing. He'd never heard her sing and he'd never seen her dancing. And the first time she spoke on the phone with him, she told him she couldn't dance. "Just like nicotine, heroin, morphine Suddenly, I'm a fiend and you're all I need All I need, yeah, you're all I need!" she raised her hands in the air and posed her body seductively while waiting for the chorus. "It's you, babe And I'm a sucker for the way that you move, babe And I could try to run, but it would be useless You're to blame Just one hit of you, I knew I'll never be the same It's you, babe And I'm a sucker for the way that you move, babe

And I could try to run but it would be useless You're to blame Just one hit of you, I knew I'll never ever, ever be the same I'll never be the same I'll never be the same I'll never be the same" Ngcebo moved closer to Nandipha. He'd heard the song a thousand times and never took a chance to listen to it closely until he heard her sing it. He never paid attention to the lyrics until they made him feel his blood getting warm now that she was singing it. "Sneaking in L.A. when the lights are low Off of one touch I could overdose You said, "stop playing it safe, girl, I wanna see you lose control!" "Can I see you lose control?" Ngcebo asked holding her waist and Nandipha stopped singing. She held on to his arms that were around her waist, her body gave birth to goose bumps as she could feel his hardness lingering on her

butts. Nandipha: "I thought you are in the bathroom." She commented and closed her eyes trying hard to hold her breath. "But now-" she broke off. Ngcebo: "You've made me like this and you never told me that you can sing. And sing such nasty songs." Nandipha: "Don't you write and sing nasty songs?" Ngcebo: "Hell no!" he exclaimed unfastening the buttons of her dress. Nandipha held his hands. "I want to intoxicate you and I heard that you sang that loudly, has someone else intoxicated you?" he asked lazily resting his lips on her neck and Nandipha loosened up. Nandipha: "Nobody does but you, babe!" She exclaimed turning to face him and he removed the dress completely. "The song has a meaning now to me because I have you and I always think of you when I sing it." She confessed and Ngcebo smiled proudly

that he'd found someone who thought of him. Ngcebo: "I love you." he said and kissed her the way she liked it. He wanted to live up to what she thought of him based on the song. He vowed to intoxicate her as he laid her down on his bed... He had his hand on her thigh as Nandipha was sleeping on the passenger seat on their way to his mother's palace. She'd been talking none stop as they were debating about different issues. They were laughing, having a good road trip and Nandipha was eating, she would also feed Ngcebo. She was eventually tired and she fell asleep leaving Ngcebo with no company... It was just 7pm and he was driving inside the palace. He parked his car and shook Nandipha awake... She woke up and yawned looking around she realised that they were inside his mother's palace. Nandipha: "But Rasta

we agreed that we won't come to your mother's palace because your father is here and I am scared of him." Ngcebo: "I said stop calling me Rasta!" he exclaimed pinching her arm and she laughed removing him from her. "And we are here now that means we can't go to Mnotho's house. Mama will know that we came here." He added and just then the front door was opened. Thembelihle stepped out of the house. Ngcebo: "And I guess it's too late now. Don't worry, you are dressed up nicely like mama's daughter in-law and you have your doek in fleek." He teased playing with her cheeks. Nandipha giggled. Nandipha: "Your mother will see us just stop this now." Ngcebo: "She knows you are mine nana what's wrong if I tease you while she's around?" he asked trying to hold her but Thembelihle was just at the door. She

knocked on the window and Ngcebo stopped touching Nandipha immediately. She giggled and turned to open the door. Thembelihle: “Why is he keeping you in the car now because I called you here?” She asked loudly holding Nandipha’s arms and pulled her into a hug. “Oh, mntanami. How’s he treating you?” she asked feeling her arms and cheeks. Nandipha was just laughing with her eyes looking at Ngcebo as he was standing aside looking at them. Nandipha: “He’s treating me good, mama.”

She sighed and looked at Ngcebo. “Why were you keeping her in the car? I heard your car pulling over but didn’t hear the sounds of doors being closed.” She explained taking a step closer to her son. Ngcebo: “You are not hugging me and you are not asking me how she’s treating me. How can you do this?” Nandipha laughed. “Don’t be jealous!” She said and Thembelihle sighed shaking her head. Thembelihle: “I know she treats you right and just take your bags and bring them inside the house.” Ngcebo: “We were seated inside the car because umakoti is awe of your husband and so, she wanted us to sleep in my brother’s house.” Thembelihle: “No, my husband doesn’t bite and you’ll not share a bed with her in my house. I will not let that happen.” She said walking away with Nandipha and Ngcebo

quickly followed behind them as the news he was hearing were not what he expected. Ngcebo: “Why am I not allowed to sleep with her in my room because Dali is not here?” he asked as he had kept up with them. Thembelihle: “I never shared a bed with your father until he married me and so, you are not sleeping with her too.” “WHAT!” He laughed and shook his head, thinking about what she’d just said. His mother knew nothing! He concluded. “Mama, she can sleep in my brother’s bed with new clean sheets.” He suggested. Thembelihle: “No, I know that your father won’t allow it too.” She said opening the door to the house and Dalisu was seated on his chair watching TV with Nhlakanipho on his thigh while having his coffee. “I told you it was them and look, my daughter in-law is here now.” She informed Dalisu sitting down but her hand

was still holding Nandipha. She was standing next to her because she was holding her. Dalisu: “Okay, you were right but now can you let the girl sit down.” He said looking at their hands and Thembelihle laughed letting go of her hand. Dalisu noticed that she loved Nandipha. Thembelihle: “Oh, yes! You are right mkhulu.” Ngcebo laughed and passed them moving to his room with their bags. Dalisu: “I will let that go just for your daughter in-law’s sake.” Thembelihle looked at him with a smile and he just shook his head. Nandipha: “Sawubona, Ndabezitha.” She greeted him looking down while she had her hands together. Dalisu: “Awu, yebo! MaZondi unjani?” Nandipha: “Ngiyaphila unjani, Ndabezitha?” Dalisu: “Hhayi siyaphila nathi. Sbonge nokuthi usuze wafika phela uNdlunkulu lo cishe nje

wakhala esebona ningafiki.” Nandipha dropped her head and held in her laughter. “Awu, kodwa Mageba. Usunehaba. Angikaze ngifune nje ukukhala.” Dalisu: “I know you weren’t going to admit that you wanted to cry.” He said looking at Nhlakanipho as he mumbled his baby sounds louder. “We are not giving you attention now!” he said to the baby and Nandipha looked at the baby. Nandipha: “Can I hold him?” she requested with a smile but looking at Thembelihle. Thembelihle: “Okay, but go wash your hands first. Ngcebo take her to the bathroom.” She suggested and looked at Ngcebo. He’d just sat down. Ngcebo: “Okay, where’s Mntwana?” Thembelihle: “He left with Mnotho after school and he said he’ll bring him back tomorrow night.” She replied and Ngcebo nodded taking

Nandipha... Dalisu: "I can see that you love this girl." He commented and looked at Thembelihle. Thembelihle: "Yes, I like all my son's partners. The ones I know." Dalisu: "Yes, you like them but you love this one." Thembelihle: "Hee! What are you saying now? Hawu! Le ndoda!" Dalisu just laughed and shook his head, he looked at the baby. "Woza kugogo phela ubaba uNgcebo ukulethele umamncane. Uthi

ufuna ukukuphatha Mageba. Phela bakuthanda kabi abantu ngoba unamehlo kagogo!” she played with the baby and Dalisu was looking at her. Dalisu: “Hawu! They love him because of your eyes not his father’s?” Thembelihle: “Jealous!” she exclaimed and gave the baby to Nandipha as she was back with Ngcebo. Now, Ngcebo was having a conversation with his father and Nandipha was busy with the baby while Thembelihle prepared food for them... “Mama, he’s sleeping now. What should I do?” Nandipha asked Thembelihle who was busy in the kitchen. Thembelihle: “You’ll see a guestroom that still had its lights on just closer to the hut when you leave through this door. You’ll knock there and his mother will take him.” she instructed her and fixed the blankets covering Nhlakanipho’s head... Nandipha stepped

inside the guesthouse after she had knocked but Naledi couldn't hear her because she was busy talking to baby daddy on the phone while watching TV. She only stood up when she saw Nandipha. "... Speak of the devil he's asleep already." She told Ndabezinhle on the phone and laid out her hands to take her son while listening to Ndabezinhle. "I will call you just now. Please, drop the call." She removed the phone. Nandipha: "I was told to bring him here." Naledi: "Thank you and you must be Ngcebo's girlfriend?" she asked putting her son in bed and she turned to face Nandipha. Nandipha: "Yes, I am and you have the cutest baby. How old is he?" Naledi: "Thank you, he's turning five months. You'll be here for how long it would be nice to have some company over here?" Nandipha: "I am leaving tomorrow I have to

go see my parents.” Naledi: “Okay, I guess we can talk some other time just to get to know each other. I will be coming back to Gauteng next month.” Nandipha: “Okay, but why are you staying here?” She laughed shortly and shrugged her shoulders. “Just be pregnant for Ngcebo and you’ll see. You’ll understand but maybe it will be different if you have a supportive family. I don’t have a family support so his grandmother is helping me raise him because I know nothing about children.” She managed to say. Nandipha: “I am sorry to hear that but you are lucky to have her support.” She said and Naledi nodded. “Goodnight then, I will see you tomorrow before I leave.” She said with a smile. Naledi: “Goodnight.” Nandipha left the house and headed back to the main house where they all had dinner... Dalisu

supported his wife that Nandipha was going to sleep alone in their house. Nandipha went to bed late because she stayed up late having a chat with Thembelihle because she was leaving in the morning...

“Why is your sister not working?” Ngcebo asked looking at Nandipha. He was driving her home on a Saturday morning. They were passing by Ngwelezane hospital now. They were having a conversation about her school days as they’ve just passed her previous high school. Nandipha: “She was injured last year and so, she came back because she couldn’t continue working at the military with an injury.” Ngcebo: “At the military?” he turned to look at him as the news surprised him. Dalingcebo had told him only about her previous job as an Administrator. He never mentioned the military and they never even discussed that

job in depth. Nandipha: “Yes, she worked there for years.” Ngcebo: “What the hell!” Nandipha: “What?” she turned her head now to look at him and she saw the he was surprised. “Lord! You didn’t know, I mean of course you didn’t know. Eish, please don’t tell anyone that I told you.” she pleaded with her. Ngcebo: “She’s so brave and I guess that’s why her boss says she’s strong.” He said recalling his brother’s words when he told him that Nandipha’s sister was the strongest woman than Nandipha.

Nandipha: “Please, don’t tell him. I don’t think he knows. My sister didn’t add her military portfolio on the jobs that she looked for this side. I am sure Dalingcebo doesn’t know about it. I don’t know why she doesn’t include it. So, don’t tell anyone about it.”

Ngcebo: “Okay, I won’t.” he promised and tried to think of his brother. He concluded there that it wasn’t his place to say anything and he had promised Nandipha that he wasn’t going to tell... “I AM HOME!” She screamed running inside the house to check who was home and her mother stepped out of her room swearing at her for screaming. She laughed and ignored that she was swearing but she threw her body on her and MaNtombela laughed hugging her daughter. Ngcebo had just dropped her off and told her he was going to fetch her in the morning to head back to Gauteng because on

Monday he had to be there... MaNtombela: "You look beautiful and you haven't lost weight. I didn't trust that you were going to look after yourself." "She loves food how was she going to lose weight?" Nontobeko commented standing behind her mother and sister. Nandipha turned to look at her and she laughed. "What's funny?" she asked with a frown. Nandipha: "Have you been eating all day?" MaNtombela: "Hhayi, there's nothing wrong with your sister's weight." Nontobeko: "Mom doesn't see that I have gained weight and I hate it." She complained and Nandipha was just laughing. "Won't you hug me?" she asked. "I am sorry, sisi." She said and they hugged each other warmly. Nontobeko: "You smell very nice." Nandipha: "Thank you." MaNtombela: "Yes, where do you get the money to buy expensive perfumes?"

Nontobeko: “Hawu! Mama, bakithi! She has a boyfriend now and he looks after her, right. Nandi?” she asked with a smile and Nandipha nodded. MaNtombela: “Hheyi, isikhulile ingane yami. Let’s go eat and tell me, about your studies. Are you getting along with the city and people?” she asked leading them to the kitchen and they followed after her with Nandipha teasing her sister...

S2 – EPISODE 04

Ngcebo was seated inside his car waiting for Nandipha. It’d been a while since he had parked his car by the roadside of the Zondi’s premises. He knew Nandipha was bad at getting ready quickly and he didn’t mind it. He didn’t mind waiting for a lady. It’d never bothered him... As he was seated in his car listening to music with his eyes closed and his feet on his car seat his

phone rang. He took it and answered the call from Craig. Ngcebo: "What do you want?" Craig: "Don't be like that because you know that you did more than what I did to your girlfriend." Ngcebo: "You have the nerve to tell me that Craig but you know that your ex was the one who seduced me. And hey, I am a man and I wasn't blind to her beauty so I gave her what she wanted." Craig: "You are still not ashamed." Ngcebo: "Are you ashamed of what you did to my girl? She didn't want to have you and you were going to force yourself on her. I should've had you hanged for that." Craig chuckled. "Have me hanged? This is not Nongoma where you are high and mighty. And I don't know why I thought we could talk." He said. Ngcebo: "I am mighty everywhere Craig and if I want to have you hanged even in your bedroom. I can do that

without thinking of the consequences and yeah, I don't know why you thought we could talk. Tsk!" he dropped the call and clicked his tongue repeatedly as he put his phone back down... Feeling irritated by the call he'd just had Ngcebo lifted his phone again to call Nandipha now. He wanted to leave and he felt that he had waited enough. But he stopped as he saw Nontobeko coming over to his car.

She knocked on the car's window and Ngcebo slid the window down. He looked at her and Nontobeko smiled. "How are you, Ngcebo?" She asked. Ngcebo: "I am fine and how are you?" Nontobeko: "I am fine, eh. My father asked you to come in for juice before you leave for the road." Ngcebo: "Hawu, I wasn't expecting that I thought we will just leave." Nontobeko: "He thought it would be good to have something to eat with you since you are his son in-law. And your girlfriend prepared the food she would be furious if you decline it." He chuckled and nodded. He stepped out of the car and they walked together inside the premises. "How are things at home without your sister? She's pretty loud and I am sure it's easy to see she's missing!" Ngcebo asked looking at Nontobeko. He couldn't help but notice that she wasn't as he'd seen her on

the pictures. Nontobeko laughed and replied. "You are right. It's easy to notice that she is not home. I miss her everyday but I am happy that she's studying." Ngcebo: "Yes, that's a good thing. Women should have independency I think that's very important. It's a tool that no man can take away from them." Nontobeko surprisingly smiled and looked at him. "You are right and wow! Yes, you are right!" she agreed and hearing his words made her happy. She had the stamped assurance that he wasn't going to lead her sister in the dark. She led him inside the house. "You can sit here my father will join you shortly." She showed him the seat of the couch. Ngcebo nodded and sat down, Nontobeko left him... Nandipha stepped inside the house with a tray of juice on her hands. Ngcebo smiled folding his lips and he

looked down. Nandipha: "This is not funny." She mumbled and kneeled down to put the tray down because her mother had advised her to do that. Ngcebo: "Ha! You kneel when you are here but in my house you don't." he mumbled back realising that she was kneeling before him. Nandipha: "We are not married and mom forced me to do this." Ngcebo: "Hawu, nana, I thought you said I am your husband." He reminded her holding her wrist as Nandipha was getting up but she tried to remove his hand from her. She was seeing her father. "Sawubona, ndodana?" Mr Zondi greeted Ngcebo walking to his couch. Ngcebo quickly let go of Nandipha's wrist and cleared his throat before sending his eyes to Mr Zondi. Ngcebo: "Yebo, baba. Ninjani kulawa makhaza?" (How are you in this cold?) Mr Zondi: "Hhayi, siyancenga mfana. Niyaphila

kodwa nina? Nasekhaya bayaphila abazali?” (We are trying, how are you? And how are the parents at home?) he asked lifting the juice jug. Ngcebo: “Hhayi, they’re fine. I wasn’t expecting to be invited in.” Mr Zondi: “I know. I had to have a word with you. Uyabona nje laba enithi nifuna ukubenza abafazi. Akakutheleli le juice. Uthi kumele ithelwe ubani we MaZondi?” (You see these girls you want to make wives. She didn’t pour the juice for you. Who should pour it for him Nandipha?) He asked looking at Nandipha as she entered the lounge with food now. She kneeled down. Nandipha: “Hawu, baba. I was going to pour the juice for you.” Ngcebo: “That means she can never work at a restaurant. Angazi ngoba phela umamezala wakhe has restaurants.” He joked and they laughed with Mr Zondi as Nandipha was sulking. Mr

Zondi: "It's a good thing that we know that your mother is a patient woman." He commented taking a plate from Nandipha and she left them immediately because she felt awkward that her father was dining with Ngcebo. Ngcebo: "Yes, she is and she seems to like her." Mr Zondi: "That's good to hear. Is Nandi studying? It's difficult to know what goes on with your child if you don't live near her." Ngcebo: "Hhayi, you don't have to worry about her because she's responsible. And I won't allow her to ruin her future." Mr Zondi sighed. "That's a relief. I need you to know that I trust you with my daughter and I hope you won't disappoint me. Don't break her heart, she's just my innocent baby." Ngcebo couldn't help but smile but he looked down immediately. He didn't know that her father was

soft hearted and she might have inherited his heart. He wondered how his father was going to be if he had a daughter... Ngcebo: "I don't intend to disappoint you, Gagashi. Most people didn't trust that I was serious about your daughter but hearing you say you trust me that means a great value to me. And I wouldn't want to break the trust of my father in-law." He affirmed and Mr Zondi nodded his head giving out his hand to Ngcebo and they shared a handshake... "How was having lunch with my father?" Nandipha asked looking at him now as he was driving away. Ngcebo had a good talk with Nandipha's father and by the end of their conversation MaNtombela joined in and they got to know Ngcebo. They both needed to know him more because he was the only person that their daughter knew in Gauteng. They realised that he was a good

boy not what they thought about him before. He had manners and took pride in his culture... They were relieved and MaNtombela was much more relieved... Ngcebo: "It was good and don't ask me details about it because it doesn't need you. It was men conversation." "Bantu! Usuyaphapha Rasta!" She exclaimed pulling his dreads and Ngcebo groaned. He couldn't think of other ways to get her to stop but pull hers as well and Nandipha screamed. He laughed and didn't let go of her even when she had. "Let go of me now!" She screamed. Ngcebo: "Just say sorry for calling me Rasta." Nandipha: "I am sorry for calling you Rasta." Ngcebo: "You are the best boyfriend and I can't wait to spend eternity with you. SAY IT!" He forced with his hand still on her locks and his eyes on the road. Nandipha was still screaming.

Nandipha: “Yes! Yes! You are the best boyfriend and I can’t wait to spend forever with you. Now let me go.” Ngcebo: “You haven’t said you love me.” Nandipha: “I LOVE YOU!” She screamed as he was pulling her closer and he let go after her scream. He laughed at her but Nandipha didn’t laugh. She was angry and so, she rested her head on the car’s window. Ngcebo: “Are you angry?” Nandipha: “Leave me alone.” Ngcebo: “Okay!” he said and played music on his radio... ----
“MaCebekhulu, you need to rest! I was telling your daughter in-law that she should stop working 24 hours. But I guess I should preach the same gospel here like I do with every woman in this village.” Mnotho told his grandmother as he was busy stretching her legs and bending her knees. MaCebekhulu: “I can’t just sit down.

Ukusebenza kubalekisa izifo.” Mnotho: “Yes, but you need not to overwork yourself because you are old now. You can do something small and rest, something that will amount to an exercise not overworking yourself.” He advised moving to the other leg and his grandmother cried touching his hand. “Relax, I am not hurting you.” MaCebekhulu: “Hhayi! Hhayi! They are painful.” Mnotho: “That means you will have to listen to me, gogo.” He said taking an ointment to rub her now. “Or you want me to go to Gobela so that he can make some traditional medicine for you?” he asked looking at her because he knew that MaCebekhulu hated it. MaCebekhulu: “Yehheni! Le ngane! I don’t need imbiza.” Mnotho laughed and shook his head. “I have been worried about you.” she commented. Mnotho: “Worried?” he

checked and looked at her. MaCebekhulu: “Yes, a patient of yours asked me what was bothering you because you don’t seem alright. I called your mother and she told me the same thing.” Mnotho: “No, I was just worried about dad not that there’s something bothering me.” he lied and avoided eye contact with her. He’d never told anyone about what had happened with Danielle. He didn’t even tell his twin. MaCebekhulu: “No, that’s a lie because it’s been a while since your father came back from the

hospital and this patient told me this after his return.” Mnotho: “There’s nothing wrong MaCebekhulu stop worrying yourself.” She nodded and stopped pushing because she knew when they wanted to talk to her about what was bothering them, they did talk and when they didn’t want to talk they didn’t like being pressured into talking... Now he had just parked his car outside his house from his grandmother’s house. He was trying to make a decision about what he’d been thinking to do when he noticed that his house wasn’t locked. He didn’t panic because he knew that his family members knew that he kept the spare key under the mat. He thought Mntwana was inside the house as he heard the music playing. But he realised he thought wrong as his eyes set on Danielle seated on the couch... She’d asked her mother to allow her to take

a taxi to Nongoma to see him. She didn't tell her what had happened. She kept that to herself. Sheila gave her the permission to go telling Jake that she was going to Bella's house... The day after the club incident Danielle went to the Doctor to get PEP as she believed that she'd slept with a stranger. She didn't want diseases and unwanted pregnancy. It'd been weeks since the incident happened and Danielle was struggling to accept what happened. She was quiet about it. Mnotho: "What are you doing in my house?" Danielle stood on her feet and looked into his eyes. She felt her knees shaking at the sound of his deep husky voice. It was thick and carried emotions that broke her heart. She didn't know what he believed about that night. Danielle: "You blocked my number and when I called with a landline you answered

the call but dropped the call as soon as you heard that it was me on the phone. What did I do?" Mnotho chuckled and shook his head. "You travelled all the way from Durban just ask me that fuckin question? What did you do?" he asked taking a step closer to her and even though Danielle wanted to step back. She decided she was going to stand on her feet without stepping back. Danielle: "Yes, because before blocking me you didn't even leave a message to tell me what did I do wrong and I need to know." Mnotho: "Don't fool me Ntandokazi. I may be from the rural areas but that doesn't mean I am stupid. You might have thought that right? He's just a guy living in a village and so, he's stupid I can fool him." Danielle: "No, I know that you have something else in your mind and what you have in your mind is not what

happened.” Mnotho: “Oh, so you do know that I have something in my mind?” he sat on his couch and looked at her as she was still standing. “I blocked you for a reason and yet you are still here. Can you leave my house and go back to your life? I told you that if you still want to have your youth fun just go have it and call me when you done. You failed to do that and you had to call me so that I can listen to how you don’t just have fun with alcohol but you let men have a part of you. And yet, you call yourself my girlfriend.” Danielle: “No! I didn’t call you and that was a set up by a girl that’s dating my roommate. The one who’s lesbian she threatened me that she’ll break my relationship like I did with hers. She drugged me-” Mnotho: “Hheyi! I don’t want to hear it!” he shouted standing on his feet. He was angry all over again as if it’d

happened yesterday. “I don’t want to hear your excuses Ntandokazi because if that woman had threatened you were supposed to tell me.” he added. Danielle: “I was scared and I didn’t want to upset you.” Mnotho: “I have had enough of your drama and so, I beg you that, in the morning just go home. I am not the man you are looking for.” Danielle: “Please, don’t break up with me again.” Mnotho: “Again? I didn’t break up with you the first time I told you when you know what you want just call me. I gave you a break to live your life but now, I am breaking up with you.” “No!” She declined and moved forward to hold his arms. She wasn’t ready to let go of him. She loved him and she wasn’t ready to let go. He had to understand that and accept it. “I refuse to accept that because I am telling you that I

didn't do what you heard in my right mind.
Do you think I was going to

call you while having sex with someone else?" she asked feeling the need to fight for her relationship. Mnotho: "They drugged you? You know that I don't like you going out partying and drinking alcohol because I know things like this happen." Danielle: "I was with my brothers." Mnotho: "But you are a big girl and so, you kept going for wild parties. I am sure you were dancing with that guy when he drugged you." Danielle: "You'll blame this on me? I was raped for crying out loud!" Mnotho: "So, what? I should feel pity for you?" Danielle cried as she heard him say that to her. She couldn't possibly believe that he was saying that. "Just report the case to the police and get justice for what happened. And don't think for a second I will believe you. You might have had your phone closer and it dialled my number by mistake while you were busy

having your three sum.” Danielle: “No, that’s not what happened.” Mnotho: “And you’ve thought of lies to tell me, you decided you will connect the dots just to make me believe your lies. You should try story telling you could sell because you have a good plot I can see. It’s a storyline.” Danielle: “You are hurting me Mnotho.” Mnotho: “I am hurting you?” he shouted and chuckled looking up then he looked at her. “You know nothing about being hurt by someone you love, someone you had hopes and dreams about. You know nothing as you are telling me I am hurting you! And you know what, you’ve taught me a lesson that I should stick to women my age.” He said moving away from her but she held his arm tightly. Danielle: “Please, don’t leave me. I am sorry but I am telling you the truth. Pamela had me drugged I am not making up a

story.” Mnotho: “It’s late now, you won’t get a taxi back to Durban and so, you will use the guestroom to sleep. I want you to leave in the morning before I wake up. It’s better we go our separate ways because we want different things. And I can’t allow you to keep wasting my time.” He said and left her in the lounge crying. He didn’t want to keep giving her chances because she kept ruining them and breaking his trust but this time, she broke him not just his trust... Danielle sat on the floor and she cried painfully with her heart feeling hard as stone. She couldn’t contain all the pain...

S2 – EPISODE 05

In the morning, Mnotho didn’t check if Danielle was still inside his house. He just woke up to wash his face and made his way to the kitchen to make breakfast for himself. His maid didn’t work on Sundays. “Good

morning,” Danielle greeted him standing behind him wearing a blue tailored dress that was just underneath her knee. The dress had white straps and looked perfect on her. Mnotho: “You are still here?” he asked turning to look at her. “I thought I said you should leave before I wake up.” Danielle: “I just couldn’t leave without saying goodbye.” Mnotho: “A goodbye for what?” Danielle: “You’ll be my enemy, Mnotho?” Mnotho: “There’s nothing left to say between us, you can go. Or what do you want? You want breakfast?” Danielle swallowed hard and shook her head. She turned and ran off his house with tears running down her cheeks. She wished she could just have a car to run her over and she would die easily. Pamela had ruined her life and as much as it was difficult to accept, she knew that she had to accept

that everything was over for her and Mnotho... Having Danielle in his house made him realised that he needed to speak to his brother. He felt that he was tired of everything that had been happening and he needed to have a break... He needed to relax his head, he was human and he could take only some hurt and disappointment not this much. "You are not working tomorrow?" Mlamuli asked sitting next to his brother. He'd just put Bongani to

bed after they've had dinner. Bongani wanted to sit with both his fathers, even though he had been told that they had something important to discuss. Nkosazana failed to get him to bed and so, Mlamuli took him and they stayed with him watching TV until he was asleep. Mnotho: "I am working but I will just call in sick." Mlamuli: "Okay, what brings you here? You want some cows to pay ilobolo for your dear girlfriend?" he asked and they laughed. Mnotho: "Sadly, no. I don't want that I am here on a different reason." Mlamuli: "What's wrong?" Mnotho: "I want to take a trip." Mlamuli: "A trip?" Mnotho: "Yes, I think I can feel the stress killing me slowly and so, I don't want to push it by keep working while I can feel that I am not alright. Even my patients can see that something is wrong with me and you know what they do about that." Mlamuli:

“They tell MaCebekhulu that you are bothered.” Mnotho: “Yes, and she’s already asked me questions I couldn’t answer.” Mlamuli: “What’s wrong? Why are you stressed?” “It’s work and Danielle.” He introduced and sighed burying his face on his hands. He was regretting again, why he allowed her into his life! “She went out clubbing and slept with a man and a girl, she called me while having sex with those people she was with. I need a break Mlamuli.” He just told him plainly and didn’t have any emotional reactions to what he was telling his brother. He wasn’t looking at him. Mlamuli: “That’s bullshit! How can she do something like that? Is she even well upstairs?” he shot a thick question and clicked his tongue disgusted by what he was hearing. He clicked his tongue again and looked at his brother. Mnotho: “She

tells me a certain girl set her up and she was drugged. Tsk! She's telling me shit. I don't know, I think I can never find a woman whom I can-" Mlamuli: "No, don't let what this girl did to you prevent you from living your life and from expecting to have a girl whom you can share your life with. Just accept that she wasn't the one for you and move on. I will support you with whatever you want to do. Even if you want to go up and visit space, see some aliens in another planet. I will support you." He said and they both laughed at his last statement. Mnotho: "Thank you, I need you to go with me when I inform dad that I am taking a trip away. I intend to leave for July. I will come back mid-August. I need this break apart from what happened in my relationship I just need it." Mlamuli: "You are right you've been working hard bafo. You look after

everyone else and take care of their wellbeing and now, you need to take care of your own well-being.” Mnotho nodded recognising that his brother was right and he sighed. Mlamuli held his shoulder tightly, his brother had a loving heart and patience for women he’d loved but he had always seemed to attract the wrong women. Most of his relationships had ended because of the women he was with and least of them ended because of his mistakes which were mostly, insecurities. Taking a trip was what he needed, he needed to relax without worrying himself about family and the people. Mnotho: “Let me go to bed and I am sure your wife is waiting for you.” Mlamuli: “Wee! She’s waiting for me? Didn’t you see that she’s grumpy tonight?” he asked standing up after him. Mnotho chuckled. “No, I guess she’s grumpy towards you not

her brother in-law. You know that everybody loves me. They can't stay mad at me forever." he joked and Mlamuli fisted his shoulder. He laughed. Mlamuli: "No, they love me. It'd been like that since childhood. They're drawn to me because I am the coolest prince." Mnotho: "I think we know I am the coolest because even Danielle was scared of you. You see?" they laughed. Mlamuli: "You've been privileged to live closer and get along with both our parents and so, you wouldn't be like me. Mama is always there when you feel that dad is being harsh on you and when

you feel the way that you don't want to feel. She always knows how to get you to calm down. I am here finding my own way with everything and myself." Mnotho: "There's nothing wrong with you bafo." Mlamuli: "You've just said your girlfriend was scared of me." Mnotho: "Yes, just like people are awe of Mageba. It's not something you can take to heart and we may be from same parents but we won't be the same." Mlamuli: "I know." Mnotho: "And now, you have your family you should find your own way. They depend on you." Mlamuli nodded and they did a shoulder hug. "I am glad you came here. Get some rest bafo and I will talk to the woman of the house that tomorrow we are leaving." He said, they were standing outside Mnotho's bedroom. Mnotho: "Won't she tell you to stay because you said she's grumpy?" Mlamuli laughed. "No! I am the

husband and she's the wife not the other way around." He commented and they laughed. Mnotho: "Goodnight, go soften your wife." Mlamuli: "Goodnight, bafo." He turned making his way to his bedroom and he found his wife marking papers. "Hawu! You are not sleeping?" he asked resting his body on her thighs disturbing her marking. Nkosazana: "Don't start your games I won't smile and please, stop disturbing me. I am working here." Mlamuli: "I am not going to play games with you and our bedroom is not a classroom." He told her taking the papers and he put them on the bedside table. He then looked at her with a smile but she didn't return it. "Okay, I am sorry that I forgot about our date I was busy with some calves at the farm and I forgot that I promised my beautiful wife a date. My precious pearl." He said touching her

cheeks and Nkosazana folded her lips to prevent smiling. Nkosazana: "You should make up for it." Mlamuli: "Yes, I will make up for it now!" he said pulling her face closer to him but Nkosazana balanced it preventing it from meeting his. Nkosazana: "No, not this way. You need to think and plan my love without spending money." Mlamuli: "Oh!" He laughed knowing that she was low-key asking him to cook for her. "You want me to do it in style or just plainly?" he asked pushing her back to her pillow. Nkosazana giggled. "I want you to do it in style, just the way I like it my king." Mlamuli: "Mm. That means I will have to go with the boys to mom's palace tomorrow and I will leave them there. Mom's guards will bring them back on Sunday and I can style you all week." He said licking her chin and she laughed. Nkosazana: "Your brother

is here to ask you to come home?" Mlamuli: "Yes, but just for tomorrow. I won't sleep there because I can't leave my pearl alone in this house." Nkosazana: "Yes, you can't because your chickens will bother me and I will never enjoy you styling me all week with a grumpy face." She said holding her lower lip while playing his earlobe. Mlamuli chuckled. "How about we do some tutorials now?" he suggested kissing her Nkosazana giggled in between the kiss. She couldn't ask for a better life partner and it's not even once that she'd regret choosing him over proceeding with her music career. He'd given him courage that she could do what she loved the most, singing and do it differently and right this time but that was going to be without being in a relationship with him. He'd told her that he didn't want a life partner with a busy life like the one

celebrities have... And so, she decided being with him was everything and more... -
---- "I want to sleep Dalingcebo drive faster!" Nontobeko told Dalingcebo and looked at him as he was driving to his house KwaNongoma... Dalingcebo had a weekend community project that he had to run oLundi and Nontobeko was there working with him like she'd always supported his work and projects. Dalingcebo always wanted to work with her on the projects and she never refused because she enjoyed working with him.

Dalingcebo: "If I drive faster I will cause an accident and I told you that we will find my mom in my house. So, that means you won't sleep." Nontobeko: "No! You know that your mother doesn't like me and I can't just sit down with her. You want me to be uncomfortable?" Dalingcebo: "That's not the truth. She was upset because of that day not that she doesn't like you." Nontobeko: "I don't want to sit down with your mother. Please, drop me by the taxi rank I will just go home and will rest when I get there." Dalingcebo: "I won't do that and if you can't accept my family you are not accepting me. I won't do what you tell me." Nontobeko: "This is not about your family but it's just a pure fact that your mother doesn't like me and I don't want to sit with her." Dalingcebo: "Uyangihlanyela wena. If you don't want to sit with her, you'll go sleep and if that is

hard for you. You can walk from my house to the taxi rank in town. I won't stop you."

Nontobeko: "You can let me walk from your house to the taxi rank that I don't even know. You can do that, Dalingcebo?"

Dalingcebo: "Yes, I can do that." She looked at him in disbelief and she didn't breathe a word. She just didn't want to see Thembelihle and so, she concluded that she was going to step out of his car and hike to town. She wasn't prepared to listen to him and he had to know that she wasn't going to dance to his tune this time! She'd been doing that a lot just for the sake of respecting his word. Dalingcebo parked his car on the front yard of his house and he stepped out of the car. Nontobeko realised the car on the yard belonged to his mother and the front door had two guards standing on either sides of it... Nontobeko took her

bag and stepped out of the car with it. “Can you open the boot I want my suitcase?” She requested looking at Dalingcebo as he was walking closer to the front door. Dalingcebo: “Why would you take your suitcase because we are leaving in the evening. I told you we won’t spend the night here because I am working tomorrow. Now, what’s in the suitcase?” Nontobeko: “I want to go home I told you I can’t stay here.” Dalingcebo: “You want to go home you’ll walk from here to the main road just to get something that will take you to town?” Nontobeko: “Yes, I will do that.” Dalingcebo: “And you are doing that because you don’t want to see my mother?” he asked walking closer to her. Nontobeko: “I didn’t say that.” Dalingcebo: “I asked you a question. You are doing that because you refuse to sit down with my mother?” Nontobeko: “Yes, I want to go

home. She doesn't like me and-"

Dalingcebo: "I will get your suitcase don't give me explanations." He moved to his car boot and Nontobeko followed after him... Thembelihle stepped out of the house and saw that Dalingcebo was with his girlfriend. She'd heard his car but he wasn't getting inside the house and like always she walked out to check what was keeping him outside... Thembelihle: "Hawu, I am in the house now thinking there's a thorn that has hurt your foot here as you are not getting in." she commented standing next to Nontobeko, she looked at Dalingcebo once as he was taking out the suitcase. She then looked at Nontobeko who wasn't looking at her. "And you didn't tell me that you were not alone." She added. Dalingcebo: "Ay, mama. You love exaggerating. It's not like I have been here for an hour." He said

putting Nontobeko's suitcase before her feet. And Thembelihle looked at the suitcase. "How are you, MaSthole?" he asked. Thembelihle smiled and gave her arms out to Dalingcebo, they shared a warm hug. Nontobeko was awkwardly standing next to them not knowing whether to leave now or let his mother breathe a word to her. Thembelihle: "I am fine and how are you?" Dalingcebo: "I am fine but I want to rest before going up to see dad."

Thembelihle: “He said he’ll come here during lunch time. Where’s your bag as you are giving her the suitcase without yours?” Now, she looked closely to Nontobeko as she had her head looking down. Thembelihle wasn’t beside her now but she was standing before her along with her son. Dalingcebo: “Oh, Nontobeko is leaving so that’s why I gave her the suitcase.” Thembelihle: “She’s leaving? Where is she going?” Dalingcebo: “I am sure she can speak for herself.” Nontobeko raised her head and looked at Dalingcebo, he was looking at her. She then looked at Thembelihle who was screening her body. “Sawubona.” Nontobeko greeted Thembelihle and she just nodded still screening her body. Nontobeko felt that the woman still didn’t like her. Thembelihle: “You’ll tell me, where are you going and

why you are leaving or I will have to ask again?" Nontobeko: "I am going home because mama needs me home." she lied and Dalingcebo moved away from them, he moved back to his car boot. Thembelihle: "She needs you home? Is there anything wrong?" Nontobeko: "She expected me on Monday and if I stay here I will get home on Tuesday because Mageba will leave late." Dalingcebo left them as Nontobeko's lies that she was telling his mother made him even angrier at her. Thembelihle: "Hhaybo! We Dalingcebo, why are you going inside the house who will drive her to town to get the taxi?" Dalingcebo: "I don't know. She wanted to leave and so, she must make a plan not me. Why should I bother myself because I am tired?" Thembelihle: "Her mother wants her home. Where's your respect for her mother? You haven't

married this girl that you will do as you please.” Dalingcebo: “She’s lying to you her mother doesn’t want her home. She knows why she wants to leave and you can ask her. I am not driving her anywhere and nobody will. Not even your guards.” He said and opened the front door to his house. Nontobeko was angry that Dalingcebo had said all what he said to his mother and she couldn’t even look at her now as she was alone with her. She’d lied to her and she didn’t know what to say now that her son had told her she lied. Thembelihle: “Why are you leaving?” Nontobeko: “I thought it was the best thing to do because I can’t be here while my parents don’t even know that I am dating Dalingcebo.” Thembelihle: “But they will know soon, right? That’s obvious.” She looked at her and she was reluctant to ask why she was saying that but she gained

the courage. “Why are you saying that?”
Thembelihle: “Ain’t you pregnant? I mean when a girl is pregnant, her parents are forced to know the man their daughter had been dating for her to get pregnant. Unless if the baby doesn’t belong to Dalingcebo.”
Nontobeko: “What! No, I am not pregnant!” she said loudly and looked aside feeling awkward that she was implying that she was pregnant. Nontobeko knew that she’d been careful and she knew she didn’t need a baby. Her job was much more important than having a baby. A baby was going to keep her away from the military for even a longer time and she didn’t need that. And besides she had her periods!
Thembelihle: “You are not pregnant?” she asked moving closer to her as means to touch her but Nontobeko took a step back. Nontobeko: “Hhaybo! I am not pregnant just leave me

alone.” She burst, suddenly irritated by her. Why was she accusing her of pregnancy because even her mother had never done that? She looked at her with a disgusted face. Thembelihle had her bubbled eyes widened. The girl had just shouted at her for trying to touch her? And now, she was looking at her as if she was something disgusting not the mother of her boyfriend. Nontobeko: “I am sorry.” Thembelihle clicked her tongue and left her standing alone. Nontobeko

sighed and placed her hands on her face. She then held her suitcase and marched to the gate... “NONTOTBEKO!” Dalingcebo shouted his name and she stopped walking she turned to look at him. She saw that he was angry and Nontobeko concluded that his mother had told him what happened. Nontobeko: “Yebo.” Dalingcebo: “You shouted at my mother?” Nontobeko: “I am sorry it was just a mistake. She kept accusing me of being pregnant and she wanted to touch me. I just didn’t like it I didn’t mean-” Dalingcebo: “You didn’t mean what! Huh?” he asked holding her wrist and she looked at his hand. “You didn’t mean to disrespect her? You have done that and it was enough that you had the nerve to tell me you don’t want to sit down with my mother. You lied to her face and to top that you shout at her?” Nontobeko: “I am sorry, I

said I made a mistake. I didn't mean to do that it just slipped off my tongue, Dalingcebo." Dalingcebo: "Ungangicasuli mina! Ungalinge nje ungidakelwe ngoba uma ufuna ukuhamba, hamba uye kini. Ngeke ngikuncenge mina ukuthi hlala la, ngeke ngize ngiyenze leyonto. Angisangani. I dare you shout at my mother again. Tsk!" he let go of her wrist and left her. Nontobeko pressed her teeth together and inhaled air deeply before taking her suitcase. She left his premises. She didn't know the place but she was certain that she was going get home...

S2 – EPISODE 06

"Nontobeko?" MaNtombela shook Nontobeko awake. When she got back home she went straight to bed. Her mother was at church and her father wasn't around. She managed to find her way to town after

a number of cars had passed her without giving her any lifts. She shook her body signalling to her mother that she didn't want to wake up but MaNtombela kept shaking her until she was seated on her butts. Nontobeko: "Mama, you don't have mercy on me." MaNtombela: "Did you see the time?" Nontobeko: "Mama, I am tired I have been working all weekend." MaNtombela: "I know, and I have cooked. Now, we have to go to MaNgubo's house because her son has passed away. I will come back late." Nontobeko: "Jehova! What happened to him?" MaNtombela: "I don't know yet but you have to look after your father. He has flue and you know how he is when he's sick. He doesn't want to eat." Nontobeko: "Don't worry," she yawned and took her phone that was under the pillow. She looked at the caller ID. "I will get to him to

eat or else I will threaten him. Ngzomdlisa inhlaba mina.” She said and MaNtombela laughed. MaNtombela: “Hhayi, I will come back.” she said tapping her shoulder and she left Nontobeko’s room. Nontobeko got off her bed and stretched her body, her phone rang again. She took the phone and answered the call. Nontobeko: “Hello!” she yawned and sat back on her bed. Dalingcebo: “Why didn’t you answer my phone call?” Nontobeko: “I was still busy speaking to my mother I couldn’t answer the phone. That’s the reason.” Dalingcebo: “And calling me back was impossible when you were done speaking to your mother?” Nontobeko: “I am busy preparing a meal for my father that’s why I didn’t call you back but you can drop the call. I will call you back when I am done.” She said and Dalingcebo chuckled. Nontobeko didn’t understand

what his chuckle was about and she even hated that she was speaking to him after he had shouted at her as if she was a child. Dalingcebo: “There’s no need for that. I was just calling to ask if you got home safe since you didn’t see the need to send a text just to tell me.” Nontobeko: “You let me walk alone and didn’t even ask your mother’s servants to drive me just up the road and now, you are acting concern?”

Dalingcebo: "I am acting? Nontobeko, what's your problem with me, with my mom? What's your problem, Nontobeko?"

Nontobeko: "I don't have a problem."

Dalingcebo: "Don't lie to me because I can see that you have a problem! If you don't want to commit to me and my family just tell me and I will leave you alone. After the way you and mom met you couldn't just sit with her just to rectify what happened the last time. You shouted at her for trying to touch you. You don't want to be touched?" he shouted and Nontobeko didn't answer him. She kept quiet and the yawn followed her silence. "Tsk!" he exclaimed and hung up the call. Nontobeko got up from her bed and she walked out of the house making her way to the toilet. She didn't feel like she cared that Dalingcebo was angry with her. He'd let her walk a distance alone and now

he was acting concerned? She didn't need his concern, she was a big girl and she could look after herself. She clicked her tongue thinking of the tongue click he'd given her before hanging up the call. He was rude! ----

- Prince and Bongani ran up to the front door of their grandmother's house as soon as their father had put them down. Mlamuli: "Stop running, you two!" he shouted looking at them running but they didn't pay attention to him. They wanted to be the first to see their grandmother because their father had told them she didn't know they were coming. And so, they were going to SURPRISE her. Mnotho: "Do you remember that mama used to scream when we used to run around? Look, who's doing the shouting now?" Mlamuli laughed. "You are right about that and these two bother me. I think one of them should stay with

grandma and keep her some company.” He said as they stepped inside the house. Mnotho: “I doubt their mother will allow you to do that.” Mlamuli: “Ey, konje!” he shook his head as Mnotho was laughing. They both sat down on the couch. “But I can blackmail her and say, she threw tantrums for getting pregnant the second time that soon.” He recounted. Mnotho: “Are you going to have another child after Bongani?” Mlamuli: “NO!” “Hheyi, wena! What’s wrong with having more children? Why are screaming when your brother asks you about having more children?” Thembelihle asks sitting on her chair looking at her sons. Her grandchildren were with Dalisu in their bedroom. Mlamuli: “No, two children are enough and when is he having children as he is asking me about children?” he asked fisting his shoulder and Mnotho chuckled.

Thembelihle: “He’ll be having coloureds children since his girlfriend is one. And well, she’s totally beautiful.” She remarked and they two brothers kept quiet they looked at each other. “What’s wrong, did I say something wrong?” Mnotho: “No, no! You said nothing wrong, MaSthole.” Mlamuli: “Dad should come out of his room mama. You know some of us have plans for later and so, we need to be on the road. Or we will sleep on cold sheets.” He said looking at his wrist watch and Thembelihle laughed along with Mnotho. Mnotho stood up on his feet. Thembelihle: “What’s happening with cold bedsheets?” Mnotho: “Mama, let me go get dad because well, I don’t want my sister in-law to be grumpy again. Phela, husband forgot about their date last night.” He told his mother walking away and Thembelihle laughed. Mlamuli: “Uyinja Mnotho!”

Thembelihle: “Leave my son alone! You are the dog, how can you forget your date, Mlamuli?” she asked still laughing at him.

Mlamuli: “I was busy mom I am not a bad guy for that. I am pretty sure that your husband did forget some dates even after three years of marriage.” Thembelihle laughed. “He learnt not to promise me dates but he would just say ‘dress up nicely tonight!’” she mimicked his voice and laughed. “Then I would just know that he’s taking me out.” She added.

Mlamuli: “Women!” Thembelihle: “Voetsek!”

Mlamuli: “Don’t swear MaSthole, your husband is coming right now.” he warned her knowing what would happen if he heard her swear. Thembelihle immediately folded her lips and looked at Dalisu’s direction.

“Thank you,” she whispered looking back at Mlamuli quickly. He winked at his mother.

“Where are the boys?” Thembelihle asked looking at Dalisu as he sat next to her on the chair.

Dalisu: “Mnotho said I shouldn’t bring them. They’re with the maid.” He replied looking at Mlamuli. He was busy on his phone now.

He looked back at his wife now. “They told me they’re not leaving with their father.” He added. Thembelihle:

“They’re not leaving Mlamuli?” Mlamuli:

“Yes, they’re not leaving. Someone here will have to drive them back to us on Sunday.”

Dalisu: “That’s no problem. It’s always good

to have them here. Uyaphila, ke?” Mlamuli:
“Yebo, ngiyaphila baba unjani?” Dalisu:
“Hhayi, siyaphila nathi. Mnotho said there’s
something they want to discuss with us,
MaSthole.” He said taking her phone from
her hands. “Who are you chatting to, here?”
he asked looking at her chat. Thembelihle:
“Okay, what’s wrong?” she asked looking at
them both after she’d tried to take her
phone from Dalisu but he refused with it.
Mlamuli: “Nothing is wrong but Mnotho has
something to tell you.” he looked at Mnotho
and the parents looked at him as well.
Mnotho: “I am taking a trip.” He announced
and looked at them. Dalisu and Thembelihle
looked at each other. Dalisu: “A work trip?”
Mnotho: “No, it’s leisure trip I am feeling
stressed out and I need to get some leisure
somewhere far from South Africa.”
“HHAYBO!” Thembelihle and Dalisu

exclaimed, they both moved forward and looked at him closely. Mnotho looked down. Dalisu: "What's going on with your brother, Mlamuli?" Mlamuli: "He's feeling strained baba and even his patients could see that he's stressed. They even told gogo about it and so, we both saw it best that he needs to go away for a while. He'll come back in August." Dalisu: "He's stressed?" Thembelihle: "What's bothering you, Mnotho? What's wrong and it's not work because since the night you broke your phone. You haven't been the same." Mnotho: "It's work, mama. Nothing else." Dalisu: "Don't think of lying to us." Mlamuli: "I think we know that Mnotho takes care of everyone here and his body can only take a load. He's needs to go and distress." Dalisu: "Umbhedo lowo! He's running away from something and we need to know what is it

that he's running away from." Mnotho: "I am not running away, baba." Dalisu: "Yes, you are and let me tell you mfanawami. A man doesn't run away but he faces his demons. You are going nowhere!" Mnotho: "You can't tell me that." He raised his head to look at him. Dalisu: "Yes, I can. We all feel stressed and tired but you'll never see us running away from anything." Mnotho: "Baba, I came here to inform you that I am not leaving I didn't come here to ask for your permission." Thembelihle: "Hhayi! Mnotho, don't speak like that with your father. You didn't come here to ask for his permission my foot!" Mnotho taunted his jaw and looked down. "You can't stop him from going baba because it's not like he'll be going away forever. He'll come back and you can't compare yourself with him." Mlamuli said.

Dalisu: “Why not? How will he learn to deal with pressure if he’s running away? How will he do that? When things get tougher you run away?” Mnotho: “He’s implying that I am a coward mama and you are quiet about it but if I can raise my voice. You’ll tell me to shut up.” He looked at his mother, he’d suspected that his father wasn’t going to agree to let him go and that was the reason he asked Mlamuli to be with him. He didn’t want to face Dalisu alone because he was going to end up doing what Dalisu wanted not what he wanted for himself and his wellbeing. Thembelihle: “When did he say you are a coward?” Mlamuli: “This is not about who’s right or wrong but it’s about the wellbeing of your son. Not running away and staying but his wellbeing, how will he work if he’s stressed?” Thembelihle: “What’s stressing you?” Dalisu: “And you

better not tell us that it's girls because I know when a girl has done you wrong you take it to heart and end up moping about it." Thembelihle: "Mageba! That's inappropriate and Mnotho has never moped about a girl not even once." Dalisu: "Okay, he's going nowhere." Thembelihle: "You can't decide that because if he feels he needs some rest he must get that rest. Soon, they'll be running around with the kingdom and he needs to deal with whatever that's bothering him now." Dalisu: "And this kingdom you are talking about is stressful but have you ever seen me running away talking about holiday rest? No!" Mlamuli: "That's because you have mom as your life partner and when you feel stress she's there to help you deal with it. But Mnotho doesn't have a life partner yet. And if he feels being here is not enough to help him deal with his stress as

his father you should support him and let him do what he feels is right for himself.”

Dalису: “Running away is not what right.”

Mlamuli: “He’s not running away. Mageba, Mnotho has always been here and he listens to you more than any of us. He hardly disobeys your word, he looks after the people and everyone’s wellbeing who’s looking after his?”

Thembelihle: “He has a point Ndabezitha. My son needs a break and we should let him have it before what’s stressing him kills him. I wouldn’t forgive you if something were to happen to him because you refused to let him go and rest.”

Dalису sighed and held his wife’s hand.

“Okay, you can go and take as much time as you need but September I want you here. Is that clear?” Dalису asked looking at Mnotho who had his head looking down but lifted it immediately to look at his father as it

obvious that he was speaking to him. Mnotho: "Yes, I will do as you have said. Thank you." Dalisu: "No, I should say thank you and your brother just made me realise my mistake that I don't thank you enough for all your hard work and dedication to helping your people. Blessings will fall upon you, ndodana. They will overflow and whatever that's bothering you will pass." Mnotho: "Ngiyabonga baba." Mlamuli: "Yes, thank you." Thembelihle: "Yhu! Hhayi, difficult man!" she commented looking at him and sighed, their sons laughed as Dalisu pulled her doek off her head. "Hhaybo! Bring back my doek!" she stood up and followed him. Dalisu: "Before you go Mlamuli make a milk tart! Your mother burned it last night and I couldn't eat it. Make one for me." Thembelihle: "Hawu! He should be in the kitchen now? What

happened to them not doing chores?” she mimicked his voice lastly. “Shut up!” He said looking back at her and he pulled her closer to him. Thembelihle couldn’t help but giggle. “You heard me Mlamuli?” he shouted. Mlamuli: “YES, I HEARD YOU I WILL BE ON IT!” Dalisu: “Good!” they marched to the sounds of their grandsons. Thembelihle: “Mlamuli has a date with his wife njalo. This milk tart will disturb his plans. You should

have bought it.” Dalisu: “It’s still early he’ll get home in time. Dates happens at 7pm, right?” Thembelihle laughed. “How should I know?” she asked. Dalisu: “Hawu, kanti indoda yakho ayikuyisi kuma dates?” (Your husband doesn’t take you to dates?) Thembelihle: “No, he doesn’t.” Dalisu: “He’s not romantic you should leave him.” he advised and Thembelihle widened her eyes looking at him. “I am joking! But my son makes the best milk tart than you do.” he compared. Thembelihle: “Hhaybo! I taught him!” she reminded him and smiled as her heart felt lighter, it’d been a while since she last heard him call Mlamuli ‘my son’ in a sentence that didn’t have anger. Dalisu: “I know!” he said standing outside the playroom of the children. He looked at Thembelihle. “You’ll dress up nicely tonight and smell nice, then dress the boys nicely

that includes Nhlakanipho. You'll do that, right?" Thembelihle: "Yes, I will do that ndoda yami." Dalisu: "Okay, go to them now I will see you later." He said giving her the doek back by putting it back on her head. Thembelihle: "Okay, send my regards to Cynthia." Dalisu: "I will." They hugged each other and Dalisu left the house for MaMzobe's palace...

S2 – EPISODE 07

Naledi was seated on her bed with a laptop and a modem, papers lying around her bed. Thembelihle had given her the laptop because she wanted to apply in different Universities and Colleges in order to study the following year. They have agreed with Ndabezinhle that he was going to hire someone to look after their son and she would study because they didn't want to leave their child in KZN while they were in

Gauteng. “How’s it going, there?” Thembelihle asked entering the room with Nhlakanipho in her arms. She sat on the bed and laid the sleeping baby down. Naledi: “I am trying to read instructions about NSFAS and it’s still early for me to apply for it. I will have to set a reminder for their applications opening dates.” Thembelihle: “Okay, that’s better and did you check the responses from the Universities in KZN. The ones you applied for through CAO?” She sighed. “Yes, I have and DUT gave me an offer but-” she folded her lips with her eyes widened she looked at Thembelihle. Thembelihle: “You just want to be closer to your boyfriend?” Naledi laughed shyly and nodded her head. Thembelihle laughed. “Hhayi, I understand but if you don’t get admission in Gauteng you’ll have to come to Durban. You can’t

put your future on hold for a man because he has everything going well for him. And his qualifications are not yours even if he can marry you.” she advised hoping that she would listen to her. Naledi: “Yes, ndlunkulu. I will do that. I won’t make any mistakes.” Thembelihle: “That makes me happy and Nhlakanipho deserves an educated mama. What do they say? Some #blackexcellence.” She said kissing the sleeping baby and Naledi smiled. Naledi: “Thank you.” she said unexpectedly as Thembelihle was on her feet now fixing the baby’s blankets. Thembelihle: “For what?” Naledi: “For everything that you’ve done for me especially. I know Nhlakanipho is your blood and you would do anything for him. But you weren’t forced to do any good by me and you did, willingly. For that I want to say thank you.” Thembelihle: “Awu, bakithi.

It's nice to hear those words and it's my pleasure." She said smiling at her and Naledi shot the smile back. Thembelihle then left her to proceed with her work. She was disturbed by her ringing phone as she was busy reading a book with her baby sleeping on her lap. She placed the book down and took her phone. She couldn't believe her eyes and so, she

placed her hand on her chest and inhaled air deeply before answering the phone. Naledi: "Hello!" Patience: "Hello, Naledi, my baby, how are you?" her mother asked and Naledi felt her heart hardening against her chest as she couldn't believe that her mother was calling her. After such a long time she was calling her! Naledi: "I am fine and how are you?" Patience: "I am not fine. Can we meet? We need to talk Naledi." Naledi: "I am not around, mme." Patience: "You are not around where are you Naledi?" Naledi: "I am in KZN." Patience: "In KZN where that boy comes from? Are you telling me that you are there Naledi?" she shouted and Naledi shook her head, she couldn't understand why her mother was suddenly angry. Naledi: "Yes, I am there and why are you angry because you abandoned me for a man. You threw me out of your house

because of a stranger.” She burst out of anger and cried. Nhlakanipho woke up at the sound of his mother’s voice and he cried. Naledi got up with him. Patience: “Oh! You have given birth and you didn’t tell me but you are living with those people who haven’t paid damages for that child you have given them. Why are you selling yourself cheap?” Naledi: “I am selling myself cheap? You don’t know what you are talking about because you are the one who sold me to your boyfriend. That dog raped me and you did nothing to help.” There was silence from Patience’s side of the line and Naledi couldn’t stop crying. Her baby was also crying and that frustrated her. Patience: “I am sorry, my baby.” she finally breathed a word and Naledi kept quiet instantly. She couldn’t believe that her mother was saying ‘sorry’ to her. “I should

have believed you and now, I have seen that this man was a pig all along. Naledi, please come home and we will fix things.” She said and Naledi dropped the call she put her baby down and cried. Thembelihle stepped inside the house as the cry of the baby moved her from her house to the guest house. “Hhaybo! What’s wrong?” She asked taking the baby that was crying while his mother was seated on the floor crying. Thembelihle moved around the room with Nhlakanipho and let Naledi cry but she saw that the baby wasn’t going to sleep while his mother’s cry was also loud in the room. She then left the house with the baby. Naledi took her phone and called Ndabezinhle. He didn’t answer the call at the first try but he answered at the second try. Ndabezinhle: “Babe, I am working out can you call later?” he informed her panting and Naledi heard

he was panting but she couldn't hang up the call. Naledi: "She called me today Ndabezinhle and she wants to meet me." she cried ignoring what he'd just said. Ndabezinhle: "She called you? Who? Your mother?" he asked loudly and Naledi sobbed nodding her head. "I am being silly, yes, it's her who called you. What did you say to her?" Naledi: "I couldn't say anything I just felt emotions overwhelming me and I dropped the call. She shouted at me for being here." Ndabezinhle: "Shit! Have you told mom?" Naledi: "No, she came in here and took Nhlakanipho because he was crying. I just couldn't control myself." Ndabezinhle: "I am sorry, okay. I will come back home by tomorrow I will be home and we will talk about this. And if you want to come here to meet your mom I will bring you here, okay?" Naledi: "Ain't you, busy

tomorrow?” Ndabezinhle: “I will be busy but I will come back home. I can’t let you deal with this alone and don’t worry about my work. It’s not that stressful for now.” Naledi: “Okay, thank you.” Ndabezinhle: “I will see you tomorrow and for now, try and calm down for the baby’s sake, okay?” Naledi: “Okay, I love you.” Ndabezinhle: “I love you and goodnight.” Naledi: “Goodnight.” She hung up the call and sighed. She then got up and went to the bathroom to

wash her face. When she got back from the bathroom Thembelihle was waiting for her inside her room. Naledi: "He's sleeping? Thank you." Thembelihle: "Were you crying because he was crying?" Naledi: "No, my mama called and we had some words exchange." She said without looking at her and Thembelihle walked closer to her. Thembelihle: "What did she say?" Naledi: "She's angry that I live here and I think something happened with her boyfriend because she said sorry for believing him. And she also wanted us to meet but I am far." Thembelihle: "You need to call her and tell her to come here. Ndabezinhle can come down with her. I will call him. She's not a busy woman?" Naledi: "It depends but I will call her. And Ndabezinhle said he's coming here tomorrow I don't know if mom will agree to come." Thembelihle: "I will call

Ndabezinhle and tell him to take a breath and in the morning call your mother. Don't call now because you might get upset again." Naledi: "Okay, I will do that." She nodded and said. "Goodnight." Naledi: "Goodnight." She went to the door and locked it... ----- Today, while she was walking around Steve Biko campus on a Monday afternoon. Danielle had bumped into Pamela walking with Junior on campus. Pamela didn't break up with Junior even after she'd succeeded in running Danielle's relationship. Danielle had tried to confront her as means to show Junior that Pamela wasn't good for him but Junior didn't listen to her. Junior didn't listen to her because he believed that she was jealous. Danielle couldn't even tell her brother what she believed Pamela did to her because she was ashamed of it. Now, she was seated in

her room with a bottle of brandy and three bottles of tablets. She'd been battling with the pain for a long time and it didn't want to end. She wanted to end it tonight because it was clear that she was never going to find happiness. She looked at the pen and paper with tears streaming down her cheeks. She didn't know what to write to her parents and so, she wrote. "I AM SORRY!" Sheila and Jake had left her with the children and they were to return late at night. The children had gone to bed. Danielle opened the bottle of brandy and all the tablets. She poured them down on her bed and she began eating them along with the brandy. She was tired of feeling useless and feeling like her life had no meaning. What did she do on earth to deserve such bad luck with finding happiness? The man she loved despised her and he wanted

nothing to do with her. She couldn't sleep at night without crying and depression was killing her. She decided that death was the best way out and nothing more... "I want to check on the kids before going to bed." Sheila said taking off her shoes. They've just came in their house before midnight. Jake threw his body on their bed and sighed. "They're sleeping and so, why don't we sleep. We will see them in the morning." He suggested. Sheila: "No, I should check them first because Ntandokazi sometimes do things her own way not my way. I will also check on her." Jake: "She's a big girl and she doesn't like being checked on constantly as a child. She's not one." Sheila: "Wow! You are telling me that tonight?" Jake: "Yes, I am because I want you to sleep." Sheila: "I am a mother and so, that means I can't sleep." Jake: "Okay,

you'll find me sleeping." "I don't care because you are the one who love to act like a baby." She said leaving the room with Jake laughing at her statement. She started by checking her younger daughter's room. They've shared a room with Hannah but

Hannah wanted her privacy telling her mother that she was older now and she deserved her own room. Sheila gave her what she wanted and Leah slept alone. Leah's blankets were on the floor while she was cuddling the teddy bear and the windows of her bedroom opened. Sheila sighed. "I knew it!" she whispered and went to close the windows. She then covered her daughter and left her room... After checking Hannah and Liam she walked down the stairs to check on Danielle. She passed by the lounge to switch off the TV that they left playing. She then marched to Danielle's room. Sheila: "I hope it's not locked." She mumbled alone before trying the door and luckily it wasn't locked. "And she's playing music at this hour!" She added turning to turn on the lights inside her bedroom in order to get to her radio. When she turned

to her daughter's bed. She couldn't help but scream painfully and the whole house heard her painful scream. Danielle was laying on the bed with the bottle of brandy on her hand and her mouth was wide opened. There was white foam dripping off her mouth. Sheila held her heart and marched quickly to her bed. She removed the bottle from her hand and she cried instantly. Sheila: "Ntandokazi!" She screamed shaking her and then Jake entered the room followed by Hannah and Liam. They've heard their mother's scream in their sleep and they woke up except Leah. Jake: "What happened here?" Hannah: "Mama?" she cried and placed her hands on her face. Sheila: "Please, let's take her to the hospital. Jake!" she cried pulling Jake by his vest and he nodded quickly. He lifted their daughter off the bed and left the room with

her. Sheila: “You have to stay here with Leah because she’s sleeping. I will call your grandmother.” She said to her children leaving the room and they followed her out of the house. Hannah: “I want to go with you.” Sheila: “No, you can’t come with me. Liam, please take your sister.” She said opening the door to Jake’s car. Jake was inside the house to get his wallet. Liam: “Let’s go Hannah, we can’t leave Leah alone.” He said holding her arm and they headed back inside the house. Sheila quickly looked around and she figured her phone was inside the house. She stopped leaving the car when she saw Jake approaching the car with his phone and wallet...

S2 – EPISODE 08

In the morning Naledi was alone inside Thembelihle’s house. Thembelihle had

gone to Mnotho and Mlamuli with the baby and was to pass by MaCebekhulu's palace before heading back home. She'd called Ndabezinhle and told him not to come back home without Naledi's mother. Naledi had just finished washing the dishes and packing them, she then took her phone from her pocket and she called her mother sitting down on the high chair that was by the kitchen island. Patience: "Naledi, I thought you wouldn't call." Naledi: "I guess that means you know why you felt that way?" Patience: "Yes, and my baby, please come back home." Naledi: "I should come back home to be molested by your boyfriend all over again, is that what you want?" Patience: "No, he has been arrested for fraud in his workplace and his arrest revealed that he's not from South Africa. He has been living in the country for years with illegal

documents.” Naledi: “I told you mom! I told that this man is black but something about his IsiZulu was just off. But you said your friend told you that the Zulu accent is not the same.” Patience: “I know but he speaks it fluently.” Naledi: “Where’s he from?” Patience: “He’s from Ghana and he moved here because he ran away from the crimes he committed in his country.” Ndabezinhle and Mnotho had a hand in his arrest for fraud but the arrest helped because it made other revelations about the man that had been lying to Naledi’s mother for years of their

relationship. Naledi: "What did he do?"
Patience: "Theft and the biggest crime was molesting his daughter, his wife wanted to kill him instead of getting him arrested and so, he ran away. I am so heartbroken Naledi because I didn't believe you. But I just thought it was one of your stunts. I am sorry." Naledi: "But mme, the last time I told that I lied I spoke the truth because I didn't want to embarrass you to the police. Couldn't you see that I wasn't lying to you this time around?" Patience: "No, I am sorry I am really sorry and please, come back home." Naledi: "I will come back home but the grandparents of my child wants to see you. The father of my baby will take you and you will come here with him." Patience: "No! Bathong! I will not do that." Naledi: "Why not?" Patience: "Their son made you pregnant and that means they should come

here I won't come to them." Naledi: "Mama, they can't come there." Patience: "Why? I am not going to take orders." Naledi: "This is not about you, mama but it's about my son which is your grandson. Can you put your pride aside for once?" Patience: "No, I am not coming there. I will not be taking orders to some Zulu king that I don't know. They must come here." Naledi: "They have been supporting me when you kicked me out. They have been looking after me and clearly, if I wasn't dating their son I was going to be a street kid but you just can't come here. I bet you won't even thank them for looking after me because they owed me nothing. Ndabezinhle's mother did everything for me out of the goodness of her heart." Patience: "Okay! Okay! I will come down to KZN. You can tell your boyfriend to call me I will tell him when I am

free.” Naledi: “Thank you so much!”
Patience: “I just don’t like that I won’t have time with you before seeing your in-laws. We needed some time alone.” Naledi: “We will get that especially if you can arrive here at night.” Patience: “Okay, thank you for calling me back, nana. I have really missed you and I can’t wait to meet my grandson.” She giggled. “I have missed you and looking forward to seeing you again. And I should go now my airtime is getting exhausted.” She said quickly. Patience: “Okay, bye!” “AH!” She exclaimed as she couldn’t say goodbye because of her airtime. But she released a worry free sigh that was followed by a smile. She then went to Thembelihle’s lounge to watch TV. She enjoyed it more than the one inside her room but she was awe of Dalisu. She couldn’t sit in one room with him and watch

TV. She loved it better when she was with MaCebekhulu because she did everything with her even sharing the dining table but Thembelihle wanted her closer to her because MaCebekhulu was too old to help Naledi with the baby. It was only good if they visit her not live with her... ---- “When you arrive in L.A please don’t look for girls.” Mlamuli advised Mnotho, they were inside Mnotho’s house. Thembelihle had just left them. Mnotho was double checking if he had everything and his brother was laying on his bed eating chips. Mnotho: “Uyadakwa, how can I not look for girls?” Mlamuli: “You’ll be there to relax not to fuck around if you fuck around you’ll not come back home early because you’ll be drunk of girls.” Mnotho laughed. “Do you realise that I am not a child?” he asked looking at Mlamuli and he just laughed at him.

Mlamuli: "You don't understand what I am telling you. I am not saying be miserable over there I am

saying be happy but don't get girls they will keep you from coming back home early." Mnotho: "I am not a child anymore and hopefully I will get a woman I will travel around with because if I don't get her I will hire one." Mlamuli: "Hhe! You are moneyed!" Mnotho chuckled and took his ringing phone. He frowned at the screen. "What's wrong?" he asked. Mnotho: "It's an unknown number and I can't be answering unknown numbers I am leaving they will disturb my journey." Mlamuli: "Just answer the call." He shook his head reluctantly and then answered the call. "Hello." He greeted politely while proceeding with double checking his documents. Sheila: "Hello, Mnotho, you are speaking to Sheila-" Mnotho: "You are not about to tell me to come back to your daughter, right?" Sheila: "You are no longer dating again?" Mnotho:

“Why are you calling me?” Sheila: “I didn’t know that you are no longer dating, but can you please come and talk to her. She tried to kill herself a night before the last and now, she doesn’t want to talk. She’s just quiet and I am clueless I don’t know what to do. I was calling to tell you that because I thought you are still dating.” Mnotho: “She tried to kill herself? And why are you calling me because you are supposed to be calling people to help her.” he asked feeling no sympathy or shock for what he’d just heard. The woman had hurt and disappointed him. Sheila: “What did my daughter do to you?” Mnotho: “It would be better if you can just ask her.” Sheila: “She’s not talking!” she burst and cried the pain that she was feeling. Mnotho heard that the woman was in pain. “Please, I am begging you. I don’t want to lose my daughter. Her biological

mother killed herself and now I can't help but think that if she can leave this hospital she will try to kill herself again and this time she will die." Mnotho: "How did she try to kill herself?" Sheila: "She drank tablets and brandy. I found her half dead." Mnotho: "Why do you think if I come to see her she will talk?" Sheila: "If this links to you she will talk. Please, help us." Mnotho: "I will come. Just text me the hospital details." Sheila: "Thank you." Mnotho didn't say anything and so, Sheila hung up the call. He placed his phone down and shook his head. Mlamuli: "What's wrong?" Mnotho: "Ntandokazi tried to kill herself and I will have to speak to her because she's not talking to anyone. Her mother believes that if I can speak to her she will be willing to open up." Mlamuli: "Hhaybo! And you, don't even look surprised." Mnotho: "Why should I

be surprised? I have run out of surprise reactions because she'd been giving me surprises and a lot of them." Mlamuli: "Ey, I think we need to go now then if we are not driving straight to the airport and the good thing is, you have said goodbye to everyone. So, let's go now." he said getting up from bed with the packet of chips in his hand. Mlamuli was going to drive him to the airport in Durban and drive back home. Mnotho had asked his wife to let him drive, he would have asked the servant but he wanted his brother. Mnotho: "I don't know what can possibly push this girl into killing herself." He wondered stepping inside the car after they've packed his two bags. Mnotho was driving, his brother had forced him to take the driver seat. Mlamuli: "Maybe she really didn't plan on cheating on you. Don't you think maybe you need to look at

this situation in a different eye?” Mnotho:
“No, because I am not willing to get back
into a relationship with her. I am done with
her I will find someone else.” Mlamuli:
“Mnotho, this girl loves you she-” Mnotho:
“Please, Mlamuli just drop it! I don’t want to
talk about it!” he burst. Mlamuli raised his
hands

up. "There's no need for you to raise your voice at me. I am just closer to you." Mnotho hissed and closed his eyes shortly, he opened them and concentrated on the road... ----- "I have called her boyfriend and asked him to come here." Sheila informed Jake sitting next to him inside the dining room of their house. They've just left the hospital, it was the second day since Danielle been admitted and she didn't want to talk to them... They've informed Junior but he didn't come back home. He told them he was busy... Jake: "You did what?" he shouted looking at her and shifted the food that the Chef had just served them. Bella joined them on the table. Sheila: "I called him." Jake: "Why would you do that and why do you think that we need him here for our daughter to loosen up and talk?" Bella: "I think she did a good thing my baby."

Jake: "Mama, I am not talking to you right now. Answer me, Sheila!" Sheila: "It's clear that Danielle tried to kill herself and this has something to do with her boyfriend. Why can't you see that?" Jake: "Why can't I see it? My daughter has been dating that man and all along you knew but you told me nothing about it. Who knows what he did to her, huh?" Sheila: "I was supposed to tell you that she's dating? Do you tell me when Junior has a girlfriend? You don't tell me unless he wants to bring a girl home and now, you are busy questioning me about her dating." Jake: "I should question you because you have been clearly encouraging this." Sheila: "Weren't you dating when you were her age? Why is it okay for your son to have a girlfriend but not okay for Danielle?" Jake: "That man is older! And older men come with trouble." Sheila: "You were my

age when we started dating but you came with triple trouble and burdens!” she shouted and the angry Jake raised his hand at her but Bella quickly held his wrist. “You wanted to hit me? Hit me!” she shouted standing on her feet. Jake looked at his mother and she let go of his wrist. He was angered by her words and he didn’t know if she was referring to his past ‘identity less life’ or his two children that he had from different women. He pushed the plate that was before him further. Bella: “Can you stop fighting and speak like adults.” Jake: “We will speak like adults while she’s insulting me?” he asked looking at his mother but Bella didn’t supply a word. “You are referring to my children as burdens, right that’s what you are trying to say?” he asked. Sheila: “I am referring to nobody and if you feel like I am referring to them then that

means I am talking about the children from my womb.” Jake: “Mxm! Now, you see you’ve made a mistake and you’ll say that and you can’t even say sorry. I don’t want you in that hospital.” He stood up. Sheila: “What?” she shouted following him to their bedroom upstairs. Jake: “Stop following me.” Sheila: “You can’t tell me that I can’t see my child. Danielle is my child.” Jake: “You don’t call your children burdens and so, it’s better that you stay away from a burden because it will kill you.” Sheila: “Jake don’t pretend as if you weren’t troubling me.” Jake: “Oh, I am triple trouble and burden why didn’t you leave me when you had time? Why did you stay even after I troubled you because that’s what you are saying?” He looked at her but Sheila didn’t answer him. She realised that she’d made a mistake because she was angered by

Jake's words. "I will free you then. I will give you a divorce." He said. Sheila: "UYANGIDAKELWA!" She screamed and moved closer to Jake. "You'll divorce me now? Why didn't you think about it when I was younger?" Jake: "You didn't tell me that you wanted it and now, you have told me that you want this divorce. I will give it to you."

Sheila: "Fine!" she left the room with tears in her eyes. She locked herself in the guestroom and cried. She couldn't understand why this had to happen to her now? It was her fault. Bella: "Sheila!" she called her knocking hard on the door but she didn't open the door. "Sheila, open this door now!" She shouted. She got up and went to open the door. She left Bella at the door and she slowly walked inside the guestroom. Bella: "This divorce nonsense you and Jake were talking about will not happen. It will not happen." Sheila: "He wanted the divorce I am not the one who wanted it. I will give him what he wants. I am tired of fighting." Bella: "You are not going to divorce him because you are the one who insulted him and you should apologise." Sheila: "How did I insult him, mama? He said hurtful things to me." Bella:

“He’s angry because his child tried to kill herself and you are calling his children burdens because you didn’t give birth to them?” Sheila: “I didn’t say that.” Bella: “Don’t make us think you tolerated Jake’s children because you loved him. Don’t make us think like that because I don’t know why did you say that to him. It was inappropriate.” Sheila: “I am sorry.” Bella: “And now stop feeling sorry for yourself because you’ve hurt my son more than he did with the words you said to him.” she told her lastly and got up, she walked slowly to the door. Sheila closed her eyes and buried her face on the pillow... ----- They got to the hospital by 11am after a long quiet drive that Mnotho didn’t want. He’d asked Mlamuli to drive him because he didn’t want to have a quiet drive. But he had ‘talking about Danielle’ to blame for the

awkwardness between him and his brother. Mlamuli: "I will wait for you here." He told him sitting on the waiting area. Mnotho stopped walking and looked back at him. Mnotho: "You are not going in there with me?" Mlamuli: "I am not going in there with you, the girl is your ex not mine." Mnotho: "Okay, I shouldn't have spoken to you the way I did, bafo. I also didn't want a cold drive that's why I asked you to drive me." Mlamuli: "I have nothing against you but I am saying that I can't go in there with you because you know her and I don't." Mnotho nodded and marched to the room that he was told was Danielle's... He knocked once and opened the door because there was no word coming from the room. He was told she wasn't talking and so, he figured she wasn't going to tell him to come inside the room. "Sawubona!" He greeted her back

that was visible to his eyes... Danielle had heard the knock on the door but she didn't permit the person to come inside the room because she didn't want visitors. She was hurting even more now that her plan didn't work she didn't want to talk because she was going to blame her mother for saving her. She'd been crying thinking that by now 'she would be at peace with no troubles' but she was still alive and feeling pain. Why did her mother check on her? Why? She hated living, now. Danielle turned back at the sound of 'his' voice. She was shocked to see him inside her hospital room and she didn't know what to think. Why was he here? Danielle: "Why are you here?" she asked and sat up straight to look at him. Mnotho: "Your mother called to tell me that you are in the hospital and so, I thought I should come to see you. She thought we

are still dating.” He explained sitting down and he placed the plastic bag of food he bought for her on the cupboard. He didn’t like how horrible she looked and by that he realised that he still cared about her. He still loved her but he was sure that was because he was seeing her. It didn’t change that she hurt him not the other way around and so, he wasn’t about to feel pity for her... Sheila: “You were supposed to tell her we are not dating anymore and save yourself the trouble of driving.”

Mnotho: "I did tell her that but I thought I should see you and ask you if your mind is functioning well?" "That's not the right way to speak to her, Mnotho." Mlamuli opened the door and they looked at him... He remembered that his brother was angry at Danielle and he didn't want him to say words that was going to make the situation worse. Mnotho: "I thought I am the one who knows her not you." Mlamuli: "I can't let you speak your pain to someone who's already feeling pain of losing the man she loved." Mnotho: "What? She's feeling pain, what pain?" Mlamuli: "Don't ask me that because you are being rude for no reason." Mnotho: "I am being real not rude." Mlamuli: "Who set you up?" he asked looking at Danielle who had her head looking down and her eyes closed. Mlamuli placed his hand on her shoulder and Danielle raised her head

to look at him. "Who set you up?" he asked. Danielle: "A girl named Pamela I told Mnotho but he doesn't believe me." Mnotho: "I don't have time for this." he got up and left them. Mlamuli: "Why didn't you report her to the police?" Danielle: "I have no proof that she's the one who did it and reporting it will not help me because it will be my word against hers." Mlamuli: "Do you think dying is the best thing to do?" Danielle: "Yes, because I will be at peace." Mlamuli: "Don't you want to live and survive just show this girl that she didn't break you. She just broke a relationship you had with a man you love. Your parents don't deserve to lose you because of a girl who was cruel to you." Danielle: "I don't know what happiness is." Mlamuli: "Happiness is loving yourself. Now, don't end your story the same way your biological mother did. Did they tell you she

killed herself too? Or they didn't tell you?" Danielle: "They didn't tell me." Mlamuli: "She killed herself and I don't think that you want to be like a woman who didn't love you enough to be your mother. Do you want that?" Angry with herself as she looked into what he was saying, Danielle shook her head. She didn't know that her mother killed herself it was fresh news and they angered her because she almost died as her. "I don't want to be like her. I can't be like her." she said and cried. Mlamuli: "If you don't want to be like her you'll have to live and stop crying." He said holding her into a hug and he let her cry as much as she needed to cry. He knew he wasn't going to forgive himself if the girl was to die while he could have spoken to her and make her feel better. Mlamuli looked at the woman who joined them in the room and he guessed

that she was her stepmother. “Ntandokazi?” Sheila called her out and Ntandokazi left Mlamuli’s arms to fall into her mother’s eyes. Danielle: “Mama, I am sorry.” Sheila: “My baby.” Danielle: “I don’t want to be like my real mom and kill myself. I want to live.” She said holding her mother tightly. Sheila widened her eyes and looked at Mlamuli. He brought his hands together as gesture to say ‘Sorry.’ Sheila: “Thank you!” she mumbled to him and he nodded, pointing the door he turned to leave them... He left the hospital looking around for his brother but he wasn’t around. He figured that he was in the car and so, he went to the car. “You can be so cruel if you want! How can you agree to see that girl just to make her feel bad further?” Mlamuli asked Mnotho sitting on the passenger seat. He looked at him and Mnotho started the car. “I am

speaking to you.” Mnotho: “I don’t want to talk about it because it’s easy for you to talk. You are not the one she hurt. I

am and so, I don't want to talk about it!" "Okay." Mlamuli decided then to keep quiet and took his phone from his pocket... He tapped on it and they drove in silence...

S2 – EPISODE 09

Mlamuli pushed the luggage trolley for Mnotho as they were inside the airport. "You were supposed to ask the guard to drive you because right now you are bitter like a girl having her period pains." Mlamuli commented and Mnotho laughed. "It's not funny I just wasted my time." He added and his brother couldn't stop laughing. He was walking before his brother with his head looking down while he was still laughing and he bumped into a woman. The woman screamed and was tripped by Mnotho's foot. She fell on the floor and only then Mnotho stopped laughing... People around them looked at the incident. "Lord! I am

sorry!” He said giving his hand to the woman that was on the floor. She was wearing classy clothes, Mnotho realised as the woman gave him her hand. It was a good thing that she was wearing pants he noted as she gave him her hand. “I am sorry!” He said lastly. “It’s children who walk around like you did and bump into people.” The annoyed woman said to Mnotho realising now that an old man had bumped into her. She was irritated as she tried to fix her clothes. Mnotho: “I said I am sorry woman.” “Sorry is not enough and don’t just say ‘woman’ to me. I will have your head chopped off if I wish!” She shouted at him pointing him with her finger and Mlamuli couldn’t help but laugh. Mnotho: “I am not scared of you! I can lift you with just one hand and drop you like a hot potato and if you have that power to chop my head I am

pretty sure you won't be lifting that sword with such skinny arms." "What?" She screamed and took a step closer to Mnotho but Mlamuli held Mnotho back. The woman groaned looking at Mnotho with hate and disgust. Mlamuli: "Please, forgive my brother. He was just laughing and bumped into you by mistake." Mnotho: "I will-" he was cut off by Mlamuli holding his mouth with his hand while his arm was around his neck. He knew that Mnotho wanted to argue with the woman further and they didn't need that. Mlamuli: "Sorry, lady!" "Next time, watch where you heading!" The woman said to Mnotho and walked away. Only then Mlamuli let his twin brother loose... Mnotho: "Why did you hold me!" Mlamuli: "Didn't you recognise that girl?" he asked pushing the trolley. Mnotho: "I was supposed to recognise her? She's the president's

daughter?” Mlamuli: “No, but it’s Happiness Mthimkhulu.” Mnotho: “What’s special about her?” Mlamuli: “She wasn’t joking when she said she would chop your head off. Her father is the highest Judge in Johannesburg. Judge Mthimkhulu, she was going to lay charges against and you would have died in prison. That man is not an honourable man and dad despises him.” Mnotho: “Mxm, I am not scared of her and her father.” Mlamuli: “Oh, you are saying that because she’s no longer near you.” he mocked him and they laughed. “And you’ll miss your flight if you keep acting like a naïve boy with girls around here. And I am hoping that you won’t be behaving like this in L.A.” Mnotho: “She was rude for no reason and now I know she was rude because her father is high.” Mlamuli: “You bumped into her.” he said standing with him

on line. Mnotho: “Tsk! Women!” he shook his head and held his brother’s hand. Mlamuli was laughing at him but having his hand held by him made him compose himself. “I will miss you and I hope when I come back everything will be in one piece.” He said. Mlamuli: “Don’t worry! I won’t let them tremble” he promised and they shared a brotherly hug... -----

Nandipha was standing outside the gate of their blocks of flats. She was with Duma after their noon class. He'd offered to walk her to her flat because she had forgotten her purse that had money to get to her flat. "I am waiting for the song and you are busy paging through your phone. That security will come back here and complain about the noise." Nandipha told Duma moving her head while she chowed on her chocolate slap that she had as 'lunch' because she was late in the morning. Duma: "Just be patient! And this weekend, you are meeting my girlfriend, right?" he asked tapping on the house track that he'd promise her she was going to love it. Nandipha: "No, because you won't meet my boyfriend!" She exclaimed and started dancing to the song that was playing. "Ah! Uyayazi inamba!" (You know good music) she said and Duma

laughed holding the bag that she was throwing on the floor. Duma was just moving his head with the beat while looking at Nandipha's good dance moves. Duma: "Ay, ntwana. Abakuyeke uyajika! We should go partying!" "Uyanya!" She swore and stopped dancing she then took her bag from Duma not realising that her boyfriend's car was parked on the usual spot of the parking lot and he was looking at her dancing for a man he didn't know. Duma: "What's wrong with partying?" Nandipha: "Nothing, just send me the song!" she said turning her body while doing the shoulder dance and she screamed shortly seeing Ngcebo's car. She couldn't believe her eyes. "Jesus!" She exclaimed turning to look at Duma. Duma: "What's wrong, now?" Nandipha: "Eh! You have to go now. You'll send that song on WhatsApp." Duma: "Why, what's wrong?"

he looked around and didn't see what would have made her tell him to leave. Nandipha: "Boyfriend is here!" she said shaking her head but Duma didn't see any boy around and he couldn't notice Ngcebo's car because it was parked next to the other cars. And he wouldn't know because Nandipha never told him that she was dating 'Prince Tee' Duma: "You are lying!" he said taking her phone from her hands to send the song to her. Nandipha raised her hands in the air and placed her back pack on her back. Ngcebo's car hooted twice. Nandipha: "That his car! Duma bring back my phone!" Duma: "He has a car?" he laughed and shook his head without giving her the phone back. "We both know that you are lying. I am sure you are dating a young fellow from campus." He said tapping on her phone. Nandipha's phone rang and

Duma looked at it. Nandipha took it quickly from him and turned to look at the car's direction. Nandipha: "Eh, Rasta, don't be angry he's sending a song for me and we are almost done. I will come now." Ngcebo: "Ngicela ungangijwayeli kabi yezwa yini? I am waiting for you here and you are busy jumping in front of a man even after you've seen my car." Nandipha: "I will come to you." she said and Ngcebo dropped the call after he had clicked his tongue. Nandipha sighed and turned to Duma. "I have to go my boyfriend is angry now." she told him. Duma: "I am sorry ntwana I didn't think that you were serious." He could see the look on her face that all along she'd been serious. Nandipha: "Yeah, I will see you." she gave him her fist and they shared a fist bump. "Thank you for walking me and please, request an Uber. Don't walk!" She advised

walking backwards looking at him and Duma laughed at her. Duma: "I am a man!" Nandipha: "Hhaybo! Don't be stubborn!" she said lastly and turned to jog to Ngcebo's car. She had her head looking at her phone while jogging to his car and when she was done she pressed the power button. Nandipha opened the door to his car and she stepped inside the car and looked at him after she'd closed the door. "I didn't expect to see you here." She commented and looked at him.

Ngcebo: "I didn't want to be expected." He said driving his car off the parking corner. He was looking around while Nandipha had her eyes on him. Nandipha: "Okay, eh! How are you?" Ngcebo: "I was good until I saw you with a man I don't know." Nandipha: "Duma is my friend, we attend the same classes and today, I have forgotten my purse. I had no money and so, he offered to walk me home." Ngcebo: "You dancing for him after you've told me that you can't dance. Was that dance part of saying 'thank you'?" he took a short glance at her and his eyes met her eyes. He looked back at the road. Nandipha: "I never told you I can't dance." Ngcebo: "Yes, you did the day I first called you but now, it's surprising to see you dancing for other men. Men I don't know." Nandipha: "Hawu! I said that because I thought maybe you were looking for a

dancer. I thought someone told you I can dance and you can't hold that against me because we were not even dating back then." Ngcebo: "It doesn't matter but what matters is, you can dance for men I don't know. That's what matters." Nandipha: "Oh! Please, Ngcebo! I wasn't dancing for him but the music that was playing. Why do you sound jealous now?" Ngcebo: "Don't ask me that question because if I was the one in the position that you were in. You wouldn't be talking to me right now and so, please musa ukungibhedela." Nandipha kept quiet and looked on the road on her side of the window. She didn't want to talk with him further because they weren't going to stop fighting over such a minor thing! Ngcebo: "When did this friendship begin?" he couldn't keep the thoughts to himself because it had made him angry to see his

girlfriend with a man that he didn't know and she wasn't showing interest in making him feel less insecure. Nandipha: "What friendship?" Ngcebo: "You'll pretend as if you don't know what I am talking about? Or you didn't tell me that Duma is your friend?" Nandipha: "It's been a while since we've become friends. Besijwayelene nje and because I don't have friends I saw it fit that he becomes my friend." Ngcebo: "You'll not have male friends while dating me. I won't have any dude making me uncomfortable." He stepped out of the car after he had informed her about her friendship with men. They were inside his premises now. Nandipha: "You can't be serious!" she exclaimed following him to the front door of the house. "You can't choose friends for me." she said. Ngcebo: "I didn't say I am choosing friends for you but I just saw it fit

that I tell you that you can't have male friends while dating me." "Don't you trust me, Ngcebo? You said you trust me." She reminded him following him inside his bedroom. She looked at him as he threw his body on the bed and didn't answer her. "I am speaking to you, Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "I don't want to argue with you and especially not about trust because we both know who didn't trust the other first." He sat up straight now and looked at her. Nandipha was standing by the door looking at him. Nandipha: "Oh, you are not bringing that up right now and I won't end my friendship with Duma because I want to please you." Ngcebo: "That means you don't care about our relationship." Nandipha: "It's not about that but how can you choose friends for me." Ngcebo: "I am not choosing friends for you but I don't want a male friend. You'll not

have one Nandipha because I know how these things begin. They become friends first and secondly there'll be more than friends. Their friendship will include other things and I don't want it to come to that." Nandipha: "I am not that easy Ngcebo." "I don't want to talk about this anymore because you'll have to do what I have asked you to do." He

said taking off his shirt and looked at her. He saw that Nandipha was fuming. "I don't understand why are you upset." Nandipha: "You would be upset if I can tell you how to live your life and I know that I will be seeing more females dismissed as friends but I can't have friends." He chuckled. "Why does it seem like you know that because it's what you wanted to do?" he asked standing on his feet and took steps towards Nandipha. She wasn't looking at him but she could see him approaching her direction. "You won't answer me?" he asked removing her bag from her shoulders and Nandipha looked at him. Nandipha: "Leave my things be. I don't want to stay here and argue with you." She said stopping him from taking her bag away. Ngcebo: "Are you going to walk from here to your place because I won't drive you and you told me that you don't have money

unless you lied to me.” Nandipha: “I will walk!” she exclaimed and turned to the door. “Yey! Ungazohlanya wena! Uyangidakelwa!” (Don’t be crazy!) Ngcebo shouted holding her wrist and he pulled her closer to him. Their bodies bumped to one another and they were both breathing heavily. Nandipha was looking into his eyes with her nostrils breathing heavily along with her chest that was rising and falling. She was angry and Ngcebo could see that. The heat coming from her body made him weak and he grabbed a handful of her dreadlocks. She didn’t have them tied and styled. As his hands held her locks Nandipha screamed seductively and Ngcebo kissed her. Nandipha fought the kiss by trying to push Ngcebo off her but he didn’t let her go. He invaded her mouth with his tongue and Nandipha loosened up

instantly. She removed her back pack quickly with Ngcebo was unfastening her woollen jersey. Nandipha dropped her bag on the floor and jumped on Ngcebo, she hooked her legs on his waist. Ngcebo held on to her and they kissed waltzing to his bed. As they reach the edge of the bed Ngcebo flipped their sides to lay Nandipha on his bed... He removed her vest quickly and Nandipha sent her hands to his pants to unfasten his belt. They weren't kissing each other now but they had their focus on removing their clothes which seemed irritating to them now as they were a stumbling block. The anticipation was high between them and they couldn't control the swift movements of their hands. "Do you still want to walk to your place?" He asked looking at her now after they have removed their clothes completely. His eyes lingered

on her breasts and moved up to look at her face. Nandipha: "I don't want to walk!" she said panting and Ngcebo didn't speak further but he kissed her again with the same pace as before. They both accommodated their quick kisses. Nandipha kept holding his waist closer to her. He was keeping her waiting and she didn't want to wait longer, she wanted him. Ngcebo buried his hands on her back and he nudged on her entrance sharply. Nandipha gasped and he smiled looking at her face. He began moving. "Open your eyes and look at me." Ngcebo told her with his voice that was thick as his movements. Nandipha shook her head and sucked on lower lip. "I will stop if you don't open your eyes!" he threatened and Nandipha opened her eyes quickly. Ngcebo smiled and looked into her eyes. The harder Ngcebo went on her was

the sharper Nandipha dug her nails on his back. They were looking into each other's eyes and Nandipha didn't regret opening her eyes. And from there she swore that she was never going to close them because she loved the look on his face. Quick, quick, and quick they reached their peak point. Ngcebo buried his groans as her labia contraction drove him insane and Nandipha's body convulsed. Ngcebo dropped his body on hers and held her tightly until her body stopped shaking. They both sighed...

S2 – EPISODE 10

“Look at how beautiful my daughter looks!” Patience remarked looking at Naledi. She was standing by the door of the guestroom waiting for her mother. Patience had taken Naledi's suggestion to get to the Zulu

palace late because she wanted to spend the night with Naledi. Patience had asked

Ndabezinhle to take her to her daughter. She did that before greeting the owners of the palace. Naledi: "Mama, you are here already? Did you pass by the house?" she asked hugging her mother tightly. Patience: "I just wanted to see my precious daughter." She said and cried thinking about how horrible she'd been to her child. She felt that she was a disgrace to motherhood because she had failed her daughter. Naledi: "It's good to see you again and please, stop crying now." she said wiping her tears as they were facing each other after their hug. Patience: "I am so sorry, Naledi. I am sorry." Naledi: "You've said enough already!" she said leading her inside her room and Patience got the clear look of her baby. Patience: "You look beautiful and healthy they are treating you good here." She said with a smile, taking a closer look at her

daughter. "You must never let go of this boy." She said in a whisper as she was pleased with how her daughter looked. Naledi laughed. "Can you go greet the leaders of this household?" she requested looking at her with worried face. Patience: "Wait! Where is my grandson?" Naledi: "He's with his grandmother. They're just inseparable mama I know she will bring him here when he's asleep." Patience: "They should definitely bond because we are going back home. I will not leave you here because I am here now." Naledi: "Okay, how's my room?" Patience: "I have renovated the house just like we wanted to do it and your room got renovated too. I missed you every day my baby but I was angry that you just didn't want to see me happy. And now, I see that I was doubting you for shit." She shook her head in

disappointment. Naledi: "Please, forgive yourself mama." She said hugging her mother again she felt whole that she had her mother back into her life. Now, she was going to happy to the fullest with everyone she loved in her life... The knock on the door moved Naledi from her mother. She marched to the door and opened the door. She laughed and jumped to hug Ndabezinhle. Ndabezinhle: "Good God! She's heavy now." he held her tighter and Naledi was just laughing. "You are very happy to see me today, or it's your mom being here that makes you this happy." He added. Naledi: "I am happy that people I love are here." She said looking at him now and Ndabezinhle kissed her briefly. She smiled after the kiss. Ndabezinhle: "I like to see the happy you and I am also happy that you are coming back to Johannesburg."

Naledi: “They will let me go with the baby?”

Ndabezinhle: “Yes, you came here because of the absence of your mother in your life but now, she’s back. So, we are taking her daughter home.” Naledi: “Thank you.”

Ndabezinhle: “Don’t say it just go in there and tell your mother that my parents want to meet her. She can’t sleep without eating. And I am sure she’ll want to meet the baby.”

Naledi: “Okay, I will do that.” Ndabezinhle: “And change back into your clothes so that you’ll come with her.” he said and Naledi nodded. She went back inside the house to do as Ndabezinhle had requested...

“Dumelang!” Patience greeted Dalisu, Thembelihle and Mntwana who were seated on the lounge watching TV. She smiled and looked at the baby that Thembelihle passed over to Dalisu. “SAWUBONA!” They all greeted her back and Thembelihle was the

one to ask her basic questions about her wellbeing. Thembelihle: “We welcome you into our home.” Patience: “Thank you.” Dalisu: “And I think I should say thank you for agreeing to come down here.” Thembelihle: “Yes, we appreciate it.” Patience: “After everything that you’ve done for my baby I couldn’t decline your request. I don’t want

to disappoint her again.” Thembelihle: “That’s a good thing. You can follow me I have prepared food for you and after that you can get to hold the child.” she said getting up and Patience got up holding Naledi’s hand up with her. The three ladies followed each other to the dining table where Thembelihle took the chance to get to know Patience without looking at her with a judging eye based on what she did to her daughter... ----- “What’s wrong, Zulu? You are not yourself these days.” Mandla asked Dalingcebo putting the takeaways down on the table. He’d given him the money to buy for him what he was going to buy. It’d been three days since Nontobeko refused to dine with his mother and she hadn’t call him. He was angry at her for showing minimal care towards their relationship. He couldn’t care less about the behaviour she had towards

him but he was worried that she didn't even call just to ask it was okay to call his mother and apologise. Or maybe she didn't have to apologise to his mother? Dalingcebo sighed and took his takeaway. "It's nothing, I am just tired I think I will have to take some leave." He said and yawned. "That would be good for you." he said, Dalingcebo nodded his head and Mandla turned to the door. "I will see you at the meeting." He informed him. Dalingcebo: "Okay." Mandla left and Dalingcebo had his food in peace. His phone rang while he was still busy eating he looked at the caller and saw it was Nontobeko. He wiped his hands and answered the call. Dalingcebo: "Hello!" Nontobeko: "Hello, how are you?" she yawned. Dalingcebo: "Why does it look like you sleep a lot these days and it looks like my mother's suspicions were true?"

Nontobeko: "What suspicions?" Dalingcebo: "She told me that you shouted at her because she wanted to touch you just to feel if you are not pregnant." Nontobeko: "I am not pregnant!" She raised her voice on the other side of the line as she didn't even want to think how being pregnant would ruin her. It would delay everything for her and she didn't want a child at the moment. Dalingcebo: "And you have temper too. I think we should take you to the Doctor, what do you say?" Nontobeko: "No, I know my body and when I tell you I am not pregnant that means I am not pregnant. I have just gained weight nothing has really changed." Dalingcebo: "Okay, if you are convinced but in future when you have warmed up into marriage if we can have a baby girl my mother would take that baby and raise her." Nontobeko: "Why? Do you

think I will be incapable of raising my child?"

Dalingcebo: "No, but mama had always wanted to have a daughter and they kept trying for it with my father. Dad was just giving her boys and with Mntwana she had hope that she was getting a girl but she didn't." Nontobeko: "Oh, shame! I didn't know that she wanted a baby girl badly."

Dalingcebo: "Yes, she wanted a girl and dad promised her that her sons will give her a daughter. A son who will have a daughter first, the first princess from their bloodline, that son would be forced to give the child to our mother."

Nontobeko: "And what about the mother of that child?" Dalingcebo: "She

can still have other children right? We were told to tell girls we get involved with and girls we knew we have a future with, that the first daughter wouldn't be raised by them but our mother." Nontobeko felt weird

for suddenly not minding getting married to him. She would convince him to let her work and should they have a child, Thembelihle was going to raise it. Daughter or son, it didn't matter to her. She thought alone but she then remembered her father's word 'No, prince would marry a soldier!' and she, she couldn't see herself leaving her job. A job that she hadn't tell him of and she didn't know when was the right time to tell him. Nontobeko: "Are you telling me that you see a future with me?" Dalingcebo: "Yes, and I don't want to have the same fight I had with you about my mother because

she had no problem with dining with you.” Nontobeko: “I am sorry about that. I did say sorry to her that day. I was just shocked.” She told him and yawned again but louder this time. “And I miss you.” she informed him. Dalingcebo chuckled. “I miss you too and I hope that means I will come back from work to a home cooked meal. I will see my beautiful woman in my house, right?” he asked politely. Nontobeko: “Yes, yes and she’d getting up from the bed now!” she exclaimed loudly and Dalingcebo laughed. Dalingcebo: “Sies! I love you, yezwa!” Nontobeko: “Hawu! Why do you have to say ‘sies’ in the same sentence with you, loving me?” Dalingcebo: “Hhayi, kwahle. Indoda ayibuzwa lutho.” Nontobeko laughed. “Wow! My Zulu prince I am hanging up now.” she said. Dalingcebo: “Okay, I will work like a machine now because I want to get home.

And Lord! I want to tie you into my house.” She laughed. “Leave me alone!” she exclaimed and hung up the call. Dalingcebo looked at his phone and smiled. He shook his head before putting the phone down... Dalingcebo got to his house and smiled at the aroma that greeted his nostrils. He just knew that she had cooked good food. He placed his bag on the couch and marched closer towards the hallway to get to the kitchen. But he met her just before the entrance of the kitchen. “I heard your car pulling over.” Nontobeko said throwing the kitchen cloth on the table and hugged Dalingcebo. Dalingcebo: “You really missed me.” Nontobeko: “Yes, and you didn’t even call me.” Dalingcebo: “Didn’t you say that I am arrogant?” Nontobeko: “I didn’t say over do-it and kiss me now.” she said holding his face and Dalingcebo kissed her as she had

requested. Nontobeko loved the kiss she had requested it because she knew it was going to make her happy and now, she was happy to have his lips on hers. “I am hungry!” He told her and pecked her lips. He smiled at her and she returned the smile. Nontobeko: “Just go lose some clothes and come back you’ll find the food on the table just for you.” Dalingcebo: “Lose some clothes? Does that mean I can come back naked if I wish? You said I must lose some clothes.” Nontobeko laughed and shook her head. “It’s cold and that means you can’t come back with no clothes.” she advised. Dalingcebo: “The house is warm and that means I can definitely come back with no clothes because you told me to lose some clothes.” Nontobeko: “Come! I will show you what I am talking about.” She held his hand and they marched to his

bedroom. Nontobeko was busy preaching that he just wanted to catch the cold. And that way she was going to be forced to look after him because she loves the man! Dalingcebo was silently laughing all the way to his bedroom and he only sighed when Nontobeko was done talking. Nontobeko: "I was talking about this!" she exclaimed removing his suit jacket and put it aside. She then removed his tie and unfastened his shirt buttons halfway his chest. She then went down to remove his shoes and gave him his sandals to wear. "I was talking about this!" she exclaimed and sighed putting her hands on her waist. Dalingcebo: "Okay! I get it now. Asambe ke nomkhatshana!" he mocked her and Nontobeko fisted his shoulder. Dalingcebo laughed... "I have to tell you something." Dalingcebo said holding Nontobeko tightly

in bed after their love making. They've had dinner and Dalingcebo had taken a shower... Nontobeko: "What do you want to tell me?" she asked looking at him with a smile that warmed his heart. Dalingcebo: "My father wants to step down as Monarch now. He wants to see us rule while he's still alive and we have no choice but obey his word." Nontobeko: "What does that mean?" Dalingcebo: "That means I will have a position in my father's kingdom and that even includes Monarch position if he sees me fit."

Nontobeko: "What? No!" She shouted and sat up straight she couldn't believe what she was hearing with her ears. How could he be king? What does that mean for her because she knew that if he was to take the throne they were never going to be together because she was a widow. Dalingcebo: "What's wrong?" Nontobeko: "Kings go for virgins right and I wasn't one." She said not knowing how to tell him that her past wasn't going to allow her to be with him. "And that means we will have to end our relationship I don't want to end it." She said and buried her face on her hands. Dalingcebo: "No, that's not a problem at all because if I can tell my parents you were a virgin. They will believe me because there's no way they can want proof of it. And I love you, we won't have to end our relationship." Nontobeko looked down feeling sadness

overwhelming her because she knew that she wouldn't fit as his wife and she didn't even want to think about 'Queen' position. And even if he was to lie about her virginity they would know that he was lying!

Dalingcebo: "And there are other positions because I am positive that dad wouldn't want to cause a dispute by making me king while I am younger than Mnotho and Mlamuli." Nontobeko: "But he can if you are the fit one." Dalingcebo: "Okay, let's say he doesn't and he puts me on the other position. There won't be any problem there and we will have to move to Nongoma to live in my house there. And that means you'll have to be my wife." Nontobeko sighed and laid back on his chest. Dalingcebo held her and fell back on the pillows with her. "Let's talk about all that after your father has made his decision.

How's that?" she asked politely with her voice trembling because she knew that their relationship wasn't going to survive because of her past and job. She knew that and she didn't need anyone to remind her. Dalingcebo: "Okay, we will do that." He said kissing her forehead and Nontobeko smiled holding on to him tighter...

S2 – EPISODE 11

Thembelihle had more time now that Naledi and the baby were gone. She felt the gap that they left and she missed having them around. They decided that Ndabezinhle's brothers and one of the Zulu elders were going to come to Johannesburg to pay damages for the child and lobola the child (cows that were going to initial that Nhlakanipho was a grandchild of the Zulu family and belonged with them in their kingdom.) But they decided that even if they

were going to pay those cows Nhlakanipho was going to live with his mother. The Zulu elders knew that it was important that they pay those cows for future purposes in case Ndabezinhle and Naledi don't get married. But Dalisu had already advised his son to marry Naledi because she was a good girl. They also decided that Ndabezinhle needed to pay for taking Naledi's virginity without marrying her. That was set to happen in August... "Where are you going?" Dalisu asked looking at Thembelihle as she was dressing up alongside with him. Thembelihle: "I am meeting a P.I." Dalisu: "A P.I. for what now? What happened?" Thembelihle: "I am not at peace about Dalingcebo's girlfriend." Dalisu: "Hhayi, MaSthole! Now, you want to dig information about his girlfriend? How can you do that?" Thembelihle: "No, Mageba. You don't

understand and I am sure if you have met that girl you would feel the same as I do.”

Dalису: “No, I wouldn’t. I know that you don’t like her because the choice that you wanted for your son. He didn’t like her but he preferred that girl.”

Thembelihle: “Oh, so now you like this girl? And you are the one who sent me to choose a girl for him.”

Dalису: “I didn’t say I like her but after seeing her younger sister I am pretty sure that she’s well mannered. It’s clear that their parents raised them well and just let my son date the girl in peace.”

Thembelihle: “No, she has something to hide and my P.I told me that I should meet her at the lodge because she found something on this girl.” Dalisu: “You’ve already told this P.I. to do this? I don’t like this Thembelihle.” Thembelihle: “I don’t like it too but I am going with my instincts. Dalingcebo didn’t want to tell us about her because she has something to hide and as his mother I will find that thing.” Dalisu: “I don’t see who would be the worst girl than your actual daughter in-law. She’s the worst and the whole country knows it.” Thembelihle: “She was just a child then!” Dalisu: “And children listen to their parents but she didn’t listen to her parents. Now, she got me thinking twice about making my heir Monarch.” Thembelihle: “It’s simple. Don’t make him one if you’ll hurt his wife because he won’t bow down to your word.”

Daliso: “You are telling me that because you are always happy when he does that? Is that why you are saying that?”

Thembelihle: “No, but I hate it when you keep pointing fingers at Nkosazana.” Daliso didn’t say anything but he took his bag and headed to the door because he was done dressing up.

Daliso: “It seems like you are forgetting that some people didn’t like you here as you are busy hating on this girl.”

Thembelihle: “I don’t hate her. And yes, you are right about that some people didn’t like me but it’s not even once have I disrespected them, oMaKhoza, I used to speak to her with so much politeness until she saw there was nothing to hate in me. I proved everyone wrong.”

Daliso: “Did you give her a chance?”

Thembelihle: “She had a chance, Ndabezitha. When Dalingcebo came into his house with her she chose to

walk up the road to get something to take her to town just because she didn't want to dine with me. She lied to me. If she wanted to get to know me. We would have sat down, we would have admitted that our first encounter wasn't so good and try to know each other." Dalisu: "Request a meeting with her. My mother has never treated you like this MaSthole, going around digging things about your past." Thembelihle: "Don't you remember when your mother came into your house and called me a skank, all names but I didn't shout at her. I didn't backchat her, you chose to defend me and told her I won't live with her but I chose to go live with her even after she'd said all those things to me. I never refused anything because I was respecting you and her. That's what a woman who's committed to a man does, you put in some effort for your

relationship to work. But this girl tells Dalingcebo straight that she can't sit down with me. How can I know her if she distances herself from me just because of the first day I told her how I felt? Your mother always shouts at me for various things but I remain a child, a daughter in-law. She's hiding something I will find it. I am telling you." He looked at her realising the truths in what she was telling him but all the truths didn't change that he didn't like what she was doing. Dalisu: "I will tell Dalingcebo that you are going behind his back digging information about his girlfriend." Thembelihle: "Okay, tell him Mageba." Dalisu: "You are doing this a wrong way because you are supposed to ask him if his girlfriend has something to hide." Thembelihle: "He doesn't want to talk and please, stop trying to change my mind

because I won't change my mind." Dalisu nodded and left her without wishing her a good day... Thembelihle finished up dressing up for her day. She left her house opening her bag to get her phone that was ringing inside her bag. She thought that Dalingcebo was calling her but she smiled when she saw it wasn't him. Thembelihle: "Makoti wami omncane kunabobonke!" (My youngest daughter in-law) she greeted delightedly and stepped inside her car. Nandipha: "Mama, how are you?" Thembelihle: "Now that I am hearing your voice I am just happy and how are you, MaZondi?" Nandipha: "I am fine mama. I was calling just to greet you and ask how you are doing." She informed

her and Thembelihle melted. Thembelihle: "You are making me feel like a VIP." Nandipha laughed. "You are important because I have a boyfriend because of you." she said and giggled softly. Thembelihle laughed loudly. "I wonder what did he do to make you say that. I am sure that he did something." She said. Nandipha: "No, mama. He did nothing special but I am telling you the truth." Thembelihle: "Oh, bakithi. Thank you for telling me that I am special." Nandipha: "Okay, mama. Have a good day." Thembelihle: "You too baby have a good day and thank you for the call." Nandipha: "Okay." She said and hung up the call... Thembelihle looked at her phone and shook her head with a smile on her face... She was sweet!

"Look at this and tell me what do you think now!" Thembelihle exclaimed placing the

brown A4 envelope before Dalisu. After meeting up with her P.I. she couldn't wait longer to get home and speak to Dalisu. She then decided that she was driving to the royal house to see Dalisu and talk about what she'd found about Nontobeko. She'd figured now why her son didn't want to tell them about Nontobeko but she didn't know that even her son didn't know the truth about his girlfriend. Dalisu: "What is this?" he asked opening the envelope and he saw pictures of a woman wearing the military uniform. It was different pictures where she was alone and on the other she was with her colleagues. Dalisu looked at Thembelihle with a surprised look. Thembelihle sat down. "I told you that something was actually off with this girl and I have learned that she works in the military. She loves her job so dearly that she would

never choose settling down over her job.” She said. Dalisu: “I can’t believe this and our son didn’t tell us?” Thembelihle: “It doesn’t end there. She’s not in the military now because of the injury and the way that she distanced herself from me tells me that she doesn’t love Dalingcebo. She’s definitely stringing him along just for the time being because she’s doing nothing at the moment.” Dalisu: “Dalingcebo must come here and answer to us about this girl.” Thembelihle: “She’s been married before.” Dalisu: “What! Does that mean she’s a divorcee?” Thembelihle: “No, she’s a widow, her husband and daughter died. She then went to join the military after their death. I understand that she didn’t choose that to happen and we can’t blame her for it. But my P.I. said that the members of her community describe her as a cold hearted

woman who's friendly to nobody but her family." Dalisu sighed as disappointment consumed him. What was happening with his sons' lives? What was happening? Dalisu: "Are my sons cursed Thembelihle?" Thembelihle just looked at him without supplying an answer because she didn't know the answer to his question... ----

Danielle was seated on the garden chairs with her pencil and scrapbook. She was busy drawing a dress. It'd been a while since she got back from the hospital and she was recovering at home. Mlamuli's words were her breakthrough because the day that Mlamuli spoke to her. She decided that she was never going to try and kill herself. She was angry that her parents didn't tell her that truth because she was never going to do what her biological mother had done. She was better than her

and she was going to live! Junior and Danielle fought about her trying to kill herself and when she told him that if he'd listened to him about Pamela it wasn't going to come to that. Junior was angry and concluded that Danielle had taken her hate for Pamela way too far. After hearing Danielle bring Pamela up, he concluded that Danielle staged her suicide attempt to get him to leave Pamela. He promised his sister he wasn't going to leave her... Their relationship was no longer the same as brother and sister. Danielle decided she was going to

let him be... “What are you doing here?” Sheila asked giving her a cup of coffee and Danielle looked at the cup and then her. Sheila: “Please, drink the tea and we can talk.” Danielle: “I got nothing to say to you, mama.” Sheila: “Yes, you do.” Danielle was well as she was back home, she was eating and doing things as normal but she wasn't normal towards her parents regarding the issue of her biological mother. Danielle: “You and dad, don't get that what you did hurt me. I was supposed to be told that my real mother tried to kill herself.” Sheila: “Ntandokazi, we didn't know that you were going to try and kill yourself one day. If we did know that we were going to tell you.” Danielle: “That's a lie because dad is not home right now because you have been fighting about this. He believes that you were wrong to tell Mnotho about that

woman who gave birth to me.” Sheila: “But do you think I was wrong?” she looked at her hoping that she wouldn’t share same thoughts as her father... Ever since Danielle tried to kill herself, Jake and Sheila had been fighting none stop. They would fight every night of the week without stopping. Jake wanted Sheila to apologise for telling Mnotho that Ntandokazi’s mother committed suicide but Sheila didn’t want to apologise because she knew that telling Mnotho was what helped. They were fighting about a number of things but they all concern their two older children especially Danielle. They were no longer talking about divorce because Sheila apologised but the fighting didn’t stop. Jake moved out of the house and went to live with his mother because he was tired of fighting with Sheila. Danielle: “No, because if you didn’t tell him I was

going to die.” Sheila: “NTANDOKAZI!”
Danielle: “No! Mama, you don’t understand how I felt.” Sheila: “And that’s why I say you need to see a psychologist because she will help you deal with everything that you can’t tell us because even now, you don’t want to tell us what made you think of killing yourself.” Danielle: “I will go see a therapist.” Sheila: “Really!” she smiled and held Danielle’s hands. Danielle nodded. “Thank you, my baby. You don’t know how relieving it is for me to hear you promise me that. I am happy.” She told her delightedly and Danielle smiled. Danielle: “I think I will have to speak to daddy so that he can come back home. I don’t like it when you fight and end up living apart. It’s not right.” Sheila: “Don’t worry about us child.” Danielle: “I have to worry and I am going to grandma’s house tonight. I will come back

with your husband tomorrow.” Sheila: “He won’t come back until I say sorry for the wrong I didn’t do.” Danielle: “Mnotho used to tell me that, love is saying sorry even when you know that you were not wrong. You’ll say sorry just to keep the peace and make your partner feel like she/he is right even when you know that they’re not right.” She told her mother and she chuckled, a chuckle that was followed by a smile. She then looked at her mother. Sheila: “I am sorry that you lost such a loving man.” Danielle: “It’s okay but don’t lose yours.” She poked her shoulder and Sheila laughed nodding her head. She took her phone from her jacket pocket... She dialled Jake’s number and stood up leaving Danielle proceed with her drawing... Jake’s phone rang and she waited patiently while walking up and down on the grass of her garden.

She was making this call with a heavy heart but not for herself, her daughter. “Hello.” Jake answered the call and Sheila sighed hearing the noise of his friends in the background. Jake was still friends with his squad but they weren’t all living in Durban. Ntando and his wife Tshepiso were living in Durban and Musa and Mbuso were in Gauteng. Sheila: “Hello, how are you?”

Jake: "I am fine and how are you?" Sheila: "I am fine and I can hear the noise on the background does that mean mama is not in her house. Or you are the one out of the house?" Jake: "We are at Ntando's place. What's wrong?" Sheila: "Can you come home tonight so that we can talk?" Jake: "You want to talk now you don't want to yell at me?" Sheila: "No, I am sorry babe. I was wrong I shouldn't have told Mnotho that Nokupila killed herself but I just wanted to convince him to come see our daughter because he'd told me that they broke up. And they helped us get our daughter back. We didn't think that she would listen if we tell her the truth and Jake, I don't want to keep fighting with you." Jake: "I don't want that too I just want us to help our child get better. Can we just do that and move on?" Sheila: "Yes, we can do that. And she has

agreed to see someone who'll help her professionally. We will have to look for the best help for her." Jake: "Okay, that's promising. I will come back home tonight and we will talk about everything else. We will also check on the internet what we can find." Sheila: "Okay, we will do that my love." Jake: "I love you, okay?" Sheila: "I love you so much. And please, don't take too long to come back home just because you are with your friends." He chuckled. "I won't take long." He promised. They hung up... Sheila walked back to her daughter with a smile on her face. Danielle: "He's coming back home?" Sheila: "Yes, my baby." she said giving her arms out and Danielle stood up to share a warm hug with her mother...

S2 – EPISODE 12

MaCebekhulu, Thembelihle and Dalisu were waiting for Dalingcebo. He was inside the bathroom. They've just finished eating lunch with him... Dalisu had summoned him home because he wanted to talk about Nontobeko. Dalisu was not feeling well, the news about Dalingcebo's girlfriend worried him. He didn't want to be the man who was going choose wives for his sons and he hated that it seemed like he was going to keep fighting with them about the same thing. 'Their choices of women.' "Dalingcebo, come and sit next to me now." his mother requested looking at him as he stepped back inside the dining room. Dalingcebo nodded and went to sit next to his mother. He then looked at his father and grandmother. "What's wrong baba? Did I do something wrong?" he asked keeping his gaze with his father. Dalisu: "We wanted to

talk to you about a wife.” He introduced. MaCebekhulu had told them that they must not tell him up front that they have dug information about Nontobeko because he was going to be angry that they went behind his back and looked at his girlfriend’s past. Dalingcebo: “A wife?” he looked at his grandmother. “Yes, you are 25 years old now and you need a life partner.” She said looking at him and they all had hopes that this time, he was going to tell them that he had girlfriend and that way he was going to make things easy for them. Dalingcebo: “I have a woman I intend to marry.” He confessed without looking at them. He felt the need to tell them because Nontobeko didn’t frown like she did before whenever he spoke about marriage the last time. “And I ask that dad doesn’t make me king because should I take the throne you wouldn’t let her

be the queen. You'll force me to take a young girl who is pure to be my wife and make the woman I love my second wife." He told them his fears. MaCebekhulu: "Who's that woman?" she asked feeling relief that the conversation was going at the direction that they wanted it. "Nontobeko Zondi." He said, the whole house went quiet. His mother clapped her hands once.

“Nontobeko, that girl who was rude to me? Hhe! Mama, she shouted at me for trying to touch her. I didn’t do anything wrong, but I just wanted to touch her because I thought she was pregnant. She denied that and shouted at me.” She disclosed. Dalisu: “Hawu, why didn’t you tell me that?” he was surprised because it was the first hearing what she was saying.

Thembelihle: “I didn’t tell you because I didn’t think he was serious about her. The girl refused to dine with me and my son wants to marry her. Hhe!” Dalingcebo: “But mama she didn’t want to stay because you have shown her before that you don’t like her.” MaCebekhulu: “Who’s that Nontobeko?” Thembelihle: “She’s the older sister of Nandipha mama.” MaCebekhulu: “Nandipha, Ngcebo’s girlfriend? Dalingcebo?” “Yes.” He responded without

looking at his grandmother. He hated this meeting and he just knew that his father wasn't the one who called the meeting, but his mother did! "You can't possibly marry her if you'll be the king." MaCebekhulu shouted and clapped her hands once... They have decided that it was fit that she would be the one who would pretend as if she knows Nontobeko's past because her mother worked for one of the Chief's wives... Dalingcebo: "You can't choose a girl for me, nobody can. I will marry the woman of my choice, gogo and at the time that I feel I am ready. And there is nothing wrong with her, she's a good woman." He said confidently. MaCebekhulu: "MaNtombela's older daughter, Nontobeko is a widow and you can't make her our queen. She works for the military you can't separate her from her work. Do you think

she'll leave that to be your wife and be by your side?" she broke the news harshly thinking that her grandson knew... All eyes were on Dalingcebo who was looking at his grandmother with great fail to hide that he didn't knew that information... "You didn't know?" Thembelihle asked seeing the look on his face she placed her hands on her mouth and looked at Dalisu. Dalingcebo didn't answer her but he looked down feeling mixed emotions... Dalisu: "And you think you can marry a woman like that? Who kept her past hidden from you?" Dalisu tried to confirm. Dalingcebo was without a comment. "I don't even wish to see her Dalingcebo, you'll not marry her whether you take the throne or not." His father instructed him. Dalingcebo: "Can I go now?" he managed to ask but his eyes were not looking at them because of anger and

disappointment. Thembelihle: "Where are you going?" MaCebekhulu: "I think that you will see the girl Dalisu because Ngcebo is serious about her sister. She will not come here should Ngcebo marry Nandipha?" she asked prepared to stop him if he thought he could stop the girl from coming anywhere near their family. Dalisu: "She can come but I mean I don't want her as my daughter in-law." Dalisu explained looking at Thembelihle but she had her head looking down. "Dalingcebo, do you hear me?" he asked looking at him now. "Yebo, Ndabezitha. I understand." He said and everyone in the house sighed. "I will ask to excuse myself." He said standing up. And he left the dining table. Thembelihle: "Dalingcebo -" she called him out trying to get up. "Let him go, nkosikazi." Dalisu told his wife holding her hand as means to stop

her from leaving the table. "He's angry." He added. MaCebekhulu: "Yes, let him go." Thembelihle: "I just didn't expect that he didn't know about this." "We also didn't!" MaCebekhulu and Dalisu said and there was silence in the dining table. But their minds weren't silent... Dalingcebo spent the Saturday night in his house alone. He was angry beyond measure and he didn't know how to control his anger. He was just drinking the whiskey that he still had in his house. His mother had sent someone to bring him food but he didn't want to eat. His phone rang as he was seated on the dark lounge listening to music. "Nontobeko!" He answered her phone call calmly. Nontobeko: "Mageba, I wanted to say goodnight. How was your trip home?" Dalingcebo: "I want to see you in my house

tomorrow. We need to talk.” He said abruptly without

answering her questions. Nontobeko: "What's wrong?" Dalingcebo: "Don't ask me questions just do as I say." Nontobeko: "Hhaybo!" Dalingcebo: "In my house tomorrow." He said lastly and dropped the call. He clicked his tongue as he was tapping on his phone to call Ngcebo... Ngcebo's phone rang but he didn't answer. He called again. "Ngcebo's phone, hello?" Nandipha answered his phone. Dalingcebo: "Where's my brother?" Nandipha: "He's upstairs I am rushing to get to him." Dalingcebo: "Okay, I will hold." He said and kept quiet, Nandipha didn't say anything back and Dalingcebo heard that she was rushing up... "Hawu! Bafo! Sorry, I was taking a shower. Zithini?" Ngcebo greeted his brother on the line. Dalingcebo: "They summoned me today and guess what they wanted to speak to me about?" Ngcebo:

“The throne?” Dalingcebo: “No, my girlfriend and her life.” Ngcebo: “Her life?” Dalingcebo: “Yes, does Nandipha speak to you about her sister and her past?” Ngcebo: “Eh, no. Why?” Dalingcebo: “Don’t lie to me Ngcebo I am not a child and so, don’t fuckin lie to me. Siyezwana?” he shouted feeling angry even further that his brother might have known something about Nontobeko. Ngcebo: “No, she told me that she works in the military.” “HOW COULD YOU BREAK YOUR PROMISE NGCEBO!” Dalingcebo heard Nandipha yell at Ngcebo at the back... Nandipha had gone to the bathroom after giving Ngcebo his phone and she couldn’t help but hear her boyfriend’s conversation. She just knew that he was talking about her sister. Ngcebo: “Babe, wait! Eish!” there was a bang of the door. Dalingcebo: “Why is she yelling at you and

you sound cool about it?” Ngcebo: “I wasn’t supposed to tell you this Dalingcebo because I promised her that I wouldn’t tell anyone. She told me that her sister doesn’t include her job in her CV and so, I mustn’t tell anyone.” Dalingcebo: “I am your brother and you knew that I had different information about Nontobeko’s job. But you kept quiet. You kept me in the dark.” He shouted and threw the glass that was on his hand on the wall. Ngcebo: “Mageba, please calm down. I didn’t think that – she-” Dalingcebo: “You didn’t think what Ngcebo? You don’t even know what to say to me. I just can’t believe you. You kept a secret from me just to please your girlfriend. Did she also tell you that her sister is a widow? She told you?” Ngcebo: “No, I am sorry-” Dalingcebo: “Ey, voetsek! Tsk!” he hung up the call and groaned... Ngcebo called him

but he didn't answer the call. He saw it fit that he gets up and march to his bedroom to sleep... Nontobeko didn't hesitate when Dalingcebo called her to tell her they needed to talk. She took a taxi to his house and she wondered what was it that he wanted to talk to her about. Along the way she was hoping that it wasn't about marriage because marriage and children were the last thing on her mind. But she knew that what he wanted to speak about was serious. She opened the door of the house and Dalingcebo was seated on the couch having whiskey. The minute she set her eyes on him she saw something wasn't right about him. His face and eyes were dark than usual. She sat down opposite him she couldn't trust sitting next to him. He was not looking good and she didn't know if sitting next to him was safe. "You don't look

good.” She said politely and she put her bag down. Her eyes were fixed on him and he was also looking at her. Dalingcebo: “It’s pleasing to see that you can see that.” He said gulping the whiskey down. He shook his head and put the glass down. “You are such a piece of work Nontobeko.” He added releasing a mocking chuckle and he clapped his hands shut. Nontobeko didn’t jump at the sound of his hands shutting but she kept her body still. “Excuse me? Where does that come from?” she asked

drawing her eyebrows together. Dalingcebo got up and stood behind the couch that he was seated on. "I don't know, soldier. What do they call you in the military I mean other soldiers they call you what?" he asked looking at her and she looked down. How did he find out? Who told him or he might have searched her past? Did that mean he knew about her marriage? She didn't want to panic but she felt her emotions slowly failing her. "You can't talk now!" Dalingcebo shouted clapping his hands shut. Nontobeko: "I was going to tell you Dalingcebo but it's just that I was scared to tell you." she explained standing up. Dalingcebo: "You were going to tell me what Nontobeko? Tell me about your dead husband?" he threw an emotional punch and he felt that it was emotional as he saw the change of her facial expression.

Nontobeko: "You have no right to say it like that, like you don't care. And don't say it to hurt my feelings just because I didn't tell you." She took it to heart. Dalingcebo: "I don't care! If you wanted me to care you were going to tell me about him. I was going to show you how I care about you."

Nontobeko: "You think it's easy to speak about the past that took me forever to forget?" she asked her voice breaking as the emotions failed her. She couldn't contain them and she felt that. "You don't know how I feel."

Dalingcebo: "I offered you professional help but I understand we were not close that time. I wasn't going to stop loving you because you're a widow. I was going to help you but you chose to shut me out."

Nontobeko: "It wasn't easy and you don't know the pain."

Dalingcebo: "Yes, I don't know how you feel but Nontobeko, I

do know this. I know that I want nothing to do with you from today.” He said after he had thought his word through he couldn’t have a life with Nontobeko she had proven she didn’t take life she shared with him seriously. Nontobeko: “You don’t mean that.” She told him but Dalingcebo had his mind made up. She took steps towards him as she suddenly felt scared that he was neglecting her. He was rejecting her because of her past? Dalingcebo: “I mean it and I am serious about it. After the boyfriend argument you should have known better and tell me the truth about everything like I did but you decided you won’t. I can never build a life with a woman like that. You are secretive Nontobeko.” He secretive Nontobeko.” He shouted. Nontobeko: "I love you Dalingcebo." Dalingcebo: "You don't keep secrets from someone you love. You

don't know humiliated I was that I am dating a woman I Don't know. it would have been nice to tell the person who told me this that 'Relax, she told me about that and I still love her.' but you didn't give me that chance." Nontobeko: "My husband was murdered and my daughter burnt inside our house. It was the worst pain I had to endure I heard her scream until the fire turned her into ashes. I had nightmares for years about that night. The military helped me move on and talking about my past is not as easy as speaking about a girl who left you for another man." She shot back crying the pain out. She couldn't repress herself from the pain she felt. Dalingcebo: "Please, leave my house, now." he instructed her unexpectedly showing no sympathy for her. She was crying before her but he wanted her to leave? "I don't want to see you again

just exit my life now. Go!” Nontobeko turned cold instantly, it was as if they had just poured cold water on her. She looked at him. “Is that what you want?” she asked silently. Dalingcebo: “Yes!” he answered her looking at her with still eyes, their stillness was giving assurance that he didn’t want her to stay. “This relationship is over.” He told her coldly. She nodded and marched to her bag without a word. She took her bag and left the house not looking back at the man who had broken her heart beyond measure... Dalingcebo sat on the couch with a heavy heart after Nontobeko had left him showing that she didn’t care about their relationship. She didn’t even try to fight

S2 – EPISODE 13

“Don’t you think you’ve been angry with me for a long time?” Ngcebo asked looking at Nandipha. She was dressing up for campus. She was still angry that Ngcebo told Dalingcebo about Nontobeko’s job. Nandipha: “I am looking for my hair band. Did you see it anywhere?” she looked around for her hair band but she couldn’t see it. Ngcebo: “Let your locks loose because you look even more gorgeous with them loose.” He complemented getting up from bed and stood before her. Nandipha: “I want to tie them.” she loved that he was telling her to let them loose, they looked good on her loose? That was music to her ears but she didn’t want to show him that she liked it. Ngcebo: “Okay, how do you want them tied I will do it.” He suggested showing her the dressing chair and

Nandipha looked at him, surprised. “I will just use my band because you don’t see yours.” He added. Nandipha nodded and sat down. Ngcebo opened the drawer and took the white band. He looked into her hair and began styling her. Ngcebo: “You didn’t say something about what I said, are you still angry with me about what happened?” Nandipha: “What happened? You showed me that I am nothing to you but your brothers are everything. I may be younger than you but I know how partners should treat each other.” Ngcebo: “I didn’t say that Nandipha you read it the wrong way.” Nandipha: “I told you not to tell anyone about what I told you but you couldn’t do that and now I know that my secrets are not safe with you. And so, don’t expect me to share my secrets with you.” Ngcebo: “Don’t be like that Nandipha and don’t use this to

your advantage because you'll keep secrets from me just because I told my brother about your sister's job? Just a job?" Nandipha: "It's just a job to you Ngcebo but it isn't to me because just days ago you were talking about paying ilobolo for me. Now, I am not sure about it." Ngcebo: "What? How can you say this now because this weekend we are going home because you agreed that I do it?" Ngcebo had asked Nandipha to give him permission to go to her parents and pay the full amount for ilobolo. They agreed that they can get married later but he wanted to date her while she was fully his. Nandipha asked for time to think about it she didn't think that Ngcebo would want to pay ilobolo for her that early. They haven't dated even a year but he wanted this? Nandipha wasn't sure about it and so, she took time to think about

it. She finally agreed that Ngcebo can go ask for her hand in marriage fully. They were going to KZN the coming weekend because Ngcebo wanted Nandipha to give her parents the later for her ilobolo negotiations. He had spoken to Mlamuli about it and he helped him with the letter writing and advised on about how much he had to estimate for her ilobolo. Ngcebo haven't told his parents and he was going to tell them during the weekend. Nandipha: "You are giving me doubts Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "I am sorry but I am committed to you I just made a mistake." He said holding her face pointing it to the mirror as he was done styling her. Nandipha: "Thank you." Ngcebo: "You have to go twist your hair now." She nodded and stood up, she looked at him. "Can I have some money?" She requested folding her lips. She had been

with Ngcebo since the day he saw her with Duma and she hadn't got the chance to get her purse in her flat. Ngcebo: "Money for what?" Nandipha: "Transport, I don't have my purse with me and I need money to get home from campus today." Ngcebo: "I will drive you now." he said looking at her because he knew that she never liked it when he drove her to campus. And if he did, he had to leave her far from the main gate. Now he wanted to see what she was going to say about being driven to campus. Nandipha: "And after my classes what will happen? I will walk?" Ngcebo: "No, I will come get you." Nandipha: "Can you just drive me to my flat I will get my purse." She suggested seeing that he

clearly didn't want to give her his money. Ngcebo: "You are not late? Your flat is a bit far and I will be late." Nandipha: "Hawu!" She sulked seeing that she was going to go to campus without money and she didn't make lunch. Ngcebo: "What is it?" Nandipha: "I need money I don't have lunchbox and you don't want to give me your money. I will pay you back." Ngcebo laughed and shook his head... He held her hand and led her out of the house. Nandipha was just looking back at him. "I didn't say I won't give you money I will give it to you but since you have offered to pay it back. I will expect you to pay it back." he said opening the door to his car. Nandipha: "I don't mind I will pay it back." He looked at her to confirm if she meant that and Nandipha kept her posture still without slumping. "Okay, that's good." He said and

they drove to her campus listening to music... Ngcebo was singing along but Nandipha wasn't singing along with him... "You can drop me here." Nandipha said pointing the stop far from their gate but Ngcebo didn't listen to her. He drove pass the stop. "Hawu!" Ngcebo: "That stop is far from the gate and so, I will drop you by the gate." Nandipha: "I know you are doing this on purpose, Rasta and it's not romantic." Ngcebo: "You are calling me Rasta? That means you have forgiven me." Nandipha: "I wasn't angry with you but you hurt my trust." Ngcebo: "I am sorry." He said stopping the car a bit far from the gate. Nandipha: "My money back! Money back!" she sang jumping on the seat with her eyes looking at him. Ngcebo chuckled and shook his head. He then gave her the money. "No, R200 is fine I will be able to pay it back and it's just

lunch.” She said giving him the other note... Ngcebo took the money back and Nandipha kissed his cheek quickly. She turned to the door but he held her wrist. Ngcebo: “That was not a proper kiss.” Nandipha: “I am running late!” she giggled and got off his car. She looked at her phone and marched to the gate... ----- Nontobeko had struggled to accept that her relationship with Dalingcebo had come to an end. She loved him and she couldn't imagine how life was going to be without him. But she knew, she was going back to living a dull empty life. This was the time where she wished she could run back to her place of peace, the military. What did she think? Letting a man in her life? And not just a man but a prince? She was going to live she told herself that... It'd been a week since Dalingcebo had broken up with her. She was hiding the pain

that she was feeling from her parents. They didn't know she was dating Dalingcebo and so sharing her pain with them was out of question. She would spend sleepless nights crying herself to sleep. It was the first time she had a heartbreak since her high school days. But back then she wasn't into relationships with her heart. Sthembiso was her first true love and by the looks of things he was going to stay the last. She had one thing consoling her, food and she kept gaining weight. She even had a belly. Nontobeko was not having a great morning she failed to stomach food in the morning after over eating the breakfast that she made for herself. She was home alone and she opted to spend her day sleeping. It was a Friday of the 1st of August. She was woken up by her sister shaking her. She sat up and looked at her with a smile. She

didn't know that she was coming home. Nontobeko: "What's wrong? You are home and it's not even University vacation." she asked rubbing her nose and she kneeled on her bed to hug her. Nandipha giggled and they asked each about how they have been... "Wake up now. We are home and dad is also home." she told her and removed the blankets from her bed. "And I came home because there's a letter from my in-laws. Ngcebo wants to come back and pay ilobolo." She informed her. "What!" she exclaimed delightedly and hugged her again. She ululated and Nandipha laughed. "Oh, that's nice. You are getting married?" Nandipha: "No, I am not getting married right away but he felt that he was ready to pay the full

amount now.” Nontobeko: “Siyabonga!” Nandipha: “Yes, and I heard mama say you have good news.” Nontobeko: “No, it’s not good news. I have an interview on Friday and it’s in Durban. I have applied for an Administration post.” Nandipha: “Friday? You won’t be here on Saturday?” Nontobeko: “They’re coming next week Saturday?” Nandipha: “Yes. I will come back on Thursday.” “Eish! Okay. I will make a plan.” She said leaving the room with her. She wanted to ask if Dalingcebo was going to be there but she figured she shouldn’t ask because she didn’t want to give her wrong impressions...

The family had dinner after MaNtombela had scolded Nontobeko for sleeping all day and not cooking. MaNtombela was at work and had to come back and cook because her older daughter was sleeping. While they

were eating Nontobeko was quiet and looking at her food. They were having pap and fish stew, fish that was fished from Empangeni dam. “Is everything all right, MaZondi omdala?” Mr Zondi asked seeing that Nontobeko wasn’t eating. Nontobeko: “Yes. I am just not hungry.” She said standing up. MaNtombela: “You are a child here Nontobeko and I will shout at you if you act as you wish in my house.” she shouted thinking she wasn’t eating because she had shouted at her. But it was not that, the fish disgusted her and she didn’t want to eat it. “Sit and eat!” she instructed her pointing the couch... Nontobeko sat down with her plate... As Nandipha took the bite on her fish that Nontobeko was still looking at. Nontobeko left the room in a hurry feeling a need to throw out. She hurried out of the house. And she threw out on the front

yard. Fish from the dam was not her favourite but she wasn't throwing out because of that... "What's wrong?" her mother asked giving her a glass of water. Nontobeko: "I don't know." She responded worried what might be happening. But it was just the fish! She concluded. MaNtombela: "Nontobeko, are you pregnant?" she asked looking at her but Nontobeko removed her eyes from hers. She hated the question she was asking because Thembelihle had asked her the same question. And she didn't understand why they were asking it because she wasn't pregnant. "I asked you a question. Are you pregnant?" Nontobeko: "No, mom I am not pregnant." She said confidently knowing that she had never missed her periods. They weren't as normal as they used to be but what mattered to her was that she was

having them. MaNtombela: “You are lying to me! How do you know you are not pregnant because even on your first pregnancy I was the one who saw you are pregnant?” She reminded her looking at her but she looked down. “Who’s responsible for this?” she asked. Nontobeko: “I swear mom I am not pregnant.” She denied it. “Take off that shirt now.” she instructed her and Nontobeko looked around to signal to her if she saw they were outside the house. MaNtombela: “There is nobody that is watching you. Do as I say!” she shouted. Nontobeko didn’t listen to her she left her and headed for her room. She didn’t even look at her father and sister she was ashamed... MaNtombela followed her inside her room and forced her to take off her shirt and she finally did. MaNtombela saw by her breasts and belly that her daughter was pregnant. Nontobeko

unexpectedly received a slap from her mother. She sat down holding her cheek looking down not believing that she slapped her. "I told you and your sister that I don't want anyone to be pregnant while living under my roof and rules and you disobeyed me." she shouted. Nontobeko: "I am sorry, mama." She said wiping her tears. MaNtombela: "Who is he?" she asked forcing her to look at her. "Who is the father of this baby?" she repeated. Nontobeko kept quiet and buried her face on her hands. She heard the door shutting and only then she raised her head to learn that her mother was gone. She didn't know how she was going to face her father and he was going to know that Dalingcebo was the father of the child, that's where she decided that she would hide that he was and say Thabo was the father and that's why

Dalingcebo left her but she was only going to say that should her father ask. She laid on her bed and was over whelmed by anger she didn't want the baby and the baby was in no way going to make her life easier. How was she going to survive as a single parent, it was difficult to raise her daughter with Sthembiso as her partner. How was she going to do it alone? She got up to change her clothes and got into bed... She was woken up by her mother who wished to have a word with her. "Nandipha is sleeping now and so we decided I should speak to you." MaNtombela informed her and Nontobeko just knew what she wanted to speak about. "Your father told me that he saw you with Dalingcebo, all along I thought he is your boss you two are dating? He was your sister's crush and you dated him?" she asked. Nontobeko: "Dalingcebo is not the

father of my child.” she denied. MaNtombela: “Don’t lie to me Nontobeko.” She warned her. Nontobeko: “Yes, we dated but there was Thabo in the picture but he was in the military and so Dalingcebo came into my life as a perfect man. I didn’t sleep with him mom he found out about Thabo. He saw me when I was breaking up with him and got the wrong picture. Thabo is the father but I doubt he’ll accept the child.” she told her a complete lie and MaNtombela believed it. Nontobeko knew that Dalingcebo’s family probably hated her and wouldn’t accept her child. Especially his mother. MaNtombela: “He will have to believe you.” she said. Nontobeko: “Please, don’t try and help me mama. If Dalingcebo comes here for negotiations don’t let me serve them. I don’t want him to know it won’t make him happy. He will feel

humiliated because his brother knew about me.” MaNtombela: “These people will be our family practically I am sure he will see you. They will invite us to rituals and everything they do that’s how they do things.” MaNtombela made her aware. Nontobeko: “I won’t attend any rituals with them.” She said looking down. MaNtombela: “We don’t know about that. We will not tell your sister know about the relationship you had with him. You know that she liked him and I don’t want any fights between you two.” Nontobeko: “Yes, mom.” MaNtombela: “This Thabo should pay for making you pregnant.” She said leaving her room. Nontobeko sighed feeling guilty that she lied to her. She shouldn’t have lied but she didn’t want drama that her pregnancy was going to cause especially for the father of the child, Dalingcebo... A

possible king with an illegitimate child? That was going to be a disgrace...

S2 – EPISODE 14

“It’s August now and your brother is not home.” Dalisu told Mlamuli, they were standing under the cars’ shelter waiting for the others to come out of Thembelihle’s house. Mlamuli: “He said he will come back in August and it’s not even Mid-August baba. Don’t worry.” Dalisu: “Don’t tell me not to worry because he was supposed to be with you for these negotiations but he’s not here.” “Your father is right Mlamuli. It’s not right that Mnotho is not here for his younger brother.” Thokozani supported Dalisu joining on their conversation. Mlamuli: “He’s not in Africa and coming back is not that easy.” He tried to convince them but he knew that Mnotho wasn’t coming back in August. They’ve been in

touch on the phone and Mnotho had things that he was sorting out abroad. He'd made a mess. Dalisu: "No, he was supposed to be home. Didn't he say he was coming back by the end of July?" Mlamuli: "No, Mageba." He smiled looking at Bongani running after Dalingcebo. Bongani wanted Dalingcebo to lift him up but Dalingcebo was making him run after him. Nkosazana was just behind them trying to get Bongani to wear his jersey because the weather was sunny but with a cold wind. Thokozani: "I swear your son is always active Mlamuli." Dalisu: "He should be active because that means he takes after his father." Mlamuli: "Yes, Mnotho was very active when he was his age." "HHAYBO!" Dalisu and Thokozani exclaimed looking at him and he pretended as if didn't just hear that. Thokozani then

laughed and Dalisu shook his head... “I am so happy Ngcebo. I am very happy!”

Thembelihle informed him holding his hand as they leave the house. Ngcebo: "Why are you happy, mom?" he fished what he knew. Thembelihle: "Oh, you want me to say it? I am happy that you are taking Nandipha today and that means she can visit me more often now." Ngcebo: "What? No! I am doing this so that she can be mine not ours." Thembelihle: "Hheyi!" she pulled his ear and Ngcebo groaned, he laughed when she had let go of his ear. "You can't tell me that Ngcebo. I am pretty sure that even Nandipha's parents will share the same thoughts as me." Ngcebo: "That's a lie and the daughter in-law that you are talking about is dead nervous. She called this morning and last night." Thembelihle: "She's nervous about what?" Ngcebo: "The negotiations she told me that her mother and her sister were scaring her yesterday

about how long negotiations could last.” Thembelihle laughed. “Oh, my daughter in-law. I will call her just now and you, treat her like the last diamond on the earth. Syezwana?” she pointed him with her forefinger and Ngcebo nodded quickly. “What’s your mother threatening you about? We need to go now.” Dalingcebo asked standing next to Thembelihle and Ngcebo. He had Bongani in his arms... After his break up he buried himself in work and vowed that he wasn’t going to mop about his break up. He missed Nontobeko and every time when he felt that he couldn’t take the loneliness he would remind himself of how she lied to him even after she’d seen that he hated lies. Thembelihle on the other hand was worried about him but he assured her that he was doing well... Ngcebo: “About treating Nandipha well.” He said

taking Bongani from him. Dalingcebo: “Oh, yes, she’s right about that.” Thembelihle smiled. “That’s my baby!” she said trying to play with Dalingcebo’s cheek but he quickly took a step back and shook his head. Ngcebo laughed at the action. Banele: “Can we go? I want to eat already.” Thembelihle: “Voetsek! You want to eat I don’t cook?” she asked looking at him he was followed by Ndabezinhle who was busy on the phone. Banele: “You cook mama but we will eat food made by makoti today.” “Oh! I don’t mind if you say it like that.” Thembelihle said with a smile. Dalingcebo: “Hheyi! Mama, you love Nandipha I am pretty sure that she gave you some love portion.” The brothers laughed and marched forward. Thembelihle was laughing walking behind them... Thembelihle: “Where’s Mntwana?” she looked at Dalisu. Dalisu: “He’s at

mama's palace. They will get him there with the rest of the people that they're leaving with." Thembelihle: "No! I said he mustn't go." Dalisu: "Why not?" Thembelihle: "What if he sees older women there?" The men laughed but Thembelihle didn't laugh. She just looked at them. Mlamuli: "Don't worry, MaSthole." Dalisu: "He's right. Don't worry about anything." Thembelihle: "Look, it's the six of you but I gave birth to the seven of you." She recognized looking at them and made the stop at Mlamuli. Mlamuli: "Mnotho will come back." Thembelihle: "Please, drive safely and call when you get there." they nodded and stepped inside the cars. She looked at Ngcebo whom she was holding now. Dalisu had taken Bongani from him. "My baby, you have grown up now and you are taking a wife. Usuzoba no mfazi." She said with a smile. Ngcebo: "Yes, and thanks

to that party that was actually meant for my twin brother.” He commented and Thembelihle laughed. “I love you, Ngcebo yethu!” She said and hugged him for quite some time. And when they moved away from each other she had tears in her eyes. Ngcebo was the one who worried her the most amongst them all because he never seemed to be serious about

other things except music. But today, he was taking a wife! Dalisu wiped her tears as she was looking at him. "Go, Ngcebo." He said pointing the car and Ngcebo did as his father had told him... ---- The weekend came and the two families were negotiating the ilobolo for Nandipha by Ngcebo. Nandipha was nervous and she didn't trust that everything was going to be a success. Her parents had told her stories about how lobolo negotiations could even last for weeks without families reaching a decision and Nontobeko added the fear by telling the difficulties of her negotiations but Ngcebo had promised her that everything was going to be all right. She couldn't believe that because he was busy laughing that she was nervous about their big day. It was a Sunday, the second day of the negotiations. They began on Saturday but they couldn't

reach an agreement and so, they agreed to finish the negotiations the following day. Today, Nandipha was suffering from nerves as she couldn't digest that they didn't reach the agreement on Saturday. Even after Thembelihle had called her they didn't relax. She was inside the kitchen preparing the food with the other ladies. MaNtombela paved a way inside the kitchen through the kitchen curtains. She had a smile of joy on her face. Things were better today and there was hope that they were going to reach the agreements in time. MaNtombela: "Mantombazane, dish up the food now." she instructed the girls in the kitchen. Nandipha and their cousins. "Where's your sister Nandipha?" she asked looking around for Nontobeko. Nandipha: "She left to answer an important call. You are smiling now." "That means everything is going well, aunt."

One of Nandipha's cousins fished and MaNtombela nodded with a smile. Nandipha sighed the worry out. "Thank you, mama." Nandipha said looking at her mama and the ladies around her. They smiled at her and got to work... Nontobeko was wearing a black and cream African print dress, the dress was long maternity designed dress with a full neck line and long sleeves. She had black comfortable sandals on her feet and black doek on her head. It was her younger sister's big day and so she had to look the part of a respectful big sister. The Zondi premises were busy with the family members. The in-laws were royalty and MaNtombela wanted them to be treated as the royalty that they were. All the Zulu princes were present except Mnotho because he wasn't back from his trip. Thokozani, Sgwili, Mlamuli, and Dalingcebo

were negotiating for Ngcebo. And the others were seated outside the premises inside the car. Ngcebo was in Dalingcebo's house. The Zulu family came with girls that had groceries as part of ilobolo and they had to cook for everyone. Nontobeko had seen Dalingcebo and his sight made her weak. She missed all the days they spent together and she couldn't even say a word to him. It was over! And she got that right. She missed him dearly. But it didn't matter now or so she thought. She was walking looking down speaking on the phone with her new boss who was asking that she come in to start working on a Monday because they had a crisis. She'd gone to the interview and they were impressed by her. She got the response for the job same day after the interview. They told her she was going to start mid-August but now the circumstances

had changed. Working as an administrator was her job before the military when she was still married to Sthembiso. She was happy about the job and she knew she was going to look after her child's needs. Her family was happy for her but her father was still angry about the pregnancy because Nontobeko had made it clear that she wasn't telling the father of the child anytime soon, her parents had tried everything but she was just stubborn and even threatened to leave their house should they keep pushing her and only then did they let her be. She had accepted the baby and couldn't wait to meet the child. She was 17 weeks pregnant. She was showing on her normal clothes. But today, she wasn't on normal casual clothes but if you knew about her pregnancy you could notice that she was showing in that dress. She smiled after she

had dropped the call. It was good news for her that she was going to leave right away because she was tired of staying at home doing nothing and it was much hard now that the piece jobs she did with Dalingcebo were no longer available for her. She walked forward still looking at her phone. She had to go back inside the kitchen and finish up what she was doing.

“It would be nice of you to look where you heading because you don’t want to find yourself bumping into people.” Dalingcebo said standing on her way as he saw she was going to bump into him. He had left his chair inside the house to have a word with Banele. Banele was behind him. Nontobeko looked at him briefly and she swallowed hard. She was seeing him closer now, before she saw him while she was far. “Eh! I am sorry. I will be careful next time.” She said quickly and moved apart from him. She didn’t even want to say another word to him. “Sawubona, Banele I think.” She greeted Banele. Banele: “Yebo, sawubona.” He greeted back with a straight face. Nontobeko didn’t talk further but she took steps forward. Dalingcebo: “You look beautiful on that attire, MaZondi.” He complimented her and without turning back

to look at him, Nontobeko closed her eyes. Nontobeko: "Thank you, Ndabezitha." She walked away. Dalingcebo: "Was it because of me that you didn't come with your sister yesterday when they were asking us if who amongst the girls was Nandipha? I mean the other girl wasn't your father's daughter." He asked. Nontobeko: "No. It wasn't because of you. Please, excuse me. I need to go back inside." She said taking another step forward. Dalingcebo: "If I wish to speak to you Nontobeko you shouldn't run away from me. At least respect my position." He requested. Nontobeko moved forward without speaking a word to him or respecting his word as he had said. She was supposed to respect his position now? Prince? She would be dammed if he thought she was going to do that. Banele held her arm stopping her from leaving. "My

brother wasn't done speaking to you, miss. Why are you acting rudely?" "I was done speaking to him, and please, let go of my wrist. I don't like to be touched." She said curtly looking at Banele's wrist. Dalingcebo: "Let her go, Mageba." He instructed him and Banele clicked his tongue before letting her go. She left with her heart wishing to come out of her chest. They thought they were going to tell her to jump and she was going to ask how high? No, not with her. She wasn't going to dance to their arrogant tunes. Dalingcebo didn't see that she was pregnant because of the dress she was wearing it was difficult to be sure that her bump was a pregnancy bump and he didn't even take note of the bump. Nontobeko went inside to finish her part of cooking and she made sure that she didn't leave the kitchen as she wanted to make sure that

she doesn't cross paths with Dalingcebo again...

S2 – EPISODE 15

Nandipha's phone rang while they were busy packing the dishes with her cousin. They were having a conversation while talking after dinner. Her negotiations were concluded that Sunday and the ilobolo was in money and cows form. She was relieved now that everything had passed... She looked at her phone and then her cousin, but she wasn't looking at her. "Hello!" She answered the phone call. Ngcebo: "I didn't think you'll greet me like this yazi." Nandipha: "Ha! What did you expect?" she laughed and proceeded with working while she supported her phone with her shoulder. Ngcebo: "I don't know something more traditional since I am your fiancé now." She giggled. "I will do that next time then

because I didn't know I was supposed to do that." She said. Ngcebo: "Okay, I forgive you. Can I see you? I am by your house." Nandipha: "Hawu! Ngcebo, how can you do that because you were supposed to call me before you decide to come here." Ngcebo: "I just knew that you will tell me not to come because your parents are home. You know all the excuses and we are not in Gauteng here. We are not a secret here." Nandipha: "It's not about being a secret Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "I am not driving back to my brother's house without seeing you."

Nandipha: "Which side is your car parked?"
Ngcebo: "The usual spot." Nandipha: "Ha! That's very far." Ngcebo: "Okay, I will drive closer." "Okay." She hung up the call and looked at her cousin then the lounge's direction. "Can you please cover up for me?" She requested. "You are going to see Ngcebo?" Her cousin asked and Nandipha nodded her head. "What will I say?" she asked. Nandipha: "I am not feeling well I am in the toilet." "Okay, that means you won't stay longer." She suggested and Nandipha nodded leaving the dish cloth. She marched to the kitchen exit and looked around before leaving the premises through the gate... "Can't you feel that it's cold?" Nandipha asked seeing Ngcebo leaning on his car. She stood before him she couldn't even see his face because it was dark on the road. "I can't even see your face." She told him.

Ngcebo: "Hello, makoti." He removed his hands from his pocket and pulled her closer to him. He hugged her tightly and Nandipha held on to him. "I feel that it's cold but I just wanted to hug you before you complain." He said. Nandipha: "I love the hug and I am not complaining now." Ngcebo: "I knew that you wouldn't. How are you? You are not tired?" he asked her resting his chin on her head still holding her. Nandipha: "I am tired and my feet are hurting I just want to go and rest. What time are we leaving tomorrow?" Ngcebo: "We will leave early in the morning because mama wants to see you first before we leave. Come I will massage your feet." He led her to the back seats on the left side of the car. He opened the door for her and Nandipha stepped inside before him. "Give me your feet." He said. "I don't think they are clean though." She said

giving him her feet and she laid her head on the window of the car. Ngcebo took off his jersey to wipe the dust off her feet. "Please, don't come here at 6am." She told him. Ngcebo: "What time should I come?" Nandipha: "I think by 8am. We will be driving alone?" Ngcebo: "No, we will be driving with Banele and Mntwana because Dalingcebo won't be driving back home. They didn't leave with the others they're at Dalingcebo's house right now." Nandipha: "Okay." She closed her eyes and felt the relaxation of her feet as he was massaging them nicely. Ngcebo: "I want you to start driving. You'll need to buy K53 and get ready for writing your Learners." Nandipha: "Driving Ngcebo? I am still trying to get along with my studies." Ngcebo: "I know but you do have free time and you can use that free time to read through the book. And

when you are ready you'll book and go, write." Nandipha: "Okay, I will think about it." Ngcebo: "You'll think about what? There's nothing to think about here because by the time you finish your Degree you need to have a license along with it. And if you can know how to drive it will make things easier because you can drive yourself to campus using one of my cars. I don't know what is it that you're telling you'll think about." Nandipha: "I will do it." She condescended to keep him quiet. Ngcebo: "How's your sister?" Nandipha: "She's fine. Why are you asking?" Ngcebo: "I am asking because she's family now and I should ask about her too. They told me your parents are fine but didn't mention your sister. And she wasn't with you when the elders called you." Nandipha: "Oh, she wasn't ready that time because she'd been busy in the kitchen and

so, they said I will go with my cousin.” She responded and yawned. Ngcebo looked at her and she closed her eyes. Ngcebo: “You’ll not sleep here, right?” Nandipha: “No, I should go now because I didn’t tell mama that I am coming here. I just left.” She said sitting up straight and Ngcebo stopped massaging her feet. She removed them from his lap.

Ngcebo: “Come kiss me then before you go. I will drop you off you won’t walk alone.” He said pulling her closer to him and they kissed each other intensely. Ngcebo unzipped her dress and sent his hand inside the dress to get the feel of her skin. The dress was short sleeved and so, he tried to remove the dress from the top side but Nandipha held his hands. “We won’t do anything.” He said softly with his eyes closed and his forehead resting on hers.

Nandipha: “No, you are getting carried away. I need to... go... Ngcebo...” her voice trailed as he sent his hand beneath her dress to massage her thighs.

Ngcebo: “I am not getting carried away but you’ll see after this you’ll sleep like a baby and wake up in the morning with no worries or fatigue.” He said massaging her openings and Nandipha held on to his shoulders. “Ah! Ah! Ngcebo...”

let me go..." She cried and moved her body closer to him feeling the pressure as his finger was pressuring her. "Please, come..." Ngcebo: "Come where?" He asked lazily looking at her face. Nandipha: "Turn off... the car light and..." Ngcebo got the message and he turned off the light, he then pushed the front seats forward to get enough space. Nandipha lifted her dress up while Ngcebo was busy removing his pants. He chuckled and shook his head as Nandipha already had her right leg on the car's window. "You know I didn't come here for this." he told her entering her already wet body and she held on to his neck. Nandipha: "But you started it." Ngcebo: "I thought you would settle for my finger or it wasn't enough?" Nandipha: "No... babe it wasn't... Ah! Hmm... it wasn't." "I see!" He said pushing his knee underneath the leg

that was on the window and he pushed in harder but not faster. "I love you!" He told him with a thick voice as he was thrusting harder. Nandipha: "I love you too!" she told him and cried a tight louder as they raced together to their sharp climax... "Shit! Hha!" he groaned resting his body on her. Nandipha was breathing heavily holding on to his locks. "Won't you be shy to enter your father's premises after this?" he asked kissing her neck slowly.

Nandipha: "No, I will just go to the bathroom because it's located outside the house. I will tell them I took a bath after using the toilet."

Ngcebo: "Okay, I am hard again." He told her lazily. Nandipha: "I am also thudding."

She is responding and Ngcebo rose up to enter her again... Nandipha walked inside the house with her doek on her shoulder. Her face clothe was on her hand as evident

that she was bathing. “I almost sent a search party for you. You know the helicopter from the military was ready to come here just to look for you.” Nontobeko said looking at Nandipha as she entered the house through the front door. Their parents laughed. They were just chilled because when her cousin was sent to look for her as she’d gone to the toilet for a long time. She saw Nandipha stepping out of Ngcebo’s car and she told her to say she was bathing. Nandipha: “That was going to be lit because I was going to be famous.” They laughed. “You are already a bride of a famous man.” Her cousin commented and they laughed as she danced to the sound of that. Mr Zondi: “Please, don’t be like this in the presence of your in-laws.” Nandipha: “Hawu, baba!” MaNtombela: “Your father is right.” Nontobeko: “And we don’t want to read

about any wrong from you in the magazines. Don't in any way trash the Zulu name and our name." MaNtombela: "Yes." Nandipha: "Ngcebo and I, are keeping our relationship private for now. I don't want the media in my affairs." Mr Zondi: "Hawu! That's a good thing to hear MaZondi." "Yebo!" She sang loudly and before her mother could swear at her Nandipha ran to her room leaving them laugh...

----- It was the END OF AUGUST and Dalisu had called the meeting with his sons. He was worried that the following month was September and Mnotho wasn't back home. They arrived at home on a Friday night. Ngcebo drove to Empangeni to drop Nandipha at her parents' house. They then drove in the morning with his twin brother but in separate cars. "The first thing I want to talk about is Mnotho." Dalisu began the meeting after they've made small talks while eating the food prepared by Nkosazana. They all looked at Mlamuli. "No, why are you looking at me?" Mlamuli asked looking at them as they all looked at him. Thembelihle: "We want to know where's your brother. He was supposed to come back this month but he's not here." Mlamuli: "He's still held up in L.A. I don't know what's happening because it's been a while since

we last spoke.” Dalisu: “That’s a lie Mlamuli and you know that it’s a lie. You know where he is and you know what’s holding him there. Where’s your brother and why is he not coming back home?” Mlamuli: “He’s in L.A. baba but I don’t know what’s holding him there.” he lied, he knew what was holding him but he’d promised that he wasn’t going to tell them at any cost. Dalisu: “It’s September next month and so, tell me what should I do?” Mlamuli: “I think we will have to wait for Mnotho’s return.” Mntwana: “When is he coming back? Dad can’t wait for something he doesn’t know when will it happen.” The five brothers looked at Mntwana with surprised looks as he was talking like that. Dalisu: “He’s right just don’t look at him like that.” Mlamuli: “He mustn’t talk like that ‘something he doesn’t know.’ What is he referring to? What are you

referring to Mntwana, a human being or non-living organism?” Thembelihle: “Mlamuli, hhayi, you know what he meant so don’t make a big deal out of his words. You should be telling us about your brother.” Mlamuli: “He’s in L.A.” He said and looked down, angered by the fact that they were dismissing the way Mntwana had spoken as if it was right. Dalisu: “Dalingcebo, what are your plans? You are moving back KwaNongoma?” he asked moving from the talk about Mnotho because he saw that should he proceed talking about it they were going to fight. He needed no fights today he wanted the meeting to go smoothly. Dalingcebo: “I won’t have to move here right away?” Thembelihle: “Yes, you will have to move right away because you knew that you are supposed to be here by September. I am sure you’ve given the

municipality a notice?" Dalingcebo: "I didn't think I will have to move right away but I will be on it." Dalisu: "That's good and Mlamuli?" Mlamuli: "Hawu, baba? You can't expect me to move I have a farm, a house and a family Eshowe." Dalisu: "I had a life in Richards bay but when I was told to come back here I did as I was told. I came back home." Mlamuli: "But you had no family of your own." Dalisu: "You won't rule Eshowe. Yes, the Zululand will be yours but you won't rule residing Eshowe. You'll have to come back home." it became clear to everyone that he was appointing him as the next Monarch. Thembelihle was shocked by the news as she wasn't expecting that he would do that. Mlamuli: "Rule? I should rule?" Ndabezinhle: "Mlamuli, don't act surprise and don't even try to argue with dad now because it will only create

problems not just for the kingdom but for you as well.” Ngcebo: “Ndabezinhle is right.” Mlamuli: “Why are we not waiting for Mnotho, baba? How can you proceed with this while he’s not here? And what about my wife as you are making me Monarch? What should I do because they won’t accept her?” Dalisu: “You want me to think for you and think for your wife.” He asked raising his voice at him and his eyes lingering on his eyes. “And you’re talking about your brother? Him not being here is disrespecting me.” Banele: “But baba, who will fill his position?”

Ngcebo: “Yes, who will do that baba because Mnotho is not here?” Dalisu: “You are my sons and you are asking me that? MaSthole, do they have a father that I don’t know about?” Thembelihle: “Hhaybo! What are you saying to me now?” Dalingcebo: “If some of us can leave our lives for the kingdom what can be hard for some of you? What can be hard?” he asked and they kept quiet. Dalisu: “Answer your brother?” Ndabezinhle: “It’s not the same because you are closer to home and your job is not as demanding as ours. And should we come back that will mean the end of our careers but not for you. You’ll still work for this municipality so don’t ask us that question.” Ngcebo: “He’s right Dalingcebo and you can’t deny that.” Dalisu: “I don’t care about any of your views but when I say something should happen that will mean

that nothing more and nothing less.” Mlamuli: “I am not taking the throne without my twin brother and not while my wife is discriminated against.” Dalisu: “Angzwanga!” (Excuse me?) Mlamuli: “We should wait for Mnotho. What position did you have for him, baba?” Dalisu: “Don’t ask me that.” Thembelihle: “Mageba, I also think that you should wait for your son’s return. There’s no rush because it’s not like you are sick or failing to run things. You are not even forgetful like your father was when you took over.” Dalisu: “I didn’t call this meeting to be questioned and to listen to suggestions, but I called this meeting to give orders. And nobody amongst you will disobey my orders. Your twin brother was supposed to be your advisor I can see you think that I am giving you this position because he’s not here. You’ll take after me

and Dalingcebo will step up to his position. Ndabezinhle, you are coming back home and your career is taking a hold.” Mlamuli looked at his brothers and he saw they were shocked. Ndabezinhle dropped his head at the news. He lost words to protest because his father had said the word but Mlamuli wasn't about to let that happen. Mlamuli: “No, he can't just drop his life and come back home. He will not function well here without what he loves the most.” Mntwana: “He can do that by opening a football club here and get the young boys off the streets. Coach them and mentor them, he will function very well.” Dalisu looked at his son and smiled wishing that Mntwana was older above them all but it wasn't like that. Ndabezinhle: “It's easy for you to say that. I am not ready for coaching anyone I want to play football until I feel I want to retire.”

Thembelihle: “You’ve had your fun Ndabezinhle and now it should come to an end.” Mlamuli: “I am not taking the throne without Mnotho. I stand in that decision because he will come back. He had things that he’s taking care of he’s not staying over there because he wants to stay.” Thembelihle: “Why didn’t you tell us that in the first place?” Dalisu: “I don’t care what’s holding him. And you won’t tell me you are going against my word. You will obey it.” Mlamuli: “I won’t do that.” He pressed thinking of his brother’s career. He didn’t want Ndabezinhle to come back home and do what he never wanted to do. He had to do what was right for him. Dalisu: “Okay, get up and leave my house. And wherever you go don’t call yourself my son and don’t call yourself by my name.” “NO!” Everyone in the house looked at Dalisu and he was

looking at Mlamuli who was looking at him with a still posture. Dalingcebo: “Baba, you can’t do that.” Dalisu: “I am doing it just take everything that belongs to you and leave from here. I don’t want to ever see you here. You will never set your foot in my lands, I don’t want to see you KwaNongoma. Just stay where you are and I am letting you stay Eshowe because of Prince and Bongani.” Thembelihle: “You can’t do that to my son, Dalisu. You will not do it.” She told him standing on her feet and she held Mlamuli’s hand. Dalisu: “I am doing it. NKOSAZANA!” He called her name out and Thembelihle looked at Dalisu with

her heart racing. Ngcebo: “Mama, do something.” Mntwana: “Mlamuli, just listen to dad and stop being stubborn.” Ndabezinhle: “Come on, Mlamuli. I will do anything he wants just don’t let him disown you. Don’t leave us.” “Baba?” Nkosazana stood next to Dalisu and looked down. Dalisu: “Take your husband and leave my house with him. I don’t want him here. He must never come back here.” Nkosazana: “What did he do?” she asked looking at Mlamuli but he was looking down while his hand was inside Thembelihle’s hold. Dalisu: “I didn’t call you to answer your questions. Wena, you are not rooted in that seat just stand up and leave!” he shouted. Mlamuli stood on his feet and looked at his mother. Thembelihle cried and shook her head violently. “No, I can’t let my son go.” Thembelihle said. Dalisu: “I said, go!”

Mlamuli: "Let's go Nkosazana." He said with a thick emotion full voice. Nkosazana: "Mlamuli, your mother is crying. What did you say to upset your father or you are fighting because of me again?" Mlamuli didn't answer her but he removed his mother's hand from his wrist. Thembelihle was resisting letting go of it but her son was stronger than she was. Thembelihle: "I did nothing wrong to you Mlamuli!" she cried. Mlamuli: "I can't stay mama I am not wanted." He left the chair and Nkosazana moved from her position. Dalisu stood up from his chair. Thembelihle: "If you let my son leave Dalisu. I am leaving with him as well." She shouted looking at him as he was leaving the table. Dalisu turned to look at her. "Okay, follow him. There's the door!" he told her pointing the door and everyone stood on their feet. She turned to the exit

direction without looking at the sons that she was leaving behind. Thembelihle left the house...

S2 – EPISODE 16

“Prince, please stop your car because the queen is after you.” The guard told Mlamuli before opening the gate for him. They were arguing with Nkosazana inside the car and so, they didn’t hear Thembelihle shouting after them. Mlamuli stopped the car and got off the car. Thembelihle was running towards Mlamuli with tears in her eyes. Mlamuli: “Mama?” he opened his arms for her and Thembelihle threw herself inside her son’s arms. “Mama, we will talk I won’t be cutting ties with you.” he said softly brushing her back. Thembelihle: “No! I am leaving with you.” Mlamuli: “Hhe! No, you can’t do that. You have a child here and have other sons. What did dad say about

this?" Thembelihle: "I told him I am leaving if he's disowning you and he told me to follow you and so, I followed you." Mlamuli: "Mama, you can't live without dad and you know that. Please, don't leave your house because of me. Mntwana is still a child and so, you can't leave him." Thembelihle: "No, I am tired of your father treating you like this. Mntwana will be good with his father." She said moving away from Mlamuli she opened the door of his car and Mlamuli took the driver's seat seeing that there was nothing to do to convince her otherwise. They drove straight to Eshowe. They were driving in silence, Mlamuli's sons were back home with their child minder who was also a maid... "Mama, I will fix a bedroom for you. I should make some coffee or tea first?" Nkosazana asked looking at Thembelihle. They've just got home and Nkosazana

served them food. They were seated on the dining table quietly. Thembelihle: “You can go and fix the room I will be fine.” She said taking out her phone was on the pocket of her woollen jersey. She looked at her phone and sighed before answering Dalingcebo’s call... The time was just after 9pm. Thembelihle: “Dalingcebo?”

Dalingcebo: "Mama, how can you do this? How can you just leave the rest of us here and go with Mlamuli after he had refused to do what dad wants?" Thembelihle: "I want to put an end to all this fighting and your father needs to be alone and think about this while he's alone. Or you want to have your brother disowned is that what you want?" Dalingcebo: "No, but it won't help if you are leaving. What should Mntwana do while you are gone? He's a child and you just left him as if he wasn't there." Thembelihle: "You can say whatever you want to say but I am not coming back. I will not come back until your father changes his mind." Dalingcebo: "Yeah, you are saying that because you know he won't change his mind. I guess now, it shows that Mlamuli had always been your favourite. You leave five sons just for one who couldn't listen to

his father. A mother, you are to us. Tsk!” he threw an emotional punch. Thembelihle: “Yeyiwena –” she couldn’t even begin to finish her sentence because Dalingcebo dropped the call on her. She clicked her tongue and put her phone down. Mlamuli was looking at her. Mlamuli: “What did he say?” Thembelihle: “Nothing to worry yourself about. Now, I want to know about Mnotho, what’s keeping him in L.A?” Mlamuli: “I told you he’s sorting something out.” Thembelihle kept quiet and ate her food in silence. She didn’t want to keep pushing him and so, she kept quiet. When she was done eating she went to the bedroom she was going to use... She sighed and sat down on the bed. She couldn’t believe how things had turned out in just one night. She closed her eyes and opened her eyes again. She then took her

phone and looked at the time. She smiled, looking at the date. The following day was going to be the 1st of September, 29 years ago she gave birth to her first two boys and tomorrow was their birthday. They were going to turn 30 years old, one of them was married with two sons and the other was successful helping his people. Not fancy but with a heart. She couldn't feel less proud. She then closed her eyes again and this time around, she prayed before sleeping. She was tired and she wanted to rest... Thembelihle was busy feeding her grandchildren breakfast. She'd asked Mlamuli and Nkosazana to let them stay at home with her... The maid was busy on the sink and they were seated in dining table that was inside the kitchen. Bongani: "Gogo, uzohlala nathi kakhulu?" (You'll stay with us for a long time?) Thembelihle: "Yes, and we

will have a lot of fun.” Prince: “Yes, gogo! We didn’t sing for dad in the morning, mommy told us yesterday that it’s dad’s birthday today.” Bongani: “Ehe, gogo ubaba Mnotho naye. Ibesday yakhe nobaba. Shiyakhuluma naye kuTV. Shocela ubaba ukuthi ashimculele namuhla.” (Yes, it’s his birthday and uncle Mnotho. We speak to him on dad’s laptop. We must ask dad to let us sing for him today.) Prince: “Yes, gogo!” Thembelihle: “Okay, we will do just that but for now I will answer this call.” She said standing up with her phone. “Please, watch over them” she told the maid and she moved away from the sink. She sat on the chair with the boys. “Mageba?” Thembelihle greeted Dalisu on the other side of the line she walking to her bedroom. Dalisu: “Uyangichwensa yezwa yini? Mageba ini yona?” (You are disrespecting)

Thembelihle: “What should I say?” Dalisu: “How were you calling me last night in the presence of our sons? You were screaming at me like a mad woman and now, ungibiza Mageba? Magebainja?” He shouted at her and Thembelihle kept quiet. She sat down on the bed and didn’t drop the call because she wanted to hear why he was calling her. “Why are you quiet now?” he asked. Thembelihle: “What should I say because you are just shouting at me and you shout at me for every wrong I do but I never do that to you.” Dalisu: “Ngiyindoda yakho akuwena indoda yami!” (I am your husband not the other way around) he reminded her and Thembelihle kept quiet still. “Why did you leave the house?” He asked after the silence. Thembelihle: “You told me to leave and I couldn’t stay while you have disowned my first born. What

do you expect me to do because I know I won't be able to see him because you've banned him from your lands remember?" Dalisu: "You are married to Mlamuli? Huh?" Thembelihle: "No, but I want you re-think your decision and fix things between you and your son. What about his sons are you also disowning them?" Dalisu: "You are not married to Mlamuli and so, I want you to come back home. You should be home before the end of the day." Thembelihle: "I won't come back and so, don't expect me." Dalisu: "You are ending our marriage and you are marrying your disrespectful son? Is that what you are doing?" Thembelihle: "No, but I want you to fix things with your son." Dalisu: "I am saying it for the last time! Just come back home!" he shouted lastly and hung up the call. Thembelihle got up from the bed and marched back to dining table

but her grandchildren were done eating their breakfast. “You are done?” She asked, smiling at them and they nodded delightedly. Bongani: “Gogo, uzofika no mkhulu?” (Grandfather will also come?) Thembelihle: “No, your grandfather is busy and so, he won’t be able to come. But I will make sure that you have fun.” “YES!” They jumped at the sound of fun and Thembelihle smiled giving them her hands. They stood up and took both her hands she left the house with them... --- “I have a test on Wednesday and I haven’t studied for the test and you are telling me this?” Nandipha asked Ngcebo on the other side of the line. Ngcebo: “Why does it seem like you don’t care about what I’ve just told you about Nandipha?” he’d just told her that he couldn’t come to her house because her mother had left her palace and Mlamuli was

disowned. They've decided to be home for a while. Nandipha: "It's not like that I was going to say something about what you just told me but you are the one who asked how my schedule was. How am I wrong by answering your question?" she asked looking around for her sister's return. They were at Empangeni town. Nontobeko had just came back home for a weekend visit and Nandipha was with her as she was heading back to Durban. Ngcebo: "I didn't say you are wrong." Nandipha: "You are stressed right now Ngcebo and so, you are saying the wrong things to me. I think it would be better if you can just try to breathe." He sighed. "You are right. I am sorry, babe." He said politely. Nandipha: "Where's your mother now?" Ngcebo: "She's at Mlamuli's house and now, we are home. We don't know what to do because

dad is angry and Mntwana is hurt that mama just left.” Nandipha: “Why don’t you all go straight to your brother’s house and speak to her. She will listen to you.”

Ngcebo: “No, she’s not listening to us and Dalingcebo had an idea that she might listen to you. The others agreed with him.”

Nandipha: “She will listen to me? Me?”

Ngcebo: “Yes, mama loves you and I am sure that if you can talk to her about coming back home. She will listen to you.”

Nandipha: “But how can I do that because I am writing on Wednesday and I have one day to study for the test and I am here in KZN now.” Ngcebo: “Okay, how will you get there because I can’t leave today.”

Nandipha kept quiet as she couldn’t believe what was happening. “I am speaking to you.”

Nandipha: “I will book a bus ticket and leave tonight.” Ngcebo: “Okay, I will then

deposit cash in your account and you'll book a plane ticket. You'll have to come back here after your test. I will be waiting for you in Durban. Okay?" He wasn't asking? But she was going to do it as it looked like she had no other choice, she was forced to do it. "Okay." She said looking at her sister as she was approaching her direction. She had gone to buy food. Ngcebo: "Okay, I will call you later." He said and hung up the call. Nandipha sighed and closed her

eyes shortly. Nontobeko: "What's wrong now?" Nandipha: "My mother in-law has left her house and they want me to go talk to her. They think I can convince her to come back home." Nontobeko smiled. "Dalingcebo once told me Ngcebo told him that their mother likes you." She said looking at her with a warm smile kept still. Nandipha: "Yes, she likes me and I think a lot." Nontobeko: "She will listen to you then why did she leave?" Nandipha: "Ndabezitha disowned Mlamuli and she left with him. What will I even say to her, sisi?" Nontobeko: "I won't tell you anything but you'll know what to say Nandipha. You must know that dealing with in-laws and trying to bring peace amongst them is part and parcel of being a wife. And as they asked you to speak to her that means they trust you." Nandipha: "Okay, I will try my best."

She said but she was nervous that she had such responsibility. She didn't think things were going to be like this! Nontobeko smiled and nodded. "Sisi, can I ask you something?" she requested politely without looking at her. Nontobeko: "Yes." Nandipha: "Are you are pregnant? I mean you've gain weight and I see..." Nontobeko sighed. "Yes, I am pregnant and don't think it's a good thing." She said looking at her and Nandipha looked down. "Mom and dad are still angry about it and I am also not proud of it." She said. Nandipha: "What will happen about your job? I mean the military." she asked, the question she didn't want to ask. She wanted to ask about the father but she wasn't sure if that was the right question to ask. Nontobeko: "I will take time off so that I can raise my baby and once I have created a bond with the baby. I will

leave the baby with mama and go back to the military.” Nandipha: “Okay, when are you giving birth?” Nontobeko: “December, usozaba umamncane futhi.” She said with a smile and Nandipha giggled and nodded her head. Nandipha: “I will name the baby if it’s a girl just like I named Okuhle, right?” she asked with a beautiful smile. Nontobeko laughed and nodded. “Okay, I will have to go back home and take my things I have to take a bus to Jozi because Ngcebo is no longer going back.” she added. Nontobeko: “Hawu, let’s call mama to give your bags to the driver who’s coming this side and we can go together. You will stay at my flat while waiting for the bus in Durban.” Nandipha: “That’s wonderful! You are so clever!” she pulled her cheeks and Nontobeko laughing shaking her head. Nontobeko took out her phone from her pocket to call their mother...

S2 – EPISODE 17

“You are so cruel how can you not call your brother so that I can talk to him. I want to talk to him because it’s his birthday!” Thembelihle said looking at Mlamuli. He was busy removing price tags on the clothes he’d bought for his mother. Thembelihle was having tea inside her bedroom. Mlamuli: “No, now everyone is angry at me. The boys are angry because I didn’t skype him, Nkosazana is angry because I made them angry but you don’t understand that Mnotho is unavailable.” Thembelihle: “I wish they can be angry at you until Mnotho returns.” Mlamuli: “I will take a second wife.” He joked and Thembelihle swore at him. He laughed. “Did your mother in-law call you?” he asked. Thembelihle: “No, but your father called me telling me I should come back home. And I

refused. I will do that until he listens to you.”
Mlamuli: “Mama, I don’t like what you are doing because my brothers will think you are choosing me over them.” Thembelihle: “So what should happen? Ndabezinhle should stop doing what he loves and come back here just because his father doesn’t want to wait for his older son? Do you want that?” Mlamuli: “No-”

Thembelihle: “Then I will stay here until my husband comes back to his senses. Your father is not that old, he can still rule until 70 years but I understand that he wants to see his sons taking over. If you can all take over as he wants without Mnotho there’ll be disruption in your ruling and you know that you deserve to have Mnotho by your side. The throne actual belongs to the two of you and your brothers are your shields.”

Mlamuli: “I get your point but your last born?”

Thembelihle: “He’s not taking my calls. Ey, Mlamuli we will be alright and Mntwana will forget everything that has happened. I am doing this for everyone’s goodwill.”

Mlamuli: “Okay, just so you know none of them called me to wish me a happy birthday. I guess they are disowning me as well.”

Thembelihle: “Don’t take everything to heart Mlamuli. Everything will be alright and

I am positive about that.” Mlamuli: “Okay, mama. I will bring Bongani to you I am pretty sure he’s sleeping on the couch now.” Thembelihle: “Bring them both so that Prince won’t sleep alone.” Mlamuli nodded and left with the cup after he had packed his mother’s clothes. Thembelihle fixed the covers and laid down she took her phone. She tried to call Mntwana again but his phone was on voicemail. She opted to call Banele and his phone rang. She waited. Banele: “Hello.” Thembelihle: “Unjani, mfanawami?” Banele: “You left the house mama, how do you think I am?” Thembelihle: “I only want peace Banele and I know that you won’t understand that. I just want to have peace and your father won’t give me that while I am home with him.” Banele: “What should we do?” Thembelihle: “You’ll study there and don’t stress yourself

about anything.” Banele: “I am home.”
Thembelihle: “You are home? Hhaybo! Weren’t you supposed to go back to the University today? You have a test week so tell me why are you home?” she shouted at him and sat on her butts. Banele: “How can I go while everyone is home?” Thembelihle: “Everyone is home? Yeywena! Ungangibhedeli mina! Don’t tell me that everyone is home because those everyone have qualifications now. And you want to stay at home and do what? Huh?” Banele: “Mama-” Thembelihle: “Mama, ini? Mama, ini? Tomorrow, I will call you and when I call you. I want to hear that you have gone back to the University and you’ll study for your tests. If your older brothers are at home that doesn’t mean you should just stay at home as well. Universities don’t give leave.” Banele: “Yes, mama. I will go tomorrow.”

Thembelihle: “Good! Where’s Mntwana?”
Banele: “He’s sleeping now.” Thembelihle:
“I am doing this for all of you not just
Mlamuli and just because I left it doesn’t
mean I don’t care about you.” Banele: “It’s
hard to believe that.” Thembelihle: “I know. I
am sleeping now and please, tell Mntwana
to answer my calls. Did he go to school?”
Mlamuli entered the room with Prince and
Bongani in his arms. Thembelihle opened
the blankets space for him and he put them
down. Banele: “No, he didn’t go to school.”
Thembelihle: “Please, make sure that he
goes to school tomorrow and you’ll have to
do the same. Okay?” Banele: “Yebo.”
Thembelihle: “Goodnight and don’t forget
that I love you.” Banele: “Okay, mom.
Goodnight.” Thembelihle hung up the call
and put her phone down. She then fixed the
blankets. “Switch off the lights on your way

out.” She said. Mlamuli: “Okay, goodnight.”
Thembelihle: “Goodnight.” Mlamuli left the
room and Thembelihle prayed... She was
walking around

sugar cane plantation looking at the people working on Mlamuli's sugar cane. She was busy eating it... Prince and Bongani had gone to day-care today and she didn't want to stay inside the house and do nothing. Banele had told her that Mntwana didn't want to speak to her but he did go to school. And it was only because his father forced him to go. Banele had taken a plane back to Johannesburg leaving his brothers behind. She drew a long sigh before answering MaCebekhulu's call. "Sawubona, mama." She greeted politely. MaCebekhulu: "We are here to see you. Please, head back to the farm house." She said straightforwardly without greeting her. Thembelihle: "Yes, I will do that." She placed the phone back on her pocket and marched to the driver who'd driven her to the plantation... She sat down on the empty

couch inside the lounge that had MaCebekhulu and her brother, Thokozani. They were eating while watching TV. Thembelihle: "Sanibonani." She greeted them and they greeted her back. MaCebekhulu: "We won't beat about the bush. Why are you here because your husband didn't give you permission to come here?" Thembelihle: "He has disowned my first born. Was I supposed to stay with him even after he has done that?" Thokozani: "The fight is between Mlamuli and his father because he disobeyed his word. How can you run after a child who has disobeyed his father? You are trying to teach him that it's alright to do it?" Thembelihle: "No, but why can't Mageba wait for Mnotho? He will come back. He will not stay there forever." MaCebekhulu: "I am not here to argue with you but I am here to take you back home.

You are a wife kwaZulu and you won't do as you please." Thembelihle: "I am sorry mama but I am not going back home until my husband agrees that he will wait for Mnotho's return and do things the right way. I will come back if he will sort his differences with his first born." MaCebekhulu: "That's nonsense! What about your other children? Mntwana? What about him?" she asked her and Thembelihle looked down. "I am asking you a question, MaSthole!" she shouted. Thembelihle: "He will understand that I did everything for their harmony." Thokozani: "I don't want use force on you Thembelihle. I am here to take you back home to your responsibilities as a wife and a queen. Don't you remember that your son that you are here with refused to take after his father and that means your responsibility still stands." Thembelihle: "I am not going back home

until the King makes things right.” She said and stood on her feet. “Ndabezinhle will not neglect his career to come here and do something that his father knows he won’t like.” MaCebekhulu: “It’s not about liking but it’s about taking responsibility for their kingdom and right now you are not helping.” Thokozani: “Thembelihle listen.” Thembelihle: “No, I am not going back home.” MaCebekhulu: “This is the reason why royalty was supposed to stick to marrying royalty. They understand each other and they know how things work but when they marry commoners they get nothing but trouble. Agha!” she shouted and stood up reluctantly she then called the girl who looked after her. She came inside the house running to help MaCebekhulu leave the house. “Wena, stay here forever while I tell my son to forget about you! Royal wives

don't act like this!" she said lastly and left.

Thokozani: "You really want to see your marriage coming into an end?"

Thembelihle: "She'll end it for me because I am a commoner. What do you think I can possibly do now?"

Thokozani: "Your mother in-law talks without thinking when she's angry and especially now that she's older."

Thembelihle: "I just want to see her son forgetting about me."

Thokozani: "Don't be stubborn!"

Thembelihle: "I am not coming back home." He nodded and got up defeated, he left the house

without saying a word to Thembelihle. She got up and went to the kitchen. --- “When are you going back to your lives?” Dalisu asked his three sons as they were having dinner on a Tuesday night. They were still at home except Banele who had left for Gauteng that morning. Dalingcebo: “You don’t want us here?” Dalisu: “I didn’t say that but I am just concern.” Mntwana: “They’re babysitting us baba because they think we will break down now that mother is gone.” He said and they all laughed. Ngcebo: “How can we babysit such old men?” Dalisu: “I was going to ask that too because Mntwana and his father are men they can look after each other.” He said, he had tried to hide it from them that he was angry that their mother didn’t want to listen to him. He was angry that Thembelihle was giving their sons a wrong impression that

she could do anything she wanted to do as if she wasn't married. But they could see that he was angry that she was gone... Ndabezinhle: "Mom should come back." Mntwana: "Mxm!" Dalisu: "Hhayi! Mntwana! That's inappropriate." Dalingcebo: "But baba what will happen if she doesn't come back?" Dalisu: "She will come back just give her time to cool down her head. You know how stubborn women can be and when they're calm they come back." he said to them and they laughed as they all could relate to what he was saying. Mntwana: "Mom, will not come back because she loves Mlamuli so much and she's with him now." Dalisu: "Don't say that because your mother loves you all equally and I need all of you to go back to work. You can't stay here with us as if you have no lives. Mntwana and I will be alright." Dalingcebo:

“What will happen from now on?” Dalisu: “Let’s get your mother back first and we will talk about what to do.” Ngcebo: “And Mlamuli?” Dalisu: “What about him?” Ndabezinhle: “We still believe that he was right about waiting for Mnotho.” Dalisu: “I need to focus on my work not that. And I don’t want to speak about this anymore. Do you understand?” “Ndabezitha!” They all agreed and had their dinner in silence... But Dalisu was troubled that his wife was really not going to come back home until he does what she needed him to do. He knew when she had her head on something she stood with it until she achieved her goal. “Where are my grandsons?” MaCebekhulu asked sitting on the couch. The girl left them after helping her sit down. Dalisu: “They went to Dalingcebo’s house I don’t know what is happening down there but they told me they

will not sleep here.” MaCebekhulu: “Hawu, I did well by coming.” Dalisu: “I was just going to bed. You’ve had dinner?” MaCebekhulu: “Yes, I went to see your wife this morning.” Dalisu: “Why did you do that?” MaCebekhulu: “Don’t ask me that because you failed you get her to come back home. You are soft on her or you don’t want her back?” Dalisu: “She will come back mama.” MaCebekhulu: “I think it’s time we go back to marrying royalty to royalty.” Dalisu: “Hawu, why?” MaCebekhulu: “I am tired of the problems and troubles that commoners bring here. They want to rule above us and now, your wife wants us to run behind her. She has forgotten her duties and vows.” Dalisu: “Mama, don’t speak like that because I love that commoner you are talking about and she has given me seven sons and a warm home filled with nothing

but love. And yet, she was not royalty I have made her royalty.” MaCebekhulu: “And now, she’s destroying that with her own hands. That’s what the bible says a

wise wife builds her house with her hands but a foolish one destroys it. Thembelihle is destroying her house.” Dalisu: “MAMA!” He burst angered by his mother’s words. MaCebekhulu looked at him. “I was the one who told her to leave because I was angry and I am still angry that she chose to leave with Mlamuli after he’d disobeyed me. But that doesn’t give you a right to insult her she’s still my wife. My queen.” He told his mother plainly. MaCebekhulu: “I advise you to forget about Thembelihle because you know that she’s stubborn and she will not come back until you do what she wants. This is what happens when you give a woman too much love.” Dalisu: “Let me take you to your room because you are not making sense.” He stood up and held his mother’s hand. MaCebekhulu: “I am giving you an advice.” Dalisu: “I will not listen to

your advice.” MaCebekhulu: “You seem relaxed but your wife is not home. She’d done something that didn’t just disrespect you but hurt your sons.” Dalisu: “I am giving her time to calm down. By the end of this week she’ll be home. I will bring her back.” MaCebekhulu: “She won’t come back and leave her child. Mlamuli has crossed his limits and I am also getting tired of him. He doesn’t listen.” “Please, sleep and stop stressing yourself.” He said putting her down on her bed. MaCebekhulu sighed and nodded. MaCebekhulu: “Goodnight son.” Dalisu: “Goodnight mama.” He then left her for his cold empty bedroom...

S2 – EPISODE 18

“You look tired, makoti.” Ngcebo commented holding Nandipha’s hand. She yawned and looked Ngcebo. “Oh! Bakithi, she’s yawning.” He took her bag and

Nandipha held his neck closer to her into a hug. Nandipha: "I am tired." She told him on a Wednesday evening. She was at the airport in Durban. She closed her eyes shortly and let go of him. Ngcebo: "How was the paper? Let's go." "The paper was, I don't know. I wrote what I could remember." She replied and followed Ngcebo trying to remove her hand from his to get hold of her handbag with the hand he was holding but Ngcebo was just holding her hand without noticing what she wanted to do. She figured to let him be because should she tell him Ngcebo was going to get the wrong picture. Ngcebo: "You'll pass it though?" Nandipha: "I have to pass it. We are driving to your brother's house now?" Ngcebo: "I don't know as it seems like you are tired. Do you perhaps want to get some rest?" he looked at her. Nandipha: "Yes, if I knew I would be

this tired I was going to go to my sister's flat and sleep there. This was my first flying, damn!" Ngcebo chuckled and shook his head. "Your sister lives here?" he asked looking at her and Nandipha frowned without giving him an answer, she looked aside. Ngcebo got the message. "Oh! Wow!" he exclaimed. Nandipha: "What?" Ngcebo: "You won't tell me? Or she doesn't want it to be known that she lives here? Why is she secretive vele?" he asked opening the back door of his car to pack her bags. Nandipha: "Don't be like that because you are the one who failed to honour your promise. I don't see why I should tell you anything." Ngcebo: "No, don't tell me because it's not important vele." He said and moved to his side of the car leaving Nandipha standing where she was. Nandipha opened the back door and

stepped inside the car. She pushed her bag forward and laid her head on her

bag. She closed her eyes. Ngcebo looked back at her and she had her eyes closed. He clicked his tongue and started the car. He decided that he was going to drive straight to Mlamuli's house. He thought they would sleep at the hotel because she was tired but as always she got on his nerves... He played music and relaxed for the 1 hour 36 minutes' drive that he was going to take back alone... "We are still on the road? I am hungry." Nandipha informed Ngcebo as she'd just woken up from her sleep. She looked around and saw it was dark now and they were still on the tar road. "I am speaking to you, Rasta." She added. Ngcebo: "We are on the road and it doesn't look like Nongoma or Eshowe." Nandipha: "What did I do to you now? Why are you rude?" Ngcebo: "You are asking a question with an obvious answer." She didn't say

anything to him. She took her phone from her handbag and earphones. She plugged them on and listened to music. She yawned and began moving her head to the music she was listening to... Ngcebo kept stealing glance at her through the mirror as she was busy dancing while seated. He shook his head and parked his car on the side of the road. Nandipha frowned and removed her earphones. "What's happening? Do we have some police on the road?" she asked looking at Ngcebo and looked around. She didn't see any police. Ngcebo: "I am not driving until you remove your earphones." Nandipha: "Hawe! Bafethu!" she exclaimed and laughed loudly without looking at him but looking up. "Are you being serious?" she asked. Ngcebo: "Yes, I am being serious because I am playing music here and now, you are just listening to your own music.

That's unfair to me." Nandipha: "Oh! Lord! He's jealous!" she exclaimed and got up carefully, without opening the door. She sent her right leg to the front seat of the car. Ngcebo held her leg and she screamed. "You'll be arrested Ngcebo let go of my leg. They will say you are abusing me just let go!" She shouted while Ngcebo was busy laughing with his hand still on her leg. Ngcebo: "Why are you taking shortcuts?" Nandipha: "I am trying to get to sit next to my fuckin boyfriend!" Ngcebo: "I am not your fuckin boyfriend!" Nandipha: "Okay! Okay! My fuckin fiancé!" Ngcebo: "Withdraw the fuckin from your statement." Nandipha: "Okay! Okay! I withdraw Rasta! I withdraw ndoda kaNandipha ayithanda kakhulu!" Ngcebo smiled and let go of her leg. She then sent another leg to on the front seat, she sat down comfortably. She sighed. "You

have drama, shame!” she said looking at him. Ngcebo: “You taught me. I learnt from the best.” Nandipha: “Hee! I am not dramatic and now, we will sing to this music all together because you have stopped my music.” Ngcebo: “Okay, bring it on.” Nandipha smiled looking at him and Ngcebo played the music louder. %%They sang together%% “I got all these memories faded of you With me being faded with you I got all these memories faded of you With me being faded with you Me being faded with you Faded with you”

Nandipha sang alone: “You know I been gone like way too long, Tell me where you been, it’s been way too long. Call me on the phone you taking way too long Way too long I’m stay alone.” She smiled at him as he was supposed to rap alone. Ngcebo chuckled loving the fun he was having with

her. He'd never done this with anyone. He loved how he could be anyone and anything with her and love it! She was the realest for him.

Ngcebo: "Man lately I can't lie I been drinking all alone Remembering when your name was blinking on the phone Back when we would chill blue dream going off Faded way too long on the dark after dark You was taking off work I was taking off your bra But you never played games you played your part Plus, you knew granny, you knew the whole family..." he went rapping and stealing glances at her and back to the road and they sang the chorus together.

Nandipha: "So, I'm gonna call you on Wednesday I'll be over where your friends stay And if you over there just know I'm going there And if that bitch over there I hit her in the face You

know who I'm talking about or naw?" she looked at him and Ngcebo shook his head quickly. Nandipha giggled and proceeded. "I know it's been a while since we talked, yeah But remember all the times you used to fuck me in the car..." Ngcebo held her thigh with his free hand and looked at her. She held his hand and proceeded. "Come right now and fuck me in the car I know that's really hard to say you know, memories of us are getting way too old. I feel that you've been playing way too much. I've been drinking way too much, I'm faded way too much..." she giggled and looked down as they proceeded with the song. Ngcebo rapped the last part of the song and Nandipha was jamming on the car seat moving her lips with him. Ngcebo: "Damn! You can sing. Jesus! I love you." Nandipha: "Ah! Remove your hand from my thigh." Ngcebo: "No, but

did you mean that I should come over and have you in the car because I remember the time I had you in the car?" he asked taking a short glance at her. She laughed. "No, but I meant that if that bitch is over there I'm hit her on the face." She said looking at him and Ngcebo laughed. Ngcebo: "What bitch are you talking about?" he asked taking a route to his brother's farmhouse. He turned the volume of the music down. Nandipha: "I am talking about that Belinda woman." "HAWU!" He laughed loudly and Nandipha laughed with him. "You don't have to worry about that one. Don't have an inch of worry!" he told her. Nandipha: "Oh, then I meant you can come and have me in the car." Ngcebo: "The car is fun?" Nandipha: "Very much!" she exclaimed and they laughed. She looked at him. "I think we need to play gospel music now because we

are taking the route to mother in-law. Respect.” she said respectfully. Ngcebo: “Yes, makoti! Yes!” he said and changed the music. They played gospel music and changed the atmosphere in the car until they reached Mlamuli’s farmhouse... Ngcebo grabbed her bag and followed her inside the house. Nkosazana was the one who opened the door for them and they hugged each other with Ngcebo first and Nandipha lastly. She welcomed them into her house. “Where’s mama?” Ngcebo asked making his way to the lounge with Nkosazana and Nandipha was following after them. Nkosazana: “She went to bed early with the boys.” Ngcebo: “Oh, that means we will see her in the morning?” Nkosazana: “Yes, and I wasn’t expecting that you were still coming. It was late and I figured you’ll be coming tomorrow.” Ngcebo:

“No, we are here.” Nkosazana: “I will show you to the room that you will use and get you something to eat.” She said leading them to the guestroom... “It won’t be a bad thing if I just sleeping without taking a shower?” She asked looking at Ngcebo who was taking off his sneakers. Ngcebo: “No, you’ve had a long day and that means you’ll have to bath. I won’t sleep with you while you are not smelling fresh. I will shower too.” Nandipha: “Let’s shower together then. That will make everything fast and everyone is sleeping so that means they will not see us.” Ngcebo: “Okay.” They took off their clothes and Nandipha wore the gown that she brought over. Ngcebo went to the bathroom on his pants and vest... They took a shower together... “If you need anything you’ll open the fridge and cupboards. Ngcebo, you know how things

are around here. I will go back to bed now.” She said looking at them as they’ve sat down to have food. Ngcebo: “Okay, goodnight.” Nkosazana: “Goodnight and Nandipha.” Nandipha: “Goodnight.” Nkosazana left and they had their food having small talks that was in a whisper until they were done eating... They went straight to bed because Nandipha was tired... “Mama!” Ngcebo greeted his mother who was seated on the lounge having coffee while watching TV in the morning. Mlamuli and his family had left while everyone was still sleeping. Thembelihle: “Hawu! You are here!” She smiled and got up after putting her coffee down. She hugged her son tightly. “When did you get here?”

Ngcebo: "I got here last night mama. You were already sleeping." Thembelihle: "That's nice. I have had breakfast and let me go make you some while I listen to you try to lecture me. I know that's why you are here." She said leading him to the kitchen while Ngcebo was laughing. Ngcebo: "No, mom I want to go to Mlamuli's sugarcane plantation and have some sugarcane. Then I will come back for breakfast and I am not here to lecture you. I am not about that life." he said taking an apple inside the fridge. He wanted Thembelihle and Nandipha to talk while he wasn't inside the house. Thembelihle: "Okay, don't take long and why didn't you bring my purse and other important things with you?" Ngcebo: "You didn't tell me and you should go back to your house!" he shouted leaving the house and Thembelihle sighed. She couldn't deny

it to herself that she missed her husband but she promised herself that she wasn't going to be weaker. "Sawubona!" Nandipha greeted Thembelihle who was standing on the sink rinsing the cup that she'd used to drink coffee. Thembelihle: "HAWU! YOU ARE HERE AS WELL!" She exclaimed loudly and laughed opening her arms for her. Nandipha smiled and they hugged each other. "I am so happy to see you, child!" she said. Nandipha: "I am happy as well." They let go of each other and Thembelihle smiled. "How are you?" she asked. Thembelihle: "I am fine and how are you?" Nandipha: "I am fine, what were you doing here?" Thembelihle: "I was about to make breakfast for indoda yakho." "HAWU!" She exclaimed and looked down as it felt weird that she was saying that to her. She raised her head but didn't look at her.

Thembelihle: “What is it? Are you ashamed?” Nandipha: “No, I am not.” She giggled and looked at Thembelihle as she sat on the kitchen island’s chair. “I will make breakfast for him. He told me he’ll go eat some sugarcane.” She added. Thembelihle: “Yes and make another cup of coffee for me. Just like I told you how I like it.” She instructed and Nandipha did just that... She served her the coffee and made breakfast while having a neutral conversation with her... Thembelihle: “No, don’t dish it up for me. I have already eaten.” She said looking at her as she took out three plates. Nandipha then placed the plate back on the cupboard. “This house is beautiful.” Nandipha complimented looking around as she sat on the opposite chair with her plate of breakfast. Thembelihle: “Yes, it’s beautiful. But I didn’t expect to see you

here.” Nandipha: “I know, I didn’t expect to see me here either.” she said and Thembelihle laughed. “But, I thought I should come and ask you to go back home. I asked Mageba to drive me here so that I can talk to you about that.” She informed her and Thembelihle released a sigh. They’ve advised her not say that her sons asked Nandipha to speak to her. Thembelihle: “Baby, I know that you are part of the family now but you are still young to understand our past and history.” Nandipha: “But I know why you left home and I know about the feud between Ndabezitha and his first born. Mama, you can’t stay here.” Thembelihle: “Nandipha, please, let’s not talk about this because I don’t want to argue with you about this.” Nandipha: “But what about the others? I mean your sons?” Thembelihle: “They have

their father I can't let him disown his son and Mlamuli needs me because his father had always treated him badly because of his wife. I should be here until they get along." Nandipha looked at her and she didn't know what to say to Thembelihle. She'd asked for advises from her mother but MaNtombela told her that she was going to have to solve this alone without her help. Nandipha: "Mama, Mlamuli doesn't need you." Thembelihle: "He's my son and that means he does." Nandipha: "No, he's a married man now. He knows you are his mother and will always need you at a

certain extant, but he has a family of his own. A wife that loves and supports him. But what about Mntwana? He doesn't have a wife but he's a teen that still needs both his parents, home." Thembelihle looked at her coffee cup and hated to admit that the young girl sitting before her was right. Mlamuli had a family that was his own he wasn't alone but he had people who loved and cared for him. She can leave him knowing that his family would still be with him. But no! Dalisu was never going to change his mind if she was to go back home. Thembelihle: "I am doing this so that my husband will listen to me." Nandipha: "No, Mageba told me that his father is a stubborn man and he said to them that you'll calm down and go back home eventually." Thembelihle chuckled. "I will have to prove him wrong then." She said

clapping her hands shut that her husband had a lot of confidence and she had to prove him wrong. "I will not dance to his tune." She said shaking her head.

Nandipha: "Does that mean I don't have to dance to my fiancé's tune because my mother in-law does the same to my father in-law?" Thembelihle shamefully looked down. "I want my husband to accept my son and his wife. Then there'll be peace, Nandipha you are still a child. I know you've seen in the papers, Nkosazana's past and she can't be accepted because of that and even the council. I thought I should let you know since you're the daughter in-law of this family. And our secrets will have to lie with you now. Your father in-law is judgemental and I want that to end."

Nandipha: "What is sisi Nkosazana doing to prove that she's not her past? What is it that

she's doing?" she asked feeling suddenly angry that everything that was happening was not fair. Thembelihle: "How can she prove herself if she's not given a chance? You are a child and I don't want to discuss this with you any further." She shouted and looked at her with still eyes. Nandipha: "No, I want you to hear me out. She doesn't have to be given a chance but she must take it upon herself to win people's hearts over. There are a lot of things she can do for the people in order for them to see her as a different person. She needs to stand up and act because I am sure she married her husband knowing that he was an heir hence all the fights. But even as a girl I have never read about things she'd tried to do for her husband's people." She argued politely without looking at Thembelihle straight in the eye. "If the people can be happy with

her, that will reach Ndabezitha's ears quickly. And the people would praise her to be a good wife for the prince but what do I know? I am just a child. I am just talking rubbish." Thembelihle: "No, I didn't mean it like that." Nandipha: "And she has a bond with you already. What about me? I don't deserve to bond with you in your house I will be conflicted if I should come here or to the palace? Because we don't know for how long will this last. Nhlakanipho, Naledi, the ones I don't know if there any others. I am sorry for speaking to you this way I just thought I should say what I think. I didn't mean any disrespect if there is any." She got off the chair and left Thembelihle with her heart racing violently. Nandipha didn't know that this is what it meant to be someone's life partner. It wasn't just about her and Ngcebo? Was she ready for this?

She asked herself sitting down on the bed of the guestroom...

S2 – EPISODE 19

“Hawu, you are seated here alone. Where’s Nandipha?” Ngcebo asked and sat next to his mother on the lounge. He had his breakfast with him. Thembelihle: “I think she’s inside the guestroom. She spoke to me about going back home and she left me after that. She didn’t even finish her breakfast.” Ngcebo: “Did you two fight in your conversation?” Thembelihle: “Not really, but I will have to go back home tomorrow.” “Really?” he asked delightedly looking at her and Thembelihle nodded. The news excited him but he saw something wasn’t right with his mother. “Okay, but why does it seem like you are not happy?” he asked. Thembelihle: “No, it’s just that she left me speechless and I think she has

given me a solution to our problem.”
Ngcebo: “What solution?”

Thembelihle: "That's not for you to know." She said and Ngcebo looked at her with 'really mom?' eyes and Thembelihle just nodded her head as she read through his eyes. "Please, don't hurt her Ngcebo and make sure that she ends up as your wife, my daughter in-law. I love her and so, don't disappoint me." she pleaded with her son and Ngcebo looked down feeling the pressure. He had to keep a lot of people happy, not just his partner but family too. And he could only do that by treating Nandipha right. Ngcebo: "Okay, I will do that mama." Thembelihle: "I was supposed to be somewhere and so I will go now. I think I will come back later." She said standing up and Ngcebo nodded his head. Thembelihle went to her bedroom to get money before leaving the house... "You need to eat your food." Ngcebo gave Nandipha her plate of

food. She was seated on the bed chatting on her phone. Nandipha: “Your mother is not angry with me?” she took the plate of food and chanted a ‘Thank you’ to Ngcebo with her eyes still fixed on him. Ngcebo: “No, she’s not angry with you but she told me that she’ll go back home tomorrow. And so, that means she listened to you. I am very happy.” Nandipha: “Yhu! That’s a relief I thought she’ll be angry with me.” Ngcebo: “No, she’s not angry.” “That’s good then... babe?” She looked at him and Ngcebo looked at her. He laid his body next to her without slumping his eyes from her face. Ngcebo: “Yeah?” Nandipha: “We will go straight to Gauteng or we still have to go KwaNongoma?” she looked at him still. Ngcebo: “I don’t know but what do you want?” Nandipha shrugged her shoulders and ate her food quietly. “We will see what

mama will say.” He said. Nandipha: “Okay, let’s go watch some TV.” She suggested getting off the bed and Ngcebo followed her to the lounge. Nandipha’s phone rang as they entered the lounge. She sat down and answered the call. “Yes, mshana!” Nandipha greeted Duma on the line. They sat down on the couch and Ngcebo went for the remotes that were on the coffee table. Duma: “Hhaybo! Mshana, why are you absent?” Nandipha: “I am in KZN, what’s happening?” Duma: “What are you doing there because you were there last weekend?” “What do you want to watch?” Ngcebo asked Nandipha looking at her after he’d switched the TV on. Nandipha looked at him and then the TV. Nandipha: “Anything that’s nice or check a movie.” She responded to him and Ngcebo sent his eyes back to the TV. “Eh, yes but I had to come

back.” She responded to Duma. Duma: “Okay, ntwana, I took some notes for you.” Nandipha: “Okay, thank you. I will take them on campus and study for our test on Monday because I am not sure when I am coming back. I will study during the weekend.” Duma: “Okay, sho.” “Sho!” She hung up the call and folded her legs on the couch and she proceeded with eating breakfast while Ngcebo was still searching for a movie to watch... She got up when she was done eating and left Ngcebo still searching. He wondered alone if she was asking about leaving for Gauteng because there was someone important that she had to be with over there? And who was calling asking her about her whereabouts? When she got back from the kitchen Ngcebo had chosen a movie and so, she sat back on her position and they watched the movie.

Ngcebo: "You'll be in my house this weekend?" he asked looking at Nandipha. They were quietly watching the movie.

Nandipha: "No, I have to study." Ngcebo: "I won't be around Sandton this weekend and so, you can come and study in my house."

Nandipha: "Why won't you be around?"

Ngcebo: "I have gigs the whole weekend I will come back on Monday morning to rest and at night I will be working. Basically, I will be busy this week until the week of the reed dance."

Nandipha: "I won't be seeing you?"

Ngcebo: "No, that's why I suggest that you stay to my house so that I can see you whenever I come back home to rest."

Nandipha: "I can't stay in the house alone I will be good with Palesa." Ngcebo: "I won't be able to drive to your flat if I want to see you, Nandipha. It would be better if you are in the house because I will come back to you. I will rest for that period of time while you are around." Nandipha: "But I will be alone most of the times Ngcebo and I don't want to be alone in the house. You can call me whenever you'll be coming back and I will go to the house then to stay alone all the time." He nodded and they watched the movie silently, they both didn't finish it because they fell asleep. Ngcebo's head laying on Nandipha's shoulder... "Why don't you go and sleep in the bedroom?" Thembelihle asked shaking them both. They both woke up and looked at each other. Thembelihle was just looking at them... Nandipha got up and yawned.

Nandipha: "I will go get some water." She left them and went to the kitchen where Prince and Bongani were seated on top of the kitchen island eating. "Sanibona!" She greeted them and they greeted back... She then had her water and spent her time with Prince and Bongani... Thembelihle stepped out of Ngcebo's car. It was Friday, morning and they have drove to Nongoma together with Ngcebo and Nandipha. Ngcebo stepped out of the car after Nandipha. Thembelihle had spoken to Nkosazana and advised her like Nandipha had suggested. Nkosazana promised that she was going to do what they've advised her to do. Thembelihle decided that she had to do this on her own without Mlamuli's help and she promised Thembelihle just that. Mlamuli was relieved that his mother was going back home and that was all thanks to

Nandipha. He wasn't going to feel uncomfortable any further with having his mother in the house while she wasn't in the right space with everyone back home. "Mama, we are not staying. We will just say goodbye to dad and leave right away." Ngcebo said walking side by side with his mother. Thembelihle: "Why are you leaving right away because it's Friday, today?" Ngcebo: "I will be working this weekend and Nandipha should study for her test that she'll be writing on Monday." Thembelihle: "Okay, when are we going to talk about the wedding?" Ngcebo and Nandipha: "WEDDING?" "Yes, you are not getting married right away?" She asked, she looked at them sitting on her chair and they sat on the couch. Ngcebo looked at Nandipha. "No, mama we are not getting married right away." Nandipha replied looking at Ngcebo

because she thought that Ngcebo had told his parents that they were not getting married right away. Thembelihle: “Why not?” Ngcebo: “It’s still early for marriage mama. We will talk about it in year or two not now because she’s still studying.” Thembelihle: “Hawu! What will change if you get married now and proceed with studying because it’s not like you’ll be having children right after marriage. You’ll be working while she’s studying and you’ll be doing all that, living your life as a married couple.” Ngcebo suddenly like the idea that his mother was proposing and so, he looked at Nandipha. When he looked at her he saw that Nandipha wasn’t pleased with it. “No, mama. I think it’s best if we do what we think is right for us.” He told his mother as means to relieve Nandipha. He didn’t want her to do something that she wasn’t sure

about and comfortable with. Thembelihle:
“Is that what you want MaZondi?”
Nandipha: “Yes, mama. I want that.”
Thembelihle: “Okay, but at least can we
have izibizo by December. I want you to
sleep with blankets I will buy for you and I
have to cut a pattern of how you should
dress up as my daughter in-law.” Nandipha:
“Okay, I can do that and speak to mama
about it when I come back for September
break.” Thembelihle: “Okay, thank you.”
Ngcebo: “Mama?” Thembelihle: “Yeah?”

Ngcebo: “When you talk about cutting a pattern of how she’ll dress up as your daughter in-law. Does that mean she’ll stop wearing pants?” Thembelihle laughed and looked at Nandipha as she was also laughing. “You like her wearing pants, Ngcebo?” she asked looking at him. Ngcebo: “Yes, I think she’s beautiful in everything that she wears.” Nandipha smiled and looked down. Thembelihle: “Okay, I hear you but here she won’t wear like that. Maybe when you are in Gauteng she can wear those things you like but not here.” Ngcebo: “Okay.” “I was certain that I heard my wife’s voice.” Dalisu commented appearing from the hallway. He looked at Thembelihle but she didn’t look back at him. He figured she was angry with him. Even if so, he sat next to her and held her hand. “Sawubona, MaSthole?” he greeted her

politely. Thembelihle: "Sawubona." Ngcebo cleared his throat and held Nandipha's hand. They left the lounge for the parents. Dalisu: "How are you?" Thembelihle: "I am fine and how are you?" Dalisu: "I am fine, can you look at me?" he requested politely and Thembelihle turned to look at him. He moved his face closer to her and rested his lips on her lips. Dalisu moved his lips into a kiss and Thembelihle reluctantly moved her lips. He didn't stop kissing her until she was fully with him. They kissed each other slowly but their heart racing faster. They've missed each other a lot, they both confirmed now that they were sharing a love kiss... "HAWU! BABA!" Mntwana exclaimed loudly thinking that his father was kissing another woman inside his mother's house. He could see his father clearly but he couldn't see his mother. He was standing by

the front door. The parents stopped kissing and looked at his direction. “Yini?” Dalisu asked looking at Mntwana who was home before time. He still had his hand holding Thembelihle’s hand. “MAMA!” He exclaimed loudly as a child as his eyes were seeing his mother. He forgot that he’d been angry that she had left the house just like that! Mntwana moved closer to Thembelihle and she stood on her feet to hug her last born who was suddenly a child not the man he’d always boasted he was. Thembelihle: “Hey, how are you?” Mntwana: “I am fine and how are you?” Thembelihle: “I am fine!” she moved away from Mntwana but she still held on to his shoulder and looked at him. “Tell me, why are you here at this hour? You are supposed to be at school, Mntwana!” she shouted looking at him. He was still wearing his uniform perfectly. He

never liked wearing it otherwise because his father had told him that was for 'Oskhotheni' Mntwana: "Mama, I am sick." He pretended to be feeling down but he wasn't sick. He manipulated the Teachers into letting him go home after he had called the royal driver to come get him from school. And he succeeded. Dalisu: "That's a lie. You just bunked school." Mntwana: "That's not true baba. I didn't bunk school how was I going to do that because we have securities at school?" Thembelihle: "I don't believe you. Do you want me to take you back to school? I will take you there now!" Mntwana: "Okay, I am sorry, I bunked school. I didn't think that you'll be here. But please, don't send me back to school." Thembelihle: "Go and change, I will make food for you." she said letting go of his shoulders and he nodded quickly walking

away to get to his room. Thembelihle sat back down. Dalisu: "I swear he thought I was kissing someone else." Thembelihle laughed and said. "My baby almost fainted." Dalisu: "I am happy to have you back here and he's also happy he showed you that he's happy." Thembelihle: "Yes, but that doesn't change that I am not happy about what happened. You can't just

disown your son.” Dalisu: “He disobeyed my word and I don’t want to entertain that.” Thembelihle: “But he had a valid point that you should wait for Mnotho.” Dalisu: “No, this might have been their plan to go against my word. Mnotho fooled us and told us that he’s going to rest overseas but he was just running away from me.” Thembelihle: “That’s not like that and you know it.” Dalisu: “It’s like that. They’re declining their birth right do you think things will go well for the both of them now as they’ve done this?” Thembelihle: “Are you cursing them?” Dalisu: “I am not cursing them I am asking you a question.” Thembelihle: “I don’t know Mageba but waiting for Mnotho’s return is not a bad idea because now we know that he’s dealing with something where he is.” Dalisu: “No, him and his twin brother have proved to me

that they don't respect me. I will not wait for a child." Thembelihle: "What will you do now?" Dalisu: "Dalingcebo will have to take after me. I don't mind that he doesn't have a partner now. He will get one along the way." Thembelihle: "Ndabezitha, Dalingcebo is younger than the three of his brothers and if you choose him it will only cause conflict. Just wait." Dalisu: "No, he will do what I want and you will see to it that he does." He said lastly and Thembelihle kept quiet. Thembelihle: "I will go make food for my son." Dalisu: "I am also hungry." Thembelihle: "Okay." She went to the kitchen feeling that what Dalisu wanted to do was going to cause bad blood in the kingdom... "I have been meaning to speak to you about something." Dalisu told Ngcebo, they were seated inside his office. Nandipha was in the lounge with

Thembelihle waiting for Ngcebo as he was busy with his father. Ngcebo: "You want to speak about what baba?" Dalisu: "I know, that you have a life in Gauteng and should you get married that's where you'll be living with your wife. But you need to build a house here in your lands." Ngcebo: "Eh, baba. We are not planning on getting married right away." Dalisu: "It doesn't matter whether you'll get married now or later but you'll be bringing her regularly especially now that you've seen how your mother loves her." he said and Ngcebo nodded his head. "And you have paid ilobolo for her that means she is our bride and she has a duty here as our bride. She'll also come when we do things and family gatherings. You can't always sleep here with her. You need to build a house that belongs to her and that house should be

here. Is that clear?” Ngcebo: “Yes, I will go budget for the house.” Dalisu: “Okay, when you come back here for the reed dance I will give you a site for the house. You want it around here or far?” Ngcebo: “Hhayi, if it’s around she’ll always be here with mama.” Dalisu laughed and nodded. “Okay, I will give you one, Enyokeni. How is that?” he asked looking at him. Ngcebo: “Okay, that’s very much better.” Dalisu: “Okay, and buy her a gift on my behalf for bringing back my wife home.” he requested giving Ngcebo an envelope with money. “Don’t give her the money buy a gift and don’t spend that money in your things.” He pressed and stood up. Ngcebo laughed and assured that he wasn’t going to do that...

S2 – EPISODE 20

Thembelihle hated the fact that she had to go speak to Dalingcebo about taking after his father while Dalisu was stubborn about doing what was right. But she decided that she was going to do what was expected of her because her older sons were also not helping. Mlamuli was still telling her that Mnotho was out of reach... It'd been a week since she'd got back from Mlamuli's house. On Monday afternoon she was inside Dalingcebo's house. She'd asked that he takes half day at work because they needed to talk. Dalingcebo: "Nandipha is the god, yazi. I praise her." he commented looking at his mother and he laughed seeing the serious look on her face. Thembelihle: "Don't be too forward because I was going to come back home." Dalingcebo: "No, we both know that you were not going to come

back home until dad do what you wanted him to do.” Thembelihle: “Okay, I am home now, are you happy?” Dalingcebo: “Yes, I am happy and sorry about the way I spoke to you.” Thembelihle: “It’s okay.” Dalingcebo: “You’ll sleep here?” Thembelihle: “Yes, do you have a girlfriend coming over?” Dalingcebo chuckled. “I think we know that Nontobeko is no longer my girlfriend and I wasn’t going to get a girl this fast.” Thembelihle: “I am sorry about her.” Dalingcebo: “I miss her.” he said quickly without looking at his mother and Thembelihle shook her head with a sigh. “But it doesn’t matter. All things come to an end.” He said and looked at her. Thembelihle: “Yeah, and your father says you should step up after him.” Dalingcebo: “HAWU NGEKE!” Thembelihle: “What’s wrong?” Dalingcebo: “Ndabezitha has older

sons before me, I am not the only son after the first two. There's Ndabezinhle who's older than me. Dad should do what is right and get Mlamuli to take the throne not me, mama." Thembelihle: "How can you say that because you know that your father has disowned Mlamuli. And Mnotho is not here so how can you say that or you're enjoy living in another king's territory?" Dalingcebo: "This is his territory he rules every kingdom of Zululand." He argued. He had never wanted to take the throne after his father, having witnessed the trouble of handling the throne he knew he was not cut out for it. Or maybe so he thought... Dalisu on the other hand had full faith in him, he had the full faith in the three of them but the first two had disappointed him. Thembelihle: "Don't test me, Dalingcebo and don't argue with me. You wanted me to come back

home when I was away trying to fix this and now, I am home. And this will have to happen because your father wants it to happen. I don't like it too but I have no say in it." Dalingcebo: "Mama, where's Mnotho? He has been closer to dad why can't dad choose him because I don't want the throne." Thembelihle: "He left for a holiday and you know that now he's not coming back. He clearly ran away just like you have done the same thing Dalingcebo." Dalingcebo: "Dad is still alive and we need not to speak about this." Thembelihle: "I can't believe that I am running after you trying to get you to do what is expected of you. Your father wants to retire and he needs to see you ruling while he's still alive not see you ruling on his grave. You know that has been his wish since you all were boys." Dalingcebo: "I am not budging."

Thembelihle: “You are not... Do you hear yourself Dalingcebo, huh? What makes you think you have a choice?” Dalingcebo: “You can’t force, me.” Thembelihle: “I gave birth to you so that you can lead not be led, do you understand?” Dalingcebo didn’t answer his mother, he kept still drumming his fingers. “I HATE THAT!” she shouted banging the table, frustrated at his stillness... All her sons never liked her angry side. She was a soft hearted mother to them but not when she was angry with them.

Dalingcebo: "I have nothing to say." He murmured and looked down. "Mama, you've just turned out to be exactly like dad now. You want to shove the throne on us." he made her aware. Thembelihle: "You are a 25 years old man with no child, no wife not even a girlfriend. What do you want to do with your life Dalingcebo, huh?" she asked looking at him, Dalingcebo felt the sharpness of her bubbled eyes piercing through his soul. Dalingcebo: "I still have time, I am not in a rush, mama. Dad married you when he was 32 years and by then he had lived his life fully. Now I should just take the throne?" Thembelihle: "I am not getting any younger, I need grandchildren and you need an heir who will take the throne after you since your brother just left giving us the holiday as an excuse." Dalingcebo: "Mlamuli and Ndabezinhle have given you

grandchildren, mama. I am still getting my life together and after what happened with Nompumelelo, then Nontobeko, it's not easy to trust women again." He reminded her bribing pity from his mother, pity to numb the real situation at hand. Thembelihle sighed leaving her place to sit next to him. "It's been long since Nompulelo did you wrong son, now it's time to move on because you are still hung over that. And you need to move on everything. All you need to do is honour your father's wish, our wish." She informed him holding his hand. It didn't turn as he thought it would... Thembelihle was sleeping inside the guestroom of her son's house. Dalingcebo had made it clear that he was not ready to step up as king... Her phone rang while she was sleeping peacefully. She woke up and looked at her phone, she saw a number that

was of a different country code. She was reluctant to answer the phone and so, she let it ring. It rang again and this time she answered the call. She didn't speak but she kept quiet. "Hello, mama!" Her son's deep husky voice greeted her. Thembelihle: "VOETSEK!" She swore at him as she realised that Mnotho was the one calling her. She sat up straight. Mnotho: "Hawu, how can you greet your son like that after a long time of speaking to him you are swearing at him." Thembelihle: "Hhaysuka! You are supposed to be home but you are busy calling me this late disturbing my sleep." Mnotho: "I am sorry, I called Mlamuli when it was during the day there but he told me that you have left his house." Thembelihle: "Why are you not coming back home, Mnotho?" Mnotho: "Mama, I have messed up over here and I am trying to get

things together. Please, don't be angry with me. Can I speak to your husband?"

Thembelihle: "I am not next to him and he's angry with you. He'll do nothing but swear at you and I don't want you to speak to him because he'll disown you as well." Mnotho: "I will try to reason with him mama."

Thembelihle: "What's keeping you there?"

Mnotho: "I can't tell you now because you'll send someone to shoot me dead if I tell you. And I promise you that I will come back once I have everything sorted."

Thembelihle: "You are in jail?" Mnotho: "No, I am not that stupid mama. I am not in that kind of trouble. And how are you? How are things at home?"

Thembelihle: "How do you think things are? Now, your father wants to make Dalingcebo the monarch. Do you honestly want a child to rule you?"

Mnotho: "That's not surprising because they've done

that before in our history. You can't appoint the older son even if you see that he's not fit." Thembelihle: "The problem is that you two are fit enough but you are not here. You've disappointed me Mnotho." Mnotho: "There's nothing we can do if dad doesn't want to wait for me to have everything in here together. He's in a hurry nje." Thembelihle: "Don't speak like that." Mnotho: "I am sorry but I was calling to say thank you for requesting to call me on my birthday. The time was just not convenient."

Thembelihle: “You were partying?” Mnotho laughed and replied. “No, I wasn’t doing that. I even have a job as a physio of a football team here.” “YEHHENI! HE’S NOT COMING BACK!” She shouted loudly and Mnotho laughed. “It’s not funny.” She told him. Mnotho: “No, it’s a contract job mama. I will leave it when I have to come back home and I am afraid that won’t be anytime soon.” She sighed. “Okay, thank you for calling me.” She said politely. Mnotho: “Okay, it was nice to hear your voice again.” Thembelihle: “Yes, it was nice to hear yours too my baby.” Mnotho: “Ulalekahle.” Thembelihle: “Have a good evening ahead. I love you.” Mnotho: “Thank you. I love you too.” Thembelihle removed the phone from her ear and placed it aside. She then closed her eyes and prayed for Mnotho’s wellbeing as he was not closer to them...

“Mama, you’ll travel safe back home.” Dalingcebo said getting up from the chair. He was done with his breakfast that Thembelihle had made for them. Thembelihle nodded her head. “Mama, you’ll be angry with me because I want what’s best for myself?” he asked. Thembelihle: “What do you want me to say?” Dalingcebo: “I need your support mama.” Thembelihle: “Have a good day and know that your father wants you home this coming weekend.” She said looking at him. Dalingcebo: “I will be working I can’t be home.” Thembelihle: “I don’t care about all that I just want you to do what I am telling you.” she said straight and Dalingcebo nodded, he then left his mother inside the house. Thembelihle finished up her breakfast making a note that she had to pass by her brother’s house before going to

home... “I don’t have to cook tonight, right?” Thembelihle asked Dalisu sitting on the bed inside their bedroom. She’d just got home. Dalisu: “No, I called the restaurant because I figured you’ll be tired.” He sat next to her after he had put his blazer away. Thembelihle: “Thank you.” she held his hand and laid back on the bed with him. “I think I should tell you about my trip.” She introduced. When Dalisu called her in the morning Thembelihle told him that Dalingcebo had a lot of arguments. She didn’t want to tell him on the phone that his son refused plainly. Now, she had to tell him. Dalisu: “How did it go?” Thembelihle: “He just refused.” Dalisu: “He did what!” he shouted and rose up from the bed. Thembelihle rose after him and held his shoulders. She was worried that he had been stressed for a long time and that was

not good for his health. Thembelihle: “Baba, you need to calm down and a good thing is, Mnotho called me this morning. He said he will come back home even if it will still take him some time.” “I don’t care about Mnotho and Mlamuli!” he shouted throwing his fist in the air as he stood on his feet now. Thembelihle stood up after him. Thembelihle: “I know you don’t mean that.” Dalisu: “I mean it! Bazikhiphile kimi. I want to know what Dalingcebo said.” He informed her trying to unfasten the buttons of his shirt as the news enraged him. Why did he have to have sons who couldn’t listen to him? They didn’t want to obey his word but they wanted to do everything as they pleased. It was as if he had girls, people who wouldn’t rule after him. Thembelihle: “Dalisu you need to keep calm.” She said trying to move closer to him as means to hold him because

he was angry in a way that was a threat to his health and Thembelihle could recognise that. Dalisu: “Don’t... tell... me...” his body was unexpectedly dropped on the floor by the pressure that he was feeling. His health was threatened by the stress.

“DALISU!” Thembelihle screamed above her voice and went down to hold him. “MNTWANA!” She called out for him and cried instantly as she kept shaking him. She didn’t know what to think but she was scared... “Mma?” Mntwana budged inside the bedroom and went down to his father. Thembelihle: “Call the guards!” she instructed raising Dalisu’s head to put it on her thighs. “Dalisu, please don’t die and leave me here.” She said brushing his cheeks politely with her tears falling on his forehead. She closed her eyes and prayed while waiting for the guards...

S2 – EPISODE 21

Nandipha was busy studying for her last test that she had on Wednesday. She was inside her bedroom studying on her desk. She yawned and lifted her phone to check the time. She rubbed her eyes and decided

that she was sleeping. She got up while setting the alarm for morning. She switched off the lights and tried to call Ngcebo but his phone rang without being answered. She tried again laying on her bed but he didn't answer the call. She clicked her tongue and laid down, he hadn't been talking to her since Sunday. And she didn't know what was happening with him. Her phone and she took her phone quickly thinking Ngcebo was calling her but it was his mother. She answered the call. Nandipha: "Sawubona, mama." Thembelihle: "Yebo, unjani?" Nandipha: "I am fine and you don't sound fine." Thembelihle: "Yes, my husband is in the hospital and I can't get hold of Ngcebo. He's not answering his phone." Nandipha: "I am sorry to hear that but it's not bad?" Thembelihle: "No, the Doctors told me that it's not bad. Ikuphi kahle kahle indoda

yakho ngoba ngathi ayikho futhi eduze kwakho?” (Where’s Ngcebo) Nandipha: “He’s fully booked this week and so, he’s been working.” Thembelihle: “When last did you speak to him?” Nandipha: “We last spoke on Sunday. He told me that he’ll be home resting tonight and leave tomorrow.” Thembelihle: “Why are you not with him then?” Nandipha: “I am writing my final test tomorrow.” Thembelihle: “Okay, I will hope that he will call me in the morning.” Nandipha: “Yes, I am sure he will call.” Thembelihle: “Goodnight then and don’t black out on the test. Good luck.” Nandipha: “Thank you, I will sure pray for Ndabezitha.” Thembelihle: “Thank you.” she hung up the call and Nandipha got off the bed. She changed into her clothes while requesting an Uber. She had to get to his house and check if he was there or not. She packed

her books for the second day and she left her bedroom locked... She got to Ngcebo's house and there two cars she didn't know. She quickly marched to the front door and clenched the door. It wasn't locked and so, she went inside the house. She looked around she discovered the lounge had eight half-dressed ladies and two guys sleeping on the floor and couches. Ngcebo was sleeping on the single couch with a glass of water in his hand before his stomach. The coffee table was full of dishes and glasses... Nandipha clicked her tongue and went to his couch trying carefully not to step on people who were on the floor. She shook Ngcebo awake but he didn't wake up. She kept shaking him until he was awake. Ngcebo: "Ayi! Ayi!" he shook his head feeling irritated that he was woken up. Nandipha: "Don't say ayi, ayi! Just wake up

Ngcebo! Wake up!” she shouted feeling suddenly angered by the fact that he was sleeping with a bunch of people she didn’t know. She pulled him by his jacket. Ngcebo: “This is not the right way to wake your man.” He lazily commented as he realised that Nandipha was the one waking him. Nandipha let go of him and turned to leave him but Ngcebo held

her wrist. The people inside his lounge were dead sleeping. Nandipha: "You are just sleeping with people I don't know in here. I have been trying to call you and you didn't answer my calls." She complained dragging him up the stairs. Ngcebo: "I was tired as you saw that I was sleeping on the couch." "Who are those girls in there? What has been happening here because you told me that you are working tonight you were fooling me, Ngcebo?" She asked looking at him as they were inside his bedroom. Ngcebo: "Calm down, those people are my dancers. They live far from here and so, I brought them here for food. We fell asleep while eating." Nandipha: "Oh!" she sat on the bed and looked at him. Ngcebo: "You almost finish me off!" he commented and sat next to her. He pulled her closer to him. "You are here because I wasn't answering

your call?" he asked and yawned. Nandipha: "No, your mother called and told me that your father is in the hospital. She tried to call you but you didn't answer her call." Ngcebo: "Shit! What happened to him?" he asked sending his hand on his pocket to get his phone. Nandipha: "She didn't tell me. I will sleep now." Ngcebo: "Hawu, I won't even have some?" Nandipha: "Ayi, Ngcebo. I am writing tomorrow and so, I should rest." She said standing up to remove her clothes and Ngcebo left the room to call his mother... "You don't want me to drive you?" Ngcebo asked standing behind Nandipha who was dressing up in the morning. Ngcebo's dancers had left before Nandipha was awake. Nandipha: "No, you should sleep and drink a lot of water." She advised and wore her knob earrings. "You won't go

home?" she asked turning to him. Ngcebo: "I will have to go tomorrow because I will be free and I will come back at night because I will be busy from Friday until Sunday." Nandipha nodded and moved aside, she hated that he'd been busy for almost two weeks now without giving her attention and now the whole weekend, he'll be busy again. "Wait, I will drive you!" He exclaimed wearing his vest and he ran after her as Nandipha was leaving the house. He managed to catch her. "Why were you leaving without saying a proper goodbye?" he asked holding her hand. Nandipha: "I don't want to be late." They stepped inside the car and Ngcebo started the engine. Nandipha was quiet. Ngcebo: "Babe, I know that I have been busy but once I am free we will spend time together. I promise." Nandipha: "I am not complaining." Ngcebo:

“But your reactions are quite obvious that you are not happy.” Nandipha: “I miss you, okay but it’s fine because you are working, I will be fine.” She condescended and looked at Ngcebo’s hand that was holding her. Ngcebo: “I will make it up to you I promise you that.” Nandipha: “I won’t be able to go down with you and I will call mama and let her know that.” She informed him taking a short glance at him. Ngcebo: “I understand that you are also busy.” Nandipha: “Thank you.” she said and gave him a goodbye kiss that was very brief and intense. She quickly removed herself from him. “When will I see you?” she asked looking at him with peaceful eyes. Ngcebo: “When I come back from home I will have to go to the Cape for a week and that means I will see you next weekend but we will be going home for the reed dance.” She opened the door with a

heavy heart and got off the car. She hated this life and she couldn't hide it to herself and him as well. She wiped her tears quickly and tried to pull herself together. "Nandipha!" Ngcebo called out for her and held her wrist. He didn't want to leave her while she was upset and now, he didn't care if he was doing what she didn't like, being intimate with her in places where there were crowds. He sighed. "Please, don't cry. I will come back." he told her and hugged her.

Nandipha: "But it's been a long time since I spent time with you. I want to be with you too just like you are with your fans."

Ngcebo: "I know that and I want to be with you too. But I can't say come with me because you are studying."

Nandipha: "I won't be coming back after the weekend of the reed dance I will go home because of the September break."

Ngcebo: "No, I can't stay in KZN."

Nandipha: "It's you who don't have to stay I will stay because I have missed spending time with my mom."

Ngcebo let go of her. "That means I will see you in October?" he asked.

Nandipha: "Yes."

Ngcebo: "Now, that's bullshit!"

Nandipha: "What should I do?"

Ngcebo: "You can cut the home vacation short I mean you don't have to spend all week at home. Please."

Nandipha: "I will come back just like I have been patient in waiting for

you. You just have to be patient with me. I will come back after vacation week is over.”

Ngcebo: “I should have known that you’ll play this childish game of revenge. That’s stupid! Tsk!” he turned and left her, Nandipha walked away. She had to get to the test venue and write her test. She didn’t need Ngcebo to stress her... ---- “Ha! Ha! Ha! Gogo’s grandson!” Thembelihle jumped at the sight of Nhlakanipho... She was seated inside the lounge of her beach house. It was a Thursday morning, Dalisu was still in the hospital... Thembelihle smiled and gave out her arms to Naledi. She gave the baby over to Thembelihle. “Naledi, what are you feeding him? He’s getting chubby.” She commented sitting down with the baby that was looking at her.

Naledi: “Ha! Mama, his father likes overfeeding him and I can’t do a thing about

it. It's better when we are home with mom." Thembelihle laughed. "Ndabezitha! Yoh, my baby has grown up. He's seven months now?" she asked looking at Naledi. Naledi: "Yes, he's seven months." Thembelihle: "He's so pretty. I am sure his grandfather will be happy to see him. You are doing a good job Naledi." Naledi: "My mother is helping me a lot." Thembelihle: "I am happy to hear that and where's his father?" Naledi: "They're outside with his brothers." She responded and got up with her baby's bag... Mlamuli's sons entered the lounge running to get to their grandmother. Thembelihle smiled looking at them and she showed Nhlakanipho to them. Bongani: "Hawu! Gogo, bhuti oncane!" (Our younger brother, grandma.) Thembelihle: "Yes, and how are my princes?" she asked pouting at them and they stood on their toes to kiss

Thembelihle... She then got them to sit next to her and looked at the baby as he was busy looking at Prince and Bongani curiously. She'd always loved having the children around... "It's time mama. We need to go." Ngcebo told his mother as she was standing behind the sink. Thembelihle nodded and finished up what she was doing. Thembelihle: "And where is my daughter in-law?" Ngcebo: "I don't know." He responded and walked away but Thembelihle followed after him because she wanted to know why he didn't know. Thembelihle: "How can you not know about your bride? Did she refused to come here or you had an argument?" Ngcebo: "She's studying mama and that's why I couldn't come with her here." Thembelihle: "Okay." She let it go because she didn't want to push him but she was certain that

something happened. They left the house making their way to the cars driving them to the hospital...

They found Dalisu reading a newspaper. He wasn't well because of the stress that was taking a toll on his health. He loosened up instantly as his eyes were set on his grandsons. Dalisu: "Ha! We have Prince, Bongani and Nhlakanipho. Can you give the younger one to me?" he requested looking at Naledi who had Nhlakanipho in her hands. Naledi gave the baby to Dalisu... Dalisu's sons greeted him and he nodded his head. He looked at Prince and Bongani as Thembelihle put them on top of the bed. Ngcebo: "What's wrong baba?" Dalisu: "About what?" he didn't look at him. His sons looked at each other surprised by his lack of interest in having a conversation with them. Ngcebo: "Your health as you are in the hospital." Dalisu: "I am sick that's why I am in the hospital." Banele: "Why does it seems like dad is angry with us?" Mntwana:

“Yes, he’s angry because Dalingcebo refused to do what dad wants him to do. And dad is here because of you, all of you. From Mlamuli to Banele, niyazibuka nje ngobaba. Niziqhenya ngaye ngathi ningamantombazane afuna ukushelwa uyena.” Ndabezinhle: “Hhaybo?” he looked at their parents. Mntwana: “You are selfish! You want dad to die, he has raised you up this far. I haven’t even reached 21 years you want to kill dad with your stubbornness. I should grow up without a father just because you’ve had enough of him now. He has done everything to help you be what you are today and nizibuka ngaye manje!” Dalingcebo: “Don’t speak like that with us Mntwana. We are older than you and you are younger. Just know your place.” Mntwana: “Is dad also younger than you as you don’t want to listen to him? I should

listen to you because you are older but you can't even listen to your own father! That's shameful, gha!" he left his brothers stunted but not their parents. Mntwana had been angry since his father went to the hospital and he didn't hide to his parents that he was blaming his brothers for what had happened to their father. Ngcebo: "What did we do wrong, mama?" Thembelihle: "I am not the one who said you did something wrong." Ngcebo: "But it's clear that we are wrong here." Banele: "And we should be told if we did something wrong." He said and looked at his father but he was busy playing with his grandchildren. Dalingcebo: "Dad wants me to take after him and I refused. I guess I am the one to be blamed. I am to be blamed for wanting to live my life freely." Thembelihle: "Yey! Leave, this room if you have nothing sensible to say. All of you just

leave! Go and live your fuckin lives, go!” she shouted pointing the door and Dalingcebo was the first to leave the room followed by Ndabezinhle who dragged Naledi out of the hospital room leaving Nhlakanipho behind. Ngcebo: “No, I am not leaving because I did nothing wrong I am not the reason that dad is here. I will not let you make me feel guilty of something I didn’t do. I won’t even be able to perform well while you are giving me long faces.” Dalisu: “Nobody said you did something wrong and so, don’t get worked up over something you know you didn’t do.” Ngcebo sighed and looked at Banele. “And if you are busy at work you were not supposed to come.” He added. Thembelihle: “I called him or you wanted to be miserable here?” Dalisu: “Hhayi, MaSthole, you like overreacting.” He commented and they laughed. “How are

your studies Banele?” Banele: “I am coping baba.” Dalisu: “Don’t keep telling me that you are coping when are you graduating?” Banele: “I will graduate soon baba.” Thembelihle: “We are waiting for that day.” She said looking at him and Banele promised that the day was coming. Banele: “And right after graduation I am taking my first wife.”

Thembelihle and Dalisu: “HUH?” Ngcebo just laughed looking at seriousness of his brother’s face and their parents’ faces.

Thembelihle: “What are you telling us?”

Banele: “I will have four wives.” Dalisu: “Uyadakwa!”

Banele: “Hawu, baba!”

Thembelihle: “That will not happen. You’ll have one wife.” Banele looked at her and Thembelihle insisted while Dalisu was surprised that at such a young age he was thinking of having wives not a wife.

Dalisu: “Why are you laughing Ngcebo? Where’s your wife?”

Ngcebo: “She couldn’t come baba because of school but she sent her regards.”

Dalisu: “Okay, thank you for coming to see me.” he said and they used their time with the grandchildren until it was time for them to leave. Ngcebo and Banele left with the children. “Who brought Mlamuli’s sons?” Dalisu asked looking at

Thembelihle as she was preparing food for him, food that she had brought from the house. Thembelihle: "Their mother brought them. Didn't you want to see them?" Dalisu: "No, I didn't say that I was just asking. It was good to see them." he commented and took the juice that she was giving him. Thembelihle: "Yes, and Nhlakanipho as well. He has grown up." Dalisu chuckled and nodded. "I will have to rule until I die because clearly my sons will not honour my wishes." He said politely. Thembelihle: "Let's give them some time Mageba." Dalisu: "No, I will not do that. But I will make it clear to the elders that Prince will be my successor." Thembelihle: "Ndabezitha-" Dalisu: "No, they don't want my throne right? It's fine, a child will rule them all. And if I die while he has not come out of age. Mntwana will be regent until Prince is fit to

take after him even if Mntwana can have sons he will not appoint his sons as successor but Prince. I am tired of running after them.” Thembelihle: “Don’t make drastic decisions because I am sure once Mnotho returns everything will be alright.” Dalisu: “If Dalingcebo continues with this behaviour I will stand with this decision and nobody will change my mind.” Thembelihle sighed and gave him food, he looked at her before accepting the food that she was giving him... She looked at him and her heart broke into pieces. She didn’t want to see him this way...

S2 – EPISODE 22

“I am here now, mama.” Thembelihle said standing before MaCebekhulu. MaCebekhulu was seated inside her lounge watching TV. She was waiting for Thembelihle because they’ve planned to

visit Gobela. MaCebekhulu: “What kept you so long?” Thembelihle: “I was still looking after your son.” She responded and held her hand to help her get up... It’d been three days since Dalisu got back from the hospital. Their two sons left without fixing things with their father after their mother told them to leave the hospital. But Ndabezinhle did call him just check on him not Dalingcebo. MaCebekhulu: “Okay, I will have to come to your house and be there until he has fully recovered.” She told her. Thembelihle: “Why does it look like you don’t trust me?” MaCebekhulu: “I don’t trust you. How will I know if you won’t leave him again?” she asked looking at her as she was helping her step inside the car. Thembelihle: “I was just angry mama and now, I am back.” MaCebekhulu: “Okay, but I am still coming to your house.”

Thembelihle: “Okay, I don’t mind.” She stepped inside the car with her and the driver drove off. Thembelihle’s phone beeped and she took it off her bag. She read the message from Nandipha. She had sent a modern like traditional attire. >> “This will definitely suit you.” << Nandipha had captioned the picture. Thembelihle laughed delightedly and responded to the picture.

MaCebekhulu: “Who’s making you smile? Who are you chatting to?” Thembelihle: “Hawu, mama?” MaCebekhulu: “I want to know.” Thembelihle showed her the picture and told her that Nandipha had sent the picture to her. She told her what she’d said about the attire. “It’s beautiful and she’s right it will look good on you.” she commented fixing her glasses while holding the phone.

Thembelihle: “Oh, it’s good to know that you still have something good to

say to me.” she said sadly and took her phone but MaCebekhulu didn’t say anything to her. She kept quiet... Thembelihle saw it best that she did the same. She didn’t know what MaCebekhulu wanted from her... They were seated down on the mats with their heads looking down as Gobela was convulsing his shoulder in response of the spirits that were with him... They have informed him about the reasons of their visit. They wanted to know what the ancestors were saying about what was happening between Dalisu and his sons. They felt that it was wrong and they didn’t want to make wrong decisions. Gobela requested that they blow into the bones’ bag and they did as he’d told them. He then shook the bag and scattered the bones down. He read through them attentively. Gobela: “The ancestors are not happy about how things

have turned out in their royal house.” He revealed and shook his head along with his shoulders. “Makhosi!” MaCebekhulu and Thembelihle chanted clapping their hands. Gobela: “Ndabezitha needs to fix his relationship with his first prince.” He told them shortly and looked at them. Thembelihle and MaCebekhulu looked at one another. They feared what he was telling them was impossible. MaCebekhulu: “My son doesn’t want to listen to us, mkhulu. You know what has happened between them and we have failed to convince him to calm down. We don’t know what to do next.” Thembelihle: “He wants to make Dalingcebo take after him. Is that a good thing while the two older sons are fit to rule?” Gobela: “I don’t have more answers but Ndabezitha must fix things with his first prince. That is the message I got from the

ancestors and it must be done.” He said lastly looking at them and they clapped their hands. They then left the hut in silence as they were clueless to how they were going to get Dalisu to fix things with Mlamuli... Thembelihle’s phone rang as she was making her way to her bedroom. She took it out and answered her phone. Thembelihle: “MaNdonga?” Nkosazana: “Mama, unjani?” Thembelihle: “I am fine and how are you?” Nkosazana: “I am fine I have registered my organisation but now I am battling with the parents of the girls.” She informed her and Thembelihle could hear that Nkosazana was sad. Thembelihle: “What’s wrong?” Nkosazana: “Mama, they don’t trust me and I don’t know what to do. They say I will lead their daughters even more astray than they are now.” Thembelihle: “So, now you feel like giving up?” Nkosazana: “No, I think I

should do something else.” Thembelihle: “No, that’s not how things are done. You don’t earn people’s trust by having one talk with them but you keep talking and showing them what you’ve done then they can trust you. Don’t give up.” Nkosazana: “Okay, mama. I will try.” Thembelihle: “You will do it and I have full faith in you. I was talking to your mother and she said she will try to come and help you.” Nkosazana: “Yes, she told me but the problem is leaving the children alone.” Thembelihle: “She will make a plan don’t worry.”

Nkosazana: “Okay, thank you.”
Thembelihle: “Bye.” They hung up the call and she entered her room... “Mama is home. Don’t you want to get up and see her?” Thembelihle asked looking at Dalisu. She took off her jewellery after Dalisu had made a move to get off his bed. Dalisu: “Where did you get her?” Thembelihle: “In her house and she told me that she’ll stay here for a while so that she would keep an eye on you. She doesn’t trust that I won’t leave you again.” She informed him and Dalisu laughed. Dalisu: “I just love my mother she wants what’s best for her child.” Thembelihle: “Hawu! I can’t believe you are saying that. You are such an old man to call yourself a child.” Dalisu: “Your children are not men to you right?” he asked and Thembelihle laughed walking away without giving him an answer... Thembelihle and

MaCebekhulu were seated on the dinner table with Dalisu. Mntwana had been told to go and watch TV with his food because they needed to speak to his father. Dalisu: "What's wrong? Why was Mntwana chased away from the table?" he asked taking short glances at them. MaCebekhulu: "We need to talk to you about Gobela." Dalisu: "What about him? His son is ready to take over him?" MaCebekhulu: "No, it's not about that but we went to see him today." "See him?" Dalisu asked and looked at Thembelihle as if she was the one who'd just told him about their visit to Gobela. Thembelihle: "Yes, and he told us some important things." Dalisu: "About what?" MaCebekhulu: "You and Mlamuli, he told us that the ancestors are not happy and so, you need to fix things with your son." Dalisu: "What! You two, went to consult about me without telling

me?” he shouted looking at Thembelihle not his mother. Thembelihle looked at MaCebekhulu. “No, I am directing the question to you. Nguwena umfazi wami lana not my mother.” He added briefly. Thembelihle: “Mageba, we saw it fit that we seek for the ancestors’ guidance in this because you haven’t been doing that.” Dalisu: “Why didn’t you remind me that I needed that? Why?” MaCebekhulu: “You were going to listen to us?” Dalisu: “I am talking to her, mama.” He pointed Thembelihle while looking at MaCebekhulu. His mother nodded her head. “How can you do this behind my back?” he asked. Thembelihle: “I didn’t mean to go behind your back but I was concern about you and your kingdom. I am sorry that I have upset you. But I did what was right for you and this kingdom.” Dalisu: “I will not be told what

to do and will not run around a disrespectful child. I will not do that!” MaCebekhulu: “Hhayi, Dalisu! You can’t go against the ancestors’ word.” She warned him and looked at Thembelihle with worried eyes. Dalisu: “I am not doing it!” he stamped and got up without eating. Thembelihle: “Where are you going now without eating?” “I am not hungry anymore!” He exclaimed and left them on the dinner table... ----- It was the Friday morning of the reed dance weekend. Nandipha was with Ngcebo inside the car. They were quietly listening to music as Ngcebo was driving Nandipha home but they were going to pass by Dalingcebo’s house to speak to him about listening to his father... Nandipha and Ngcebo haven’t been spending time together because Ngcebo was busy having back to back gigs. They were would call each other here and

there. He wanted Nandipha to spend the weekend KwaNongoma but she'd already told her mother that she was coming home. That didn't please Ngcebo. "We are still going to speak to your brother even though you are upset with me?" Nandipha asked looking at Ngcebo as he had parked his car outside his brother's gate.

Ngcebo: "I didn't say I am angry with you but it's just that you are being insensitive and you don't see that. Now, you want me to beg you to be with me. You know I haven't been with you for a long time."

Nandipha: "I will come back." she told him as Ngcebo got off the car to open the gate. He'd told Dalingcebo not to lock the gate. Ngcebo then stepped back inside the car and drove inside his brother's premises. They stepped out of the car and made their way to the front door. A woman opened the door and greeted them on her way out. "Yebo!" Nandipha and Ngcebo greeted her back and she left them without asking further questions nor looking at them. "Weird!" Nandipha mumbled and followed Ngcebo inside his brother's house... Dalingcebo was seated on the couch with remote on his hand. He looked back at

them acknowledging their presence. “You are here?” he remarked and got up to hug his brother. He then greeted Nandipha and they sat down. Dalingcebo: “Makoti, go to the kitchen and prepare something to eat for us.” he instructed Nandipha and she got up to do what he’d said. Ngcebo: “Hee! And that woman?” He pointed the door as if the woman was still at the door but she’d long left. Dalingcebo: “What woman? You must be asking me about my well-being but you are asking about women.” He said and they laughed. Ngcebo: “Come on, I should know if you have moved on with your life.” Dalingcebo: “No, I haven’t moved on.” Ngcebo: “That girl?” Dalingcebo: “She’s just a friend... with good benefits since I am single.” He told him and Ngcebo laughed shaking his head. “Every time when I see Nandipha I just remember that there was

her sister and I wish I can ask a number of questions about her. I haven't seen her around for a while." He commented. Ngcebo: "You can ask her as an ex-employer." He suggested without telling him that Nandipha had told him Nontobeko lived in Durban. He didn't want to make the same mistake twice... Dalingcebo: "No, it's better if I don't know. We are supposed to be on the road before 12pm because I don't want to get home late." Ngcebo: "Yeah, but did you apologise to dad about what happened in the hospital? You didn't speak in a right manner with them." Dalingcebo: "No, I didn't." Ngcebo: "Hawu! Dalingcebo, how can you do that mistake?" he asked looking at him but he didn't answer him. "And what happens when you apologise? Does your ego get bruised because you don't like to apologise even when you know that you are

wrong?” He made him aware. Nandipha entered the lounge with drinks. She kneeled down and put the drink on the coffee table. Dalingcebo: “I will speak to dad today.” Ngcebo: “I think you need to honour his wish. Yes, we both know that what he wants will bring conflict in a way and the elders will delay everything until Mnotho returns home. He called me and told me that he didn’t mean to do all this but he’s facing a crisis in L.A.” Dalingcebo: “It’s easy for you to say that I should just take this responsibility.” Ngcebo: “No, it’s not but when you turn your back on dad things won’t go well for you, Dalingcebo and you know it.” Dalingcebo: “And what about Mlamuli? Did you tell him the same thing?” Ngcebo: “Their fight is way too old but right now, mom is not happy because her husband is not happy. We both know that she doesn’t want things to be like

this but that doesn't mean she enjoys seeing our father like that." Dalingcebo: "It's not easy Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "I know, and that is why I am telling you that you won't be king because this will still cause a huge debate between the council and the elders. They might force dad not to step down." Dalingcebo: "Okay, I will go back home and you better pray that I don't become king because if I do I

will cry to dad and the council ask them to make you my advisor. And that will force you and umakoti to come back here. Just think what will happen to her future without getting her-” He couldn’t finish the threat that he was making to his twin brother.

Ngcebo: “Yes, yes! I get the point. You need to trust me when I say this will work just as I have said it and Ndabezinhle, Banele, and Mnotho supports me. Vele Mlamuli wanted us to wait for Mnotho. I am sure when Mnotho comes back he will do the right thing and go apologise to dad.”

Dalingcebo: “Okay, I get your point.” He sighed in relief. Dalingcebo chuckled and looked at Nandipha as she brought the food for them. She kneeled and put the food on the table. They thanked her and she left them... They had the food alone while Nandipha was in the kitchen... They were

having a conversation while eating... “How did things go with your brother?” Nandipha asked taking her bag from Ngcebo’s hand... He had his car parked by her father’s premises. Ngcebo: “He agreed to do what dad asked of him.” Nandipha: “That’s a good thing.” Ngcebo: “Yeah.” Nandipha: “Have a good weekend then I love you.” “You too have a good weekend. I love you too.” He said moving away from her. He stepped inside his car and drove off without even giving her a ‘hug.’ Nandipha recognised and walked inside her home... “Ha! Ukudla okungaka!” She widened her eyes looking at Nontobeko as she a lot of food on her plate and a pocket of chips and chocolates next to her. Nandipha laughed and sat next to her. Nontobeko: “Don’t be too forward!” she warned her and Nandipha just kept laughing at her while taking the

chips. Nandipha recognised that her sister had gained weight again but she was totally beautiful in pregnancy. Nandipha: "But you are so beautiful." She complimented with a smile. Nontobeko: "Really?" Nandipha nodded and stood up to hug her mother who had just stepped inside the lounge. They hugged each other. MaNtombela: "My baby!" she kissed her all over the face and Nandipha giggled. "How are you?" she asked sitting down. Nandipha: "I am fine and how are you?" MaNtombela: "But I miss the two of you but it will be better now that I will have a grandchild." She commented. Nandipha: "YEAH!" She clapped her hands like a baby and they laughed. MaNtombela: "Your father will not find you here Nandipha." She commented looking at the clock on the wall. The two sisters looked at each other. Nandipha: "Why do you say

that?” MaNtombela: “Didn’t you tell us that you are going the reed dance this year?” she looked at her with straight eyes. “HAWU, MAMA!” Nandipha exclaimed and looked at the pocket of chips that she was eating. MaNtombela: “What’s wrong now because you wanted this?” she asked and folded her lips looking at Nontobeko who was holding in her laughter. Nandipha: “No, I am tired mama. I will just go and rest, I can’t do all the singing and dancing that happens at the dance.” She said standing up with her bag and Nontobeko laughed loudly. MaNtombela laughed after her as Nandipha left. Nontobeko: “Yhu! Wamqeda ukuphapha mama yezwa?” she commented and they laughed. MaNtombela: “Inkukhu inqunywe umlomo uqobo.” They laughed and Nandipha sulked alone as she could hear them laugh...

S2 – EPISODE 23

Thembelihle was busy dressing up for going to Enyokeni. She put on her black doek that blended with an orange long sleeve flare dress that wasn't long. She always liked to see the girls when they arrive and welcome them. It had become more important

after MaMzobe passed away. Her phone rang while she was busy putting on the necklace. “Nkosazana?” She greeted her on the line after she’d finished putting the necklace on her. Nkosazana: “Yebo, mama. Unjani?” Thembelihle: “I am fine and how are you?” Nkosazana: “I am fine and very happy mama.” “What happened?” she asked walking to the closet to look for her sandals. Mlamuli wasn’t coming and so, his family was also staying. Nkosazana: “Induna had fully approved my project.” Thembelihle: “Hawu! Really? Do you already have people you’ll work with?” Nkosazana: “Yes, I have ten teenage mothers and their parents finally gave in. Now, I can work with their children. The others refused but I believe that as soon as they see the effect of the project they will join.” Thembelihle: “Okay, and people you’ll

be working with? The funds, how did you do that Nkosazana?” Nkosazana: “I used my contacts and the ones I knew back when I was in music and they helped me a lot. I don’t have a problem with funds.”

Thembelihle: “I am impressed and you are already a good mother. I am sure those young girls will be the best mothers under your care.” Nkosazana: “Thank you, mama.”

Thembelihle: “I am happy to hear this and these are by far the best news I have received this week.” Nkosazana: “I didn’t

know that I can feel so happy and so good about myself by helping people who are in need of my help. I am here thinking I wasn’t supposed to take teaching because I will have to do other things for the community as well.” Thembelihle laughed. “You can still study and do what you think is best.” She advised and left the room with her black

handbag on her hand. Nkosazana: “Yes, you are right, thank you.” Thembelihle: “Thanks for the phone call and send my regards to the family.” She requested and Nkosazana promised to do that. Thembelihle smiled and felt proud. Nkosazana had started an organisation for young teenage mothers. She had a concept that when a teenager gets pregnant, her parents obviously get angry at her and she would have no one taking her through the emotional journey of pregnancy. And the baby would arrive at the angry family with the mother having little knowledge about being a mother because every time when things go wrong the parent would shout “You were supposed to keep your legs cross.” She’d seen that children of teenage mothers were suffering in a way and so, she took it upon herself to provide services to

them and teach them about motherhood, about how 'I' dies when you have a child it's not just you now but the child should come first before everything. She began working with a few girls and was to launch her project to the neighbouring village not where Dalisu lived. She was also going to teach them about saving money for the children and provide basics baby goods for those who were really under privileged...

"Sawubona, baba." Dalingcebo greeted his father and sat next to him as he was inside his bedroom seated on the couch reading some papers. Thembelihle was not back home yet. Dalisu: "Yebo." He greeted back without looking at him. Dalingcebo: "How are you?" Dalisu: "I am fine." He placed the papers down and looked at him. "What do you want?" he asked abruptly. Dalingcebo: "I didn't do things the right way and I didn't

speaking as a child with you and mama. And so, I am here to apologise.” Dalisu: “You keep disrespecting us because you know that you will say a simple apology and your foolish parents will forgive you? Is that why you keep disrespecting us? You speak as you wish with us.” Dalingcebo: “I am sorry. I am just frustrated with the fact that my two older brothers deserted us like this and I feel like now the pressure is on me.”

Daliso: “I was once young and wanted to do things my way but I have never disobeyed my parents. I have never spoken to them as if they were my equals. You see us as your equals Dalingcebo?” Dalingcebo: “No, it’s not like that and that is why I say I am sorry for it. And I will do what you want. I will honour your wish and take your throne.” He announced and Daliso looked at him. He was in disbelief of what he was telling him. He had concluded that they were not going to do what he wanted. Daliso stood on his feet and looked at him still in disbelief that he was willing to honour his wish. Daliso gave his hand out to Dalingcebo, he stood on his feet and they handshake. Daliso hugged him wholeheartedly. “Ndabezitha, Zulu kaMalandela ngokulandela izinkomo zamadoda, Zulu omnyama ondlela zimhlophe, Wena kaPhunga noMageba,

Sthuli sikaNdaba, Sthuli sikaNkombane, Ndabezitha!” Dalisu praised his son with boldness and love on his voice... Thembelihle entered the room at that moment and she wondered what was happening. Dalingcebo: “Mageba!” Thembelihle: “What happened?” she asked walking closer to them after she had put her bag on her bed. She looked at Dalisu but held Dalingcebo’s hand. Dalisu: “He has agreed to take the throne.” Thembelihle smiled and looked at Dalingcebo. He winked at his mother and Thembelihle couldn’t help but giggle. She then hugged him figuring out why he was winking at her. “Siyabonga, Ndabezitha!” She said still hugging him. She felt peace that now, things were going to fall in place just like she’d hoped they would...

Like every September of every year, the young women and girls were beautiful like flowers in the garden. They were pure, innocent and young. The real pride of the Zulu nation. The ceremony was beautiful and Thembelihle was seated on her chair observing the beautiful girls. Every year she would be reminded of the day she attended the dance, not just any day but that day when she met her knight, the prince. She would look at herself and recognise that she had grown now she was no longer a young girl but the love that her king was giving her always made her feel young and beautiful. All their sons except the first two were present wearing their traditional gear proudly looking at them she couldn't help but remember that Banele had told them he wanted to marry more than one woman. She was looking at him now wondering

what would have made him think like that because he was only 21 years. Or maybe he was joking he didn't mean it all. They were men now and she couldn't help but feel proud. She wondered if she had a daughter was she going to be amongst the girls or she would be doing her own things now. Like her mother had wanted she was never going to feed her daughter that marriage was everything but if she wanted it she would have supported her. She closed her eyes shortly and thanked the Lord, for everything comes from above. She had never forgotten that... The reed dance was the real anniversary for her. It was everything... Dalingcebo looked at young girls and thought of the day his mother had come into his house with a young girl for him. He wondered if Nontobeko was not in his life would he have gotten along with that

girl? He removed his eyes from the girls and looked down. He admitted to himself that he needed a matured woman not kids. A woman like Nontobeko, Nontobeko. No, he stopped himself and reminded himself that Nontobeko had fooled him and so, he didn't need someone like that. He sighed, he raised his head and looked at his twin brother who was hold his shoulder. Ngcebo: "Don't stress yourself about anything. You will have your life after everything had blew over." He advised him politely and Dalingcebo nodded believing what he was telling him... Dalingcebo was alone in his house after a long day, being a king was not an easy task that people thought it was and he was putting himself in that line. He was seated on the couch inside his house drinking whiskey thinking about other possibilities. What if Mnotho doesn't come

back in time? Was he going to be ready for the throne? He stressed himself without taking a break... Where was this woman and why didn't she care that much about what they had? He asked himself looking at the picture. "Come in." he instructed the person on his door and he put down Nontobeko's picture. His mother showed herself in.

Thembelihle: “How are you doing my son, you must be tired.” She said sitting down next to him. Thembelihle had looked for him in her palace and couldn’t find him. She then knew she was going to find him here. Dalingcebo sat up straight and looked at his mother. Dalingcebo: “Yes, I am tired mom.” He said yawning. Thembelihle: “What you did was brave and it will bring peace in my soul.” She informed him taking the picture on the table. Dalingcebo: “Ngcebo was the one who advised me to do this.” Thembelihle: “He! He’s turning out to be someone wonderful. I don’t know if I am seeing that alone?” Dalingcebo: “You are right I think he’s a much better man with Nandipha by his side. And I have seen that they love each other.” Thembelihle nodded and smiled. “You still think of her?” she asked him showing the picture to his face.

Dalingcebo: "I still love her, mama." He confided in her and put the glass of whiskey down. "But she never saw herself fighting for a place in my life even though she was the wrong one. I think she wanted me to be the one to follow her but I wasn't going to do that." He added. Thembelihle: "Why don't you go to her parent's house and ask to speak to her. I know that I never liked her because I wasn't at peace with the fact that you were keeping her a secret." Dalingcebo: "She wanted that." Thembelihle: "You were supposed to tell us that 'I have a girlfriend' then don't talk much about her. We were not going to bring any girl for you but you lied to us and you've never lied about having a girlfriend." Dalingcebo: "I am sorry I was wrong there." Thembelihle: "If she's so important to you Dalingcebo I can never stand in your way of love. I didn't do it to

Mlamuli and I won't do it to any of you. I just had to go with my instincts with this girl. So, go look for her." Dalingcebo: "I can't do that. She has probably moved on with her life and I think it's time I do the same. I last saw her the day Ngcebo was paying ilobolo for her sister, mama." He said looking at his mom. Thembelihle: "She didn't look like someone who has time to beg other people. She looked tough and a challenging woman is never tiring. If she were to come back here, you really have to find some common ground. She has to work on her attitude and know that respect is the first thing needed in our family. It doesn't mean you shut your opinions down, it doesn't you let the family walk all over you but you state your feelings politely. She'd been married before she's supposed to know this. I really don't like the way she expresses herself." She said

putting the picture down and looked at Dalingcebo. “But she’s beautiful.” she complimented and removed her eyes from him. “I miss her. Mama, I have never in my life loved a woman like I love her. I loved Nompumelelo but as you have said Nontobeko is challenging. I just love her still. But I am sure that she wants nothing to do with me I saw that the last time I saw her.” Thembelihle: “But she’s the one who kept secrets from you.” Dalingcebo: “I showed no sympathy for her loss and when she was standing there crying explaining her fear and pain. I just told her to leave my house. I didn’t even say that I am sorry for her loss.” He said regretting his actions. Thembelihle: “Oh, mntanami that was wrong of you. We might have got off on the wrong foot with her but she went through pain she doesn’t deserve anymore. You

were supposed to be sensitive even when ending things with her. That was wrong but maybe she's happy now." Dalingcebo: "Yeah and that is why I need to move on with my life. I should have my own family and I think I need you to find a girl for me." Thembelihle: "No, in the first place I agreed to choosing a girl for you because I was respecting my husband's word and I really thought you didn't have a girlfriend. I mean we know you when there's a woman in your life. And we were not saying marry her but we just wanted to see if you will get along. I don't want to do that again Dalingcebo."

Dalingcebo: "But mama, maybe I am bad at choosing women and I need someone else to do that for me." Thembelihle: "No, it's either you go look for that Nontobeko girl or you find someone new. I will not look for a girl." Dalingcebo: "Nontobeko has a past she will be judged and..." Thembelihle: "She doesn't have a dirty past, she was married to a man and he died along with her child. That is not shameful, a battle can occur if you can be Monarch but we know that will not happen because Mnotho will come back. But maybe what Nontobeko needs to change is the way she carries herself. It's not right that people think of her as a cold hearted woman. She needs to face her past and accept what happened." Dalingcebo: "I need to move on from her. I once suggested that before we dated because I saw her crying and she looked

like someone with a baggage on her shoulders but she refused help. I just need to move on.” “Find someone new then because I am not looking for a girl on your behalf.” She said getting up. Dalingcebo nodded. “I will go home I just wanted to check if you were alright.” She added. Dalingcebo: “Thank you, I will come when it’s dinner time.” Thembelihle: “Okay, where’s Ngcebo? The others are home.” Dalingcebo: “Ha! Loyo! Udlisiwe nje mama.” Thembelihle laughed. “He drove to Nandipha?” she asked. Dalingcebo: “Yes, he said he won’t be seeing her because he will be busy and Nandipha will be home on University vacation, so he wants to spend time with her in my house. I was going to tell you when I come home because he couldn’t see you around and he couldn’t wait.” Thembelihle: “Oh, I understand I will

see you when you come up.” Dalingcebo: “Okay, thank you.” Thembelihle then left him to think. He finished up with a decision that he had to move on with his life...

S2 – EPISODE 24

Ngcebo opened the door for Nandipha while he was inside the car but Nandipha didn't step inside the car. She just stood by the door. “What's wrong now, babe?” Ngcebo asked laying his upper body down to look at Nandipha. She was standing outside his car with her hands on her waist and her lips pouted. “Nandipha?” He called her out slightly irritated by her sudden behaviour. Nandipha: “Don't shout because what you are doing is not romantic. How can you be lazy and open the door while you are seated inside the car?” Ngcebo held on to his steering and laughed at what she'd just said. He couldn't possibly believe how

dramatic she could be within minutes of anytime. He shook his head when he done laughing and he got off the car. Ngcebo: "I have to close the door and open it again?" Nandipha: "Yes, Rasta." Ngcebo then closed the door and turned to Nandipha. "Hello, babe." He greeted her and opened his arms for her. They shared a hug. Nandipha smiled dearly that she had made him work and he did it! Nandipha: "Hello, my Rasta man. How are you?" Ngcebo: "I am fine and how are you?" he asked looking at her as she was still inside his arms but they were staring at each other. Nandipha: "I am fine and happy that I am seeing you." she said politely and Ngcebo kissed her cheek. She giggled and pushed him. "No, kissing in here!" she said to him and laughed as she was pulling his cheeks. Ngcebo: "Hhayi! I think we need to go now."

he said and opened the door for her. Nandipha smiled at him and stepped inside the car. He then closed the door and marched to his side of the door. Ngcebo: “You are dramatic babe, tjo!” Nandipha laughed and asked. “Do you hate it?”

Ngcebo: “No, I will hate it when I am 70 years old.” they both laughed at his statement. Ngcebo speeded the car up to reach his brother’s house quickly.

Nandipha: “Don’t kill us.” Ngcebo: “I won’t do that and how far are you with your K53?”

Nandipha: “I haven’t bought it.” “Amen! You know what I won’t say anything about that because I don’t want to argue with you tonight. I don’t want anything that will disturb us.” He informed her with a straight face and removed his eyes from her face.

Nandipha: “It’s not like that I was still busy with tests and so, I couldn’t buy it and read it.” She justified.

Ngcebo: “Like I said I don’t want to argue with you about it.” He insisted and Nandipha nodded, they kept quiet until they reached Dalingcebo’s house. She opened the door of the car and stepped off with her bag on her hand. “When are you

leaving tomorrow?" She asked following him to the house. Ngcebo had passed by the house and left the food that he packed from his mother's house. He knew they were not going to cook and he didn't have time to eat at his mother's house. Ngcebo: "I will leave on Monday morning and that also applies to you." Nandipha: "I am sure you said I will leave tomorrow." Ngcebo: "Your mother won't complain because you told her that mom is the one who called you home. And we will just spend time in doors because Dalingcebo will only come back here on Tuesday." Nandipha: "Okay." She followed him to the guest bedroom she also didn't want to argue with him tonight because they haven't seen each other for a long time. But she just wanted to tell him it was unfair that she told him they were going to spend one night together while he knew that it was not

going to be one night. But it didn't matter really, she didn't have to argue every point. She wanted to enjoy spending time with him. She concluded. Ngcebo: "I want to eat and you'll eat with me." Nandipha: "No, I won't eat with you because I have already had food and don't forget to remind me that I should sent my mother a text telling her we arrived safely." Ngcebo: "Babe, that means we will have to wait hours? And what if we sleep? Just set an alarm to ensure that you'll wake up." He suggested walking out of the bedroom after they've put their bags down. Nandipha laughed and ran towards him. Ngcebo didn't turn to look at her as she was laughing. He was busy tying the string of the sweat pant that he'd changed into... Nandipha raised her knee length dress before jumping on Ngcebo's back. She held on to his neck and locked her legs on his

waist. Ngcebo groaned as he unexpectedly received her body. He held on to her thighs to avoid having her fall. Ngcebo: "You are such a risk taker Nandipha. What if you missed me and fell on the floor, what was going to happen?" Nandipha: "You were not walking fast and so I knew that I wasn't going to fall." She said and kissed his cheek. Ngcebo: "It's better if you play while I am aware not when I am not aware because I don't want you to get hurt." Nandipha: "Hawu, I thought we will not argue about anything here." Ngcebo: "I am not arguing but I just don't like the carelessness." Nandipha loosened her legs from his waist and got off him quietly. "I don't like it when someone disturbs the fun in something I do. My mother likes to do that and spoil my mood. And so, please don't do it." She told him truthfully. Ngcebo:

“I didn’t spoil your fun.” Nandipha: “You turned it into a lecture and that’s not nice to me. That’s not being inclusive of me.” Ngcebo figured it would be best if he can keep his mouth shut because he didn’t want to ruin the night. He took the food and warmed it up on the microwave. He plugged the kettle for a cup of tea. “How are your parents at home, they are good?” He asked without looking at her but there no

response from Nandipha. He turned to look at her and figured she was no longer with him. Nandipha had left the room the minute she saw that Ngcebo was ignoring her. She was keeping the oath of not ruining the night for them and that meant she wasn't going to ask him to apologise to her. He proceeded with making food without her in the kitchen. All he could hear was her loud laughter. She had opted to watch Trevor Noah's show and laugh because the fun she had tried to create was turned into an irritating lecture. "You left me alone in the kitchen." He commented and sat down with the food. He gave her the cup of tea that he'd made. Nandipha: "Thank you but I won't drink tea." She looked at it shortly and then the TV screen. Ngcebo placed the tea down and ate his food while watching what she was watching. Ngcebo: "Babe, I will

choke if I watch this while I am eating. Can you change it for a little while?" he requested and held in his laughter. Nandipha: "No just go and eat in the kitchen." She laughed and pushed his shoulder as means to get him off the couch. But Ngcebo didn't get off. "You are being stubborn? I won't help you when you choke." She told him. Ngcebo: "Then that means you are sleeping alone unless you change the channel I will not sleep with you." Nandipha: "You will not sleep with me on the bed or that you won't sleep with me includes not sleeping with me?" Ngcebo: "What are you saying?" he looked at her confused by her statement question and Nandipha ignored him completely. She looked at the TV without changing the channel. "You really don't want to sleep with me?" he asked after choking and his food

was on the floor now. Nandipha was laughing double, laughing at the joke and at him. Nandipha: "Are you talking about sleeping with you on the bed or the sleeping with you of sharing intimacy?" Ngcebo: "Both." Nandipha: "I can change the channel for the other sleeping but not sharing the bed." She told him without looking at him... Ngcebo left the lounge with his food and tea seeing that he was going to end up forcing her to change the channel and he didn't want to do that... "Can you switch off the TV and come to me now? I am done eating." He requested standing before the couch that Nandipha was seated on. He massaged her ears and Nandipha giggled shaking her head. Nandipha: "Let's watch this a little, please." Ngcebo: "No, I didn't call you here so that you can have another man making you laugh. So, get up

from this couch.” “He’s jealous that Trevor is making me laugh and he isn’t!” She commented but didn’t switch off the TV. Ngcebo: “Hheyi! Nandipha, I am talking man!” he snapped unexpectedly and Nandipha took the remote to switch off the TV. “You need to differentiate the time when I am playing with you and the time when I am not.” He told her. Nandipha: “I am sorry.” She said and got off the couch. She followed behind him but she went to the bathroom... She laid next to him after she had changed into her night dress. He held her closer to him and sighed as he finally got to rest. Ngcebo: “I was asking you about your parents. How are they?” Nandipha: “They are fine but mama is feeling lonely without us.” Ngcebo: “You are her babies and so, that means she must feel lonely and especially you because you make sure that

your presence is known.” Nandipha: “I have never been a shy person especially to people I am used to.” Ngcebo: “Are you used to me?” Nandipha: “Yes, I am used to you because I am not shy around you but it seems as if my behaviour irritates you. I will try and change.” Ngcebo: “Angizwanga? Who told you that?” He asked sitting up straight to get a clear look at her

face. “Did I tell you that?” he asked. Nandipha: “I can see.” Ngcebo: “You can see? That’s bullshit because I have never told you that your behaviour irritates me. If I feel that something does, I will tell you just like I told you that I don’t want you to play carelessly because you’ll get hurt.” Nandipha looked down and chew the inner flesh of her lip. She didn’t know what to say. “And don’t assume things about my thoughts and actions. If you have questions just ask! Iyangicasula nje lento ongitshela yona.” He added. Nandipha: “I didn’t mean to upset you.” He hissed and laid back on the pillow. Regardless of how angry she could see he was, that didn’t stop Nandipha from snuggling herself on his arms. He sighed and held on to her. “I am sorry for shouting at you. It’s just that it really angered me to hear you say you want to

change your behaviour. There's nothing wrong with it but just don't play carelessly and listen when I am no longer playing." He repeated but softly this time. Nandipha: "Okay, I will always remember that." "Now, I want this..." He informed her pulling her face closer to his face and they kissed each other slowly holding tightly to each other... "I don't want typical sex tonight. I want to make love to you. It'd been a while without touching you and tonight please allow me to handle you with detailed care." He whispered into her ears, he'd planned that he wanted to show her the side of him that she didn't know he had. He wanted to give her an emotional love making because she deserved that and much more. He knew that Nandipha was aware that he was into intense fucks and she wasn't about that. They were going to be happy if both their

preferences were taken into consideration by them because nobody was going to do it on their behalf. Nandipha: “I would love that.” She said softly and allowed him to intoxicate her the way he’d never before. Nandipha appreciated the un-ending rhythm that was between them. She loved this side of him and her body praised it... ----- In October, Dalingcebo moved back to his house KwaNongoma. He left everything Empangeni as it was. He didn’t want to sell the house and so, he decided that it was best that he kept it. It hadn’t been long since he got back home but he’d settled back in perfectly. He had called Mlamuli to inform him about the decision that he had taken and Mlamuli promised him that Mnotho was going to come back before things got out of hand. “I think we need to send your father Sbani and someone else for tomorrow’s

event Olundi because we had a long day.” Dalisu suggested to Dalingcebo as they were being driven home coming from a chieftaincy under Dalisu’s kingship. They were opening a new school and Dalisu blessed them with his presence along with his son. He’d been travelling with Dalingcebo and working with him closely as means to groom him. But he hadn’t informed the elders and the council that he was going to step down. That had always been a family secret that his wishes were to step down at 60. They didn’t need to know his plans but only his family needed to know them and Gobela. Dalingcebo: “I don’t know why travelling is tiring.” Dalisu: “I have travelled for a long time and I also don’t know because the body should get used to it but it isn’t.” Dalingcebo: “We are resting the whole day tomorrow?” Dalisu: “Yes, we

will do that and I think by next year Ndabezinhle will be prepared to come back home.” Dalingcebo: “You have spoken to him about it?” he asked remembering that he hadn’t tipped him not to turn their father down. Dalisu: “No, I didn’t because he left right away after the reed dance.” Dalingcebo: “Okay.” He made a mental note to inform him quickly. Dalisu: “You’ll have dinner at your mother’s palace?” Dalingcebo: “Yes, and I will sleep there.” He nodded and looked ahead, he was at peace with how things were now and he was no longer stressing. And he knew that his rest was going to be the one that was going to please his wife the most...

They got off the car and marched to the main door. Dalingcebo had sent a text to Ndabezinhle informing him about what was happening. Dalisu's eyes went straight to Gobela who was seated on the couch of his lounge with a tray of tea and cakes before him but he wasn't drinking nor eating the cakes. "Gobela!" Dalisu recognised him and sat down on his chair. Gobela bowed his head to them and Dalingcebo proceeded away after greeting Gobela. Gobela: "Don't leave nkosana. You need to be here." Dalingcebo stopped walking away and turned back to the lounge. He sat on the couch opposite Gobela and looked at him. Gobela: "Ngonyama, I have been waiting for you since 6pm." Dalisu: "I wasn't closer to home, Gobela." Gobela: "Ndlovukazi MaSthole informed me and I opted to wait because I couldn't sleep with this message I

have for you.” Dalisu: “I am listening.” “Even the greatest trees with deepest roots still need the sun and water for absolute everlasting survival. They will dry and be cut off without these two important needs.” He laid out for Dalisu and Dalisu looked at him still trying to figure out what he was talking about. But Dalingcebo had figured out what he was talking about quickly. He had interpreted what Gobela was trying to say. Dalisu: “I am trying to follow.” Gobela: “You cannot make the branch of the tree rule the tree.” Dalisu: “You are talking about my sons.” Gobela: “You need to fix things with you heir.” Dalisu: “My forefathers had chosen sons they saw fit to rule even if they were younger than the others.” Gobela: “I came here to pass that message Ndabezitha. You have borne great leaders but only one can be the greatest.

Ndabezitha!” he bowed his head and stood up. He then bowed his head for Dalingcebo. “You need to search for the puzzle that you feel is missing in your life. When you find that puzzle you will find a piece of you that has been kept hidden from you. And you will need to bring that piece home, only then will your life be whole.” he told him and Dalingcebo looked at him with confused eyes. He didn’t explain further but he left them. Dalingcebo: “Baba?” Dalisu: “You know mother knows about this visit I am sure she told him to come here and say these things to me.” Dalingcebo: “No, baba. Mama can never do such a thing and Gobela doesn’t play house about the ancestors. You know him very well. Mlamuli needs to come back home.” Dalisu: “No! That will not happen! Can’t the ancestors see that he’s the one who is disobeying

me? They can't see that?" Dalingcebo: "Baba, it's not-" Dalisu: "I said NO!" He roared and stood up, he left Dalingcebo thinking about the puzzle that was missing? And piece that was kept hidden from him? He stood up after realising that he didn't need to crack his head. He needed to rest and try to get his father to listen to what he was told to do...

S2 – EPISODE 25

It was the 2nd of October, a warm Friday afternoon Nandipha was busy cooking inside Ngcebo's house. Ngcebo's brothers were coming over and they were going to spend the weekend in his house. The following day, the 3rd of October was Mntwana's birthday. Mntwana had asked permission from his parents to visit his brothers in Gauteng and celebrate his 16th birthday with them. The brothers have

planned his birthday party in Ndabezinhle's club. She was busy stirring her beef shin stew when her phone rang. She closed the pot and grabbed her phone. "Sawubona, MaNtombela?" She greeted. MaNtombela: "Yebo, ntombi yami unjani?" Nandipha: "I am fine and how are you?"

MaNtombela: "I am fine mntanami, can we talk?" "Yes, we can talk." She said marching to the stove to check on her milk tart. Ngcebo loved it dearly and she was making it for him. MaNtombela: "It's about your sister." Nandipha: "What about her, mama?" she asked and sat down. She lifted the glass and closed her eyes feeling the pressure of cooking for men who could cook. She didn't know if they were going to love her food. MaNtombela: "I think you know now that your sister is pregnant, right?" Nandipha: "Yes, she told me." MaNtombela: "Okay, did she tell you about the father of her baby?" Nandipha: "No, mama and why don't you ask her?" MaNtombela: "She doesn't want to tell us all about the father of the baby and I was calling you thinking that you know." Nandipha: "No, I don't know mama."

MaNtombela: “Okay, your studies are going well?” Nandipha: “Yes, you have nothing to worry yourself about, mama.” MaNtombela: “Okay, uziphathe kahle Nandipha. Don’t disappoint us and your in-laws. I don’t want to hear any complaints.” Nandipha: “I will try my best.” MaNtombela: “Okay, goodbye.” Nandipha: “Goodbye. And send my regards to daddy.” She hung up the call after her mother had promised that she will do as she’d said... Nandipha then got up to finish up her work. Nandipha hopped into a straight cut skirt that was at a knee length. It was black with brown and caramel zigzag lines. She wore a short sleeved white cotton shirt. Ngcebo walked inside the bedroom while Nandipha was busy tying the black bow of the shirt. “You are getting dressed?” He asked walking closer to her and Nandipha nodded her head letting her locks

loose after she was done tying the shirt. Nandipha: “Your brothers are all here now?” Ngcebo: “Yes, but Dalingcebo is not here because he’s busy at home. It’s Ndabezinhle and Naledi, then Banele and his girlfriend and Mntwana.” Nandipha: “Mntwana doesn’t have a girlfriend?” she giggled and Ngcebo laughed taking off his clothes. He left his clothes on the floor. Ngcebo: “Even if he has one he wasn’t going to come here with that girlfriend.” He said leaving her in the bedroom. Nandipha sighed looking at the clothes he’d just left on the floor. She went down and picked his clothes she went to the closet to leave the clothes on the washing basket... The ladies helped Nandipha serve the food that she had prepared. Nandipha had greeted the brothers and their partners. She knew that this time she was going to have to go to the

party as they were attending a pre-party later at Ndabezinhle's house. And she was going to attend the actual birthday party too. She didn't want to upset Ngcebo because if she was to turn attending the party down. She knew that he was going to be angry. They all sat down to have dinner. "Man of the house should bless the food." Ndabezinhle announced and they all agreed looking at Ngcebo. Ngcebo: "Oh! I am the man of the house I have forgotten." Nandipha: "Hhaybo! Kanjani manje ngikhona?" (How can you forget that while I am here?) Naledi: "Yes, girl ask him!" she chanted and they laughed. "Okay, I am sorry!" He said holding Nandipha's hand and the other joined the hands. Ngcebo blessed the food... They then dug in... They were having a good time with Mntwana leading them on every conversation. He

was happy that his parents had allowed him to be with his brothers for his birthday... “We thought we could talk Mntwana before we leave.” Banele informed Mntwana who was seated on the couch waiting for everyone. The ladies were already in the cars waiting for the men to drive them to the party. Mntwana: “What do you want to talk about?”

Ndabezinhle: “You will have to be responsible tonight and tomorrow.” Ngcebo: “Yes, and that means no three sum with older women.” He said and Mntwana laughed, the brothers laughed after him. Mntwana: “Don’t worry, I will not trouble you at all. I will be on my best behaviour or else mama will kill me.” Ndabezinhle: “Awu, ziyasha ke!” he clapped once and the brothers got up. It was time for the pre-party! Ngcebo was driving with Mntwana and Nandipha. And the two others were driving with their girlfriends. Banele was driving Ngcebo’s car. They planned to have fun and that was all they had...

“Do I look beautiful?” Nandipha asked Ngcebo turning her body for him to have the best look. She turned back to his face and Ngcebo was smiling. Ngcebo: “You look out of this world.” He complimented kissing her

bare shoulder, Nandipha was wearing a cream white shoulder revealing jersey dress. It was above the knee and she had it with cream pentagon straps stilettos. “But why don’t you have a necklace on your neck?” he asked moving his finger on her visible flesh of her chest. Nandipha: “No, I don’t have a necklace here and it doesn’t matter because I have these earrings on.” She showed him the ear that was showing as she had her locks curly loose and one ear showing. Ngcebo: “Okay, I will have to agree with you and besides you smell very nice.” Nandipha giggled. “And you look very handsome.” Ngcebo: “Yes! I am casually suiting it up!” he exclaimed and did ivosho dance for her. Nandipha laughed and held his hand as he was failing to get back up. Nandipha: “What’s happening to your bones now?” Ngcebo: “Eish, the pants stopped me

from doing it perfectly.” “This is how it’s done!” Nandipha showed him the dance turning around while she was still on the floor. Ngcebo whistled until she was up. They hugged each other and Ngcebo kissed her. Ngcebo: “I love you.” Nandipha: “I love you too and let’s go now.” she told him grabbing her bag and they left the house for the ‘actual party’ The others stayed behind at Ndabezinhle’s house and they were going to meet at the party. Ngcebo and Nandipha passed by Nandipha’s flat to get Palesa... Palesa screamed and danced at the sight of Nandipha. They met at the gate of the residence. Nandipha laughed and tried to hold Palesa’s mouth. Nandipha: “Girl, please behave!” Palesa: “No, my Zulu girl you look very beautiful.” Nandipha: “And you look fabulous rumza!” she

complimented, they laughed and shared a hug. They walked to Ngcebo's car talking about what was going to happen ahead at the party. Palesa: "Please, don't leave before the party ends." She said stepping inside the car at the backseat and Nandipha was taking her seat. Ngcebo laughed as he had heard Palesa's statement. "Why are you laughing, Rasta?" Nandipha asked and gave him a straight face. Ngcebo: "Do you really have to call me Rasta in the presence of guests?" he whispered looking at Nandipha with his hand holding her thigh. Palesa was laughing as she'd heard what he was saying. Nandipha: "Yes, why are you laughing?" Ngcebo: "I think Palesa was right that Nandipha should not leave the party before it ends. We know that she had done that before." He said loudly and they laughed with Palesa while Nandipha sulked.

Nandipha: "I won't leave but I will be dancing some voshos with Mntwana since some of us are wearing pants that don't allow us to dance freely." She teased Ngcebo and looked at him. Palesa: "Who's wearing such pants because I am not?" Nandipha: "The one I am talking about knows himself." Ngcebo: "You can't dance with Mntwana he will have girls his age dancing with him and you will stick with me all the time." Nandipha: "I qualify to be Mntwana's age group and that means I can dance with him. And you can dance with your age group." Ngcebo: "Oh, you want my brother now?" Nandipha laughed and kissed his cheek but Ngcebo

looked at her with confused eyes. “And then?” Nandipha: “Don’t be jealous.” Palesa: “I am still here guys!” she complained and they turned to look at her. She had her eyes widened, Nandipha and Ngcebo laughed. Ngcebo: “It’s your roommate’s fault not mine.” Nandipha: “I am sorry!” She exclaimed and giggled... They then had a conversation that included the three of them... Ngcebo walked in at the party with the two girls and the club was already packed... Palesa held Nandipha’s hand she looked at her. Palesa: “I will go to my friends.” Nandipha: “Hawu!” Palesa: “Yes, and my boyfriend is coming over here. I want to leave with him and that way I will get some.” Nandipha laughed and pushed her away. “Let’s go, my baby.” She said to Ngcebo and they went to the section where his brothers were. Nandipha had promised

herself that she was going to have fun tonight with no limits. IT WAS TIME TO PARTY... The ladies had left their partners and joined the crowds to dance. The party was at its highest point. They have sung for Mntwana and had snacks and free drinks that were provided for them. Now, it was dancing time... Nandipha felt that someone was dancing behind her and she turned to look who was dancing behind her and it was a guy she didn't know. She didn't say anything to the guy but she moved away from him to dance where she was going to be comfortable. But the guy followed her and held her wrist. "Leave me alone!" She told him at the tone that was meant for him to hear. Guy: "I just want us to have fun. You can dance and I like what I am seeing." He said trying to hold Nandipha closer to him and she tried to push him... "Bhuti, look

that's Nandipha!" Mntwana informed his brother holding his shoulder to secure his attention because Ngcebo was busy laughing with the guys who were seated with them on their section. Ngcebo stood up. He'd been seated on his chair with his eyes keeping the traces of Nandipha until he lost her. Now, what he was seeing angered him and so, he moved from his space to get to Nandipha fast. After he had pushed through crowds he got to Nandipha and he held the guy who was pressing on having a dance spree with Nandipha. He was also making sexual remarks to her based on what she was wearing. "What are you doing?" Ngcebo shouted at the guy and without waiting for an answer he began punching the guy... The angry guy wasn't a weakling and so, he returned the punches. They fought with each other and people

closer to them stopped dancing... Nandipha was crying as she moved slowly at Ngcebo's back shouting at him telling him to stop fighting but he didn't listen. She looked back at the person who was holding her wrist and it was Ndabezinhle. "Stop the fight don't hold me!" She screamed looking at him and back at Ngcebo who was still fighting with the guy. Ndabezinhle: "No, let him beat him." Nandipha: "No, he's also hitting him. Please!" she begged him but Ndabezinhle didn't budge. The two other brothers were also closer now but they were not stopping the fight. They could see that their brother wasn't losing and so, they didn't stop the fight. Nandipha broke free from Ndabezinhle's hold she ran towards Ngcebo and the guy who was fighting with him. She didn't care what Ngcebo had told her before but she jumped on his back and

held on to his neck. People screamed. “NANDIPHA!” Ngcebo roared, he didn’t have to turn his head to see that Nandipha was the one on his back. “STOP FIGHTING!” She screamed and pushed the guy that was before them with her stilettoed foot. The crowds screamed louder instead of stopping the fight and others were taking videos of the

fight... Seeing that the fight was getting out of hand with Nandipha clinging on Ngcebo's back. The brothers stepped in and stopped the fight. The guy wasn't prepared to back down even after Nandipha had pushed him. Ndabezinhle held Nandipha's waist and got her off his brother's back. He held her to him as Nandipha was panting looking at Ngcebo who'd turned to look at her. Ngcebo grabbed her wrist and paved the way through the crowds to leave the club with Nandipha. He opened the door of his car for her and she stepped inside the car. Ngcebo stepped inside the car after her and drove off at the high speed. Nandipha: "I don't want to die." Ngcebo: "Just shut up!" he exclaimed boldly and looked at her shortly. Nandipha looked aside and from that mist of anger she remembered that her bag was left at the club. But Ngcebo's brothers were

there, they were not going to leave her bag... “Why did you do what you did?” Ngcebo asked looking at Nandipha. Now, they were inside Ngcebo’s bedroom. Nandipha was seated on the bed looking down. “I am talking to you Nandipha?” he asked. Nandipha: “What did I do?” Ngcebo: “You fuckin jumped on me while I was fighting! What did I say about being careless Nandipha?” he shouted. Nandipha: “I wanted you to stop fighting Ngcebo and your brothers were doing absolutely nothing to stop the fight. What if that man lay charges?” Ngcebo: “What if you fell on the floor? Huh? You are worried about jail? You were going to fall and hit your head on the floor. What was I going to do?” Nandipha: “I am sorry.” “Tsk!” He left her looking down and headed for the bathroom. Nandipha got up and followed him to the bathroom after

she'd removed her shoes. "What do you want?" he asked looking at her as he was taking off his shirt off. Nandipha: "I will get your face cleaned and apply something suitable for the wounds. I saw a first aid kit." She said opening the bathroom wall cabinet and took the first aid kit. Ngcebo sighed and grabbed the bathroom bench. He sat down and Nandipha stood in between his thighs. She took care of his bruised face. Nandipha: "I am sorry that I got into trouble. That guy was making nasty remarks to me while trying to dance with me because of my dress. It's my fault I shouldn't have worn the dress." Ngcebo: "That's nonsense. You can wear anything you want to wear and nobody should feel the need to misbehave with you because of your clothes. You were supposed to let me hit him even harder. Motherfucker!" He clicked his tongue

repeatedly and hissed lastly. “He didn’t hurt you, right?” he asked holding her thighs and he looked at her. Nandipha looked down at him with a smile. Nandipha: “He didn’t hurt me and thank you for protecting me. The people around me were having fun to notice what was happening.” Ngcebo: “If I didn’t do it who was going to do it?” he asked looking at her and Nandipha baby kissed his lips. She then finished up helping him and all that time Ngcebo’s hands were just on her thighs. Nandipha: “You are taking a shower now?” Ngcebo: “Yes, and I want to eat. I don’t know if my brothers will come here or drive to Ndabezinhle’s house.” Nandipha: “Just shower I will contact Naledi and ask her. You’ll eat when you are done taking a shower.” She told him. Ngcebo got up from the bench and Nandipha left him... She was busy preparing food for him after Naledi had

informed her that they were going to come to the house. She was thinking about back home. What the parents were going to say about what happened and she couldn't help but feel worried...

S2 – EPISODE 26

Dalisu stepped out of the car and marched to the front door of his wife's house with his tablet on his hand. He was angry and needed to speak to Thembelihle. He left the royal house in a hurry because he wanted to get to Thembelihle's house... Thembelihle was inside her closet packing clothes that she was going to leave for Durban carrying. She looked back as she'd heard Dalisu calling for her. She left what she was doing and went back to their room. Dalisu was seated on the couch inside their room. Thembelihle: "What's wrong?" she asked sitting next to him. Dalisu: "This is what wrong." He took his tablet and gave it to her. Thembelihle read the headlines: 'Younger Zulu Prince Mntwana's birthday party ended badly as his brother, Prince Tee had a fight in their older brother's club.'

Thembelihle gasped and looked at Dalisu. Dalisu: “Just read the article.” Thembelihle read the article that first highlighted the elegance of the party and the VIP guests who were invited. The article moved from that point and discussed the turn of events. The journalists didn’t get the straight story from Ngcebo and the other princes and so, their article was based on what they were told about sources who were at the party. And was not confirmed by the man who was involved in the fight. Dalisu: “That’s your daughter in-law.” He commented pointing a picture where Nandipha was on Ngcebo’s back... The article had highlighted that Ngcebo was fighting for one of the two girls that he’d entered the club with. They rumoured that the girl might have been someone too close to Ngcebo. Thembelihle: “I can see that but it says here he was

protecting her from a guy who was trying to do something she didn't like." Dalisu: "What was she doing in clubs? Huh?" Thembelihle: "Hawu, baba. She was with Ngcebo and they're still young. You can't expect that Ngcebo will attend all the parties that he does without taking Nandipha along with him. It's his life and Nandipha is in it now." Dalisu: "No, that's not acceptable and Ngcebo should know that while he's out in such places. He will have to leave his bride home. Look at what she's wearing MaSthole. Is that a dress or a jersey?" Thembelihle: "It's a jersey dress Mageba and it's not even that short. It's just above her knee and Ngcebo had told me that he likes Nandipha in anything she chooses to wear. He doesn't want her to change her style." Dalisu: "No, that will have to change and now, we should go to Johannesburg."

Thembelihle: “Why?” Dalisu: “We need to fix this because I will not tolerate reading such things about Ngcebo and his bride in future.” Thembelihle: “No, we can’t do that baba. And I should be in Durban at the hotel. I can’t change my plans now.” Dalisu: “They’re changing. Now, pack my bag and we are leaving.” He said lastly and got up to leave Thembelihle... She hissed and got up from the couch feeling angry that now, she had to change her plans... ---- “Ngcebo, wake up!” Nandipha shook Ngcebo awake after she’d put the tray of breakfast on top of the bedside drawer. He was reluctant to wake up but she shook him softly until he was awake. Ngcebo: “Good morning.” He yawned and greeted her trying to sit up straight. His body was feeling pains and she could see that he was paining. They didn’t just hit each other on the faces but also the

lower abs. Nandipha: "I got you breakfast and I will wash your face with hot water." She informed him taking the basin that she'd put down. Ngcebo: "You are worrying yourself about nothing." Nandipha: "Don't say that Ngcebo because you have a bruised face and we need to take care of it." She said washing his face softly.

Ngcebo: “Hmm! The water is too hot.”
Nandipha: “Yes, it must be hot because it will help you heal.” She didn’t stop washing him, she did even though she could also feel that the water was hotter. Even her hands were hardly holding the face cloth well... She then removed the blankets just from the upper body. “Where are you feeling pain?” she asked looking at his lower abs. Ngcebo pointed the spots and Nandipha took care of him softly until she was done... She got back and moistened his face and lower abs. Ngcebo: “Thank you and now, come eat with me.” Nandipha: “I left my food downstairs. The others are already eating.” Ngcebo: “It’s okay, we will just share on my plate. You even brought cereals and even if we are not full we will eat your plate downstairs.” Nandipha: “Okay, don’t wash your face when you take

a bath.” She joined him in bed with his tray on his lap. Ngcebo: “Okay, and what do I do with the stomach?” Nandipha: “Don’t bath it too. You’ll see how you will avoid that from happening.” She advised and held his hand to bless the food. Ngcebo: “Okay, let’s eat then.” They eat the breakfast starting with cereals, Nandipha had brought one spoon for the cereals and so Ngcebo would feed himself and then her. When eating the plate of breakfast, they used their hands to eat... They then went to bath together... “Eish, your face doesn’t look good.” Banele commented looking at his brother. They were seated in the lounge watching a movie with their partners still with them. Mntwana was still with them... The video of the fight was trending on social media, and people all different comments to share about the fight and the girl that jumped on Prince.

Ngcebo: "Yeah, he did a number on me and I did the same." "You need to go and lay charges." Candice, Banele's girlfriend advised Ngcebo. She was seated next to Banele on the couch. They were both doing the same course and have been dating for three years. The lady was white. Ngcebo: "No, I won't waste my time and I don't even know his name." Naledi: "You don't lay charges against someone just because you know them Ngcebo and I am sure the cameras have him on the CCTV. Did you see the paparazzi here in the morning? No, you didn't see them. They want to know what happened and this guy might arrest you first." Ngcebo didn't want to breathe a word as he'd avoided to switch on his phone when he saw it in his room. He knew that they were probably calling him none stop just to get what happened. And his

manager! Mntwana: “They have a point bhuti. I think you need to lay charges before he does that.” He supported the ladies. Ngcebo looked and Nandipha, she got up and went to attend the intercom... She marched to the door and opened the door for the police. They greeted. Nandipha: “How can I help you?” Police1: “We are here for Ngcebo Zulu. Is he home?” Nandipha: “Eh, yes, you can come in.” she led them to the lounge with her heart pumping faster as she had predicted why they were inside Ngcebo’s house... Everyone sent their eyes to Nandipha and the police who were behind her. Nandipha looked at Ngcebo as the police were greeting. Police1: “Who is Ngcebo here?” he asked the person he knew clearly, but procedure! Ngcebo stood on his feet and marched to them. Ngcebo: “What’s wrong?”

Police2: “Nkosana, Sello Tau laid charges of assault against you.” he informed him politely and everyone in the house stood on their feet... Nandipha placed her hands on her eyes as she couldn't hold her tears. This was her fault! She couldn't stop blaming herself and now, he was going to jail. Police1: “There are a few journalists outside your residence and we don't want a scene around us. So, we won't cuff you but you are under arrest for the assault of Sello Tau...” he called out all his rights and Ngcebo went closer to Nandipha who was crying. He placed his hands on her wrists to remove her hands from her eyes. But Nandipha shook her head. Ngcebo: “Please, don't cry because I will come back.”

Nandipha: “What if you don’t?” she asked looking back for the police and they were standing by the door looking back at them. “Your parents will blame me. I don’t want you to leave me alone.” She cried and hugged him. Ngcebo drew his breath and hugged her back. “I won’t stay forever there but I will come back. My mom won’t blame you for anything if dad does she will protect you since I might not be there when they see you.” he comforted her predicting that his father might be the one who might have a problem with what happened. He knew that. Police2: “Mageba, we need to go.” Ngcebo: “Okay... I will come back.” he kissed her forehead and Nandipha moved away from him without looking at him or anyone in the house. She ran up the stairs to get to her room. Ngcebo was looking at her and he then looked at his brothers.

“Please, call my manager and tell him about this. He will call my lawyer.” He looked at Ndabezinhle and he nodded. Ngcebo then left the house with the police... The journalists ran closer to them as they saw Ngcebo leaving with the police. They quickly opened the door for him and he stepped inside the car. They were not driving the police van but the police private car. They didn't give them a chance to question him... The two ladies stepped inside the bedroom where Nandipha was lying on the bed with her face on the pillow. She was feeling bad that Ngcebo's name was going to be all over tabloids because of her. She was supposed to fight with him and tell him she was not going to the party. Naledi: “Nandipha, don't cry this much. Ngcebo is not dead and he will come back. His brothers had left to try and get

him out of jail.” Candice: “Yes, and you have to be positive for him.” she advised and they sat down on the bed with her. Nandipha sat up straight and looked at them. Nandipha: “This is my fault. I need to get him out of jail. I just want to avoid the court case and everything. What can I do?” Naledi: “No, it’s not your fault.” Candice: “Speaking about avoiding court case I think there is something that we can do that will help him out.” Naledi and Nandipha: “What is that?” Candice: “You need to lay charges against that Sello guy.” Naledi: “Yes! That’s right. Let’s go now and lay charges of sexual assault because he wanted to dance with you against your will. And he made sexual remarks and touched you.” Nandipha: “You are right.” Candice: “Yes, we will have a case against him and maybe he will offer you a deal that you drop the

charges if he drops charges against Ngcebo.” Naledi: “Yes, and Mntwana along with the guy witnessed what he was trying to do to. Ndabezinhle have cameras inside the club.” Nandipha: “You are right!” she jumped off the bed and wiped her tears. “You are my life saver Candice. I will do that.” She marched to the bathroom to wash her face... The ladies then went to the available car and Naledi drove out of Ngcebo’s yard. Nandipha felt violated and angry as the journalists were busy stopping the car from moving because they wanted the story... She clicked her tongue and stepped out of the car even when the ladies with her were telling her not to do it. They all went to her side as they realised that she was the ‘one’ “Don’t you have lives? Oh, no, that’s a wrong question because this is your life. But hey, we don’t have anything to say

to you!” She burst after receiving a number of questions without being able to understand one. Male journalist: “What is your relationship with Prince Tee?” Are you one of those girls who follow male celebrities just to cause drama in their lives?” he asked and Nandipha looked at him feeling further angered. Second one: “Yes, and we hear that you wanted the guy closer to you. Did you perhaps wanted to get Prince Tee’s attention and he got the wrong picture?” Nandipha: “I owe none of you an explanation and as a man if you have something to write. Go write about yourself because you think women go out there and provoke men with no dignity and respect

for women. Ngcebo was just standing up for a friend who was defenceless while the others were busy to notice what was happening. Just go and write that, fucker!" she clicked her tongue and turned to the car even though they were still shouting questions behind her. Naledi drove forward and they gave her space to leave...

"Hello, sisi." Nandipha answered her sister's call. They were driving back to Ngcebo's house after they have laid charges against Sello. The police gave Nandipha a hard time with their tricky questions but she didn't give them the satisfaction of having a chance to twist her words. Nontobeko: "Nandipha, I read about what happened? How are you?" Nandipha: "I am fine but Ngcebo has been arrested for assault." Nontobeko: "No! I wish I can come and be closer to you but I am working. I don't have

time these days.” Nandipha: “It’s okay, sisi and mama also called me. She’s angry and worried about me but I am going to be fine.” Nontobeko: “None of what happened is your fault. Don’t let anyone make you believe that do you understand?” Nandipha: “It’s hard to believe that because mom and dad called me. They are angry with me sis, they blame me for what happened and how I handled things. I don’t know what to do.” Nontobeko: “No, it wasn’t your fault Nandipha and you know that mama was going to be angry. Don’t feel like what you did is wrong, that goon was wrong. Do you understand?” Nandipha: “Yes, I understand and thank you for the call.” Nontobeko: “Okay, take care of yourself.” Nandipha: “Thank you and you, do the same.” They hung up the call after saying their goodbyes to each other. Nandipha was in the car with

Naledi now because Thembelihle had called Nandipha to tell her that they were at Ngcebo's house. Candice didn't want to meet Banele's parents yet... They stepped out of the car and walked to the front door. "I promised my mother that I will come back today. I will have to go to Nhlakanipho now." Naledi informed Nandipha as they entered Ngcebo's house. Nandipha: "Okay, thank you for going to the police station with me." Naledi: "It's okay." The lounge was empty and so, Naledi took out her phone to call Ndabezinhle. Nandipha went to the kitchen to have some water and she found Thembelihle seated on the island's chair. Naledi: "Sawubona, mama." Thembelihle raised her head and smiled. "Sawubona, where are you coming from because we didn't find you here and you didn't tell my sons anything?" she asked meeting her

halfway and they hugged each other. Nandipha: "I went to the police station with Naledi to open a case against the guy that caused all this drama." Thembelihle: "Oh, mntanami! Are you fine?" Nandipha: "No!" she replied and held her emotions. Thembelihle hugged her again. Naledi stepped inside the kitchen while they were still hugging each other. She greeted Thembelihle and she moved away from Nandipha to hug Naledi. Thembelihle looked at her. Thembelihle: "How are you?" Naledi: "I am fine and how are you, mama?" Thembelihle: "I am fine and it's good to see you again." Naledi: "Yes, but I am leaving now. I have to go home to Nhlakanipho." Thembelihle: "Okay, how about you bring him to me and you can take him when I leave. Just to give you a break." Naledi: "That would be lovely I will bring him." she

said delightedly and Thembelihle nodded her head. Naledi then left them. Thembelihle turned to Nandipha. She had her mind miles away thinking about the outburst that she had with the journalist. Maybe she didn't have to talk to them!

Thembelihle: "Where's your mind?"

Nandipha: "It's here. Uhm, where are the others and will Ngcebo come back?"

Thembelihle: "He's been formally charged with assault and we will attend his bail hearing

tomorrow.” She looked down and closed her eyes. “I am so sorry.” She said softly and looked at Thembelihle. Thembelihle: “Don’t do this to yourself Nandipha because even Ngcebo doesn’t blame you for this but I should let you know that your father in-law is angry with you.” Nandipha: “Hawu! Mama! Where’s he?” Thembelihle: “He’s in the pool room with his sons. You have to go and greet him but don’t be scared. I saw a milk tart on the fridge, where did you buy it?” Nandipha: “I made it for Ngcebo because he likes it.” Thembelihle: “Okay, that’s great I will taste it first and then you’ll go give it to him with some creamy coffee as you’ll be greeting him. Now, go get your head covered and come back here I will teach how to make his coffee.” Nandipha nodded without asking how did he eat milk tart with coffee. She ran upstairs to cover

her head. As she was busy covering her head. Ngcebo's phone rang, she took the phone and answered the call that was saved by Miranda. Ndabezinhle had brought back his phone after they found the number of Ngcebo's manager. Nandipha: "Hello!" Miranda: "Hello, can I speak to Prince?" Nandipha: "Here's not here what do you want?" Miranda: "Eh, okay, who are you as you are asking me that question?" Nandipha: "Who am I? That's none of your business if you are not leaving a message just hung up the call." Miranda: "Bitch! Don't give me attitude because you are answering his phone and didn't he tell you that he doesn't like a girl who answers his calls?" Nandipha: "No, I think he forgot to tell me but thank you for the heads up." Miranda: "Tsk! Go to hell and enjoy him while it lasts." She hung up the call without waiting for

Nandipha's response. She clicked her tongue and put Ngcebo's phone down. She took the phone again and lit it up, it had a pin as security and she didn't know it. She then put it down. She left the room as angry as she was. She'd been called a bitch by a woman she didn't know! Thembelihle then taught Nandipha how to make Dalisu's creamy coffee. She could see that she was distracted but she didn't want to keep asking her questions. Thembelihle: "Please, let your mind be here because if you let yourself be distracted you'll drop this tray on your father in-law." Nandipha: "Yes, mama." Thembelihle: "I don't know what to say now to get you to loosen up." Nandipha: "No, it's not that mama. I will go." Thembelihle: "What's wrong?" Nandipha: "It's nothing you should worry yourself about mama." She said and left Thembelihle, making her way

to where Dalisu was with his sons... Dalisu was seated on the couch with his eyes looking at the TV. And the brothers were playing snooker while having a conversation with their father. "Sawubona, baba." She greeted Dalisu looking around for the small table. Mntwana quickly brought the table for her and put it before his father. She thanked Mntwana. Dalisu was looking at her. Dalisu: "Yebo, sawubona." Nandipha kneeled down and placed the tray on the table. "Unjani, baba?" Nandipha asked after putting the tray down. Dalisu: "I am fine but not pleased with what I had to read on the tabloids. My son is in jail now and I don't get why you had to go to parties." Ndabezinhle: "Hawu, baba. Ngcebo wanted her to go with us." Dalisu: "I am not talking to you, Ndabezinhle." Ndabezinhle: "I am sorry." Nandipha: "I am sorry for what happened,

baba. I didn't mean to cause any troubles and I am also not happy that Mageba is not here." Dalisu: "I can see your mother told you to bring this for me. Where did you buy this milk tart?" he

looked at her and Naledi wasn't looking at him. Nandipha: "I made it for him yesterday." Dalisu: "Okay, you can go. Ngizokhuluma kahle nawe uma le ndoda yakho isikhona la ngoba njengamanje ayikho into engizoyikhuluma nawe." (I will talk to you when Ngcebo is here.) She bowed her head and left for the kitchen... Thembelihle looked at her as she entered the kitchen and Nandipha was also looking at her. Thembelihle: "What did he say?" Nandipha: "He'll speak to me when Ngcebo returns." She said politely and looked at her hands with her mind occupied with what Dalisu had said. Thembelihle: "That's better because I know that Ngcebo will stand for you and he will protect you from his father." Nandipha: "Okay... mama, can I go and rest?" Thembelihle: "Okay, you can go but you'll need to wake up and cook. Naledi will

come back to give Nhlakanipho to me and I can't cook while the baby is here. I will be with him." Nandipha: "Yebo." She climbed the stairs to Ngcebo's room... She laid on the bed and closed her eyes. Ngcebo's phone rang again disturbing her sleep. She got up and went to switch off the phone before getting back to bed...

S2 – EPISODE 27

"I need to tell you something." Nkosazana said sitting next to Mlamuli after she'd put the children to sleep. Mlamuli was watching TV but his mind was with Ngcebo. He couldn't possibly think what he was going through as he was arrested for trying to protect his fiancée from a dignity-less man. He wished to be there for him but he couldn't go to Gauteng because his father was also there. His mother was the one who called him and he'd read the news. The

story was also covered on the newspapers now. Mlamuli: "What is it?" Nkosazana: "I have been busy lately and I know that you've seen that." Mlamuli: "Yes." Nkosazana: "I have an organisation..." she then told him everything about her organisation and she looked at him waiting for a response. Mlamuli: "What? How can you do something like this without telling me and you are telling me about it now because you're launching the project?" Nkosazana: "Ndabezitha, I had to do this on my own. I am telling you now because you need to know not because of the launch." Mlamuli: "Why didn't you do it here? Why did you launch it KwaNongoma where you know I was banned? I don't belong there anymore and that also applies to you!" Nkosazana: "I am trying to fix things that I have messed up. I know that if I can do something for

your people your father will eventually accept our marriage.” Mlamuli: “My father? He disowned me! I don’t have a father and I have accepted that. I don’t know why you would do this without telling me first.”

Nkosazana: “No, you haven’t accepted it because right now you can’t even be closer to your brothers because of your father. I don’t know why are you upset about this because your mother supported me.”

Mlamuli: “You’ll stop this organisation KwaNongoma and bring it here, where you live. We won’t argue about that.”

Nkosazana: “I am afraid I can’t do that.”

Mlamuli: “You can’t or you won’t?”

Nkosazana: “I won’t do it because I am doing this for the good of your people. There’s nothing wrong with it and if it’s going to restore my image to the people I won’t stop doing it.” Mlamuli: “I am your

husband not my father that you want to please. And right now you need to listen to me.” Nkosazana: “Ngiyaxolisa, but I won’t listen you.” she said shortly and stood up as Mlamuli’s phone

was ringing. She didn't expect that Mlamuli was not going to support her. She thought he was going to be behind her 100% like he'd always done but he didn't support her. And didn't hide that he was angry because of her organisation's location. It was better that she leaves him because he was angry and there was nothing they were going to speak about when he was angry he was going to give her orders she wasn't prepared to follow... "Mageba!" Mlamuli greeted his brother on the phone. Mnotho: "How are you?" Mlamuli: "I am fine and how are you?" Mnotho: "I am fine, I read the news about Ngcebo and I can't reach him since he's in prison. I called once and it wasn't answered when I tried again it was on voicemail. Do you have his fiancée's number?" Mlamuli: "I will ask Nkosazana to give it to me." Mnotho: "Okay, but why do

you sound down and how is mom and everyone?" Mlamuli: "I don't know but dad is in Gauteng so I just couldn't go there." Mnotho: "It's not about dad Mlamuli it's about Ngcebo." Mlamuli: "I know, and I will go see him when dad is back in KZN. When are you coming back? Elena is still refusing your offer?" Mnotho: "Yes, and I don't know what I was doing following a crazy white woman. I wouldn't be in this situation if I didn't." Mlamuli laughed. "Oh! She's crazy now? I advised you not to run after women and what was so important about this Elena woman that you even got her pregnant? L.A. doesn't have condoms?" Mnotho: "Look, you don't understand we were drunk and then one thing led to another. She's the woman I got to travel around because she's from here. And then, boom the woman is pregnant. Now, I can't even see other

women because she takes me as her boyfriend. She finds me cute because I like to sleep holding on to her, just imagine how stupid is that.” Mlamuli laughed. “Dad, always told you not sleep like women.” Mnotho: “Voetsek! Now, I have to look after her because she’s carrying my child.” Mlamuli laughed even louder as he was sharing the details now, he’d told him before that he made the woman pregnant and she didn’t want to come back to South Africa with him. “There’s nothing funny about this Mlamuli.” He added. Mlamuli: “What’s funny is that you got yourself a girlfriend unintentionally and your stupid head was still going to sleep with other women. Do you want to make the whole country pregnant?” Mnotho: “No, this pregnancy was a mistake and now, I can’t leave the country and turn my back on my child.”

Mlamuli: "I think you need to tell your mother about this and that way, her husband will cool down because he'll see that you are there because of a child now." he advised. Mnotho: "No, I will come back with the baby." Mlamuli: "Huh? She agreed that you'll come back with the baby?" Mnotho: "She said she didn't want a baby but what's confusing is that she's my girlfriend by force. I am playing along because I can't hurt a pregnant woman." Mlamuli: "I am pretty sure that by the time she gives birth she won't give up her child just like that." Mnotho: "I am praying that she does." Mlamuli: "What?" Mnotho: "Dude, I can't leave the baby behind and I can't definitely move here for the baby. We will just have to find some agreement." Mlamuli: "When is she giving birth?" Mnotho: "April." Mlamuli: "HELL NO!"

Mnotho: "At some point I will have to tell mama about it because if I don't I am afraid they will disown me as well." Mlamuli: "Yeah, do that. And you can come back and go back to your girlfriend. You don't have to stay there till April." Mnotho: "No, I have to keep an eye on this woman. She's trouble and now, I see that all stereotypes

about American women are actually true. I miss African women.” Mlamuli laughed. “Sorry, bafo but I am happy that you’ll be a father now.” he said and stood up to get to his room after he’d switched off the TV. Mnotho: “Thank you, and what is it that you wanted to talk about?” Mlamuli: “Oh! It’s my livestock Mnotho, I don’t know what’s happening because last week two cows dropped dead and then yesterday I woke up to find that three goats are dead. This is no time for any diseases.” Mnotho: “No, this can only mean one thing.” Mlamuli: “What?” Mnotho: “The ancestors are angry.” Mlamuli: “Hhayi! Hhayi! That’s not what is happening here. I refuse to believe that Mnotho. What did I do?” Mnotho: “Ngcebo told me that you didn’t speak respectfully with dad but you lied to me and told me he was being unreasonable and didn’t want to

listen to you. Why did you do that?" Mlamuli: "That's not true and what was I supposed to do?" Mnotho: "You were supposed to agree in the presence of the others that you are obeying his word and then, speak to him politely when you were alone. We agreed that in September you will do that." Mlamuli: "I wasn't expecting it then, Mnotho and I was angry." Mnotho: "You need to go speak with him then or else your livestock will die until you do what is right." Mlamuli: "I am in this mess because of you and so, don't forget that." Mnotho: "I haven't forgotten it and please, send my regards to your family there. I gotta run now." Mlamuli: "I will." They hung up the call, he got up thinking about what Mnotho had said, he was supposed to speak to his father after he had disowned him? But how? He didn't want to believe what Mnotho had

told him... Mlamuli opened the door to his bedroom. He found his wife asleep. He joined her and touched her shoulder but Nkosazana kept quiet. Mlamuli: "MaMkhwanazi?" he called her out politely and Nkosazana didn't breathe a word. "I know I have upset you and I didn't mean to do it. It's just that I feel like you were supposed to tell me before doing this." he said. Nkosazana: "Mama, advised me to do it without your help. I had to show that I can do things on my own and besides doing it to restore whatever had happened. I just thought that you'll be happy that I am helping young girls." Mlamuli: "I didn't say I am against it that's why I said you can do it here mkami but if you took it that way I am sorry." "It's okay." She said holding his hand and smiled. Mlamuli bend his head and kissed her forehead. Nkosazana closed her

eyes, appreciating how much the man respected her. Mlamuli: “Get up, let’s pray and let our bodies rest.” He suggested looking at her. Nkosazana sat up straight and they held each other’s hands to pray...

----- Nandipha was seated on the kitchen reading the notes that Duma had sent to her. It was Wednesday, and Ngcebo was said to come out of jail. Monday, Ngcebo went for bail hearing and he was denied bail. Thembelihle had advised Nandipha not to go to court. Ngcebo had to spend time in prison. Nandipha couldn’t go on campus. She didn’t feel like going there because of the scandal that had happened and still today, she didn’t attend. She’d cooked lunch and was waiting for Ngcebo’s return... Mntwana had travelled back to KZN, Thembelihle and Dalisu were the one left with Nandipha inside Ngcebo’s house.

Banele and Ndabezinhle had gone back to their places. Nhlakanipho was also with them in the house but Thembelihle sent him back to Naledi in the morning because they were leaving Thursday morning. The charges against Ngcebo were dropped by Sello after he'd asked Nandipha to drop charges against him because Nandipha had the strong case against him. She then dropped the charges on Tuesday. Ngcebo asked not to be released on Tuesday. He was waiting on a man who'd asked a

favour from him. Nandipha had her head looking at the pad as she was revising the notes that were sent to her. Ngcebo cleared his throat and Nandipha lifted her head. She smiled dearly and got up from the chair. She walked slowly towards him feeling the joyful relief now that she was seeing him again. Ngcebo: "I can't believe I am seeing you again!" he commented and Nandipha hugged him with her heart. Ngcebo could feel that she was getting emotional and so, he hugged her even tighter lifting her body off the ground. "Don't worry now, all that is behind us." he comforted her. Nandipha: "I was scared that you won't come back. You know how people bribe Judges and police these days. I was scared, Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "I am here now, and so, you don't have to be scared." He backed away from her and held her face to kiss her...

Nandipha held on to his waist and accepted his kiss, she'd been worried about him and his wellbeing but now she was happy to have him back with her... "You are supposed to be in your room taking a shower. It seems like you have forgotten that we are also here as you are busy kissing each other." Thembelihle commented behind them. She'd left Dalisu seated on the lounge. They stopped kissing immediately and Nandipha looked down. "I didn't know that you are behind me." Ngcebo said to his mother he was looking at her but Thembelihle was looking at Nandipha. Thembelihle: "Okay, go and shower then we can have lunch." "Okay." He said holding Nandipha's hand dragging her closer to him. Thembelihle: "No, you are not taking Nandipha with you." Ngcebo: "Hawu, why not?" Thembelihle: "You just

got out of jail you need to go to your father.” Ngcebo: “Okay.” He let go of her hand and left the kitchen... Thembelihle then sat back and looked at Nandipha prepare the table for lunch... After Dalisu had blessed the food, they all dug in. Nandipha was quiet because of what was in her mind. She was thinking of what Dalisu had said. She didn't know what he was going to say to them. He was going to blame her? Thembelihle: “And why did you want to spend another night in prison?” Ngcebo: “I was waiting for a guy who'd promised me a song.” Dalisu: “Promised you a song?” he exclaimed looking at Ngcebo. “You had to spend another night in prison just for a song?” he shouted. Ngcebo: “Yes, a lot of things happened in there, baba and I end up going to other inmates while I was in a holding cell. I met some people there. I can't really

explain what happened.” Thembelihle: “You are keeping it a secret?” Ngcebo: “No, I think I can only share with uMaZondi.” He said holding Nandipha’s hand and he looked at her with a smile. Nandipha returned the smile and she looked at her plate. Thembelihle: “Oh, he has a wife konje. He’ll no longer share secrets with us.” Ngcebo: “Yes, mama.” Dalisu: “But we need to talk about what happened.” Thembelihle looked at Dalisu as she didn’t expect they were going to talk about it right way. “Yes, we will talk about it and MaZondi along with your fiancé. I want you to listen to me clearly.” He looked at them, both. Nandipha and Ngcebo: “Yebo.” Dalisu: “Ngcebo, when you are going out to parties, crowded parties like the one you had organised for your brother. You will leave MaZondi behind and go on your own.” He

announced. Ngcebo: “No!” he exclaimed loudly and looked at his father. Dalisu kept his eyes still on him without telling him he needed words in support of his ‘No!’ “Baba, entertainment is what I do and I go to a number of parties, events, music awards, the list goes on. I will need her to go with me. That’s what I do and she should support me.” he supported. Dalisu: “We know that it’s what you do but you’ll go there alone. You can’t be dragging your bride in those parties.” Ngcebo: “No, baba. You can’t tell me that.” Dalisu: “I am telling you now and she’ll have to change the way she dresses.” Ngcebo: “NO! Mama?”

Thembelihle: “Mageba-” Dalisu: “Thula MaSthole!” (Shut up, Thembelihle) he looked at Thembelihle with firm eyes and Thembelihle looked at her plate without a word. “Why are you saying no, when I am telling you she’ll have to change the way she dresses?” he asked. Ngcebo: “There’s nothing wrong with the way she dresses and I like her in anything that she chooses to wear. I won’t detect how she should dress up.” Dalisu: “She’s our daughter in-law and that mean we can detect how she needs to dress up and how she’s supposed to carry herself. And to protect our Kingdom’s name she will have to do that.” Ngcebo: “I didn’t take her for you but she’s mine, my fiancée, baba.” Dalisu looked at Thembelihle after receiving those words from Ngcebo. Ngcebo was debating with him and his mother was quiet! “I should

comment now as you are looking at me?" she asked. Dalisu: "You'll pretend as if you didn't hear what he'd just said?" Thembelihle: "When your parents wanted me to do what they thought was best for your name and kingdom. You refused and told them I won't participate because I am your wife not theirs. What is wrong if he does the same?" Dalisu: "This is different MaSthole." Thembelihle: "This is not different because I was told it was for the kingdom's name. Your name and I think you should let Ngcebo live his life as he wants. And if he doesn't want his wife dressing like we do, I don't see a problem." Dalisu: "There is a problem... MaZondi?" Nandipha: "Ndabezitha?" Dalisu: "You heard what I was saying?" Nandipha: "Yes, I heard it." She looked at Ngcebo but he was looking at his father. She didn't know how to feel

about what was happening now. What was she supposed to do? Dalisu: “When Ngcebo is out doing his job you’ll be here not out there in the crowds with him. And you’ll change the way you dress. We don’t want to see you on papers wearing short dresses like the one you were wearing. Do you understand that?” Nandipha: “Yes, I understand.” Thembelihle: “This is not the way to do things Mageba. You are not giving your son a voice in his own house. You’ll tell his wife what to do and what not to do? They are young and why don’t you let them be young?” Dalisu: “I should let them be young?” Thembelihle: “Yes, and I have told them that when she comes KwaNongoma she will not wear as she does here. That’s why I said I need to do Izibizo by December so that ngizomelula (cut a dressing pattern). That’s how things

are done, in tradition you don't just tell your daughter in-law how to dress up without buying those clothes for her. You buy the clothes and tell her this is how she will dress up." she told him and her mind reflected back when he told her how to dress but never bought those clothes for her until her pre-wedding ceremony. The tradition he was supposed to keep... Dalisu: "You are saying I should buy the clothes? I have no problem. Siyamelula ke MaSthole uMaZondi. She will change her wardrobe." Thembelihle: "No, you should just let them be young because they're young. I wasn't saying go buy clothes, you won't buy them because Ngcebo doesn't want her to change her clothes." Dalisu: "I should let them be young?" Ngcebo: "Yes, baba. If you like the way mama dresses up and approves of it, that's fine because she's

beautiful in her dresses and I am sure that's how you see her, beautiful. I also see Nandipha that way. I like her like this and she will not change her style just to please my parents because she'll not be marrying my parents." Dalisu: "You'll tell me that he's right?" Thembelihle: "Yes-" Dalisu: "That's nonsense and I know that you are agreeing to all this because you love her but if it was someone else you would be saying what I am saying." Thembelihle: "No, but Nandipha is a well-mannered girl and that shows that you can't judge a woman's character by the clothes they wear. And Nandipha will have to support Ngcebo's work that

means going with him when needed.” Dalisu: “The next thing we will see her performing on stage with him wearing nothing just like the girls that dances for him.” Ngcebo: “That will not happen.” Thembelihle: “Can you let Ngcebo grow up on his own and be in charge of his house. He doesn’t have to do things the way you expect him to do.” she raised her voice feeling angry that Dalisu was going to rule everywhere now even where he didn’t need to... Dalisu: “Don’t raise your voice at me! You are raising your voice for what reasons? Huh?” he shouted looking at her. Thembelihle: “Ngiyaxolisa.” She said politely and raised her glass... Nandipha felt bad that she was shouted at like that. She looked at herself and saw the difference, she would shout back at Ngcebo if he was shouting at her. And he never told her not to

shout at him. Dalisu: “Wena, I don’t want to talk about this for a long time because you’ll listen to what I am telling you. Do you understand?” Ngcebo: “Yes, I do.” he condescended and looked at his plate. He swore that he was not going to let Nandipha live her life laid out as his father had told her. He wanted to be free in whatever she liked, because he’d never seen something wrong with her clothes and her behaviour... He turned to look at Nandipha and he couldn’t help but take it upon himself to promise never to change her...

S2 – EPISODE 28

Nandipha sat on her bed and moistened her hands after dressing up for bed. Ngcebo was still downstairs with his mother. She couldn’t help but feel in the middle, she didn’t know whether to please her in-laws or her fiancé. She then took her phone and

texted her sister all her worries... She laid down and waited for Nontobeko's response.

>> "Girl, are you alright? You are not coming back? I read on the internet about Prince's arrest." << Palesa texted Nandipha as she'd seen her online. Nandipha: >> "Hey, rumza. I am still at his house I think I will come back tomorrow when his parents leave. He's also back from prison." << >> "Oh! Girl that's a good thing. I was quite worried about you but I am glad that you are alright." << Palesa texted back. Nandipha: >> "Thanks, I will see you tomorrow. Goodnight." << she texted and only logged off after Palesa had texted goodnight back... Her phone rang and she answered the call. Nandipha: "Sisi?" Nontobeko: "Hey, I read your message and how do you feel?" Nandipha: "I don't know that's why I texted you." Nontobeko: "I think you need to talk to

Ngcebo because he's only trying to allow you to be comfortable and I think that shows that he trusts you." Nandipha: "What were you going to do if you were me?" Nontobeko: "I was going to do what my partner supports because at the end of the day baby you are committed to Ngcebo. Yes, you should respect your in-laws but Ngcebo comes first because if you can stop supporting him, he'll be fighting with you not his parents. And when you start changing your style which he also likes, that will cause discomfort in your relationship. But you need to speak to him." Nandipha: "Okay, sisi. How's the little baby?" Nontobeko giggled. "The baby is fine I just want it to come out now because it's making my life miserable. I am always tired." She replied. Nandipha: "Ha! You don't know the gender yet?" Nontobeko: "No, I want it to be

surprise.” Nandipha: “Okay, I already have names ready njalo and I hope that I will be with you when you give birth.” Nontobeko: “I don’t think that will happen because mama told me about Izibizo zakho and I won’t be there nana.”

Nandipha: “Hawu! Why not? What’s wrong?” Nontobeko: “I will be preparing for my due date and I have to be closer to my Doctor here. But you will still name the baby even when you won’t be with me. And don’t be sad because I won’t be there in your ceremony.” “Okay, I understand.” She said raising her head to look at the person entering the door. She laid back down when she saw that it was Ngcebo. “When will I see you though? By 3rd of November I will be done with my exams and I will go home you won’t be home?” she asked. Nontobeko: “No, you’ll see me after December I think.” Nandipha: “Haa! You won’t come home for Christmas?” Nontobeko: “I don’t know but it will depend, if I have given birth I will come home but if haven’t I will not come home.” Nandipha: “Okay, I love you, sisi.” Nontobeko: “I love

you too, Nana.” Nandipha smiled and they wished each other, goodnight. Nandipha placed her phone down and looked at Ngcebo. “You are not feeling cold as you are sleeping with this only?” she asked pulling the boxers he was wearing. Ngcebo: “Hhayi! Nana, where are your manners? How can you pull your man’s under wear like that? This underwear protects your goods.” he asked joining her in bed and Nandipha laughed with her eyes closed. Nandipha: “I am sorry.” Ngcebo: “Yes, I will sleep like this.” he responded to the question and pulled the covers covering himself. He sighed. “Yoh! My bed!” he exclaimed. Nandipha: “I was so sad mostly every night thinking about the place you were sleeping in.” She told him with her eyes fixed on him. Ngcebo: “Don’t worry babe. I am not a cheese boy I sucked it up.”

He told her switching on his phone. Nandipha was reminded of the lady who'd called Ngcebo's phone and she tightened her teeth like a man. "Who switched off my phone after my brothers had used it? Look, there's call from L.A. I am sure that's Mnotho." He asked showing Nandipha the call log. Nandipha: "I switched off the phone." She replied without looking at him. Ngcebo: "Why did you switch it off?" Nandipha: "I didn't want to be constantly called a bitch by your girlfriends just because I answered your phone." Ngcebo: "My girlfriends? What are you talking about?" he asked looking at her but Nandipha didn't say anything. "I am talking to you, Nandipha." He reminded her as she wasn't answering him. Nandipha: "Why don't you look at the call log because you are looking at your phone now? I wasn't told

not to answer your phone but your girlfriend told me I shouldn't have done it because you don't like it." Ngcebo: "Miranda? She's not my girlfriend but my ex. And I never said you shouldn't answer my phone. But you saw it best to listen to some stranger and I am pretty sure you switched off the phone after my brother's call." Nandipha: "I didn't know it was your brother. The number wasn't saved." Ngcebo: "Stop assuming every woman who calls me is my girlfriend." He said logging online to read about the scandal. He looked at Nandipha as she wasn't breathing a word to what he'd just said. "Did you hear what I said to you, Nandipha?" he asked. Nandipha: "Yes, I heard you." she closed her eyes without having to give him her back. She didn't want to argue and so, she saw it best to let it go. He read through the comments of fans,

random people and tweets. He laughed at some of the crazy things they were saying 'Get yourself a girl who would jump for you like...' it was memes, GIFs where Nandipha was jumping on Ngcebo. He clicked his tongue as he proceeded to read realising how the people of South Africa would turn anything into a joke... He then logged off social media and read the entertainment news about the incident... "Whoa! Whoa! Nandipha, I am your friend?" Ngcebo shook Nandipha as he read the article that was most recent. The journalists had written Nandipha's response that was 'Prince Tee was defending a

friend.’ Nandipha: “What are you talking about?” “This!” He exclaimed and gave her the phone to see what he was talking about. He looked at her as she read through the article. Nandipha: “I was angry and I couldn’t say I am your fiancée because they were going to create another scandal. They were going to drag your father in the mix. And now, you are shouting because I called you a friend.” He kept quiet and took his phone from her without looking at her face. “You won’t even say sorry for shouting at me? You shouted for nothing, did you see that?” she asked looking at him but he didn’t answer her. Nandipha looked at him as he proceeded with his phone without saying a word to her. She closed her eyes and opted she would sleep...

In the morning, Nandipha woke up very early to prepare breakfast because she

wanted to attend her revision classes. She had a few days to her exams and she had to direct her focus on the exams now that the scandal had died down and Ngcebo was back home. She was dressed up in a long black dress with thin straps she had the scarf around her shoulders and a doek on her head just in case her father-in-law walks in on her. She didn't want to give him the reason to talk... "You are up already!" Thembelihle commented taking out a jug of water inside the fridge. She stood by the kitchen island and looked at Nandipha while having a glass of water. Nandipha: "Yes, I have an important tutorial exam classes that I will have to attend from 8:30. I will go right after preparing breakfast." Thembelihle: "Hawu! That means I won't see you when I leave?" Nandipha: "Yebo, mama. I haven't been attending so it's important for me to

attend these classes because I have my first exam on Friday, next week.”

Thembelihle: “Okay, I hope you will pass your first semester.” Nandipha: “I will pass for you and mama.” Thembelihle: “That’s my girl. I will go back to bed then.”

Nandipha: “You won’t find me back here.”

Thembelihle: “Okay, we will speak on the phone.” she gave her hands out to her and they hugged each other. Thembelihle smiled dearly feeling at peace that her son had found a woman who could look after him...

Nandipha: “Thank you for your support.” Thembelihle: “That’s what mothers do, you’ll see that one day when you are a mother to your cute babies.” Nandipha smiled and nodded. Thembelihle left her to her cooking... Nandipha then quickly wrap up everything as time was against her. When she was done she removed the scarf

and doek on her head. She ran upstairs to get her books bag. She was in a hurry because she hated being late... Ngcebo wasn't on his bed, Nandipha took her bag after she'd put the doek and scarf away, she checked herself on the mirror and hurried to the door. "Where are you going?" Ngcebo asked Nandipha from the bathroom's door. Nandipha: "I am going to my tutorial class." Ngcebo: "But my parents are still here and you are just leaving without telling me? Why are you doing that?" Nandipha: "I have told your mother and I have made breakfast. I can't be late for class today because I wasn't on campus this week. I have an exam next week Friday." Ngcebo: "Okay, let me drive you." Nandipha: "No, I will manage. You can't leave your parents here. Bye." She closed the door without hearing his response...

“Between you and I, ntwana. Can you tell me the truth?” Duma requested looking at Nandipha. He was walking her to her flat after their tutorial classes. It was just after 1pm. Nandipha wanted to walk to her flat just to have some air and clear her head. Duma then offered to walk her to her place. They were sharing a pocket of chips on their way. Nandipha: “What truth?”

Duma: "What's going on between you and Prince Tee? I have been trying to connect the dots. You said your guy is from KZN but I heard him speak to you when you were telling me you are leaving. The guy with a car came to fetch you and now this saga?"

Nandipha: "He's my friend Duma. I told that to the journalists and I am telling you now, that he's my friend I saw how people gave me eyes on campus I just hated it. Yho!"

Duma: "Okay, that's cool then and he did a good thing by standing up for you to that goon. I would have done the same thing if I was there."

Nandipha: "Awu, ntwana yami, ngena la!" she gave her, her fist and they fist bumped. Nandipha shook her head with the music that Duma was playing. "I kind of enjoyed that party before that guy ruined it."

She said. Duma: "It looked like it was a great party and you didn't even invite me."

Nandipha: "I was invited too." Duma: "You have a lot of guy friends I can see. Your boyfriend doesn't have a problem with that?" Nandipha: "He does and he told me to end my friendship with you." Duma: "Eish, I understand, ntwana. It's not easy to trust your girl when she has more guys as her friends." Nandipha: "He must chill because I love only him." Duma: "Yizo!" they fist bumped again. Duma gave Nandipha the pocket of chips and walked before her as means to dance the shoulders' shake dance but he couldn't do it properly. Nandipha laughed. "Don't laugh." He said. Nandipha: "You need to stick to igwaragwara and leave that to us the bosses of umjaivo! Washa! Washa!" she danced the dance and went down jumping up and down. Duma clapped hands for her. They laughed. "Your girlfriend can dance?"

she asked giving him the chips. Duma: “No, she’s shy and so sweet that’s why I wanted you to meet her.” Nandipha: “Don’t worry, I will meet her.” Duma: “Your boyfriend can dance?” Nandipha: “Ha! Bae can dance but not like me of course!” She commented and they laughed. “Ey, bro. Exams are coming up soon. I hope you will study.” Duma: “Relax, I will study. And we have reached our destination.” He announced pointing the block of flats. Nandipha: “Thank you. I will see you on Friday. We will talk about studying on the phone.” she said hugging him shortly. Duma: “Yeah, bye.” Nandipha waved her hand and walked through the gates... “Zulu girl is back!” Palesa screamed and jumped off the couch. She marched towards her and gave her a warm hug. “Oh, girl! You had me worried.” Nandipha: “I am back and so, that means I

will trouble you again.” Palesa: “Yes, please begin doing it.” They laughed and sat down on the couch... ----- “Mama Ethel, I will be going to the studio now. I will return late and that means, you and baba’ Adam can go when you are done working.” Ngcebo said loudly to Ethel who was busy vacuuming the carpet. Ethel: “Okay, I will do that but where’s Nandipha? She wasn’t well the last time I saw her because of your arrest.” Ngcebo: “She went to school and I don’t know if she’ll return home. I have to go now, bye!” he said running to the door... Ethel: “Bye!” She then proceeded with her cleaning... Ethel was busy cleaning the bathroom downstairs when there was someone on the gate. She marched to check who was on the gate and the face of ‘that girl’ appeared. She was seated inside her car looking glamorous even though

she wasn't showing fully. Ethel: "What do you want?" Belinda: "Magogo, I am not here for you just open the gate." Ethen shook her head without say a word to Belinda and opened the gate for her. She then marched

to kitchen to take the wet long kitchen clothe. She placed in inside her uniform's pocket. She waited for Belinda patiently. She wanted to show her today, should she disrespect her. But that Belinda didn't come running to Ethel. She walked around calling "PRINCE!" she repeated the name but there was no response from prince and so, she decided to climb the stairs. "Hheyi! Where do you think you are going up there?" Ethel asked looking up at Belinda as she was climbing the stairs. Belinda looked back at Ethel and said nothing. She proceeded with climbing the stairs. Ethel decided to follow her as it was obvious to Ethel that Belinda was going to Ngcebo's bedroom. And to, Ethel she didn't deserve to enter his bedroom. Ngcebo was sharing that room with Nandipha and it had to remain like that... "What are you looking for here? Get

out?” Ethel told Belinda as she’d entered Ngcebo’s bedroom. Belinda had seen that Ngcebo wasn’t inside the bedroom and she was trying to go to his bathroom to check for him there. Belinda: “I am looking for Prince, where’s he?” Ethel: “Ugcina ngento okumele ngabe uqale ngayo mthakashana ndini. Inkosana akusiyo eyakho manje, hlukana nayo phansi! (You were supposed to ask that first little witch Ngcebo doesn’t belong to you now and so, get out of this room now!) she shouted pointing the door and Belinda laughed at Ethel’s words. She couldn’t believe that Ethel was shouting at her... “He belongs to who, magogo?” She asked with a mocking voice and she took a step forward just to take a closer look at her. “Magogo, imicondo yakho le eyomile neziqhomo ezinde!” Ethel mocked Belinda pulling the wet clothe on her. She hit her

with the dish clothe and Belinda screamed running out of the bathroom. She was wearing a tight shorter red dress with blue heels and the glamorous accessories. Ethel ran after her and every chance she got to be closer to her she didn't waste it but she hit her with the cloth. Belinda: "I will get you arrested you, old woman!" Ethel: "Go get me arrested! I will tell the journalist that you are a clingy bitch who doesn't want to let go of our Prince even after he'd made it clear that he doesn't want you anymore." Belinda: "I dare you do that!" Ethel: "I know English too, madam! I dare you arrest me!" she shouted back taking another step towards her and Belinda ran out of the house holding her heels on her hands... Belinda stepped inside the car angry that the old woman had hit her. "Goodbye, and I hope you won't come back again because I will

boil some water for you, Satan's daughter! Sies!" she exclaimed loudly and Belinda drove off without saying a word to her... Ethel laughed and marched inside the house. She couldn't wait to tell Ngcebo the news about Belinda's visit...

S2 – EPISODE 29

"Do you really have to inform the council about stepping down?" Thembelihle asked Dalisu. She was standing before him helping him dress up for his meeting with the council. Dalisu: "It will be November in three days and I wanted to step down in September. I have given Mnotho a lot of time." Thembelihle: "What will happen to Dalingcebo then? He will have to go away for protection?" she asked fixing his tie. Dalisu: "No, today I am going to inform them because I know we will debate about this. We shouldn't be debating about it because

what I say should go but I know how they are.” Thembelihle: “I don’t like what you are doing but that doesn’t matter because it’s not like you care about my feelings.” “How can you say that?” He asked looking at her as they left the bedroom. Thembelihle was walking after him. Thembelihle: “How can I not say it because you keep on doing things even though you know that I don’t like them. Even though you know that I am not happy about them.” Dalisu: “I promised you a relaxation holiday after I have retired, don’t you want that holiday now as

you are telling me that I do things even though they don't make you happy?"

Thembelihle: "Have a good day." She sat down and ignored his statement. She didn't want to talk about it because she knew they were going to fight. She was tired of the fights about the throne because it didn't include her children's wellbeing she was going to let Dalisu do as he pleased.

Dalisu: "Why are you ignoring my question?"

Thembelihle: "It's not like if I answer it you will do what I want just to please me. It's never about us now but the throne."

Dalisu: "The throne is part of our lives. What do you want me to do now? I should stop doing what's right just to please you?"

Thembelihle: "No, you don't have to please me and I am not going on any holiday with you while my son is not allowed to come here." Dalisu: "You want me to run to him?"

Who's the child between us? It's not even once that he tried to apologise and speak to me about his points politely." Thembelihle: "You banned him. If someone is banned from the land that means they shouldn't enter it no matter what happens. He was supposed to come back here and be killed?" "Be killed? What do you mean by that? I am capable of killing my own blood is that what you are telling me, MaSthole?" he asked looking at her but Thembelihle didn't say anything. He looked at her still waiting for a response. "Uyabona uma kuthiwa abafazi babeshawa kwakushiwo abanjengawe. Uyeyisa wena futhi uyangikhohlwa ukuthi ngiwubani kuwe. Angazi noma lokho ukwenziswa ukuthi nguwe wedwa umfazi wami." (If women were beaten they were talking about women like you. You are rude and it seems as if

you forget who am I to you. I don't know if you do that because you are my only wife) he added still looking at her but she wasn't looking at him. Thembelihle: "Shada Ndabezitha uma ubona kukufanele. Biza izintombi ukhethe eyodwa noma ezimblili uyishade ngeke ngime endleleni yakho. Uzongithwesa icala lokuthi waganwa yim ngedwa manje? Shada ke, vele sengikhulile mina." (Get married then, call girls choose one and get married) Dalisu clicked his tongue and left the house... He stepped inside the car, his driver was already waiting for him. He inhaled deeply trying to cool down because he didn't want to hold his meeting while he was still angry. He didn't want Dalingcebo to be present at the meeting but he'd also invited the Zulu elders because he wanted to hear what they had to say... He arrived in time for the meeting

and he took his chair after they have greeted him. He had small talks with them while they had tea and biscuits before the meeting... He then requested them to keep still... Dalisu: "I have called you here because I want to discuss my retirement." He announced and everyone looked at one other shocked that he was already talking about retirement. Male elder: "Hawu, Ndabezitha, you are following on your father's footsteps?" he commented and they all supported him. Dalisu: "Yes, but my retirement is earlier than his." Aunt elder: "You took the words out of my mouth. You still look young as yesterday." She said and they laughed. Dalisu: "Hhayi, MaZulu. I want my sons to rule now. I have the whole house of boys and I want to see them bearing fruits." Council man: "Oh! We understand when you put it that way, I was

thinking that maybe you don't feel well." Dalisu: "No, my health is good. I can still take two wives for retirement and give them children." He joked and they laughed. Council woman: "No, you need grandchildren now not children." Male elder: "A man can never say he has enough children." He commented and they all agreed with him. The Zulu elders had never made peace with the fact that Dalisu married only one wife. They wanted him to follow in the footsteps of his forefathers but he wasn't interested. After the birth of Banele they went as far as trying to choose a wife for him giving him an excuse that 'he was never going to get a chance to marry a daughter out and get cows' They have seen that together with MaSthole they only birth boys. Dalisu turned them down and told

them 'never to choose a wife for him
because he has one'

Dalису: “That’s true but I think grandchildren is what I need now. So, MaMthiyane is right.” He supported the woman’s comment and she bowed. Council man: “Siyezwa Ndabezitha and we have heard that you want to retire but my concern is that what will happen with 1st prince’s wife because we all know that her past life was never good.” They agreed with him. Dalису: “I am not choosing Mlamuli.” “HAWU!” They all chanted and looked at Dalису. They didn’t ask questions but they waited for him to elaborate. Dalису: “My first two sons are not taking after me.” Male elder: “Hhaybo! Why not?” Aunt elder: “Yes, we understand that you might not choose Mlamuli because of his wife but Mnotho. He’s also the older son and he’s fit to rule, people love him. Yes, Mlamuli is the fittest and we all know that but Mnotho is also fit.” Dalису: “I am

choosing Dalingcebo as my successor.”

“HHAYBO!” They all chanted and whispered amongst themselves until Dalisu commanded them to keep quiet. Council man: “You can’t appoint a younger son to rule while there are fit older sons. That will cause conflicts amongst them.” Dalisu: “I can do that because in the past they’ve done it.” Aunt elder: “They have done it and they ended up killing each other. You don’t remember that? You have forgotten?” Dalisu: “I haven’t forgotten but my sons are different they will never kill each other because of the throne.” Aunt elder: “Yes, Dalingcebo is fit to rule but he can’t rule above his older brothers. You know that your son is the most arrogant and unapologetic even about little things. Humbling himself is something that’s close to impossible, he will disrespect his brothers

first if you put him in power.” Zulu elders: “Yes!” they agreed because they knew Dalingcebo personally unlike most of the council members. Male elder: “Your aunt is right but if he was the eldest, we were never going to stop you from choosing him because he’s a strong character. But he can’t rule while there is Mlamuli, Mnotho and Ndabezinhle. Choosing him will only cause disorder in the kingdom.” Dalisu: “He’s my son and I am choosing him.” Council: “WE ARE NOT IN SUPPORT!” they denied it. Dalisu: “I won’t be told what to do. I will do what I want to do and what I see as best fit to do.” he told them straight. Council man: “Dalingcebo can rule and he’s fit to rule. Ndabezitha has every right to choose whomever he sees as fit.” Council woman: “Yes, Ndlela is right. There’s nobody who can stop him and I am sure

there is a reason behind him choosing Dalingcebo.” Male elder: “As Zulu elders we are turning this down. It is our right to protect this kingdom and if our Monarch is making wrong decisions. We should guide him and now, we are telling him that in this time and age, Dalingcebo is not the right son to take after him.” Aunt elder: “If our king insists that he wants Dalingcebo to take over him. As family anchors we will have to see Gobela and ask guidance from the ancestors.” She announced and the elders agreed... “I wasn’t made king to have decisions taken on my behalf.” Dalisu informed them standing on his feet now. Elder: “We are not taking decisions for you but we are showing you the right way.” He told him... Dalisu didn’t breathe another word. He left them...

“Why do you look upset mama?” Dalingcebo asked sitting down in the kitchen chair while Thembelihle was busy baking. She’d just finished cooking lunch for the elders who were coming to her palace. It’d been three days since the council had an argument with Dalisu and Dalisu was still angry about it. Thembelihle didn’t comment when he told her what the council had told him. She knew that they

were going to be against him. Thembelihle: "I am not upset." Dalingcebo: "I can see that you are upset and you were since the day arrive from Mlamuli's house. But I didn't want to ask in the presence of dad." Thembelihle: "You didn't tell me how did you go?" Dalingcebo: "I just spent time with the kids because their father was not home. Nkosazana told me that he left in the morning to visit Ngcebo." Thembelihle: "Oh, I remember he told me he would go see him because he wasn't with him the time he was arrested." Dalingcebo: "Yes, and I wasn't there too. If he told me earlier I was going to go with him but I will see him when he comes back." Thembelihle: "Okay, that's a good thing." Dalingcebo: "Now, back to the queen. Why are you upset?" Thembelihle: "It's just an argument I had with your grandmother and father. They still insist on

making you monarch even after the elders have advised your father that he must not do it because there are two older fit sons.” Dalingcebo: “Really?” that made him feel relief. Dalisu didn’t tell him about the meeting because he thought what the elders had said was going to upset his son. Dalingcebo had honoured his word and he didn’t want him to be upset by family politics. Thembelihle: “Yes, and the elders are coming here to discuss that with your father. They have consulted with Gobela.” Dalingcebo: “I bet he told them the same thing he told dad when he came here.” He predicted taking the fruit on the table. Thembelihle: “Your father didn’t want to tell me what he said.” Dalingcebo: “He said what you know mama, the ancestors want him to fix things with Mlamuli but he said he will not do that.” Thembelihle: “Hhayi, when

they arrive you'll take Mntwana with your food and drive to your house. The meeting will not include you." Dalingcebo: "Okay, MaSthole." He got up and left her because she'd told him what was worrying her... "Why didn't you tell us that Gobela had already inform you that you need to mend things with Mlamuli?" One of the Uncles asked Dalisu. Dalisu: "That was a message meant for me." Sbani: "But bafo, Gobela wasn't going to tell the elders if you were the only one who was supposed to hear the message." Sgwili: "Sbani is right and you need to do what the ancestors has told you." he advised looking at Dalisu... Sgwili's mother, MaKhoza was no longer alive. MaCebekhulu was the only wife left of the late king. Sgwili married Ntombi as his second wife after three years of getting friendlier and closer to one another. He had

four children with Cynthia and had six children with Ntombi. Sbani on the other hand was still married to his wife Sbongile and they had three children and two children that Sbani got out of wedlock. Dalisu: “Mlamuli and Mnotho are not here, I can’t make them take after me. Not after how they have disrespected me.” Thembelihle: “They never did, Mageba. Mlamuli just wanted you to wait for Mnotho’s return because there’s something keeping him overseas. But you couldn’t do that for them.” “HAWU!” The elders were disappointed by the news that Dalisu kept hidden from them and so, they were all forced to look at him. But he was looking at Thembelihle who’d revealed something he didn’t want them to know. MaCebekhulu: “Ndodana, I understand that your older sons have disrespected you and I am also not

pleased about it. But we can't go against the ancestors because that will only cause bad luck and pain for us." Thembelihle: "I have a suggestion to solve all this." "KHULUMA MAKOTI!" They encouraged her to speak.

Thembelihle: “Ndabezitha, should make Dalingcebo his right-hand man. He has a chief advisor and so, his son should be his right-hand man. That will give him enough time to groom Dalingcebo and show him everything while he buys time that his older brothers come to their senses.”

MaCebekhulu: “That’s a good suggestion.”

Male elder: “Yes, you will have to do that and that means you will stay on your throne until we get the message from the ancestors that tells us to do otherwise.”

Aunt elder: “And I have faith in my Mlamuli, I know that he will humble himself if you can just give him a chance. And you don’t have to worry about his wife anymore she’s already winning the hearts of our people.”

Dalisu: “She’s doing what?” MaCebekhulu:

“Yebo, MaZulu, tells us. What is she doing?” Aunt elder: “Hawu, MaSthole? They

don't know about what your daughter in-law is doing? How come because you know?" Thembelihle: "Nkosazana asked me to support her and told me that she was doing this for the good of the people and to restore her image. She didn't want to brag to anyone about it. It was going to reach everyone at the right time." Male elder: "What is that, MaSthole?" Thembelihle: "She's helping girls through..." she then explained it to them what she was doing and MaZulu supported her by telling them the response from the mothers of the girls. She would know about the project more because the mothers had asked her to keep an eye on Nkosazana until they can trust her fully. She was involved in the project fully because she lived in the village where she was helping the girls. Sbani: "That's a good thing." He commented and the others

agreed. Dalisu didn't comment but he made a mental note to find someone who was going to confirm on his behalf that what they have told him was the truth. Or they were just selling him dreams and lies just to soften him...

S2 – EPISODE 30

Nandipha stepped inside Ngcebo's house after speaking to Nontobeko on the phone. She found Ethel removing the curtains in the lounge. Nandipha: "Sawubona, mama." Ethel: "Yey! You are still alive? Where have you been?" she asked looking at Nandipha: "I have been busy with my exams mama but now, I am done with them. I have all the time in the world." Ethel: "Oh, that means we will see you here more often." Nandipha: "No, because I am going home." "Hhaybo! You are going home and who are you leaving here with Prince? You want Belinda

to keep coming back here?" she asked taking the curtains that were on the floor. Nandipha: "Belinda?" Ethel: "Hee! Ngcebo didn't tell you? Just go to him and ask him about it." She said walking away and Nandipha ran upstairs. She wanted to ask him about it first before she could even forget about it... "Ngcebo!" Nandipha shook Ngcebo awake. He was sleeping, he got home late after a long night at an event that he was invited to. He didn't even change his clothes but he fell asleep with his clothes still on him... Ngcebo: "Hmm! Hmm!" he pulled his covers after shaking his head signalling that he was sleeping and he didn't want to be disturbed but Nandipha woke him up. They haven't spent time with each other in two weeks. Ngcebo only dropped by here and there to provide Nandipha with goodies to eat while she was studying. They

would spend about an hour talking and he would leave her. Nandipha: “Ngcebo, wake up!” she removed the blankets from his body and he was forced to wake up. Ngcebo: “Ey, Nandipha. I am sleeping, you know that I was busy all night but now you have the nerve to wake me up.” His irritated voice told her abruptly and he pulled the covers he had removed.

He covered himself without looking at her. Nandipha looked at him. Nandipha: "You told me to come here because there's something we should talk about before leaving tomorrow but now you are treating me like this?" she complained hoping that Ngcebo would say something but he didn't say anything... He could hear her talk but he was heavily sleepy to answer her. Nandipha opened her bag and took her phone. "I turned Palesa down for this! Tsk! Just a waste of time." She commented and stood up, she marched to the door with her eyes on her phone and her bag on her hand. Ngcebo: "You can be angry all you want but don't leave." Nandipha: "I shouldn't leave but you are not giving me your attention?" Ngcebo: "I am sleeping." Nandipha: "Okay, sleep then." She said slamming the door behind her. She didn't

have to tell him how he doesn't mind waking her up even for no reason. But now, that she was doing it for a reason he was treating her differently. It was only important he's not woken up while that didn't apply to her. She complained alone walking down the stairs even after she'd heard him shout her name. She wasn't going to leave the house but she didn't want to stay inside the bedroom where he was sleeping... Ngcebo: "I am calling your name and you are ignoring me." Nandipha: "I am letting you sleep." Ngcebo: "I said don't leave." Nandipha: "I am not leaving." She said putting her handbag on the couch and Ngcebo followed her to the kitchen, yawning... Nandipha opened the fridge. Ngcebo: "I am hungry." Nandipha: "Mama Ethel told me that Belinda was here. What was she doing here?" she asked looking

back at him. Ngcebo: "I don't know, she didn't tell Ethel and I didn't ask her. I wasn't here when she came over." he yawned and looked back at Nandipha. She was standing by the fridge. "What are your plans because you are done with exams." He asked. Nandipha: "I am going home tomorrow nje." Ngcebo: "No, we are going to the ritual but you will come back with me." they were going to KZN for the ritual that Dalisu was going to do for Dalingcebo. Gobela had supported that they make Dalingcebo, Dalisu's right hand man. Nandipha: "No, I can't possibly stay here. I am going home." Ngcebo: "Angizwanga?" (excuse me?) he widened his eyes as her words surprised him. He didn't expect that from her. Nandipha: "What's wrong?" Ngcebo: "Who am I supposed to come back home to when you are leaving?" Nandipha: "How can you

even ask me that because you told me you'll be busy this December since last December you were home." Ngcebo: "Yes, that means you'll need to be home and I will have to come back home to you not the empty walls. And you'll have to come with me to some events as my friend because that's what you told the public." Nandipha: "I will have to attend events with you after your father told me that I will have to stay at home while you go out." Ngcebo: "You'll not do what my father says but you will do what I say. Unless he's the one who'll be marrying you." Nandipha: "What if what happened at the last party happens again and then your father will be furious with us." Ngcebo: "Nandipha, I am telling you that you'll stay here." Nandipha: "Oh, it's about you? Not about taking a decision together? You are like that now, or it was all a lie?"

Ngcebo: “Why do you want to leave me here alone?” Nandipha: “I want to go home because I have nothing to do here.”

Ngcebo: "You haven't done your learners but I told you to do it just after the negotiations. I am sure that you haven't bought K53 but you want to go and stay at home doing nothing but staring at the TV all day." Nandipha: "That's not what I do at home and I will have to help mama because of the 16th of December, we will have your family for izibizo. I have to go home." Ngcebo: "I will hire people who will help your mother and I want you here." Nandipha: "I am not taking orders. Let's discuss and agree in one thing." Ngcebo taunted his jaw as the young woman challenged him. He'd never had a problem with gender equality in a relationship but at times Nandipha made him feel like he could just be like his father. He could be just a head and detect everything that happens. Nandipha was stubborn! Ngcebo: "How

about you go home on the weekend of the 25th of November that means you'll have like four weeks before the ceremony. That's enough time to help your mother. And after the ceremony you'll come back." Nandipha: "Okay." She placed the plate of food before him and Ngcebo thanked her. Nandipha took the bowl of ice cream and passed through Ngcebo but Ngcebo held her wrist. Ngcebo: "Please, sit down with me because we have something to talk about." He pointed the chair next to him... Nandipha sat down. Nandipha: "What is it?" Ngcebo: "I have called someone who will ask your ideas about the house that you want back home. I told you that dad gave us a site right?" Nandipha: "Yes, you told me but you didn't tell me the location." Ngcebo: "Enyokeni." Nandipha: "What? Why so far from your mother?" Ngcebo laughed and

felt at ease that he'd done this because now, it was evident that Nandipha was going to want to be close to his mother. Ngcebo: "You'll always be with mama if I can allow that you have a house closer to her palace. I am saying this for the last time I am not marrying you for my parents. It's good to have a relationship with them but that doesn't mean you should be with them 24/7." Nandipha: "You are changing Ngcebo and I don't like it." Ngcebo: "I am changing what do you mean?" Nandipha: "You are being bossy." Ngcebo: "I am having serious talk with you I am not being bossy." He informed her and Nandipha kept quiet. "I will go back and rest after this and I am taking you out for a movie." He said. Nandipha: "I thought we will be indoors and spend some time together since we haven't been seeing each other lately." Ngcebo: "We will do all

that after the movies. We always stay indoors especially after a long time without seeing each other.” She didn’t comment she just ate her ice cream... She just couldn’t wait to go home and spend time with his mother in-law first and her mother. She’d enough of the busyness of the city... ----- Nontobeko had informed her parents that she was going to visit her extended family during December holidays. But she lied to them she was going to be in Durban waiting for her due date. She wanted to be with her child without her mother pressuring her into telling the truth about the father of the child. “I think I need some new comfortable shoes.” Nontobeko told her co-worker Mandisa after a long day at the office. Their office wasn’t far from where they lived, they walked to work daily. Mandisa: “I think you complain a lot these days Nontobeko.”

Nontobeko: "I am about to give birth silly! It's my right complain." She commented looking at her swollen feet and she frowned. Mandisa laughed looking at her as she'd guessed that she was going to complain about her feet next. "Why are you laughing?" she asked looking at her. Mandisa: "Your pregnancy is changing you into a nagging wife. What does your baby daddy say about it?" Nontobeko: "What's a baby daddy?" she asked looking at her with a disgusted face and Mandisa

laughed... Nontobeko had fully accepted that she needed to be away from men and that included Dalingcebo. She still loved him but she'd promised herself that she was over him. She was over missing him, she had a child to think about now because Dalingcebo had thrown her out of his life as if she was a useless human being. She knew that she was supposed to be honest with him but she wanted a little assurance about their closeness before opening up to him about her past. She was afraid she was going to get rejected by him but keeping the truth from him got her dumped. Mandipha: "Okay, I will ask nothing about it." She nodded and led Mandisa to the man that she bought the newspaper to, every day. She bought the paper and Nontobeko was drawn by the front story. She then decided to buy herself a copy. Nontobeko: "Can we

please walk faster I want to get to my room soon.” Mandisa: “You are incapable of doing that remember?” she joked with her and Nontobeko laughed. Nontobeko felt big and heavy but she wasn’t big and her pregnancy bump didn’t show that she was eight months pregnant. But she felt like it was too big... She sat down on her bed with food on her hand and she grabbed the newspaper. She’d long to get to her room and read the story that had forced her to buy the newspaper... She moved her hand on his face that was on the paper and she moved it down to the visible lower abs as Dalingcebo was wearing his traditional gear standing next to his father and Sbani along with Gobela. “This is your father, baby!” She spoke to her unborn baby with her hand still on the picture of Dalingcebo but where he was standing alone. The newspaper had

covered the royal traditional ritual that Dalisu had performed for his son. It was a beautiful traditional ritual. “You see, he’s a very honourable man. He’s a prince and that means you’ll be a princess or prince but sadly they can never accept you.” she said further and closed her eyes shortly. She opened them and proceeded reading the article as it highlighted the guests who were present at the ceremony. She wondered if this, meant that Dalingcebo was going to be king? And where was Mnotho because he was not mentioned along with Mlamuli. She sighed. Nontobeko: “I don’t why I am cracking my head with these royal people because it’s not like I have relations with them.” she said and put the paper away but she took it again. She smiled admiring how handsome Dalingcebo was in traditional gear. It was like it was made on him just for

him... “Yes, nana.” She greeted Nandipha on the phone but her eyes were still looking at the newspaper. Nandipha: “Hey, sis, how are you?” Nontobeko: “I am fine and how are you?” Nandipha: “I am so fuckin tired and I am angry you can’t believe what happened sisi! Your mother!” Nontobeko laughed and asked. “What happened?” she asked. Nandipha: “I wanted to stay at home since I am done with my exams and when Ngcebo was telling his mother that I will go with them. Mma, just said ‘No, mkhwenyana she can stay with her mother in-law.’” She mimicked their mother’s voice and they laughed. Nontobeko: “Didn’t you want to stay with her?” Nandipha: “I have been here since Friday afternoon and today, is Wednesday. I want to go home. I like my mother in-law but her husband doesn’t make life easy, yoh! Can you call mom and

ask her to tell my mother in-law to allow me to come back home now?" Nontobeko: "Where is Ngcebo?" Nandipha: "He's gone sisi and he left on Monday. And mama just supported that I can go back to Johannesburg and do my learners there. Ngcebo told them that I have to be in Johannesburg and do my learners after we have agreed that I will be home. I am angry." Nontobeko: "Why don't you come here and spend some time with me?" Nandipha: "Yoh! In the rural areas?" Nontobeko: "It's not December yet and so, I am still working." Nandipha: ".... I almost screamed. I will come and visit you but what will I say to mama and Ngcebo?" Nontobeko: "I will deal with them but you'll buy that K53 and read it while you are still here. You will not just be lazy and you won't stay longer." Nandipha: "Thank you! I will

get to touch your tummy.” Nontobeko: “Yes, yes... I just read the newspaper about Dalingcebo’s ritual. Were you there?”

Nandipha: “Yes, that’s where mom decided to sell me just like that. It was a beautiful ritual but sad for Ndlunkulu since her older sons were not there.” Nontobeko: “Oh, shame that’s sad.” Nandipha: “Yeah... Eish, I have to go they are calling my name.” Nontobeko: “Okay, I will call after I have spoken to mama.” “Okay, thank you. I love you and the baby.” She said quickly and hung up the phone call. Nontobeko laughed and shook her head. She wished she had a heart like Nandipha’s heart. But she realised that, Nandipha was still young she had no problems like the ones she had... ---
- Dalingcebo had wondered alone without having been able to ask anyone that why Nontobeko wasn’t present at the ritual because her family was there since they were in-laws. It has been over four months without seeing her. The last time he saw her

was at the negotiations that were at her father's house. As the in laws to the royal family Nontobeko's parents were invited to ceremonies held at the royal house. Nontobeko didn't even think of coming? Dalingcebo wondered alone and the wonder bugged him deeply that maybe she didn't come because of him. He was the one who'd called Nandipha and disturbed her phone call with her sister. Nandipha was seated on the lounge while Dalingcebo was in the kitchen of Thembelihle's house. Nandipha had left the couch still talking on the phone and Dalingcebo heard the last words he said on the phone. "Who's that you love and their baby?" He asked looking at Nandipha while peeling mango with a peeler he looked at Nandipha. Nandipha: "Eh, it's my old friend from high school." She lied remembering that Nontobeko had

told her not to tell anyone about her pregnancy. Dalingcebo: "Okay, mom and dad won't be back till late. Mom told me that I should tell you to cook dinner." Nandipha: "Okay." Dalingcebo: "And dad asked that you make the milk tart just like the one you've made for Ngcebo. I don't know..." Nandipha: "Okay, I will make it." "Yeah, that's what I called you for and those plastic bags. I was told to give them to you and you will unpack those groceries." He said marching to the kitchen exit after Nandipha promised to do what he said. "Hawu, can I ask you something?" he turned to Nandipha. Nandipha: "Yes, you can." Dalingcebo: "Where's your sister? I mean your family was here but she wasn't here. Why didn't she come?" Nandipha: "Eh, she doesn't stay at home anymore." Dalingcebo: "She went back to the military?" Nandipha:

“Eh, no but she’s doing something else.” she replied without revealing too much. She concluded that he was asking because he was her previous boss and it was expected that he asks... Dalingcebo: “Okay, that’s good.” He then left the kitchen wishing that he could ask Nandipha more questions about Nontobeko... Where was she? Was she seeing someone else? What kind of life was she living where she was? But Dalingcebo didn’t ask because he didn’t want Nandipha to be suspicious of anything about their past... He clicked his tongue as he rested his body on the couch. It’d always made him angry with himself that even after a number of months without Nontobeko he couldn’t forget her but she had forgotten about him. He didn’t know what to do to completely move on from her...

S2 – EPISODE 31

1st of December, Nandipha had spent a week with Nontobeko and she ensured that she reads her K53. On Sunday of that week, Ngcebo came by to fetch her and they headed to Gauteng. She'd enjoyed her time with her little sister and every evening she would come back to a home cooked meal. Nandipha would massage her feet and her tummy with bio oil. She'd read that massaging the breasts and tummy with oil during pregnancy helped and so, she looked after her sister. Today, Nontobeko had an appointment with her Doctor at Garden clinic in Empangeni. She'd been called by the Doctor to come by. "Oh! Lord! She's pregnant that's why she hasn't been coming to see me." Doctor commented looking Nontobeko as she stepped inside his office. Nontobeko: "I am guilty as

charged. I just knew that coming for check-ups here would be a waste of time and money because I am pregnant now.” Doctor: “Oh, who’s the lucky man?” he asked holding Nontobeko’s file to read through it. Nontobeko: “Do you remember earlier this year, I told you about the beast in town?” she reflected first and was the first to laugh before the Doctor did. Doctor: “Oh, yes, I remember the one with an iron face.” Nontobeko: “Yes, he’s the one who got me pregnant.” The Doctor placed the file down and laughed, Nontobeko was laughing along with him. “How did you manage with a beast?” he asked. Nontobeko: “I am a hardcore woman Doctor I can stomach anything.” Doctor: “I can see that... and now, tell me how is your arm?” Nontobeko: “It’s perfect.” “Okay, follow me.” He said marching to the door and Nontobeko

followed the Doctor. She was hoping for good news because that way she was going to know that after recovering from giving birth she would go back to work... She placed her feet on escalators and smiled, she was inside Sanlam Centre after her appointment with the Doctor. The Doctor had told her the good news that she was completely healed. She felt that now, she could give her commander the real report and inform him of her pregnancy. Now, she wanted to buy food and go home to her parents. She was going to be with them just for the weekend. They haven't close at work... She then exited Sanlam centre and marched to Nandos to buy chicken for her parents. "I can't believe what I am seeing with my eyes!" Thembelihle exclaimed and clapped her hands once. She looked at her sister in-law. "What is it?" Thokozani's wife

asked looking back at Thembelihle. They were just at the stairs of Nandos exiting when Thembelihle laid her eyes on Nontobeko who was approaching the stairs. Nontobeko raised her head as her eyes were fixed on her bag. She closed her eyes and looked aside as she couldn't believe that Thembelihle was before her. Why did it have to be her? She sent her eyes back to them. Nontobeko: "Sanibona." Ladies: "Yebo, unjani?" Nontobeko: "Ngiyaphila, ninjani?" She asked with a relaxed face and they told her they were fine. Now, she didn't know whether to just leave or just stand where she was standing because they were blocking her way. Thembelihle: "Didn't you tell me that you were not pregnant? What is this that I am seeing with my eyes?" Nontobeko: "I wasn't pregnant then." Thembelihle: "That's a complete lie. I told

you that you are pregnant and you denied that you were but now I am meeting you after a few months you have a pregnancy bump? This is not a few months' pregnancy I can see it." she asked looking at her. Nontobeko: "Some of us are young and vibrant and we don't cling into past relationships. That's how I managed to get pregnant fast." She said not realising the irony of her statement.

“HHAYBO!” Thembelihle widened her eyes looking at Nontobeko and she was shocked at her rudeness. “You are speaking to me like that?” she asked. Nontobeko: “I don’t know how I should speak to you because I don’t know why are you questioning me about my personal life. There might be a relation between us now that my sister is your daughter in-law but that doesn’t mean you have a right to question me about my life.” Thembelihle: “I wanted to know if the child you are carrying does not belong to my son. Or maybe it does not belong to him?” Nontobeko: “If the child belonged to him I was going to tell him and because I didn’t tell him that means the child doesn’t belong to him. Now, can I go?” “What wrong did my sister in-law say to you as you are this rude to her? She just asked you question that any mother would have asked

you and you are giving her attitude.” She wondered out loud looking at Nontobeko. She didn’t answer her. Thembelihle: “If the child doesn’t belong to my son that’s okay but if it does just know one thing baby. Ingane yakwaZulu ayifihlwa ngaphandle uma ufuna leyo ngane ife uzoqhubeka uyifhle.” (You must not hide a child from Zulu bloodline unless you want that child to die) Nontobeko: “I SAID THE CHILD DOES NOT BELONG TO YOUR SON!” She burst feeling angry that now she was cursing her baby. Even people passing by would turn and look at Nontobeko with surprised faces. “Hhaybo! Don’t speak like that with her. she’s the queen.” Her sister in-law told Nontobeko and she didn’t say anything. Thembelihle: “Hhayi, skwiza let’s go because it’s clear to me. Uyanyiswa mina lo sisi. I have tried to touch her before and she

almost hit me for it. I don't care if she doesn't respect my position but I am older than her but she speaks like this with me. Hhayi! She has said the child does not belong to Dalingcebo so let's go." She took the step forward feeling disrespected by a girl who was old enough to be her own child. Her sister in-law followed her. "I shouldn't have asked a thing about your private life sisi. I am sorry." She said turning to look at her shortly and she left her... Nontobeko felt bad that Thembelihle even apologised to her and as joined the order line she recognised that she was rude to her... --- She was seated on her bed reflecting on the time when she saw Nontobeko. She couldn't possibly understand why she was that rude to her. She hadn't said anything wrong to Nontobeko but she was still rude to her.

Thembelihle raised her phone and called Nandipha. She waited as the phone the phone was dialling. She was alone in her bedroom. Dalisu wasn't home. "Mama, sawubona." Nandipha finally answered Thembelihle's call. Thembelihle: "How are you baby?" Nandipha: "I am fine and how are you?" Thembelihle: "I am fine, I am calling to ask you something and I want you to be honest with me. Will you do that?" Nandipha: "Yes, mama." Thembelihle: "I saw your sister and she is pregnant. Dalingcebo is really not the father of her child or she was lying to me?" Nandipha: "Dalingcebo? Mama?" Thembelihle: "Eh! Um, you didn't know they were dating?" Nandipha: "Whoa! I didn't know they were dating mama. My sister doesn't speak to me about her love life that's why I wouldn't now." Thembelihle: "I am so sorry if I knew

that you didn't know I wasn't-" Nandipha:
"You don't have to be sorry." Thembelihle:
"Okay, she didn't tell your parents about the
father of her child?" Nandipha: "No, she
didn't tell them." Thembelihle: "Okay, thank
you." Nandipha: "It's okay." Thembelihle:
"You've written your learners?"

Nandipha: “Yes, I have and I passed it. But I will proceed with everything at the beginning of the year.”

Thembelihle: “And why didn’t you tell me that you passed?”

Nandipha: “It slipped my mind and I am sorry.”

Thembelihle: “Okay, goodnight then.”

Nandipha: “Eh, mama?”

Thembelihle: “Yes?” “Can you please talk to Ngcebo on my behalf? I want to come home and he doesn’t want me to go but mama, he’s always not home most of the time. I am always alone here.” She requested politely.

Thembelihle: “Hee! Ntombi? You can’t convince your fiancé to let you go home? How can you not be able to do that?”

Nandipha: “I have tried everything in my power but he doesn’t want to let me go. I want to go home.”

Thembelihle: “No, convince him that you want to come home. You must how to get him to listen to you. I

know it's a difficult thing but Ngcebo is a little soft compared to the others.”

Nandipha: “If I keep pushing mama uzodikila and uyamazi uyaba neconsi.”

Thembelihle: “That means you will stay with him then.” “Okay, goodnight to you too mama.” She said and dropped the call without waiting for Thembelihle’s response. Thembelihle looked at the phone and realised that she’d dropped the call. She dialled her number again but Nandipha didn’t answer the call. She decided that the person that she needed to call was Ngcebo... “MaSthole?” Ngcebo answered the phone call. Thembelihle: “You are panting, what are you doing?” she asked him and she could hear the sound of the instruments on the background. Ngcebo: “I am rehearsing mama. What’s wrong?”

Thembelihle: “I just got off the phone with

Nandipha and she tells me that she wants to come back. But you don't want to her to come back home." Ngcebo: "I should be alone here and she should be with her family. How is that fair to me, mama?" Thembelihle: "But you are working, Ngcebo. She must stay in your house and wait for your return. Is that what you want?" Ngcebo: "She saw it fit that she's runs to you and complain about this? How can she do that because she was supposed to speak with me?" Thembelihle: "She did that but you refused, Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "She can leave even now if she wants to leave. Tsk!" "Yeywena! You are clicking your tongue at who, me?" She raised her voice. Ngcebo: "No, mama." Thembelihle: "It's December holidays Ngcebo and people should be together and be happy. You can't keep Nandipha inside the house as if she's

your trophy. Just allow her to go and be with her family. She should be happy and plan how things should be for her ceremony not have people decide everything while she's not there. Just because you can afford those people and she must be with you. You should keep her happiness first mfanawami if you want your relationship to last and be happy." Ngcebo: "What about my happiness? It doesn't matter only hers matters?" Thembelihle: "It does matter but she has respected your decision to make you happy and she went back to Gauteng just for you and now, you need to make her happy too by letting her do what will make her happy too." Ngcebo: "Okay, mama. I will do that." Thembelihle: "And don't tell her we had this conversation, don't shout at her for trying to speak to me about this." Ngcebo: "Okay, I will do that. Thank you."

Thembelihle: “Okay, work and go home.”

Ngcebo: “I will do that. Ulalekahle.”

Thembelihle: “Thank you.” she said and hung up the call... She called her Nandipha once again.

“Hello?” Nandipha answered the call on a low tone. Thembelihle: “Why did you drop the call and ignore it when I called you again?” she asked abruptly. Nandipha: “I am sorry.” Thembelihle: “Are you crying?” Nandipha: “No, but I am trying to sleep because it’s late and I am alone in the house.” She replied. Thembelihle sighed. “I am also alone in my room because my husband is not home. I understand how you feel I hated it when my husband had to leave me for weeks and days because of the commitments he had. I couldn’t understand because I was young and so in love with him. It hurt always when he had to leave.” Thembelihle reflected. Nandipha: “I am not getting used to it mama. And now, I am here alone while he had people around him. It hurts a lot that I have to share him with the rest of the world.” Nandipha cried.

Thembelihle: “Oh, don’t cry. Do you know what do you have to tell yourself?”

Nandipha: “What?” Thembelihle: “You are committed to a Zulu prince and he has two wives. You are the first wife who loves him dearly and he’ll always run back to you in time, he loves you as well but he also loves the second wife, which is his music. My husband didn’t have another wife besides me and so, I told myself that his throne was his second wife. It always made me better that he was also with someone he loved. You don’t have to kill yourself with heartache and jealous because you can’t kill the love he has for music.” Nandipha: “Okay, that makes me feel better. I am in a polygamous marriage.” She giggled and Thembelihle laughed. Thembelihle: “That’s my girl!” Nandipha: “Goodnight, mama.” Thembelihle: “Goodnight, Princess.”

Nandipha giggled and they hung up the call... Thembelihle sighed and closed her to pray that Ngcebo's music career doesn't break them apart... She then prayed for the wellbeing of all her loved ones before falling asleep...

S2 – EPISODE 32

“When will I see you?” Ngcebo asked Nandipha, they were seated inside his car just outside the airport. Ngcebo took his mother's advice and allowed Nandipha to go home just make her happy. Nandipha: “You will see me next week Sunday on the day of our private ceremony. It will be beautiful.” She responded with a smile while holding Ngcebo's hand. He looked at her. Ngcebo: “Yes, it will be beautiful and respectful.” Nandipha: “But we will have a grand wedding when we get married.” Ngcebo laughed. “And why would we have

a grand wedding?” he asked laying his forehead on their hands that were joined together. Nandipha: “Because I will be getting married and people will want to see your wedding. Imagine if they can see an ugly bride in a small wedding.” Ngcebo laughed. “I will give you the wedding you desire as long as it won’t leave us bankrupt. We will still have to eat after the wedding right?” he asked. Nandipha: “Yes, we will have to do that.” Ngcebo: “Okay, let me walk you inside now.” he said looking at her and he pulled her face closer to him for a kiss before walking her inside the airport... Nandipha arrived in Durban before 3pm and she’d decided inside the plane that she was going to meet her sister. She wanted to confront her in person about Dalingcebo. She was angry when she heard from her mother in-law that Nontobeko had been

seeing Dalingcebo. She wanted to know from her if that was really the truth but she knew that her mother in-law wouldn't lie. And Dalingcebo had been more interested in asking questions about Nontobeko... Nontobeko saw that something was wrong with her sister. She kept looking at her as they were inside the lift up to her flat. Nontobeko: "Is there something wrong, nana?"

Nandipha: “How’s the baby? You look like you are ready to give birth.” She commented holding her tummy with a smile on her face. Nontobeko: “The baby is fine and I’m pretty sure it will be even more fine that you are here. Mamncane.” She said leading her inside her flat. Nandipha: “I am not sleeping over I am going home.” Nontobeko: “No, it’s late that you can take taxi back home now.” Nandipha: “It’s December now and people are busy. There will be no problem if I can go now.” she said sitting down on her sister’s bed. Nontobeko: “You know that mama won’t allow that.” She shouted from the kitchen and Nandipha switched on the TV that was inside the bedroom. She had a bachelor flat that belonged to someone she knew and she was paying rent directly to them. It had the small lounge but Nontobeko had removed

the TV to the bedroom because she was more comfortable with it on the bedroom. “I didn’t expect to see you here.” Nontobeko told Nandipha and gave her a plate of food that she had for lunch. Nandipha: “Sisi, why are you not coming to my ceremony because you won’t be working on the holiday and most companies will close for the holidays soon?” she asked looking at her. Nontobeko: “I can’t come because I will be in rural areas.” Nandipha: “No, you told me that you’ll be working but the ceremony will be on the holiday. And if you are afraid that the people from the military will see you on the newspapers you don’t have to worry because we won’t have journalists.” Nontobeko: “Why not?” Nandipha: “It’s just izibizo sisi. We can have them for the wedding because now, we are still keeping our relationship private.” Nontobeko: “Okay,

but Nandi I want to come but I can't." Nandipha: "Why not?" she looked at her wishing that her sister would just trust her even if she was younger. She would tell her the truth. Nontobeko sighed without giving Nandipha an answer. "You are running away from Dalingcebo, right? You are pregnant with his child and he got mad at you when he found out about the military? That's why you didn't tell him about the baby and he keeps asking questions about your whereabouts?" she guessed. Nontobeko: "No! Why would you think like that?" Nandipha: "I am not that naïve anymore sisi. Why didn't you tell me that he loves you and not me? I was acting crazy having a crush over a man who loved my sister and she looked at me act like a fool. But you are my sister?" Nontobeko: "Don't make a big deal out of this." Nandipha: "I

shouldn't? Do you know how I feel?"

Nontobeko: "How you feel about what? You are with Ngcebo now Nandipha. Why are you angry? Huh? Do you still have a crush on his brother?"

Nandipha: "No, it's not about that but it's about how finding out about this from the queen hurt me. I feel ashamed and foolish, my older sister made me feel like that. How can you do that?"

Nontobeko: "Can you stop being childish about this?" she shouted feeling irritated that Nandipha was fussing over the past. "I didn't plan to have him love me and not you. But it happened and it's over now. You are committed to his brother and so, just stick to him and don't make me believe that you still hanging over that crush!" she shouted hurting Nandipha's feelings even further. She didn't realise that she was hurting her little sister. Nandipha: "You don't

understand how I feel.” Nontobeko: “And I don’t care about how you feel. You want me to nurse your feelings? I won’t do that. And you need to grow up and stop being childish! My child is not Dalingcebo’s child just in case you feel like running to him to tell him that.” Nandipha looked at her as she felt cold on her spine as her sister’s words cut deep. She didn’t care about how she felt? “Okay.” Nandipha said looking at her plate she stood up and placed it where she was seated. She grabbed her bag. “Bye.” She said politely. Nontobeko: “Nandipha-”

Nandipha: “No, it’s fine. You don’t care about my feelings I got that loud and clear. I am sorry for coming by to talk such rubbish to you. I shouldn’t have.” She ran off her flat with tears in her eyes hating how she got hurt easily. She wished she could be stronger and not care about what people threw at her but she was too caring and so could easily get hurt...

“Nandipha, what’s wrong? You are quiet.” MaNtombela commented looking at Nandipha as they were checking on the decoration inside the tent that was going to be for the royal in-laws. It’d been a week since Nandipha got back home and she was happy at home with her mother. She’d gotten over what happened with her sister. Nontobeko had apologised but she told her she wasn’t forgiving her. But deep down she knew that she’d forgiven her. She hated

how she didn't have a heart that could hold grudges for a longer time. And she wanted her sister to believe that she hadn't forgiven her. She didn't know one thing a number of people could kill to have a heart like the one she had. She didn't know that some people had become the slave of pain, hate, misery and grudges and they didn't know how to get their heart to let go and forgive.

Nandipha: "My sister is not here. And she didn't even call me today." She told her truthfully. Today, she was sad that her older sister was not present on her first big day. She would have loved to be with her but she wasn't there.

MaNtombela: "Mntanami, but she told me that you are still angry with her. She called in the morning and asked about you." Nandipha: "Have I ever been angry for such a long time?" MaNtombela: "Sometimes you do, Nandipha." Nandipha:

“I pretend it and I talk to her even if I am pretending or really angry.” She told her and cried. “Hhayi! The way you cry Nandipha these days. You’ll have me believe that you are also pregnant.” She commented and hugged Nandipha. “It’s called nerves and hormones, aunty!” Nandipha’s cousin commented joining in on the hug. She laughed and mother and daughter laughed. Nandipha: “Yes, mom. I am not pregnant I am still studying.” MaNtombela: “Okay! But don’t worry about your sister she loves you and she will be with you in spirit.” Nandipha: “Okay.” “And I am here to take you because you need to get dressed. Your in-laws are closer now.” Her cousin held her hand and left the tent with her... --- “Hhayi, bafo! Your bride today! It shows that this day was the day when I was born. People were just beautiful, especially the bride.” Banele

exclaimed and placed his hands on his head and the brothers laughed... The day of Nandipha's pre-wedding ceremony was on the 16th of December which was Banele's 22nd birthday. He had told his mother that he had no problem with the ceremony being held on his birthday. Thembelihle felt it was best to consider his feelings. Banele knew that he wasn't going to have grand celebration at home and so, the ceremony was the best idea... They were seated on the table as brothers including their siblings from other houses (MaKhoza and MaMzobe) Thokozani's children and Thokozile's children were also present. "Don't compliment her that way because you will have us suspicious now!" Sbani's daughter commented and Banele looked at her with eyes widened. Mlamuli: "Don't widen your eyes like that because

she has a point.” He decided that he was going to come and support his brother on his big day. He didn’t go KwaNongoma but he drove straight from Eshowe with his wife. Their children were already with their grandparents for the holidays. Banele: “Do you have a problem, groom?” Ngcebo: “No, I don’t have a problem because Nandipha belongs to me and you have your four wives, right?” he looked at him and they laughed at him. “But I don’t feel that part of four wives.” Brian commented looking at Banele. Banele: “I feel it.” Dalingcebo: “I think I will join you on that.” “HHEE!” The men chanted and they laughed afterwards. But only Dalingcebo and Banele were not

laughing. “YOU ARE NOT IN THIS TENT ALONE!” Dalisu shouted from his chair for the children to hear him out because their noise was the loudest inside the tent. They were seated together as in-laws but in different tables. “YOBE!” They chanted their apology all together and managed the noise. They proceeded with discussing the events of the day. The ceremony wasn’t big as they have wanted it but it was beautiful. Nandipha was the most beautiful highlight of the day. Thembelihle had cut a different pattern for her being inclusive of how Ngcebo liked fashion. She had traditional African clothes and modern clothes but suitable for the royal bride... The day was a success without any problems and hiccups... “I am happy now that we have done this ceremony.” Thembelihle said to Nandipha. They were standing by

Thembelihle's car after the end of the ceremony. Thembelihle had Nhlakanipho in her arms. She'd asked to see Nandipha before leaving. It was dark outside now... Nandipha: "I am relieved too." Thembelihle: "No, don't be relieved because you still have to do one for us. I know that it won't be soon but hopefully next year December." Nandipha: "Mama, don't remind me that." "Mama, dad has left and I think you should leave now." Ngcebo told his mother appearing from nowhere and unexpectedly. Thembelihle: "Hhayi! You almost frighten us." Ngcebo: "I am here to pass the message." He said looking at Nandipha's direction but her face wasn't clear because of the vivid light from outside light. He'd seen his mother with Nandipha and wanted to hug her goodnight. Thembelihle: "No, you are here for her because your father is

inside this car.” She said pointing her car and Nandipha laughed, Nhlakanipho laughed after them holding to his grandmother’s neck. Ngcebo brushed his head. Ngcebo: “Please, mom.” Thembelihle: “Okay, goodbye princess.” Nandipha: “Bye, mama.” Ngcebo opened the door for Thembelihle and she stepped inside the car with the baby... “Let’s go to my car.” Ngcebo suggested holding Nandipha’s hand. Nandipha: “No, it’s dangerous to be inside the car with you after such ceremonies.” She said and Ngcebo laughed shaking his head. Ngcebo: “I can’t believe you have just said that.” Nandipha: “But we know what happened the last time and we shouldn’t repeat it.” She informed him and requested a hug... They hugged each other. Ngcebo: “You looked so beautiful today, princess.” Nandipha: “Ha! Ha!

Copycat, you are calling me princess now!" she exclaimed walking him to his car. Ngcebo was holding his phone lighting their way. Ngcebo: "Yes, because I think it's cute." Nandipha: "That's so nice! You looked handsome, today. Prince." Ngcebo: "Thank you, madam!" Nandipha: "What are you doing in Christmas?" Ngcebo: "I will be home but maybe mama will invite your family." Nandipha: "No, we are going to visit our relatives for Christmas." She informed him standing next to his car. Ngcebo: "Okay, can I take you to a party for New year's eve?" he requested just to test what she was going to say. But he wasn't inviting her to any party. Nandipha: "Where?" Ngcebo: "In L.A." Nandipha: "L.A? As in like Los Angeles?" Ngcebo: "Yes, Mlamuli and I, are taking a trip to L.A to see Mnotho and his baby mama. He was taking a trip alone

because his wife was going to be with her mother for New year's but I want to join

him. Can you please come with me? We will come back after new year's." Nandipha: "Okay, I will go with you." Ngcebo: "Really?" he asked with a huge smile. Nandipha: "Your 'really?' just shows you were doubting me." Ngcebo: "I thought you would refuse." Nandipha: "I won't refuse travelling the world with you." "Ah! Thank you. We will talk on the phone and you'll come home vele before Christmas. I know your mother will suggest it." He predicted. Nandipha laughed and shook her head. "Goodnight, my prince. I love you." she said hugging him goodnight and Ngcebo returned the hug and words...

S2 – EPISODE 33

23rd of December, Nontobeko was walking down the stairs to get to the ground floor. She was feeling labour pains but she was trying hard to bury the pain. The lift was 'out of order' as she was using the stairs... She

was walking slowly holding the wall for balance with her baby's bag on her shoulder. She couldn't take it now and so, she screamed louder feeling intensity of the pain. The guy approaching her couldn't just pass her as the others have but he held her as she was trying to sit down. Guy: "What's wrong? You need to get to the hospital?" Nontobeko: "...Yes..." She replied holding on tightly to the guy's hand and she looked at him. "I am sorry but please help me. I have requested a cab and it's waiting for me downstairs." She told the guy. Guy: "Okay, give me your bag." He took the bag as Nontobeko was giving the bag to him. He'd seen that she wasn't going to bother him with weight and so, he tried to carry her. Nontobeko: "No! What if you fall with me and something happens to my baby? I don't want to take risks." Guy: "I have done this

before just trust me and I won't run with you." he said lifting her off the ground now, he walked patiently with Nontobeko until they reached the cab that was waiting for her. "Thank you, so much!" Nontobeko said to the guy as she was seated inside the cab and the guy was giving her the bag. Guy: "It's my pleasure." He closed the door and the driver drove off. Nontobeko told the driver where she was heading... When the cab got to Addington hospital, the driver offered to assist her get inside the hospital because she was in pain... "Mama!" Nontobeko called her mother on the phone. MaNtombela: "Nontobeko! What's wrong?" Nontobeko: "Where's Nandipha?" she was seated on the bench after two hours of walking on the hallway with pains killing her. MaNtombela: "She's not home for now but she's coming back because we are going to

your father's extended family tomorrow. What's wrong?" Nontobeko: "I am in labour." MaNtombela: "Nontobeko! Where are you, really because you are not with my family. Where are you?" Nontobeko: "I am in Durban mama. Can Nandipha come here? I need her right now because I won't cope alone." MaNtombela: "Just come back home." Nontobeko: "I can't come home yet mama. Please, allow her to come here. I know that Ngcebo will leave with her soon but I will bring her back." MaNtombela: "Okay, I will talk to your father and send us pictures of the baby once you have given

birth.” Nontobeko: “Okay, thank you.”
MaNtombela: “Your father is angry because you just do as you please Nontobeko. You don’t listen to us but you do what you see best for you.” Nontobeko: “I am sorry, mama.” MaNtombela dropped the call...
Nontobeko grabbed her phone at 4th hour of her pains and she dialled Dalingcebo’s number on the screen as means to tell him how she hated him at that hour. She wasn’t thinking straight but she knew that she needed someone to blame for her pain. “Hello!” Dalingcebo responded to the call politely. But Nontobeko wasn’t talking she was just panting. “Nontobeko?” he called her out. Nontobeko: “I hate you right now, yezwa!” she shot a thick exclamation as means to block the pain that was unbearable. Dalingcebo: “Excuse me? You hate me?” Nontobeko: “Yes! I hate you,

Dalingcebo! I hate you!” Dalingcebo: “What the fuck did I do to you?” he shouted feeling angered that the woman hadn’t been speaking to him for months and now, she was calling just to tell him that she hated him? Nontobeko: “Don’t ask me questions!” she screamed the anger and tried to stand on her feet. “Just know that I hate you right now! Tsk!” she said lastly and hung up the call. She held her phone tightly and looked at it as it rang. Dalingcebo was calling her but she didn’t answer the call. She rejected the number. She tried to do the walk again... On the 24th in the morning Nontobeko was holding her beautiful baby girl. She gave birth to the baby at dawn. She’d been cleaned up and the baby as well. Now, she was just looking at her with a love smile on her face as the baby was sleeping. Nontobeko: “I thought I was dying

for a second and now, I have such a beautiful gift. I remember when I gave birth to your late sister I didn't feel pains like the ones I felt with you." she spoke to her baby and smiled running her finger on her dark face. "I love you." She said and sighed. She reached for her phone as it rang. "Hello!" She answered her sister's call. Nandipha: "Sisi, how are you?" Nontobeko: "I am fine and how are you?" Nandipha: "I am not fine I want to come to you but dad refused." She told her sister sadly and Nontobeko felt the sadness on her voice. It was the first time that Nandipha was calling her after their argument and she wasn't throwing tantrums? Nontobeko figured she'd forgiven her. Nontobeko: "What did he say?" Nandipha: "He said I won't come to you because you don't respect them. You wanted to be alone and so, be alone. I want

to come. I will tell mama I am going to see Ngcebo and come to you.” Nontobeko: “No, don’t do that because when they can find out you lied your in-laws won’t understand why you lied. What if mom meets one of them asks how are you as you are with them?” Nandipha: “Ha! I want to see my baby! Is it a boy or girl?” Nontobeko: “It’s a girl.” Nandipha screamed literally and Nontobeko laughed. “You’ll wake her Nandipha. Your scream is very sharp.” She said. Nandipha: “Ah! You are overacting! Can I name her now?” Nontobeko: “Okay, I am listening.” Nandipha: “Qalokuhle!” Nontobeko: “I like the name and she will take that name.” Nandipha: “You’ll send her picture?” Nontobeko: “Yes. And I am really sorry about what I said to you when you were here. I didn’t mean to hurt your feelings.” Nandipha: “What? I am over that!”

Nontobeko: “Oh! But when I complimented your beauty on the pictures you sent of your ceremony. You didn’t respond!” Nandipha laughed. “Awungyeka! But sisi, why don’t you tell the father of the child to come and speak to mom and dad because they’re angry.” She asked. Nontobeko: “Don’t worry about mom and dad, they will get over it.”

Nandipha: "Okay, but Dalingcebo misses you." Nontobeko: "Yey! Shut up!" Nandipha laughed. "I was just telling you, bye now." Nontobeko: "Bye and thank you for the call." They dropped the call and Nontobeko smiled looking at her baby. "Sawubona, Qalokuhle!" she smiled... She was in love again... ----- "You said where are you going again?" Thembelihle asked Ngcebo, he was inside the kitchen eating in the morning. He overslept and couldn't have breakfast along with the rest of the family members. Ngcebo: "I am going to L.A." Thembelihle: "For work?" Ngcebo: "No," he looked around for anyone coming by and there was nobody coming by. "Mama, Mlamuli and I are going to L.A. And I will be taking my girl along with us." he told her. Thembelihle: "Hhaybo! Why?" she sat on the chair opposite him. Ngcebo: "We are visiting

Mnotho.” Thembelihle: “Excuse me? You are visiting him? Does that mean he’s a citizen in the United States now? Are you trying to tell me that?” Ngcebo: “No, but when I was with Mlamuli he told me that he was going to L.A to visit him and I asked to go with him. He agreed that I can come after he’d told Mnotho and he had no problem.” Thembelihle: “Is your brother arrested in that country Ngcebo?” Ngcebo: “No, I don’t know what’s wrong but I will tell you what’s going on when I come back because I will know when I get there.” Thembelihle: “And even though he refuses to tell me I know that you will tell me what is going on with him.” Ngcebo: “Ha! Mama, do you want them to call me a snitch now? Bazothi ngiwu mfazi yazi mama.” He made her mother aware and Thembelihle laughed. Thembelihle: “But you know that

you are not.” Ngcebo: “No, don’t do that. I don’t want to be crucified.” Thembelihle: “Okay, why do you think it’s not right to tell your father that you are going to visit your brother?” Ngcebo: “Mom, is even asking!” he commented and Thembelihle laughed. “You know that he’ll stop me from going.” He said and Thembelihle got up. Thembelihle: “Okay, my only wish is that you come back home with my son.” She said and left Ngcebo without a word... ---- “Can we move to this City!” Nandipha whispered on Ngcebo’s ear as they were inside the taxi taking them to Northridge Apartments, where Mnotho lived in L.A. It’d been a long trip and fun for Nandipha... Ngcebo: “I thought you said you don’t like United States.” Nandipha: “Yes, I don’t but I love this part of it.” Ngcebo: “No, I think you will go crazy if we can show you around.

And so, I am taking a decision that you won't go anywhere." Nandipha laughed without commenting to his statement. "What's funny?" he asked. Nandipha: "It's funny that you think you'll leave me behind." Ngcebo: "I wouldn't leave you behind but now that I have seen that you gonna end up forcing me to stay here. I might as well think of leaving you behind." Nandipha: "That's cruel Rasta." Ngcebo: "We are sneaking in L.A now and the lights are low, do you remember that song?" Nandipha giggled. "Ngcebo, please behave because your brother is right next to us. Don't tell me about nasty songs." She said. Ngcebo: "He can't hear us because he's busy with his phone." "I can hear everything perfectly!" Mlamuli informed them and Nandipha placed her hand on her mouth looking at

Ngcebo. Ngcebo: “Why didn’t you tell us that you can hear us?”

Mlamuli: "I didn't feel like it because maybe I was enjoying listening to your conversation as I listened to it on the plane as well." He informed him without looking at them. His eyes were fixed on his phone. Nandipha: "HAWU!" "We will keep quiet!" He said to his brother and turned to Nandipha. She packed his hand on her hand and placed her head on his shoulder... "You are here!" Mnotho exclaimed seeing his brothers and he laughed. He was standing on the door looking at the three of them. "I really thought you were joking!" he exclaimed and hugged Mlamuli first. He couldn't believe that they really came all the way from home just to visit him. He appreciated their presence that they were here and he felt that he'd been away from home far too long. But he couldn't just leave. Mlamuli: "I am not a boy to play games." "I can see that now."

Mnotho said as he hugged Ngcebo now. “Rapper, you also came. I am the president yazi!” he joked and they laughed. Ngcebo: “I can see that you are getting lighter now. The water in L.A is doing wonders to your skin.” Mnotho: “Voetsek!” he swore and they laughed. Mnotho looked at Nandipha. “Makoti? Ngcebo is it safe to hug her?” he joked and Mlamuli laughed. Ngcebo: “No! No! Don’t hug her.” “Ay suka!” he exclaimed and hugged Nandipha briefly. “How are you?” he asked them leading them inside the open spaced elegant apartment. Mlamuli: “We are fine, beside the cold place that we have invaded.” They sat down on the couch with Mnotho. Mnotho: “Yeah! Yeah! It’s cold here.” Nandipha: “But the place is very beautiful I love it.” Ngcebo: “Please, don’t agree with her because next thing we will find ourselves moving over

here.” He commented looking at Mnotho. Mlamuli: “No, makoti is right. The place is beautiful.” Mnotho: “I can’t say it’s not beautiful. But even if it’s beautiful you know that your mother in-law won’t allow you to move over here.” Ngcebo: “Yes, that’s true.” He held Nandipha’s hand with a smile and Nandipha frowned, then looked at the TV that was playing... Mlamuli and Mnotho looked at one another after looking at Ngcebo and Nandipha. They both nodded their heads as if they were thinking the same thing... They were... “Can we leave makoti here and go buy food because I didn’t cook. I am sure that you are all tired, makoti won’t cook.” Mnotho suggested standing up. “You are not scared right?” he asked looking at Nandipha. Nandipha: “No, I will be fine. But don’t take longer.” Mnotho: “Don’t worry.” Mlamuli: “Where will we sleep

vele?” Mnotho: “I don’t know. Didn’t you arrange a place?” “HAWU!” Mlamuli and Ngcebo exclaimed and Mnotho laughed, he led them to the door while they kept asking him why he was laughing... Nandipha was on her feet by the kitchen counter pouring juice on the glass, she then took the knife to use to spread margarine on the bread. That’s when a tall white woman with red hair entered the apartment. She screamed first before shouting. “Excuse me! What do you want here!” Elena, Mnotho’s pregnant woman shouted at Nandipha. She dropped her bag on the floor and attempted to march closer to the kitchen counter where Nandipha was standing. But as Nandipha turned to her body fully to look at her. Elena was reluctant to move closer to Nandipha. She stood by the door. Nandipha: “Hello.” She greeted trying to calm down in order to

avoid conflict with the angry/frightened pregnant woman. Her pregnancy bump was visible as she was six months pregnant... Nandipha looked at her as she was standing by the door now. Nandipha could see that the woman looked scared.

Elena: “How did you enter this apartment?” she asked taking her phone off her bag, she dropped the bag back to the floor and punched the emergency numbers while keeping her eyes on Nandipha to ensure she doesn’t move closer to her. “And what do you want here?” she asked fast giving Nandipha no chance to answer her question as she placed her phone on her ear.

Nandipha: “I think you need to calm down.”

“Hello, yes! I have a black intruder in my apartment...” She informed the call centre agent on the other side of the phone. And Nandipha had her eyes widened as the woman was explaining that she was an intruder standing inside her kitchen with a knife on her... Nandipha was shocked that the woman didn’t even give her time to talk but she just made the phone call...

Nandipha: “What was the need for you to

call the police?” “The police are coming!” She said running to the bedroom with her bag and phone on her hands. Nandipha laughed. She couldn't believe this woman! She shook her head and proceeded with spreading the cheese now, she then marched to the couch when she was done. She sat down and watched TV feeling no panic... “She's eating already! You couldn't wait?” Ngcebo was the first to enter the door. He saw Nandipha seated on the couch eating. Nandipha: “Yes.” She looked at him with a grin. Mlamuli: “It seems like you are an impatient woman.” He said following his brothers to the kitchen. Nandipha: “No, it's not like that... Bhuti uMnotho, there's a woman who came in here and she asked what I was doing in here. She didn't give me a chance to answer her but she called the police and

ran to the bedroom.” Mnotho: “WHAT! SHIT!” He swore as there was a bang on the door... Elena screamed from the bedroom and the police kicked the door. They entered the door with their guns on their hands, it was two policemen. “Who dat screamin inside the bedroom? What’s happenin’ in here?” The African American police asked moving to the bedroom while the other police man moved to the three brothers were just looking at them with relaxed faces. Mnotho: “What brings you?” “We were told there’s an intruder in the building and a black intruder to be exact and now I am seeing three black men with one black woman.” The white partner informed Mnotho taking out the handcuffs. Mlamuli and Ngcebo looked at Mnotho with surprised expressions. Mnotho: “This is my apartment and there is no intruder here.” “I

found that woman in here holding a knife and she pointed it at me. When I asked her what she was doing here she didn't answer me." Elena explained standing behind the police men but as soon as she saw Mnotho she ran towards him to hold him. The African American police man by the door was the first one to drop his gun and he sighed feeling exhausted of such cases. "We are taking her in then!" The other policeman announced marching the couch where Nandipha was seated with his gun still pointed and his shoulders bent down... Mlamuli was busy asking Mnotho what was going on... Ngcebo: "Whoa! Whoa! You are taking nobody in here. This is my fiancée and the owner of this apartment is my brother. Get away from my woman!" he shouted running towards the couch and the police fired a shot that hit Ngcebo's arm. He

groaned loudly and held his arm... Nandipha screamed “NGCEBO!” and she got up from the couch immediately... The police didn’t lower his gun even after he realised that he had shot a man. His partner was the one who moved from his place to get him to lower his gun. Mlamuli: “Why did you shoot him!” he shouted looking at the policeman. “He was coming at me I had to shoot.” He replied. Mnotho: “That’s bullshit! I told you this is my apartment and there was no intruder in here but you didn’t listen to me!” “She pointed her with a knife!” The policeman shouted pointing Nandipha and then Elena who was standing by the counter next to Mnotho with her hands on mouth. She was looking at Ngcebo... “Can we take him to the hospital! Please, he’s feeling pains! Stop arguing!” Nandipha shouted

looking at the men who were arguing inside the apartment. Ngcebo was groaning holding his arm while Nandipha had her hands on him. Mlamuli: "I am taking Ngcebo to the hospital and Mnotho deal with this man. We are laying charges against him." he instructed Mnotho holding Ngcebo up as means to move out of the apartment. Elena: "This is my fault I will call the ambulance." Mlamuli: "We don't need your help woman!" "There's no... need for you... to come with..." Ngcebo's voice broke into an incomplete sentence with his eyes looking at Nandipha. Nandipha: "No! I am not staying behind. Please, don't let him leave me behind." She pleaded looking at Mlamuli as they exited the door. Mlamuli: "We are not leaving you." "Can we drive you to the hospital!" The policeman who shot him shouted his offer and moved to the door. "It

was a mistake!” He added. Mlamuli: “We don’t need your help but we want to lay charges against you!” he shouted back looking at him... Nandipha: “Ngcebo?” she looked at him, she could see that he was in pain and Ngcebo didn’t wish to have her around. He didn’t want her to see him feeling the excruciating pain he was feeling...

S2 – EPISODE 34

Nontobeko was seated on the couch crying. It had happened again; her baby was sick. She wasn’t keeping the formula down and she had a high temperature. She’d tried everything, gave the baby medication that she got from the Doctor but she was at the phase of being sick. This had been happening in phases she would be alright for a long time and be sick again. She lifted her phone and called her mother leaving

her crying child on the couch. She'd been angry blaming Thembelihle for cursing her baby but she couldn't pick up her phone and call her to reserve her words. She didn't want them near her child... MaNtombela: "Unjani?" Nontobeko: "I am not fine mama, how are you?" MaNtombela: "I am fine and I am so ashamed to admit that I have given birth to you Nontobeko." "Hawu, why are you saying that?" She asked and wiped her tears. MaNtombela: "You don't respect your father and I at all. How can you give birth to a child and don't come back with that baby? You are hiding who made you pregnant you do things as you please as if ungumfazi manje ukwakho." Nontobeko: "I am sorry, mama but that's not why I called. Mama, my baby is sick and I don't know what to do." MaNtombela: "Oh, when you need help you know that you must call us? But you don't

listen to a thing we say, you need our help though?" Nontobeko: "I am sorry mama but please help me." MaNtombela: "What's wrong?" Nontobeko: "She has high temperature..." she told her everything that was happening to the child. MaNtombela: "Call the father of your child and let him know that the baby is sick. If she doesn't respond to medication that means she needs traditional practices. Ingane ne ngane iyalidinga usiko lwakubo uma ingalitholi ingafa nokufa noma ihlale ngokugula ize yenzelwe lona. Angazi ke le yakho ngoba iqala incane kanje." She said and Nontobeko held her chest at the talking of death. Nontobeko: "But what can I do for now?" MaNtombela: "Go to a traditional chemist and buy izinyamazane umshisele zona. She will be able to sleep but if she continues to be sick don't burn them

constantly because they will drug her.”
Nontobeko: “Okay, ngiyabonga mama-”
MaNtombela dropped the call after she’d
heard her say that. Nontobeko looked at her
phone and sighed... She got ready for
going to the chemist... ----- “Did you have to
be that naïve and call the police?” Mnotho
shouted turning to Elena... They’ve laid

the charges against the police and now, they were driving to the hospital where Ngcebo was. Elena: "I was scared." Mnotho: "You were scared? Do you think an intruder was going to relax when seeing you inside the apartment? They weren't going to relax." Elena: "I couldn't think straight that time," Mnotho: "That's bullshit and you know it! You just saw a black girl in the house and saw an intruder but I am pretty sure if she was white you were going to think I was cheating on you." Elena: "That's not true!" Mnotho: "Yes, it's true and it's sickening how racist you people can be but I am surprised that you are sleeping with a black man. Didn't you think of arresting me for rape and aborting my baby?" Elena: "You are hurting me with your words and you are being insensitive." Mnotho: "You are the insensitive now, Elena. My brother has

been shot, what if he died?” He clicked his tongue and concentrated his face on the road. Elena: “I am sorry.” She said politely and Mnotho didn’t breathe a word to her. He prayed that Ngcebo heals faster and their case doesn’t turn into dust. He’d seen how bad things were in California for people of colour. And people handled fire arms carelessly... “So, tell me do you still want us to sneak in here?” Ngcebo asked Nandipha who was seated on the chair next to the bed he was laying on. Nandipha: “No, this place is horrible. We should go back home. How can a police man shoot you for running towards him while you have said the words to stop him from coming at me?” Ngcebo: “That was sick, really and I didn’t even have any weapon in my hand. I don’t know how he can just react like a man without a brain.” Nandipha: “I was scared that I will carry

your ashes back home..." she said placing her head on the bed with her hands holding his hand. Ngcebo placed his hand on her head. Ngcebo: "It was close to impossible for me to die with a flesh wound." Nandipha: "Bullets have different poisons and you can never know-" "Hhayi, Nandipha stop bothering yourself." Ngcebo said to her holding her shoulder and Nandipha raised her head. Nandipha: "You don't understand." Ngcebo: "I understand because I panicked when they threatened to take you. But now, you can see that I am fine." Nandipha: "Okay, you know what, when they say it's better the devil you know? They are talking about things like this." Ngcebo chuckled. "I hope that doesn't mean you won't go to the new years' eve party with me." Nandipha: "You won't party while holding an injured arm." "Yes, I will.

And can you kiss me?" he requested pulling her two locks. Nandipha giggled and stood up to kiss him... "Stop that I am back with your coffee." Mlamuli announced standing by the edge of the bed... Ngcebo and Nandipha stopped kissing each other and they looked at him. Ngcebo: "Eh, sorry. Can we get the coffee?" Mlamuli gave them the coffee. "How are you feeling?" he asked looking at Ngcebo. He tried to sit up straight and Nandipha helped him after she'd put the cup down. He thanked her and looked at Mlamuli. Ngcebo: "I am feeling much better." Mlamuli: "Okay, I don't think we have to tell the parents at home." Ngcebo: "We will not tell them." they looked at the door and Mnotho stepped inside along with Elena. Mlamuli: "You have laid the charges?" that was the first thing he asked as he looked at Mnotho and his girlfriend.

Mnotho: “Yes, we have and we will need to get the Doctor’s report to confirm the injury and hopefully, we will get justice.” Mlamuli: “Okay, you did a good thing, bafo.” Elena: “I am sorry that I acted impulsive and stupid. This was all my fault and I didn’t mean to act like

I did.” They didn’t say anything to her. She dropped her head feeling ashamed now that she’d ruined meeting Mnotho’s family. She didn’t imagine that things would be as they were. He’d told her that his brothers were planning on coming to visit him but he wasn’t sure about it. She didn’t expect a woman inside the apartment because Mnotho had no sisters. Maybe if it was a man she was going to know that it was his brother. She tried to convince herself... Ngcebo: “They told me that they will discharge me tomorrow. Where will my girl sleep because I know she won’t sleep alone in a hotel after what happened?” he looked at Mnotho. Mnotho: “You’ll be staying at the hotel?” Ngcebo: “Yes, you said you have one guest bedroom and I think the hotel will be good for us. Mlamuli will use that bedroom.” Mlamuli: “I can take the couch.”

Ngcebo: “No, we will be at the hotel I am sure we will get one closer to your place. We won’t stay at your place.” Mlamuli: “No, just tell us that you want to be alone with your fiancée. We understand that you are in a refreshing city you would like to explore it alone.” He said to his younger brother and they laughed. Nandipha: “The city scares me now I was almost killed.” Mlamuli: “Hawu! So, no more moving here with your prince, princess?” he joked and Nandipha looked down with a sulking face as the brothers were busy laughing at her. Mnotho: “She thought she could move here?” Ngcebo: “Yes, she was praising the beauty of the city but it was ruined for her by cowards, actually.” Ethel: “The city doesn’t have any dangers just enjoy it.” “First impressions last! At home, police don’t shoot us for running with no weapons in our

possession. They're black but not stupid since you called them because I was a black girl in the apartment." Nandipha said looking at Ethel. Elena: "I am really sorry." Nandipha: "It's okay, how far are you?" Elena: "I am six months." Nandipha: "Do you know the gender?" Elena: "It's a baby boy." Nandipha smiled and nodded... The brothers were just looking at them as they were having a conversation... ----- It had been **THREE MONTHS** since Nontobeko had given birth to her beautiful daughter. She was the most beautiful child she had ever held. She was dark skinned like her mother with small hazel brown eyes and her cute oval shaped face with big black soft baby afro. She was beautiful but didn't look healthy because of phase sicknesses. She would suck the milk and vomit it or don't drink it at all. Nontobeko

had been working hard in Durban working for her daughter. And after birth she never came back to show her parents the baby. They were angry with her for doing such. In February, she wanted to come home because the baby was sick again and her father had told her to come back home only when she was ready to tell them who was the father of the child. He told her he didn't want the child inside his premises while Nontobeko was keeping the child's identity from them. Nontobeko didn't go home because she thought when she went her mother wasn't going to help her. Nontobeko didn't know who the baby resembled as she was never good with knowing children's resemblance until they were older... She'd hired a child minder for her child and she kept working. She loved her baby dearly and she couldn't imagine life without her

precious Qalokuhle... Friday night a meter taxi dropped her off right in front of her mother's gate along with her child. MaNtombela had told her that their father was sick, she was reluctant to go home but the minute her child became sick again. Nontobeko decided to take a four weeks leave to be with her family maybe she was going to find help for her child. After giving birth she didn't take the maternity leave... She knew that her father was never going to chase her away because she came back...

The man assisted her with her bags and left her on the front door. There was a car that was parked outside the premises. She couldn't recognise who the car belonged to but she hoped that it wasn't someone from the Zulu family. Nontobeko opened the door and her eyes met the eyes of her brother-in-law first. She swallowed hard and tried to fake a smile. Ngcebo was in her father's house! "Nandi, help your sister." MaNtombela instructed her. Nandipha stood up, they were home to see her father. She was heading back to school the following day. It was the 2nd of April... They left L.A a few days after new years' eve. They've spent time with Mnotho and Elena touring the city... The police that they laid a charge against tried to manipulate things for them but Mnotho had made contacts as he was working for footballers. Men in football were

connected and they helped them get their case to be taken seriously and the policeman was charged. The incident didn't end up in silence but it was brought to the attention of the media. And the story broke in a positive way... It came to Dalisu's attention and it made him proud, but only Ngcebo was told those words 'I am proud of you, my sons' not Mnotho and Mlamuli. Ngcebo told his brothers... Thembelihle and Dalisu were aware of what was keeping Mnotho in L.A now but it still didn't ease Dalisu's anger. Now, he was angry that he didn't tell him the truth... Nandipha walked closer to Nontobeko and tried to take the baby from her. "No!" Nontobeko exclaimed holding the baby tight. "Please, take my bags. She's tired and I will go put her down." She explained hiding that she didn't want her to take the baby as she was going

to show the baby to her fiancé and maybe Ngcebo would see who the baby resembled. MaNtombela got up and went to her. "Give the baby to me I will put her down and you, help Nandi with the bags." She suggested. Nontobeko hesitated but finally, gave her the baby. MaNtombela raised the blanket with a smile to look at her granddaughter. She widened her eyes and looked at Nontobeko. Nontobeko shook her head showing her frustration as she figured that her mother might have known who the baby resembled. MaNtombela nodded and left with the child. Nontobeko: "Baba, and Mageba." She greeted her father and brother in-law. They greeted her back and she went to her room with her bags. Nontobeko and Nandipha hugged each other after putting the bags down. "I have missed you." Nontobeko told her holding

her tighter. She smiled as it was good to feel her sister again. “Look at you, Ngcebo is treating you well and the cheeks are growing.” She added holding cheeks and Nandipha laughed. Nandipha: “It’s good to see you back home.” she said delightedly. “But there’s nothing wrong with my cheeks.” She informed her. Nontobeko: “I didn’t say there was something wrong.” “Nandi, leave us, please.” MaNtombela requested. Nandipha: “Hawu! Mama, I am still talking to my sister. I am leaving nje.” MaNtombela: “I said give us space.” She insisted and Nandipha nodded and left... Nontobeko sat down and sighed. MaNtombela: “You lied to us, Nontobeko. This child is just Dalingcebo’s aunt. This baby shows that she’s from the Zulu family.” She told her looking down at her. Nontobeko closed her eyes shortly as it didn’t make her happy

hearing that the child looked someone in the family. But she was happy that her baby didn't look like her grandmother. Nontobeko: "I just didn't want to cause chaos while there was a happy occasion for my sister and Dalingcebo was angry with me because I kept my past a secret. He ended our relationship." She told her and looked at her, she saw she was angry. "And my pregnancy was going to be a red herring to Nandi's ceremony. I just wanted to see her happy after the fight we had about the same Dalingcebo." She added. MaNtombela: "Dalingcebo was here just about an hour ago. They came to see your father." She disclosed. Nontobeko looked down. Nontobeko: "He's still his father's right hand man meaning he would take the throne one day?" she asked looking at her sleeping daughter. MaNtombela: "Yes, and

they told me that he is ready to take a wife.
He wants his grandmother to

choose a wife for him because his mother refused to do it.” She told her looking into her eyes to search her emotions. Nontobeko: “What!” she exclaimed standing up. The baby moved at sound of her voice... She looked around feeling suddenly angry that Dalingcebo wanted an arranged marriage? How could he want that? MaNtombela: “Calm down.” She stopped her and held her shoulders. “You still love him?” she asked. Nontobeko looked down without giving her an answer. Nontobeko: “Where is Dalingcebo, mama?” MaNtombela: “He must be in his house because he said they are not driving back to the palace.” She explained. Nontobeko: “Nandipha is leaving tonight?” she asked and looked at her mother. MaNtombela nodded. “I want to see Dalingcebo before he leaves tomorrow.” She said marching to

the door. “Nontobeko!” MaNtombela held her arm. Nontobeko: “No, mama I am tired of living like this. I will face that man tonight and get it over and done with. And my baby is sick they must help her get better.” She said going to the lounge. She sat down with them and they all had a long chat. She wanted to buy time until Nandipha and Ngcebo leave. She was seated there talking with Ngcebo and Nandipha as she could see that her father was withdrawn from her. She was talking but her mind was with Dalingcebo. She couldn’t wait longer to see him and tell him all about how she felt... She wanted to tell him! When Ngcebo and Nandipha were ready to leave Nontobeko stood up with them. She looked at her mother shortly and MaNtombela was also looking at her direction. Nontobeko sent her eyes to her sister. Nontobeko: “Sis and

brother in-law can you please drop me off Dalingcebo's house." She requested firmly. Ngcebo and Nandipha looked at each other. They looked at her again. "What's wrong?" Ngcebo asked with his eyes fixed on Nontobeko. He didn't know if his brother would be pleased to see Nontobeko because after she called him and told her she hated him. Dalingcebo took a decision that he wanted an arranged marriage. He told Ngcebo first and the rest of his brothers, they all talked him out of it along with their two older brother Mnotho was on skype but he was determined that he needed someone else to choose a wife for him. He told MaCebekhulu and she promised him that if he still wanted to have a girl chosen for himself by April. She would choose a girl for him and she was going to choose a princess for him not a commoner.

Dalingcebo agreed to that suggestion and he was still on that note even after his parents have told him that he needed to patient... Nontobeko: "I need to speak to him. It's important." Ngcebo nodded as means to agree to leave with her. "Mama, please look after the baby for me. I won't be long." She requested. "Nontobeko what are you up to?" her father asked, the first words he uttered directed to his older daughter. Nontobeko shook her head signalling that she didn't want to speak about it. They then left. Nandipha sat at the back with her sister. She held her hand. "What is going on?" Nandipha asked concerning about her sister. She looked at her and shook her head. Nandipha nodded she knew she didn't want to speak that time. They all drove in silence... Ngcebo dropped Nontobeko at Dalingcebo's gate and he

drove off with Nandipha as they still had a long drive ahead of them...

S2 – EPISODE 35

The gate wasn't locked so Nontobeko went through. She didn't care about anything, but tonight, she wanted to speak her mind without holding back! Dalingcebo had to know how she felt about everything that happened between them. He wanted to marry someone else? An arranged marriage? She wanted to hear him say it straight to her face. She wasn't going to shut up now... She knocked on the door and waited while playing with her fingers. Mntwana opened the door. "Nontobeko!" he was surprised to see her. None of the brothers were in the dark about Dalingcebo and Nontobeko's previous relationship. He'd told them after taking the

decision of having an arranged marriage that everyone was not happy about. Nontobeko: "Is your brother free. I am here to see him it's important." She said looking at him without greeting him. Mntwana didn't say anything for a while as he concluded that, this may be the reason their mother didn't like Nontobeko. Why didn't she greet him? Was it because he was just a teen? He decided not ask anything, he paved a way in for her. Mntwana: "I think you know where his room is." Nontobeko didn't say anything she went straight to his bedroom without greeting the two brothers on the lounge... Mlamuli: "That's Nontobeko? Nandipha's sister?" he asked to confirm, he looked at Mntwana. "I remember her from her sister's negotiations." Mntwana: "Yes." Ndabezinhle: "Why didn't she greet us?" Mntwana: "I don't know she didn't greet me

either.” Mlamuli: “Maybe something is wrong.” Ndabezinhle: “Even if so, people greet when they enter other people’s house. It’s a cultural norm but what can we say Africans are losing their grip on their cultural norms.” Mntwana: “Now, we know why mama doesn’t like her.” Mlamuli: “Hhayi! Don’t have the same attitude as your mother. I am pretty sure that she didn’t give her time.” Ndabezinhle: “I wouldn’t give my time to someone who couldn’t even greet me. And I know that you are trying to understand this situation just because dad doesn’t like Nkosazana.” Mlamuli: “Eish, maybe you are right I am trying to understand because of that.” Mntwana: “Hawu! You are still there? That has changed.” “HUH?” The two brothers looked at him and Mntwana didn’t say anything. He grabbed the remote and adjusted the

volume down. Mlamuli: “What do you mean by that?” Mntwana: “I mean nothing but my words.” Ndabezinhle: “I know that means dad told him something that he doesn’t want the rest of us to know.” Mntwana: “That’s not true.” He lied as he remembered the promise that he’d made to his father... His brothers looked at him hoping he would talk but Mntwana didn’t talk... They let him be.... Nontobeko knocked softly on Dalingcebo’s door. “Come in!” Dalingcebo instructed her inside from his room. She drew a long breath and then opened the door. He was laying on the bed with his phone on his hand he was topless and had jeans pants. He sat up straight immediately when he saw her face. Nontobeko was standing by the door looking at him with a hard face. It wasn’t enough for Dalingcebo he stood up and stood right before her.

Dalingcebo: “Nontobeko.” He called her name like he was trying to confirm if it was her. He looked at her still waiting for her to speak. “Dalingcebo.” She called him back and looked aside. He was still the man she knew the man that she had never forgotten. But how was she going to forget him because she had a part of him with her. Dalingcebo: “You are here?” he asked trying to caress her face but Nontobeko stopped him by holding his arm. Nontobeko: “I am not here for that.” Dalingcebo: “Even if you are not, can I hold your face? It’s been too long without seeing you and I always wondered where you’ve gone. And you called me telling that you hate me. Why?” He said holding both her cheeks. Nontobeko closed her eyes reminded of how his hands had felt on her skin. She could feel her heart resting from all the

anger she had when she said she was going to confront him. It'd always bothered her that being with him made her feel peace from deep within that even when she was angry with him she wouldn't express herself as she wanted. She felt his cold wet lips taking control of her lips and it was too late for her to think of her virtue. The

passion he brought along with his kiss took possession of her whole being she lost herself holding his strong arms without hesitation. Dalingcebo cupped her waist closer to him and the heat of their bodies took them away from earth, away from their reality until Nontobeko realised that it had happened like this before and a child was conceived unplanned. She withdrew from the kiss and they looked into each other's eyes. Dalingcebo hugged her and she rested her head on his chest and as his chest rose and fell so did her head. Nontobeko: "I didn't come here for this." she broke the silence and looked aside. "It hasn't changed, your lips still feel like heaven and my body too weak to resist you but I didn't come here for this." she added. Dalingcebo: "I can't control what you do to me, MaZondi." He confided holding her

head and rubbing his fingers on her scalp. She had her beautiful afro untied, she had it the way Dalingcebo liked it. Mostly, she loved plaiting it but after her break up with Dalingcebo she mostly had it the way he liked it and she didn't know why she felt like that. Nontobeko: "Why do you want an arranged marriage?" she asked moving away from him. "You can't get married to someone you don't know. And I don't want you to get married. Listen to me." she panicked thinking of having to know that he was committed to someone else. Dalingcebo: "Nontobeko, you can't expect me to sit around and be involved in my father's kingdom with no wife and child. I have to get married." He explained to her taking the step towards her. "I took the responsibility of the throne and I have to live up to it." He added. Dalingcebo had

accepted that whatever was going to happen regarding the throne was going to happen and he wasn't going to reject it... He knew he couldn't wait on his brothers as Mnotho was still not back home and Mlamuli was still banned KwaNongoma... He still didn't want to lead but he was going to accept what the elders tell him to do. Nontobeko: "You love it now?" she asked moving closer to the window. "Of course you do love the throne and its responsibility now. You pretended you don't want it but now you love the throne? You enjoy ruling along with your father?" she challenged him stirring anger on him. Dalingcebo: "I am not ruling. And don't say that because you left me here and never looked back but you were wrong!" he shouted. "I never looked back? You told me to leave and you made it clear that you don't want to see me ever

again. I have never in my life begged a man and I wasn't going to start with you." she shouted back. Dalingcebo: "Watch how you speak with me!" he warned her, with his forefinger pointing her. "If you haven't kept your shady past and your job from me we were going to be happy together by now." She kept quiet – trying to envision them happy – they were going to be happy with their daughter just the three of them. She shook the thought off her mind recognising that he had labelled her past 'shady'. Nontobeko: "Shady past? Don't you dare show how rude you are to me by concluding that my past is shady! You know nothing about the pain I felt." She shouted, her hands trembling besides her hips. "Leaving the house with my family inside and when I came back from afar I could hear my child's voice, my little girl's voice screaming above

the smoke. Her voice sounded painful and it was too late to save her. I tried to fight.” She stepped back tears streaming down her cheeks violently. “...Fight through the men who were trying to rescue her but I wasn’t a super mom I couldn’t get inside the burning house. I stood there with men holding me to save me from burning I was listening to her scream until there was nothing but the silence.” She went down and sat on her legs. “When they were done there was nothing to hold but black burnt bones of her tiny body. By the time I was without tears I called for my husband and he was laying on the pool of his blood killed by the people he trusted. You don’t know the nightmares I have had of that night. His parents didn’t want me to move from their village with him and so they blamed me for their son’s death and granddaughter’s death. I blame myself.

But because you above everyone now you have the nerve to call my past shady?" she asked standing on her feet. "Don't you dare say that to me again!" she trembled terribly. Dalingcebo held her hand pulling her closer to him and he hugged her. Dalingcebo: "I am sorry." He said as she cried terribly. He carried her into his arms to lay her on his bed with her and he rocked her into his arms.

“You are right I had no right to say that to you. I am sorry I didn’t mean to hurt you. Please forgive me.” he said kissing her forehead and he let her fall asleep in his arms... By the time she woke up Dalingcebo was still up staring at her. She yawned and sat up straight... Nontobeko: “Why did you let me sleep?” “You needed it.” He said looking at her with worried eyes. Nontobeko reached for her phone on her pocket she searched for her daughter’s recent picture and he showed it to him. He smiled. Dalingcebo: “Where did you find this picture of aunt Mawande as a child?” he asked smiling at her. “But no, my aunt’s picture would be black and white.” he realised looking closer to the baby. Nontobeko: “That is not your aunt.” she said taking her phone and placed the phone back on her pocket. “It’s my daughter, I

gave birth to her three months ago. That is why I was never around I was pregnant and I didn't want to cause chaos so as I had the job I decided to stay in Durban." She explained looking at him but he was looking at her blankly. Dalingcebo: "You were pregnant and you kept it from me?" he shouted looking at her with a different eye. Nontobeko: "You said you want nothing to do with me." Dalingcebo: "I wanted nothing to do with you that didn't include the child I didn't know about. Don't bullshit me, Nontobeko!" Nontobeko: "Stop shouting at me!" she shouted back and looked aside she then looked back at him. "The baby is sick and she needs usiko lwakini." She told him with her eyes still looking at him. Dalingcebo: "She needs what?" Nontobeko: "You heard me right Dalingcebo and you can't blame me for hiding this child from

you. You were your father's right hand man you wouldn't have accepted an illegitimate child." Dalingcebo: "Oh! So, what's makes you think I will help the illegitimate child get better now?" Nontobeko: "Don't call my child illegitimate." He chuckled again further making Nontobeko angry. "You came in here because your baby is sick and you need my help if this baby was not sick you were not going to tell me about her right? Now, you want me to help you? You know that I exist because you have seen that you are not superhuman you actually need the other person in your life." Nontobeko: "You are not going to help me? And I didn't say accept the child." Dalingcebo chuckled and shook his head. This woman didn't know what she was saying to him: "Oh, okay, you don't want me to me to get married because of this? That's why you are telling me about

it.” he asked pointing where she’d put her phone and Nontobeko didn’t miss the rudeness on his voice. Nontobeko: “I didn’t come here to stop you from getting married.” She changed her points again and sat up straight to get a closer look at him. “I just wanted you to know that you have a child and help her.” Dalingcebo: “And you hoped that I will stop my grandmother to search for a wife on my behalf just for you and your illegitimate child that you kept from me? Now, that it suits your arrogance you rock up in here and tell me I have a child? I should help that child? Why don’t you go back where you come from with this baby and let her die because that’s what you wanted? Didn’t you know that you can’t hide ingane yakwa Zulu?” he curtly asked and his words cut cold on her womb but she remembered the day Thembelihle told her

not to hide the baby with their bloodline. And she thought she was cursing her. Nontobeko: "My illegitimate child?" she asked getting off from the bed to stand on her feet. "That is what you think of my child?" she asked. Dalingcebo: "You called the baby illegitimate first and when I say it, you are hurting? I never wanted my first born to be born out of wed locks but you leered me into your trap knowing that you are not on the pill and see no future with me. And now I should accept that child on your terms because you want me to help her?" he asked getting off the bed to stand before her. She was trembling with anger. Nontobeko: "I can see the throne that you reign with your father, customs and rules have penetrated through your mind. You are no longer the man I fell in love with." She realised sadly and shook her head with

shame. “Being the next King of the kingdoms is on your head now.”

Dalingcebo: "This is not about my position. It's about you and your selfishness! You waited this long to tell me the baby is sick. You were hoping that she will die and she won't stand in the way of your precious job? Go with her and let her die then because that's what you wanted, Nontobeko." he shouted. Nontobeko: "I didn't want her to die and her sickness is recent." Dalingcebo: "You are lying! That's what you do best, lies! This baby carries my blood and if you have hidden the baby from us the baby would be sick from birth. If you don't believe that there's my uncle's second wife! She kept the child for years and the child inherited a life illness." Nontobeko: "I am not lying." Dalingcebo: "I don't need you to convince me because I know you are lying. What were you doing all along hiding the sick baby? You were hoping for her death?"

Nontobeko: “Yes, I never wanted a child my job meant everything to me and a child was not part of the plan but I don’t regret giving birth to Qalokuhle she’s my daughter! I never wanted death upon her life as you do. And I am sorry that she doesn’t fit into your world, future king!” she said marching to the door feeling his footsteps following her. She turned. “Don’t you dare come near me and near my life. You are good as dead to me!” she closed the door behind her. But the man didn’t listen to her. He dragged her back into his bedroom. Dalingcebo: “You’ll not walk out on me. I am still talking to you.” Nontobeko: “You don’t own me!” she shouted yanking her arm from his hold. She left and he let her leave... The three brothers were on their feet as Nontobeko appeared from the hallway. “You are leaving?” Mlamuli was the first to ask.

They've heard how hurt she still was for what happened to her family... Nontobeko: "Yes." She answered without looking at him but Mlamuli followed her to the door. The others walked behind him. Mlamuli: "Let us drive you home. it's late now and I doubt you'll find something." Nontobeko: "There's a ten o'clock bus." She told him without looking at him. "I am not my brother so you won't be stubborn on me and I want to see the first princess of our family." He said and the two brother chanted a 'Yeah!'. Nontobeko turned to look at them. Ndabezinhle: "We heard most of the things you were shouting about. And I am sorry for your loss." Mntwana: "You didn't deserve that pain nobody does." Nontobeko: "Thank you." Mlamuli: "We can come?" Nontobeko nodded and they left the house with her. "Just so you know, greeting people when

you enter their house doesn't hurt not even for a second." He said looking back at her. Nontobeko: "Sorry." In the car she showed them the pictures of her daughter and the brothers praised her beauty and how much she resembled their aunt, Mawande... They wanted to go inside the house and meet the baby but her parents were already asleep. They didn't meet the baby but they promised to come back... Nontobeko slept with tears that night. He had hurt her again and deeper this time... She decided then that she was going to let him do what was best for himself. And she, and Qalokuhle, they were going to be fine...

EPISODE 36

"How do you think Dalingcebo?" Mlamuli asked him. He was standing on his feet inside Dalingcebo's bedroom while Dalingcebo was laying on his bed...

They've just got back from Nontobeko's house and Mlamuli couldn't wait till morning to speak to Dalingcebo. Dalingcebo: "How do I think about what?" Mlamuli: "You have just chased the mother of your child just like that! You want that child to die?" Dalingcebo: "I don't want to talk about what happened." Mlamuli: "No! We will talk about it because if your father can hear that you have spoken to the mother of your child like you did. He would be furious with you. He may be arrogant but he doesn't

support nonsense and right now you are not walking on his footsteps.” Dalingcebo: “Why do you have to bring dad in this?” Mlamuli: “Why should I not bring him?” Dalingcebo: “Just leave me alone. I want to sleep because I am in this mess because of you and Mnotho. If you were men enough to obey dad’s word, I wasn’t going to be in this position.” Mlamuli: “Oh, you’ll play the blame card now?” Dalingcebo: “Leave me alone!” he shouted for the last time and Mlamuli nodded before leaving his room... “I am leaving now. You two will have to get home and tell MaSthole about that baby.” Mlamuli instructed his brothers who were waiting for him on the lounge. They’d let him speak to Dalingcebo alone. Mntwana: “Why are you leaving this late?” Mlamuli: “I can’t stay here. Dalingcebo is disrespectful and he has completely lost his mind.” Mntwana:

“Don’t you think that it’s time you come home now, bhuti.” Ndabezinhle: “I think Mntwana is right. Dalingcebo will lose his humanity. I don’t know how is he taking dad’s advices because he would never be proud if he hears that he spoke like that with Nontobeko.” Mlamuli nodded. “I will go to Mnotho’s house and you will come with mama there. We will talk to her about this but now, I am leaving.” Ndabezinhle: “Let’s leave then.” Mlamuli led the way to the door while they went to tell Dalingcebo that they were leaving... “How did you get here? Mlamuli!” Thembelihle shouted looking around and holding Mlamuli’s shoulders. Mlamuli was inside the kitchen after washing the plate of food that Mntwana had brought for him. Mlamuli: “Why do you look scared?” Thembelihle: “You shouldn’t be here.” Mlamuli: “Relax, nothing will happen

to me. If someone sees me they will tell dad and he will be angry without confronting me about it.” He informed her holding her hand and he led her to the lounge where his brothers were. Banele was also there. Ngcebo was the only who wasn’t with them but they’ve told him what happened. Thembelihle: “What’s wrong?” she looked at them. The brothers looked at Mlamuli and he knew that he needed to speak. “Last night, Nontobeko came to see Dalingcebo.” He laid out. Thembelihle: “Oh! Why do you feel the need to tell me that?” Mlamuli: “We heard them fighting inside his bedroom about the child that Nontobeko had given birth to. The child that belongs to Dalingcebo and the baby is sick.” “Jesus! I just knew it! And I told her she can’t hide the baby from us.” She exclaimed and clapped her hands shut. She clicked her tongue and

looked at Mlamuli. “How can this girl do this?” she asked. Ndabezinhle: “We don’t have answers to that but we have some news that won’t please you and they shouldn’t reach dad’s ears.” Thembelihle: “What news?” Mlamuli: “Dalingcebo chased Nontobeko away using his words where he told her that he doesn’t want an illegitimate child.” Mntwana: “And she told her she must go back where she comes from with that sick baby because she wanted it to die.” Thembelihle: “WHAT! DID YOU HEAR THAT WELL?” Mntwana: “Yes, mama. We heard everything well and she left the house upset that Dalingcebo had said that about her child. She had tears.” Thembelihle: “How can he possibly say that? Where is he?” Banele: “I saw his car driving down to the royal house.” Thembelihle: “I am going there now!” Mlamuli: “No, mama. You can’t

go there because dad is there and you
know how dad is. He will

just...” Thembelihle: “No! He will have to hear this and I want to know what he has to say about it because he’s clearly grooming him the wrong way if Dalingcebo has the nerve to reject his blood just because he was born out of wed lock.” Mlamuli: “Well, it’s a princess not a prince.” She looked at him with her eyes widened. She couldn’t believe what he was telling her. She placed her hands on her face and closed her eyes. She drew a long breath and released. “You are not joking with me, right?” she finally managed to ask looking at Mlamuli and the rest of her sons. They were smiling. Mntwana: “No, we are not joking and she told us that her name is Qalokuhle.” Thembelihle: “I have a granddaughter, a daughter?” she closed her eyes and prayed instantly with her heart feeling the joy and pain at the same time. Her sons had their

heads looking down with eyes closed as Thembelihle was praying, thanking the Lord about the news that she was hearing... ----- Nontobeko was inside her room dressing her baby after she'd just bath her in the morning. The baby was crying and she was just quiet. She was still with a heavy painful heart regarding what happened the previous night. "What's wrong with our princess?" MaNtombela asked taking the baby while her mother was busy moping the wet floor. MaNtombela looked at Nontobeko as she sat down with the baby. "Nontobeko?" she called her. Nontobeko: "Mama?" MaNtombela: "What's wrong? You are not yourself what's bothering you now? Did something you didn't like happen last night? She's not sick now." Nontobeko: "No, mama. I am thinking about speaking to dad." MaNtombela: "He saw that the baby

belongs to Dalingcebo.” Nontobeko: “I have to apologise to him. You have forgiven me but I don’t know about him, mama.” MaNtombela: “He’s in our room, just go and talk to him. I will clean up her when Kuhle is fast asleep.” Nontobeko nodded and left her bedroom for their parents’ bedroom... She finally received a chance to have a talk with her father. She didn’t regret coming back home because it’d opened her eyes and made her see that the man she loved was no longer the same. Now, she wanted to speak with her father and try to move on with her life. She was certain that even though Dalingcebo’s brothers had said Thembelihle was going to be happy about the baby. She wasn’t going to be happy, she was sure because Thembelihle didn’t like her and the child was conceived out of wed locks just like Dalingcebo had said.

She couldn't see Dalingcebo's mother having different thoughts from her son. Nontobeko: "Baba?" she looked down and sat next to her father who was laying on the bed. Nontobeko didn't want to tell her parents that Dalingcebo had rejected her baby. Their baby. "You don't need to cry now Nontobeko." Mr Zondi said holding his daughter's hand. Nontobeko looked at him surprised that he wasn't shouting. Nontobeko: "I am sorry for everything baba. I didn't mean to disrespect you but I was hurting because my relationship had ended and I wanted to be alone. I wanted peace, baba." Mr Zondi: "I understand but what happened last night because I have a feeling that these tears you are crying now are of a fresh experience." Nontobeko: "Baba, I should be looking after you because you are sick but I am crying baba.

How can I be so stupid?" she cried, ignoring to answer his question with a straight answer. She didn't want to tell him what happened because she was ashamed of it and she didn't want the families to fight... Mr Zondi: "Look at me, Ntonto." He commanded. Nontobeko looked at him. "Don't you ever put your dreams on hold for a man. You can do that for your daughter because you are a mother now but not a man. I am sure that Dalingcebo said something to hurt you or he rejected you? But don't be like this just for him." Nontobeko: "Baba, I love him." she told him truthfully.

Mr Zondi: "I know. But what are you, worth to him?" he asked making her think thoroughly about what he had just said. Her father was right once again she was a nobody to Dalingcebo. She was nothing to him and he had shown her that she was worth nothing... Mr Zondi: "Once you are fit go back to your dream job, stand up and go make the world a better place for your daughter. Your mother will look after Qalokuhle." He encouraged her. "I will do that, baba. But now I have to look after you." she smiled looking at her father as he returned the smile. MaZondi: "MaGagashi." He praised her and Nontobeko wiped her tears... ---- Thembelihle stepped inside the office without knocking. She was angry and she needed to get her anger off her chest... Dalingcebo was seated on his desk that used to belong to Thembelihle. Dalisu was

also seated on his desk reading papers...
Thembelihle faced Dalingcebo.
Thembelihle: "Stand up and come here."
She commanded straight and Dalingcebo
was forced to stand up. Dalisu: "MaSthole,
what is wrong now? I have given him
something to do there you are disturbing
him." Thembelihle: "Does working here turn
you into a boy instead of a man?" she
asked looking at Dalingcebo without
answering her husband nor even turning to
look at him... Dalisu stood up and moved
closer to them. Dalingcebo: "No, mama. I
am not a boy." "LIES!" She exclaimed and
unexpectedly slapped the arrogance off his
face. She felt that the slap lingered painfully
on his cheek because her hands felt the
discomfort after slapping him. Dalisu:
"MaSthole!" Thembelihle: "Don't shout at
me because I don't know what are you

teaching this boy here. You are telling us that you are grooming him but you are killing him. You are killing the man I have raised.” Dalisu: “That’s nonsense. You can’t stand before me and tell me that rubbish you are telling me. If you don’t know why you are here there’s the door.” he pointed it and Thembelihle shook her head with a mocking chuckle. Thembelihle: “You see, your father.” She pointed Dalisu but looking at Dalingcebo. “When I was carrying Ndabezinhle he was tricked by a woman. Today, I will tell you about the story that you asked me about when you were 20 years. Your father brought a pregnant woman here and told me he was marrying her.” she introduced and Dalingcebo looked at Dalisu. Dalisu: “What’s the meaning of this MaSthole?” he held her wrist but Thembelihle didn’t even look at him.

Thembelihle: “You’ll look at me Dalingcebo I am the one speaking to you.” she reminded him and Dalingcebo looked at her. “He married that woman and he was marrying her for a child that he thought belonged to him. But it didn’t belong to him. Now, you my child, my son, my blood! You are rejecting the child that is yours because you got the child out of wed locks! And that baby is sick!” she shouted at him and Dalisu let go of Thembelihle’s wrist to look at Dalingcebo. Dalisu: “Dalingcebo, tell me that’s not true.” Dalingcebo: “I didn’t reject the baby, mama. I didn’t, baba. I was angry that she kept the baby from me and only came to me because the baby is sick.” Thembelihle: “You are lying to us! Your brothers told me that you told your baby mama, Nontobeko straight that ‘you won’t accept an illegitimate child because you

didn't want one.' And if you were angry you were supposed to tell your father first when you see him but you clearly didn't." Dalisu: "Umbedo lento engiyizwayo uyangizwa!" he shouted trying to get a hold of Dalingcebo but Thembelihle stood before Dalisu. She didn't want him to fight with him but he needed to talk with him. Thembelihle: "You will not fight." Dalisu: "I want to speak to while facing him, now get away from me." he requested on a polite voice and Thembelihle moved aside but she stood next to Dalingcebo. "Why are you quiet?" he asked looking at him. Dalingcebo: "I am sorry, baba."

Daliso: "You are sorry!" it didn't take him longer to have him on his fist, he was holding him with one fist by the collar of his shirt. "You didn't want an illegitimate child but you were able to sleep with that girl without protection, without marrying her? You made her a mother yourself and now, that the child is here. You are screaming about an illegitimate child?" he shouted.

Dalingcebo: "I wasn't thinking straight, baba."

Daliso: "What happened between that girl and you, has nothing to do with your child. It has nothing to do with your blood."

Thembelihle: "My first granddaughter, baba. My first granddaughter, he rejected the first girl of my house!" "WHAT?" Daliso was further angered by that new information and he threw a punch at his son. He let go of him immediately after punching him. Dalingcebo

was looking down holding his jaw while groaning. “You are crazy, Dalingcebo!” Dalingcebo: “No, I made a mistake.” Dalisu: “A mistake, amasimba! Rejecting your blood is a mistake? Who taught you that? Who taught you that, because your mother is always preaching that you should look out for each other. That blood sticks together through everything and you have the balls to reject your seed.” Dalingcebo: “I am sorry...” Dalisu: “Get out of my face! Voetsek!” Dalingcebo walked out of the office with all the words that his parents said to him crashing and moulding his mind... Dalisu clicked his tongue and turned to his wife. Thembelihle sighed and shook her head showing the disappointment she felt. Dalisu held her hand and pulled her closer to him. He then hugged her tightly... Dalisu: “Don’t worry, he will do the right thing and

you will get to hold the baby in your arms. And that girl will have to answer to me for lying to you. Sizoyenzela usiko ingane ngeke iphinde idunguzele.” he said politely brushing her back. Thembelihle: “Thank you.” Dalisu packed her face on his hands and he placed his cold wet lips on his queen’s forehead...

S2 – EPISODE 37

In the morning, he stepped inside his car and drove straight to his mother’s palace. He couldn’t sleep at night thinking about the previous day, his mother had slapped him and his father gave him his fist. But what was he thinking? How could he shame himself and his father like that? He couldn’t possibly think how Nontobeko felt about him after what happened. He sighed and closed his eyes, thinking the idea of being an honourable man, doing honourable things

like his father was teaching him, but it got to him in a wrong way. What he did wasn't honourable at all... "Sanibona!" He greeted his parents, grandmother and Mntwana who seated on the dining table having breakfast. They greeted him back and he grabbed a chair to join them on the table. Thembelihle: "How are you?" Dalingcebo: "I am fine, mama and how are you and everyone?" Thembelihle: "We are fine." MaCebekhulu: "But I am not, I am highly disappointed in you, Dalingcebo. Yes, this girl was wrong and selfish but you were supposed to be the bigger person." Dalingcebo: "I am disappointed in myself too, gogo." Dalisu: "It's better if you can still feel that way." Dalingcebo: "Yes, and I would like to apologise for what I did. I don't know what went over my head. I have no excuses for it." MaCebekhulu: "What will you do?"

Dalingcebo: "I have to try and talk to Nontobeko." Dalisu: "You won't try and speak to her but you will speak to her. I want her to come here and she will tell me why did she lie to my wife and I will get to straighten things with her. I am still not at

peace that she shouted at my wife.”
Thembelihle: “I think you need to let that go, baba. She was pregnant.” MaCebekhulu: “No, you will straighten it Dalisu. That way she must know that she must never disrespect the queen in any way. MaSthole has never not even once disrespected me and yet she’d been pregnant five times. I would scold her and shout but she never shouted back because she was pregnant. Stop making excuses for her.” she looked at Thembelihle and Thembelihle looked at her food. Dalisu: “Mama, is right. I will do it because I don’t want her thinking she will come here to control us and do as she pleases.” MaCebekhulu: “Yes, and if she refuses you when you talk to her. It’s easy we will call her parents.” Thembelihle: “I will call her mother even if she agrees. I think it’s best that I let her know that now I know

that she has a child with my son. Hopefully her sickness won't worsen because we know about her now." Dalisu: "Okay, Dalingcebo?" Dalingcebo: "Baba." Dalisu: "Are you looking into fixing a relationship with her or it won't be like that? I should know because you wanted an arranged marriage because of her. Where is your heart?" Dalingcebo: "I will tell you after speaking with her baba but for now I wanted you to know that I will have to go and I don't think it will be for days." Dalisu: "Don't worry, you can take all the time you need." Dalingcebo: "Thank you." Thembelihle: "But I think she needs to work through herself before you move back into any relationship. You won't be good with each other if you proceed without her facing her demons." Dalingcebo: "I doubt she will agree to that but I can help her." Thembelihle: "Hhaybo!

You can help her in what way? Tell me?"

Dalingcebo: "I will help her move on."

Thembelihle: "That girl needs more than moving on Dalingcebo."

Dalису: "MaSthole, let him do things the way he wants to. Didn't I help you with your sister?"

Thembelihle: "It's not about that Ndabezitha but if he insists he will help her they will just further be the same. They will be together and in the long run they won't care about others but themselves. We know that other things you inherit from your partner spiritually."

Dalingcebo: "That will not happen mama. I will never be like that."

MaCebekhulu: "MaSthole, just let Dalingcebo do things his way."

Thembelihle kept quiet and had her food but deep within she knew that what she was telling them was right...

Mntwana: "Yoh! Finally, we will have someone to run to the shops for us." he commented and

they laughed. Thembelihle: "That will not happen." Mntwana: "Hawu, why not?" Thembelihle: "You have your own feet and Qalokuhle won't run around for you. Don't you know where the shops are?" MaCebekhulu laughed at Mntwana, Dalisu was just looking at his wife and Dalingcebo's mind was no longer with them. "It seems like you will spoil her." MaCebekhulu commented looking at Thembelihle. Mntwana: "Yes, I can see gogo and I will have no space as the last born." Dalisu: "I thought you said you are a man now." Mntwana: "Yes, I am." Thembelihle: "Wee! Men don't whine." She commented folding her lips and she looked at Mntwana but he was pretending as if he didn't hear her... Dalingcebo sighed, Thembelihle looked at him and placed her hand on his shoulder. Dalingcebo looked at

his mother. Thembelihle: “Don’t worry, everything will be alright.” MaCebekhulu: “Your mother is alright.” Dalingcebo nodded his head and ate his food that he had dished... Thembelihle then looked at them thinking that maybe now was the right time to make the announcement she’d thought about all night.

Thembelihle: "I have an announcement to make." Them: "Yes." Thembelihle: "I know that my sons promised me the first daughter will be raised by me but I will not take Nontobeko's daughter." "HAWU!" They all chanted and looked at her. And Dalingcebo looked at her with a different eye than the others. Dalingcebo: "You still don't like her even after giving birth to the first girl? Is that why you won't take the baby and raise her?" Thembelihle: "No, that's not the reason. But she'd lost a daughter before and it would be best that she gets a second and raise this one herself until she's older. And that means she must not be thinking of working but she must be a full mother to the child if she's not going for therapy the baby will be her therapy." Dalisu: "And if what if you don't get any granddaughter after this one?" Thembelihle: "Then I won't." Dalingcebo: "I

understand your point mama and thank you.” Thembelihle nodded with a smile on her face and she looked at Dalisu. He was looking at her with a clear face.

He tried not to worry himself like his mother had said but he couldn't stop the worries. Nontobeko was going to reject him and that made him uncomfortable even further. He was driving to Eshowe when his mind was occupied by what Nontobeko had said. She was right the throne had changed him and not for better. He wasn't a man he recognised... “I really need your help.” Dalingcebo told his brother, Mlamuli. Dalingcebo had driven his car to Mlamuli's farmhouse as means to speak to him. They were standing by the sheep's stable. Dalingcebo had decided that he would to step down as his father's right hand man. He didn't want the throne after his father

even when he was alive or had passed... He wanted to plead with his brother to fix things with their father and take over the throne. Mlamuli: "I am listening." Dalingcebo: "Firstly, I want to say sorry for the way I behaved I shouldn't have behaved that way. You are older than me and I didn't have treat you like that." Mlamuli: "I forgive you. You should have called not drive all the way." Dalingcebo: "I wanted to see you and talk to you." Mlamuli: "Okay, I am listening." Dalingcebo: "I want to step down as dad's right hand man because I don't want to rule. It's not good for me Mlamuli. I can take one of the other positions but not the throne." Mlamuli: "How will you do that? And why do you think I can help you?" Dalingcebo: "I will fake being sick so that Dad will be forced to mend things with you. We will say being on the throne made me sick because it wasn't

meant for me.” Mlamuli: “Hhayi! You can’t fake being sick so that dad will mend things with me. I will not support that.” He told him upfront looking at him straight in the eye. “That is not the right way to do things. And dad doesn’t want me as king.” He added. Dalingcebo: “Mlamuli, that’s not the truth and you know it. You can’t live this life forever. You’ll be away from your family until?” Mlamuli: “I am telling you that’s not the right way to do things.” Dalingcebo: “Tell me what to do? I have a daughter and I need to be in her life. I need to fix things with her mother I still love her. I will not be the best man for her if I stay for kingship.” he told him looking down. Dalingcebo: “You can make arrangements to co-parent with Nontobeko. I don’t know about the promise we made to mama since you have given them their first granddaughter. But just co-

parent.” Dalingcebo: “No, I need to marry Nontobeko and that way she’ll stay in the village. Mom will not raise our first daughter for Nontobeko to heal. I need her in my life. I need them both in my life.” Mlamuli: “Why didn’t you just tell me that you want Nontobeko back in your life. It’s not a bad thing to admit that your life is incomplete without Nontobeko. She’s a good woman and you deserve her in your life.” he said and Dalingcebo looked down and said nothing.

Dalingcebo: "This position has changed me into a man I didn't want to be. It's not made for me Mlamuli and it's not what I wanted for myself. It's better you have a wife and children. Dad has already ruled that Prince will be the next king. You don't have to give Prince to me when he's 16 years old. You will raise him yourself and show him your great leadership skills." Mlamuli: "And you also have great leadership skills Mageba. You just need Nontobeko to complete it." Dalingcebo: "You know that won't happen and she doesn't want this life just like I don't. Please, I know you have saved us all your life Mlamuli and please, do it one more time." He begged him. Mlamuli: "I will speak to dad and I will take the throne." He relieved him. Dalingcebo looked at him not believing that he was actually agreeing to it... They shoulder hug with his brother.

“Ndabezitha, Mageba, Mntwana. Ngonyama ezobusa! Thank you.” Dalingcebo praised him. Mlamuli laughed as he was praising him... Nkosazana had just finished fixing a bedroom for Dalingcebo. He was with Mlamuli and their sons. He was going to spend the night with them... Her phone rang as she marched to her bedroom. She took it off her pocket. She cleared her throat before answering the call. Nkosazana: “Sawubona, baba.” Dalisu: “MaMkhwanazi, unjani?” Nkosazana: “Ngiyaphila baba, unjani?” Dalisu: “Hhayi, ngiyaphila, I need to see you in my royal house. When are you free?” he asked straight forward. Nkosazana: “I will be coming that side this Saturday.” Dalisu: “Okay, at 10am I want to have a word with you.” Nkosazana: “Yebo, I will do that.” Dalisu: “Okay, good. Send my regards to the boys.” Nkosazana: “I will do

that.” Dalisu then hung up the call and Nkosazana sighed wondering what he wanted to speak about... ----- Nontobeko was dressing up Qalokuhle after giving her a morning bath. She was back in Durban. Her father was better but not back at work. She decided to leave after three days of seeing Dalingcebo. MaNtombela wanted her to stay longer but Nontobeko needed to be away from home because she expected that Thembelihle was going to call her the following day to get her baby help but she didn't call. That was evident to Nontobeko that only the three brothers were happy about the baby but her grandmother, she didn't care... She'd been better ever since Nontobeko told Dalingcebo about her. Qalokuhle was crying and Nontobeko was soothing her with sweet words. She was laying on her bed while she dressed her.

Qalokuhle had the tendency of crying all the time when she was bathing... A knock on the door disturbed Nontobeko. "Who must be that now? You see my beautiful flower you are going to scare the visitors now." she picked her up and marched to the door with her. She'd finished dressing her. She was rocking her as means to stop her from crying. "I can't believe such a beauty can cry like you are crying. Nc. Nc." She said opening the door. She almost dropped the child at the sight of Dalingcebo standing outside her flat. Thembelihle called MaNtombela and informed her that they were aware now, that Nontobeko was the mother of Dalingcebo's daughter. She promised they would do things right by the child but they needed to speak with Nontobeko. MaNtombela agreed to it after she'd informed her husband... Dalingcebo

drove to Zondi's house during the day to see Nontobeko but he didn't find her. He asked for her address to Nandipha and she gave it to him... "Nontobeko." He greeted, Nontobeko didn't say a thing to him she looked at her crying daughter. Dalingcebo tried to take the child from Nontobeko but she held her grip tight on her child. "I won't hurt her." he said and Nontobeko loosened up her grip. Dalingcebo took the baby and held her looking into her eyes. Qalokuhle stopped crying as her father looked into her hazel brown eyes. Nontobeko swallowed hard and headed back inside... Dalingcebo followed her inside the flat. He sat down with the child and Nontobeko got busy cleaning up where she was bathing her baby. She wondered why he was in her place. He wasn't planning on

taking her daughter wasn't he? He was powerful, his family had power and so he had the power to do as he pleased... And she had kept the child from him that was going to a problem for her even if she could take him to court. She didn't know what to think about his visit... Nontobeko: "What do you want?" she asked sitting down without offering him water or juice. "Don't tell me just because you are your father's right hand man and now because it suits you, you want to take my child from me. I know you people think you own everyone. My baby is better now and so, I don't need you." She went on. Dalingcebo: "Did someone ever told you that you talk too much and you have a tendency of overthinking?" he asked mocking her and Nontobeko didn't have the humour. Nontobeko: "You are here to mock me?"

Dalingcebo: “No, I am here for my family and I want to take them back home in our house where our daughter was conceived or we can just move to Nongoma because I live there now. And she’s only better now.” He said looking into her eyes. Nontobeko froze for a moment. “I was wrong Nontobeko and you were right, the throne, customs and power got to me and it caught my head badly. That is why I didn’t want it. Nontobeko I am sorry about everything.” He said genuinely. Nontobeko: “Your family? I am not your family.” She challenged him. Dalingcebo: “You are and you know it. You are to be my wife and me, your husband along with our princess.” He said it out for her. Nontobeko felt strange like she had before, she suddenly she loved the idea of them, husband and wife with their child. Them, a family. Nontobeko: “I can never get

married again and I intend to go back to the military.” She disappointed. Dalingcebo: “What? And what about our love, I can’t have a wife who’ll stay away from me. How can you expect that from me and what about our child?” he asked. Nontobeko: “You once told me your mom will raise the first daughter and if you want to marry me I will come back often.” She explained just to see what he was going to say to her now... This time she didn’t want to be stubborn and fight him but she wanted to challenge him to see if he would agree to what she wanted. She’d realised all the wrongs she made and how keeping her past a secret from him destroyed them. She’d realised that she let the fear of what he might do, break them. It was not fear of speaking about her past but fear of losing him because of her past. Dalingcebo had

broken the walls that blocked her from 'loving' again and now, she realised that she was wrong not to be honest with him. She'd been miserable without him and now, that he was here she didn't want to act hard to get and stubborn. She wanted this man as much as he wanted her. They wanted each other... Dalingcebo: "My mother said she's not taking the child from you because you have lost one before and raising Qalokuhle will give you a second chance. And you will heal through raising her." Nontobeko smiled as that touched her heart, she'd considered her feelings? She appreciated that and she loved being a mother to her daughter. But she had to be an extra ordinary mom and make the world a better place for her precious diamond, Qalokuhle. Nontobeko: "I am grateful for that but I want her to raise my child because

I want to go and work. I haven't finished my chapter with the military and so, I will be going back. If you love me, you will accept that." "I forbid that! You will not leave our family to fight wars do you hear me, Nontobeko you will not!" he raised his voice, scared for her life. Nontobeko stood up and took her sleeping baby from her father's arms and walked away with her. "Where are you going?" he asked standing up. Nontobeko: "I have to put her down. She'll wake up and cry if you shout while she's under your hold." She told him briefly leaving him to put the child down. "You can't come in here and tell me what I can and cannot do." she told him standing behind him as he was leaning by the window. Dalingcebo: "I don't want to proceed living my life without you and my child. All those things I said I wasn't on my right mind and I

will step down as my father's right hand man because my life is here with you not by the throne." Nontobeko: "You will step down, how?" she asked surprised by the news. Dalingcebo turned to look into her eyes while holding her hands.

Dalingcebo: “Yes, I asked my brother to fix things with dad and he agreed. But he advised me that I speak to you first.” He replied and pulled her closer to him. “I want to live in harmony with you and hopefully we will make more children.” He said with a smile and Nontobeko laughed feeling her heart at ease. She hugged him and he held her tighter. Dalingcebo: “I love you so much sthandwa sami.” he said. Nontobeko: “I love you, too.” she felt safe with him and it felt like a dream. She couldn’t believe that he was to leave the position because he wanted to be with her. “Wait, do you think your father will forgive your brother because you said he’s a difficult man?” she asked. Dalingcebo: “My older brother, Mlamuli is as a stubborn and dad listens to him. And I know that he’ll forgive him because mama doesn’t like all the anger between them if he

can refuse him forgiveness that will break them as a married couple.” Nontobeko: “Okay, Mlamuli had called me here and there asking about the baby and they came to see her with his wife the day I was leaving.” Dalingcebo: “He didn’t tell me that.” Nontobeko: “Jealous! and how did you find me?” Dalingcebo: “I called your sister.” “What! I should call that little girl! How could she?.” she exclaimed trying to break through from his hold but he held her tighter. Dalingcebo: “No, that will be the last thing you’ll do. Can’t you see I am here?” he asked kissing her. She giggled and kissed him back passionately. Nontobeko wanted to pay attention to the man back in her life and the passion took them to the couch slowly... There were a number of things they needed to speak about, Dalingcebo recognised but he didn’t want to begin with

that. He wanted to make love her to after all those months of being without her... “Dali, we need to protect ourselves. I don’t think we need another child.” she suggested as she was laying naked underneath him on the couch. Dalingcebo: “We will take care of that after my love, now let me give you some love before our princess wakes up and cry.” Nontobeko smiled and let him show her love...

S2 – EPISODE 38

“I have asked them to prepare this meal for us.” Dalisu told Nkosazana and pointed the food that was on the table. Nkosazana: “Thank you.” she got up and put one plate for Dalisu and the other for herself. She then poured the tea for them and mixed it the way she knew Dalisu liked it. She’d been praying and hoping that Dalisu wasn’t going to say something that was going to

hurt her husband further. Dalisu: "Thank you." he raised the tea cup and sipped on it. Nkosazana sat down with her cup on her hands. "I didn't call you here for much but I thought I should speak to you." he added. Nkosazana: "Yebo, I am listening." Dalisu: "I have heard everything that you've been doing in the villages and how your work has expanded. I have been following through it and I must say our people are happy." Nkosazana: "Helping them had also help me." Dalisu: "I have been wondering why the streets no longer had the number of young girls I used to drive pass on the road at night. It's just one or two now." Nkosazana: "Oh, yes, the parents had complained a lot about how much their daughters love being on the streets even at night. I then realised that I had to touch on that but it wasn't easy convincing them."

Dalisu: “Teenagers are trouble and you will see that when your boys are teens. They are trouble.” Nkosazana: “I hope my husband will help me a lot.” Dalisu: “Hmm! Hhayi, I wanted to personally tell you that I am impressed with your work and dedication to the people. That 4/10 who can listen it’s better than nothing.” Nkosazana: “That’s true.”

Dalisu: "I want you to know that I give you all my blessings. Go, and multiple, make a difference knowing that I am happy with what you're been doing. And I have more investors who want to be part of your vision." Nkosazana: "That's wonderful, baba. Thank you." Dalisu: "I will also have to brace you with my presence so, I ask that you plan an event where I can come to see your girls and their parents must be present. I think it's important that people see that I am in support of what you are doing." Nkosazana: "I will be on it and thank you." Dalisu: "And now that I have seen this. I want us to put all the past behind us because your hard work had buried all the wrongs you did when you were a teenager. And I believe that you'll help the others who also wish to take this route of music. Your life can inspire them to do right and maybe

work with Ngcebo on that as well.” Nkosazana closed her eyes feeling her heart at ease as Dalisu said that to her. She couldn’t believe after the long years of pain about how her father in-law despised her he was finally putting past behind them. And she didn’t forget that was all thanks to the little girl, Nandipha. “I will do that and thank you, baba.” She said giving out her hand as Dalisu requested a handshake. They handshake. Dalisu stood up. “I don’t know because things are still South between me and your husband but I will have to do a ritual to fully accept you.” he said. Nkosazana: “I will speak to him.” Dalisu: “No, don’t do that because he doesn’t see that he was wrong. I will talk to your mother in-law and she will call you. We will see what to do.” he said and walked out of the door after Nkosazana had promised she will

do what he'd said... ----- "Come, bring her to me I will go put her down and you can eat your dinner because now you are holding her like treasure you don't want to lose. Yoh!" Nontobeko gave out her arms to Dalingcebo and he shook his head. "And now, what's wrong?" she asked. Dalingcebo: "She's our treasure and I want to put her down. My daughter is so pretty and I don't know why she didn't choose to look like her mom but her great aunt?" he looked at her and folded his lips but Nontobeko rolled her eyes. She opened her bedroom door and led him to her bed. Nontobeko: "Just leave me alone. I can still have a child who'll look like me." Dalingcebo: "We will share the bed with her? Why didn't you buy her, her own bed?" he asked putting the bed down. Nontobeko: "I must buy her a bed and share this one

alone. I had no man sharing a bed with me so I didn't need to buy one." Dalingcebo: "Hee! Would you have shared a bed with a man while my daughter was in here?" Nontobeko: "I would be sharing the bed with you now, and so, what's wrong?" she asked walking out of the bedroom. She was certain that her words were going to trigger something in him. Dalingcebo: "I am her father and hearing you say that disgusts me. Argh!" Nontobeko: "I knew that it would." "You haven't been sleeping with no man, right?" He asked looking at her after taking the plate of food that was meant for him. Nontobeko laughed at his statement. "What's funny?" he asked. Nontobeko: "I am laughing because you have slept with me but you are asking me that question now." Dalingcebo: "I wasn't thinking with my mind." Nontobeko laughed once more and

she realised that she hadn't laugh so genuinely in a long time. Nandipha was the only person who made her laugh truly but this was different, it was different because it was him who was making her laugh!

Nontobeko: "Wow! Well, I haven't been shagging anyone. And what about you?" she looked at him closely.

Dalingcebo: "What? I have been very busy to check on women." He lied and kept his eyes away from her. He couldn't tell her about his 'regular friend' It was not necessary.

Nontobeko: "That's a lie and I need the truth. Did you sleep with someone else after breaking up with

me?” Dalingcebo: “Why is it important for you to know?” Nontobeko: “No, don’t answer because I know the answer already. Did you at least use protection with her?” Dalingcebo: “Hheyi! I won’t answer these questions because they’re unnecessary. I won’t answer them.” Nontobeko: “Okay, we are going for blood tests tomorrow.” Dalingcebo: “Tests for what?” Nontobeko: “For diseases and you will not give me excuses.” Dalingcebo: “Okay, fine!” he agreed without looking at her, his eyes on the plate of food that he was eating. “When will you resign from your job?” he asked looking at her now. Nontobeko: “Do I have to resign right away?” Dalingcebo: “Yes, it should be with immediate effect because I want you home now. My father needs to see you.” Nontobeko: “What?” she widened her eyes. Dalingcebo: “Yes, and I won’t tell

you the agenda of that meeting because I don't know about it." He lied. Nontobeko: "And your mother?" Dalingcebo: "She will be there as well." Nontobeko sighed and didn't supply a comment but she was thinking. "After the meeting with my parents, I will pay damages for our daughter." He said looking at her. Nontobeko: "Okay, that will relieve my parents because things were no longer good between us because of this." Dalingcebo: "Why didn't tell me, Nontobeko? About the pregnancy?" Nontobeko: "I was hurt and angry and I didn't want my pregnancy to cause chaos for my sister's happiness." Dalingcebo: "I am sorry but that's a stupid excuse." Nontobeko: "Okay! I just thought your family won't accept my child and especially your mother since she doesn't like me." Dalingcebo: "Can you please take that out

of your head! And my mother was never going to reject my child even if the mother was a prostitute she wouldn't reject the child." Nontobeko: "I am sorry, I was wrong." Dalingcebo: "If this relationship will work. You will have to include me in your life, thoughts, feelings and emotions. I don't expect that what happened between us before to happen again. If you are not ready to invest in this relationship you can tell me. And we will take it at your pace." Nontobeko stood up and sat next to him. "I am ready now and I have learnt from my mistakes I won't repeat them." She promised. Dalingcebo: "Once we are on the right space I will send my people to your parents and I will make you my wife." Nontobeko smiled and held his arm, she laid her head on his shoulder. "I wish we shared all the pregnancy experience together." She

commented. Dalingcebo: “We will share the next ones, my love.” Nontobeko: “And the next one will be the last.” “HHAYBO!” He looked at her and Nontobeko laughed like a child. Dalingcebo smiled and kissed her shortly.... --- By the end of the week Dalingcebo and Nontobeko were back from Durban. Nontobeko’s employers accepted her resignation and she left Durban with her child and Dalingcebo... Dalingcebo left Nontobeko at her father’s house with all her belongings and he then drove to Eshowe to get Mlamuli... Dalingcebo drove inside his mother’s palace he was with Mlamuli in his car. It was a Sunday morning and their father was home. They didn’t tell their parents that they were coming over... Nkosazana was at MaCebekhulu’s palace with their sons. She drove their car to the palace...

“Bhuti!” Mntwana exclaimed seeing Mlamuli enter their mother’s house. He stood on his feet and Mlamuli met him halfway. They shared a brotherly hug. Mlamuli: “How are you, ntwana?” Mntwana: “I am fine I didn’t expect to see you here.” He sat sitting down with him and Dalingcebo left to get their parents. Mlamuli: “I know but this is still home, right?” Mntwana: “Yes, but where are the boys?” Mlamuli: “They’re with grandma with their mother. She will bring them when we are done speaking to dad.” Mntwana: “No, let me go down.” Mlamuli: “No, sit down.” He tightened his grip on his thigh and looked at his parents as they followed each other to the lounge. Thembelihle had the best smile on her face. She gave her arms out to Mlamuli and they hugged each other. “Oh! My son, it’s good to see you.” she said. Mlamuli: “It’s good to see you too,

MaSthole. How are you?" Thembelihle: "How can I not be fine when I see you home?" she asked and sit down next to her husband. Mlamuli: "I am glad to hear that." Dalisu: "What do you want here because I made myself clear that I don't want you back here and now, what do you want?" Mlamuli: "I want my rights." Dalisu: "Your rights? You have no rights here, you lost them the day you got up from that chair and decided to turn your back on them." Mlamuli: "I wanted to be heard, baba. You were not willing to hear me out. I know that we don't usually see eye to eye but you can't deny that what I was telling you was right." Dalisu: "What was right? The fact that I should wait for your brother who has impregnated a woman he found in the foreign city? Why do you keep impregnating women without marrying them?" Mlamuli:

“Baba, I don’t have a child out of wed locks and so, I can’t answer that question.” He replied without looking at him. Dalisu looked at Dalingcebo. “HAWU!” Dalingcebo exclaimed and looked at his mother who was also looking at him. Thembelihle: “Don’t say, hawu! Answer the question.” Dalingcebo: “We don’t plan it baba but it just happens and that doesn’t mean we are proud of it. We are sorry.” Mlamuli: “And Mnotho’s child has been born.” “WHAT!” Thembelihle exclaimed and looked at him, she looked back at her husband as the news surprised her. She didn’t expect them. Dalisu: “You see MaSthole, they do things as they please. They forget that they can be men but they’re still expected to report major things happening in their lives to us. How can Mnotho do this? He didn’t call us.” Mlamuli: “Maybe he’s busy baba.”

Thembelihle: “If he’s busy you didn’t think of calling me and tell me about this?” she shouted looking at him. Mlamuli: “I am sorry, I just thought that he will call you.” Mntwana: “Maybe he forgets to call because of the different times.” Dalingcebo: “Yes, please don’t be angry.” Dalisu: “Don’t tell us that!” Mlamuli: “I didn’t come here for that and Mnotho will come back and you will speak to him. You will direct all the anger to him.” Dalisu: “Don’t tell us that because he’s been communicating with you and you kept everything away from your mother.” Mlamuli: “I promised him not to tell.” Dalisu clicked his tongue and looked at the picture of the muted TV. “Baba, I came here because I want to make things right between us. And I will do that in the

presence of mom and my brothers. Can you lend me your ear?" he requested politely. Dalisu: "I am listening." Mlamuli: "That day, I shouldn't have done things like I did but I wanted you to hear my views. You didn't give me the chance." Dalisu: "I gave you the chance! But you used it to disrespect my word!" Mlamuli: "I wasn't disrespecting your word, Mageba. But Mnotho was in a crisis he told me that I should keep things on hold on his behalf. He wasn't doing that to disrespect you and I did that because I didn't want your relationship with him to die just like ours did." Dalisu: "I didn't kill the relationship I had with you, Mlamuli. But you did what you do best, disrespecting my word!" he shouted looking at him. Thembelihle: "Please, calm down." She held his chest and looked at Mntwana. He stood up knowing what he needed to do. "He's

here to talk not fight. And we don't need to go back to Nkosazana's fight because she had proved herself worthy of being the queen." Dalisu: "I am angered all over again by his words." Mlamuli: "I love Nkosazana, baba. And I loved her even when I told you I wanted to marry her I wasn't spiting you. I didn't mean to hurt you and disrespect you by choosing her but I have seen the future with her. Nobody chose mama for you." he told him pointing his mother and Dalisu took the glass of water from Mntwana. "I knew that I wasn't going to find someone who compliments me like she did. You are the one who told us that it didn't take long to make mama your wife because you knew you wanted her and so, you went for her. What was the wrong in what I did because I was following in your footsteps?" he asked. Dalisu didn't answer him because he knew

that all their lives he'd encouraged them, if they see something, they like it and want it to belong to them, they should go and claim it as theirs. It didn't matter how longer it take but they shouldn't rest until they have that thing... He'd told them the same thing about women. He told them never to play games with women but be upfront about what they wanted from them. Whether it's by actions or words... Now, how was he going to tell Mlamuli he didn't say that? He said it and he'd seen them living up to it... Dalisu: "I hear you." Mlamuli: "I looked beyond her past and saw a woman, and we have been married for four years now. And I want you to know that I don't regret marrying her. I would choose her again if given a chance." Dalisu looked at Thembelihle after hearing their son's words and Thembelihle looked at him as well. She smiled at her husband...

He didn't have the problem now that Mlamuli was saying all these words about his wife. He'd accepted her and he had no problem... Nkosazana had told Mlamuli that his father praised her work but she didn't tell him about Dalisu accepting her. They've decided with Thembelihle that they should not tell him soon because it was going to hurt him that he had accepted her while their relationship was in shambles. But they didn't know that he was also preparing himself for restoring it... Mlamuli: "I am sorry for every wrong I did. Where I didn't act like a child baba. I am sorry but now, I am not sorry for coming back here after you've told me not to come back. I am not sorry that I will tell you that I am taking my throne." Dalisu stood on his feet and Thembelihle stood after him. Dalingcebo and Mntwana stood up but Mlamuli

remained seated. "What did you say?" He asked looking at him and Mlamuli had his eyes up on him. He was seated down but looking up. Mlamuli: "I will not allow you to let a child rule over me. Dalingcebo is a child and he will not rule me. He never wanted to rule and I don't want him to rule me. I will rule them, I will rule these lands not any child that comes after me, and when I say, me I am including Mnotho." Dalisu looked at his son after he'd said those words, he saw a man, a warrior, INGONYAMA, he couldn't see anything less. He extended his hand to him and Mlamuli stood up to take his father's hand. "Welcome back, home!" Dalisu finally said and he hugged his son... Thembelihle closed her eyes and sat down on her chair as she felt her body feeling cold with the goose bumps all over it... 'Thank

you!’ she mumbled alone with her eyes closed... The happy Mntwana praised their clan names for his, brother’s return was something he’d always hope would happen... Dalingcebo on the other hand couldn’t help but feel like now, only now, his life was going to begin... Now, he was the time he was going to live!

S2 – EPISODE 39

“It’s good to have you back home.” MaNtombela commented sitting down with Nontobeko and her husband... It’d been a day since Nontobeko got back home and they haven’t talk properly with her parents. Now, they were having dinner together with Qalokuhle sleeping on the cushion next to her mother. Nontobeko: “Yes, and I will be home for a while.” Mr Zondi: “What does that mean because the last time you told us you took leave and then you changed that

and left for Durban again.” Nontobeko: “I have decided to quit my job.” MaNtombela: “Hawu! Why?” Mr Zondi: “You are going back to the military, already?” MaNtombela: “Hhayi! Nontobeko, you can’t do that. The baby is still young and she needs all your attention.” Nontobeko: “No, mama. I mean, yes I will go back to my work but I am not going back right away. Dalingcebo’s people will come to pay damages for Qalokuhle.” Mr Zondi: “You left your job for that?” Nontobeko: “No.” MaNtombela: “His mother called us and told me that they want to meet you with her husband before they come here to pay damages. You’ll go KwaNongoma with the baby. And Nandipha will come back that means you’ll go together with her.” Nontobeko: “Yoh! They didn’t tell you why they want to meet me?” MaNtombela: “No.” Nontobeko: “I have to

tell you something.” Parents: “Yes?”
Nontobeko: “I have met the queen on different occasions, three times to be exact and on the last two encounters I didn’t show her respect.” “WHAT!” The parents exclaimed and looked at her. Nontobeko looked at her daughter who was moving because of the noise. She brushed her back. MaNtombela: “Were you out of your mind?” Nontobeko: “I just didn’t mean to do it and she doesn’t like me...” she told them how they first met with Thembelihle and what happened. Mr Zondi: “That is not an excuse to disrespect an elder, Nontobeko. Don’t give us excuses!” he shouted at her and Nontobeko looked at down. MaNtombela: “I am so disappointed by this Nontobeko. That woman is old enough to be your mother and you disrespect her? You know how much your grandmother

didn't like me and how she treated me badly but I never disrespected her. We didn't get along but I still treated her with respect because she was the mother of the man I love." Mr Zondi: "And 'NO MAN!' can tolerate a woman who doesn't respect his mother. That woman is queen of Zululand and you think you can disrespect her because she showed she didn't like you? Who said everyone in the world owed you a like? Awuyona imali ukuthi uzothandwa iwo wonke umuntu." Nontobeko: "I am sorry." MaNtombela: "You are shaming me because what will they think I taught you? Nandipha is younger than you, she can be naïve and childish but she knows that no matter what, you always respect an elder. Even if you wanted to tell her not to touch you, you were supposed to use a different approach. I think this job you have at the

military is turning you into a different person.”

Mr Zondi: "What if the Monarch tells you to pay a fine for disrespecting his wife? What if he does that?" Nontobeko: "I will pay it." MaNtombela: "Let's hope it won't come to that." Mr Zondi: "Yes." MaNtombela: "When are you planning on going back to the military if you are going back? It won't be soon? I will have to make arrangements for the baby." Nontobeko: "Mama, I won't be going back soon and Qalokuhle will be raised by her grandmother." MaNtombela: "What! Am I not her grandmother? And who told you that she will raise her? The queen is a busy woman I can leave my job to raise her." she shouted and looked at her husband. What her daughter was telling her made her angry! She didn't want her to raise her child? Nontobeko: "You are her grandmother mama but her father told me that she will be raised by her grandmother

because they've made a promise to her that the first daughter of the family will be raised by her." she told them without sharing the other things Dalingcebo said Thembelihle had said about the baby. Mr Zondi: "He told you that without speaking to us first?" MaNtombela: "And you agreed to it? Dalingcebo is marrying someone else and you on the other hand wants to give your child away. I will not allow that to happen. Qalokuhle will stay here with me!" Nontobeko: "He will no longer do that mama and I am not a son here that means my child fully belongs with her family because they will pay everything for her." Mr Zondi: "How do you know that he won't marry someone else?" Nontobeko looked down and then up to her mother. "He asked that we fix our relationship and after they have paid everything for Qalokuhle and we are in

the right space in our relationship. He will pay ilobolo for me and we will get married.” She told them. “YEHHENI!” MaNtombela excitedly exclaimed and she looked at her husband with a beautiful smile on her face. But Mr Zondi didn’t return the smile because he had questions and concerns. Mr Zondi: “If you marry him, what will you do with your job?” Nontobeko: “I will still work.” MaNtombela: “Hhayi! Nontobeko, that will not work and you know it. How can you expect a man to stay without his wife for months?” Nontobeko: “He’s willing to do it mama.” MaNtombela: “He will cheat on you! I think you’ll need to leave your job if you decide to marry him. And do you think his family will understand that you will leave and go work?” Nontobeko: “They will have to accept it mama.” She looked at his father. Mr Zondi: “I don’t know what to say but I

know that you won't work there for a longer time if they allow you to go. You'll go and soon, they will tell you that now is the time to stop and give them more children or else he will take another wife. You know how things go there." Nontobeko: "Dalingcebo will not do that to me." MaNtombela: "Hhayi, let's not talk too much but we will see when that happens. And I am happy for you mntanami. You deserve to be happy with the man who will love and appreciate you. You are very lucky because your late husband was just as honourable as Dalingcebo is." Mr Zondi: "Your mother is right. We are happy for you and we will support you just like we supported your sister." MaNtombela: "Hhayi! Kodwa ke navele nakhetha ukoshada indoda eyodwa. Phela uNgcebo no Dalingcebo indoda eyodwa." She commented and they all

laughed... Qalokuhle woke up and cried...
“I will take her.” MaNtombela suggested and
took the baby to rock her in her arms... -----
“I am so scared, Nandipha!” Nontobeko told
her sister. They were seated on the lounge
inside Dalingcebo’s house. It was a Friday,
morning. Dalingcebo had driven his car to
Empangeni on a Thursday evening to fetch
Nontobeko and Qalokuhle. They were going
to meet his parents but they wanted to
speak to Nontobeko first before meeting the
baby... Nandipha and Ngcebo arrived on a
Thursday night straight from Gauteng.

Nandipha went to her sister first thing in the morning. She was going to stay behind with the baby while she went to Dalingcebo's parents... Nandipha: "Why are you scared?" she asked looking at the baby with a smile on her face. "She's so pretty!" she commented and looked at her sister. Nandipha saw the frustration on her sister's face. Nandipha: "What's wrong?" Nontobeko: "I didn't have good encounters with the queen and I am afraid of what will happen as they have requested to meet me." Nandipha: "Nothing will happen." Nontobeko: "Nandipha! Can you pay attention to me not the baby?" Nandipha: "I am sorry, okay! Sis, you don't have to worry because they will forgive whatever happened. And Qalokuhle will encourage them for forgive you. The queen doesn't hold grudges she's forgiving." She said

kissing the baby without looking at her worried sister... Nontobeko saw that Nandipha was just not with her. She was highly smitten by the baby... "Can we go now, I am ready." Dalingcebo told Nontobeko. Nontobeko drew a long sigh and stood up. She looked at her sister but Nandipha was busy playing with the baby... Nontobeko: "She's not taking note of me." She commented looking at Dalingcebo who was standing before her. "She's bonding with her baby just let her be." He said and took Nontobeko's hand. They left the house without saying goodbye to Nandipha because she was smitten by the baby. "You are the mother over here." Ngcebo commented sitting next to Nandipha on the couch. He fed her the Vienna that on his hand. Nandipha chewed it delightedly. Nandipha: "She's so cute. I love her." she

smiled at him and Ngcebo looked at the baby with a smile. "Okuhle, my sister's late daughter. She was also beautiful but she looked at lot more like me." she told him. Ngcebo: "And Qalokuhle looks like her great aunt. You gave her a beautiful name but now give her to me." he requested politely and Nandipha gave the baby to him. Nandipha: "Yes, I gave the first baby her name as well." Ngcebo: "Hee! Who will give our babies' names if you keep giving out names?" Nandipha giggled. "I have a lot of names in my bag and it's still early for us to think about children." She said. Ngcebo: "Yes, we must have them after marriage and a lot of them." he said lifting the baby out without blankets. Nandipha: "No! Just two of them." Ngcebo: "No! Not two, why do you think that we need two?" Nandipha: "Because I will be carrying them and

shooting them out of my vagina not the other way around.” Ngcebo laughed and looked at her. “But I will also be shooting them inside you. So, that means 50/50.” He shot back and Nandipha laughed. Nandipha: “I think that we don’t need a lot of children because of the busy life that we will be living. If we can have a lot of them, we will end up neglecting some of them and I don’t want that.” Ngcebo: “We can work through that and they will know that we love them.” “We will see when we start family planning, now let me go put her down.” Nandipha got up and took the baby from Ngcebo. He stood up after she’d taken the baby, he followed her to the bedroom because he wanted to see her put the baby down... Nandipha placed the baby down and she smiled at her, then took a glance at Ngcebo. Nandipha: “What?” Ngcebo:

“Nothing, now, come and help me polish writing that song.” He said as they left the baby on the bed... Nandipha: “Which song?” Ngcebo: “The one I told you about, that guy who gave me a song in prison for me to sing it for him to his baby mama.” Nandipha: “Oh! That’s one, and I hope that she will go meet the guy because he was protecting her.”

Ngcebo: “My voice will force her to go.” “Oh! You are going to charm her now?” She asked and pretended to sulk. Ngcebo laughed and led her inside the bedroom. Ngcebo: “I am just passing the message.” He replied sitting down with his pen and lyric book. Nandipha faced him and they began working on the song. Nandipha listening to his voice and correcting it to perfection, correcting his writing as well... -- -- MaCebekhulu, Dalisu, and Thembelihle were seated down with Nontobeko. They were inside the hut seated on couches. They have greeted Nontobeko and offered her something to eat... MaCebekhulu: “We have heard that you have given birth and we are also aware of the things that had happen between you and your mother in-law.” Nontobeko: “Yebo.” MaCebekhulu: “My son called you here because he saw it

was best he speaks to you. He will speak for himself.” Nontobeko: “Yebo, mama uNdlunkulu.” Dalisu: “I want us to talk about this and pass from it.” He said looking at Thembelihle but she had her head looking down. “What wrong did my wife do to you?” Dalisu asked Nontobeko. Nontobeko took a minute of silence thinking about the wrong that his wife did to her? She tried to think of the answer again, what wrong did Thembelihle do to her? She looked down. Nontobeko: “She did nothing tangible but her words directed to me weren’t friendly and she blamed me for Dalingcebo’s actions.” Dalisu: “What were those words and what actions?” Nontobeko: “I can’t remember word for word but she wasn’t friendly to me because Dalingcebo told me to come inside his house while his mother was inside with the lady and when she

came by my father's house she told me Dalingcebo chased her out of the house because of me." Dalisu: "So, she just told you what she saw happening and you call that unfriendly? When I can see your sister standing with my son from afar and I see by the body language that they are arguing and your sister's body language shows that she's the one shouting above him and I ask Ngcebo about it, then he shouts his anger at me. If I tell Nandipha that Ngcebo shouted at me because of her. I am being unfriendly to her?" Nontobeko: "Not really but the queen's tone showed that she was unfriendly towards me and I couldn't help but feel that she doesn't like me." Dalisu: "Did you know her usual tone when you first met her? Or maybe you've seen how she talks with the people she likes?" Nontobeko: "No." she didn't know what was forcing her

not to speak now! Thembelihle didn't like her and she was supposed to tell him that! Just that! She had got her facts all straight about things she was going to tell Dalisu but the man was intimidating. She couldn't even look at his head or face she was talking to him looking down. What was wrong? Dalisu: "I am amazed that you are able to talk politely and you are not even looking at me but you have done the opposite with my wife. What's stopping you from talking with me anyhow you like?" he asked looking at her head as Nontobeko had her head looking down. Thembelihle held Dalisu's hand but he didn't turn to look at her. "I am talking to you, young lady." He added. Nontobeko: "I am sorry." Dalisu: "I will ask again what wrong did my wife do to you?" She closed her eyes and replied. "She did nothing wrong." Dalisu: "So, what was the

need for you to shout at her when she was trying to touch you? What was the need for you to speak rudely when she was asking you about your pregnancy?" Nontobeko: "I don't know, I will think that maybe my hormones and I am sorry for it. I shouldn't have done everything I did." She raised her head to look at Thembelihle and she nodded her head. MaCebekhulu: "Why did you hide the pregnancy from us? Was the child that you were carrying yours alone?" Thembelihle: "I really want to know the answer to that question and don't tell us that you don't know because you surely have your reasons to hide the pregnancy because I told you the danger of hiding

the baby from us.” Nontobeko: “I was under the impression that the child will be a disgrace to the possible king and I knew you wouldn’t accept me because of my past.” Thembelihle: “Because of your past? What’s wrong with your past?” She asked and Nontobeko looked down without giving her an answer. “Why does it seem like you see wrongs in everything and you make conclusions of how people would behave or act? Or there’s something you are not telling us?” Nontobeko: “Well, I am widow-” Thembelihle: “That got nothing with hiding the pregnancy from us! We all have a past and you thought you will not tell my son about his child because of your past?” Dalisu: “The whole Zululand and country knows how much of a shameful life my first daughter in-law lived and I have never accepted her for it. She has two children,

sons and I love them as if they have a mother with a clean past because they are my blood, my son's blood. But you thought like this because of being a widow?" Nontobeko was tongue tied and blank in her mind. She was wishing differently now because she'd seen her thoughts never came true. Thembelihle: "I thought you are smart! And ke mina uma ungasasula ungasasula ngizokutshela nje ngeke ngikufihlele, ungasizwa?" (And if I am not happy with you I will not hide that I will just tell you) she shouted feeling angered by her poor reasoning and Nontobeko nodded. Thembelihle couldn't possibly understand how did she see her past as a problem when it came to telling them about the baby. Couldn't she see it when talking about marrying her son? Why the baby? How did the baby and past, got all mixed up and

stopped her from telling them about the child? MaCebekhulu: “MaSthole is right. The excuse that you are telling us now is out of line because if you are a widow that doesn’t mean you mustn’t be pregnant again or date again. That doesn’t you must hide the baby from the father.” Dalisu: “How long were you planning on hiding this child? You wanted that baby to die? You gave birth to the baby in December and you have stayed with her, look at her get sick. Don’t you have a heart as a mother?” Nontobeko: “I didn’t have a plan. I think that the pain and anger of losing Dalingcebo contributed more to me being quiet about the baby. I didn’t want to believe that she was sick because she needed her family.” Dalisu: “And you chose to lie about it straight to my wife’s face. That was also not the first lie you told her. You didn’t feel like respecting

her position if you fail respecting her as the mother of the man you claimed to love?" Nontobeko: "I shouldn't have done that." Dalisu: "My son has told us that he intends to make you his wife and he told us you are going back to your work-" MaCebekhulu: "And I say that bullshit!" Thembelihle: "Hawu, mama?" Dalingcebo had told his mother that Nontobeko wanted her to raise the baby and she was going back to work. Thembelihle didn't fight him but she decided to let it be as they have decided... MaCebekhulu: "Hhayi! She'll go away for months and leave Dalingcebo alone? He'll be marrying her for that?" Thembelihle: "He's showing her support." MaCebekhulu: "Hhayi! Ngikwazi kahle phela wena. You will support this because this is what you wanted for yourself. You wanted your husband to let you work all day of the week

in those restaurants you own but he put his foot down. And now, you will let your sons do to these girls what was meant to be done to you. That is what you will do right?"

Thembelihle: "No, and you know that's not what I wanted for her go back to work but they have made a decision that is suitable for their relationship and if Dalingcebo is supporting her I have nothing to say. But maybe if he didn't want to support her we were going to talk about convincing her to do what's best for her marriage."

Daliso: "I also don't like this and I think mama is right MaSthole because that's the same thing you did with Ngcebo. You supported that he lets his fiancée go with him to parties and that she dresses as she wishes." Thembelihle: "Mageba, that's what Ngcebo wanted for her." she looked at them as it seemed as if they were forgetting that they have told her to let Dalingcebo do things his way but now, because this one didn't suit them they were not in support of it. MaCebekhulu: "You will not live your youth wishes through these girls. And Nontobeko should sacrifice her job for her marriage." Thembelihle: "I am not living my life through them. I am satisfied with my life mama but times are changing and there is nothing wrong if a man supports his wife in doing what she desires." MaCebekhulu: "You are not willing to leave your job,

MaZondi?” Nontobeko: “No, mama’ ndlunkulu I am not willing.” The boldness of Thembelihle being behind her encouraged her to tell them the truth that she was not willing to leave her job. Dalisu: “We will need to speak together with your parents about this.” Thembelihle: “That’s better and I want you to know that the perception that people have about you should change.” MaCebekhulu: “Yes. It’s not right that they think you are cold hearted and that means you need to let go of the past.” Nontobeko: “I will work on it.” Thembelihle: “I want us to put the past behind us and as you feel that I was unfriendly with you. I wasn’t pleased with you because Dalingcebo had hidden having you in his life from us. That gave me the reasons to believe that you had something that you didn’t want us to know and I was the one who learnt you do. I am

not too proud to say sorry, and so sorry as you feel I treated you wrong.” Nontobeko: “Thank you.” Thembelihle stood up and request a hug from her. They hugged each other and Nontobeko felt the mother’s hugs... The woman was to be her second mother... “I am sorry for all the hardships you went through in life. But I can promise you that my son will wash all that away. You will be happy again.” She promised her with heart full of emotions. But she realised that deep down there was something that wasn’t too sure. Dalingcebo was going to make her happy, yes, she was sure of that. But she wasn’t too sure about helping her deal with her demons... Nontobeko: “Thank you and thank you for giving birth to him just for me.” she said with a shaky voice. Thembelihle laughed at her statement...

S2 – EPISODE 40

“You are here now!” Thembelihle commented looking at Nandipha as she stepped inside the house through the front door... They were finished with their talk with Nontobeko and she’d gone back to Dalingcebo’s house to get her daughter for them to meet. Nandipha: “Eh, yes.” She giggled, looked down and folded her lips, she sat on the couch and looked at the TV show that Thembelihle was watching. Thembelihle: “What are you giggling about?” she looked at her but Nandipha didn’t answer her nor look at her. “I am talking to you, Nandipha.” Nandipha: “I am sorry.” Thembelihle: “In the morning you left without telling me where you are going.” Nandipha: “Mama, you were sleeping and I didn’t want to wake you.” Thembelihle: “That’s not an excuse Nandipha, you were supposed to tell anyone that you were

leaving. I don't care whether you were after Ngcebo or your sister but leaving that early in the morning is unacceptable." Nandipha: "I am sorry I won't do it again." Thembelihle: "You'll have me thinking this is what you do in Gauteng. You wake up in the morning and leave without even making breakfast for Ngcebo. I didn't think I will have to wake up and find that you have left without even making breakfast." Nandipha: "I don't do that."

Thembelihle clicked her tongue and sat back on her chair. Nandipha looked at the door's way and saw that there was nobody coming in. She stood up from the couch. Thembelihle looked at her as she was getting up, she moved away from the couch she headed up to the hallway. Thembelihle: "Where are you going?" "I am going to Ngcebo's room." She replied looking back at her and Thembelihle didn't say anything. She didn't want reprimand her any further because she'd said enough... Ngcebo was no longer sharing the bedroom with Dalingcebo. He had the bedroom of his own and he shared it with Nandipha but when they arrive at night, Ngcebo dropped Nandipha at his mother's palace and drove down to Dalingcebo's house. They were still working on building a house for themselves because of some setbacks they couldn't

begin right away the previous year... Nandipha left in the morning because Ngcebo had told her to come to him and she wanted to see her sister as well. She didn't tell Thembelihle she was leaving because she was still asleep. Dalingcebo: "MaSthole, we are here." "Hawu, let me go call your father and grandmother." She got up and left them... Dalingcebo and Nontobeko sat on the same couch while Ngcebo sat opposite them along with Mntwana... Mlamuli was at his farmhouse with his family. He'd asked that his father gives him time to prepare himself for coming back home. He needed to leave everything in order because his father had told him that he needed to come back home with his family... And they have to wait for Mnotho's return which he promised his brother was, soon. Dalingcebo: "Where's

Makoti?” Ngcebo: “I don’t know maybe she’s around the house.” Thembelihle entered the house followed by Dalisu and MaCebekhulu. They took their chairs. “Nontobeko, give the baby to her great grandmother first.” Thembelihle instructed Nontobeko, she looked at her and looked around for Nandipha but she wasn’t among them. She shook her head... Nontobeko stood up and walked towards MaCebekhulu who was seated on the single couch. MaCebekhulu took the baby after she had fixed her spectacles. Nontobeko sat back on the couch. MaCebekhulu: “Yehheni! Siyabonga, ngeke ihluphe ke le ngane.” (Thank you, this baby will not be trouble) she commented and the boys laughed along with their father. Dalingcebo: “Hawu, gogo. Why do you say that?” MaCebekhulu: “She’s her great aunt not her grandmother!

And she doesn't have the curious big eyes." they all laughed in the house except Thembelihle. She was looking at MaCebekhulu with a surprised look... Thembelihle: "Hawu! I was never trouble when I was young mama. But I know that Mawande was trouble." MaCebekhulu: "Mawande was not trouble and don't tell me to remind you especially not in the presence of your daughters' in-law. And where's the youngest one?" she asked looking around and they were busy laughing while Thembelihle wasn't laughing. She was irritated by the remarks her mother in-law was making. Dalisu: "Mama, you are upsetting my wife and can I hold the baby?" MaCebekhulu: "Hee! You weren't going to keep quiet and let me speak about your wife in peace?" Dalisu: "No, I wasn't, you know I haven't done that for years and won't do it

even when I am blind.” He said looking at his wife and Thembelihle smiled holding his hand but she didn’t keep her eyes still on him. MaCebekhulu: “You should learn from your father. Always defend your women even when they’re wrong and when you are alone, tell them the truth. The same applies to you, as the wife.” She advised them and they all agreed. Mntwana: “Yes, gogo we won’t forget that.” MaCebekhulu: “Hhayi! I wasn’t saying it to you.” “HAWU!” He exclaimed and his brothers laughed at him while MaCebekhulu was busy looking at the baby and smiling with her... Nandipha walked inside the lounge and her eyes went straight to Ngcebo. He pushed Mntwana aside after he’d seen Nandipha and Nandipha sat next to Ngcebo... Dalisu: “Mama, can the baby come to me now?”

Thembelihle: “No, I should be the second person to hold the baby.”

Dalису: “Hhayi, we both know that you won’t give me an opportunity if this baby can lend in your arms.” Thembelihle: “I have waited for a long time for this moment. I have to hold her before you, Ndabezitha.” Ngcebo: “I think dad has a point.” Mntwana: “Yes, mama. Please, let dad be the second.” MaCebekhulu: “Yes, MaZondi, take the baby and give her to her grandfather.” She looked at Nontobeko and she stood up to do as she was told... She gave the baby to Dalису. He thanked her and took the baby... Dalису: “Hawu, siyabonga, Magagashi and my sister promised that she will come bearing gifts to see the baby that looks like her.” Thembelihle: “I wonder why she didn’t look like me and chose a great aunt.” She commented looking at the baby as her husband was holding her. MaCebekhulu: “Just stop complaining MaSthole.”

Mntwana: “Gogo, what’s wrong now? What did mama, do?” the others laughed because it was their grandmother’s usual behaviour. She would complain about everyone without stopping. It was like to them she had specialities for that day, of who was on her mouth... MaCebekhulu: “She did nothing.” Dalisu: “Who gave the baby her first name?” he looked at Nontobeko. Nontobeko: “Nandipha gave it to her.” MaCebekhulu: “It’s a beautiful name.” Others: “Yeah.” Nandipha: “Thank you.” Thembelihle: “And what’s her second name?” Nontobeko: “We thought you will name her.” Thembelihle: “Okay, thanks. Mntwana what do you think?” Mntwana: “I think Precious is a beautiful name.” “YEY! UNGANGILOKOTHI MINA! YEHHENI!” Thembelihle burst as she heard Mntwana suggest a second name for the baby. MaCebekhulu laughed and Dalisu

laughed after her. “There’s nothing funny about this.” she added. Nandipha: “What’s wrong with the name?” Thembelihle: “It’s poisonous and no, child should be called Precious in here.” Dalisu: “Hawu!” Thembelihle: “Yes, mama, can you tell your son to give the baby to me now?” she looked at MaCebekhulu with pleading eyes. MaCebekhulu: “Dalisu, please give her the baby, now.” Dalisu sighed and gave the baby to Thembelihle. She received the baby with warm hands and as she laid her eyes on her. She thought of all the times when she was pregnant and she would hope she would get a mini her. And She never but it was a mini him! She would be grateful for her sons because she knew the pain she had to endure before conceiving but all she wanted the most was a daughter. And now, Nontobeko had given her a granddaughter.

A beautiful granddaughter that was going to be the precious gem of the family. Thembelihle: "Oh! Jesu! I can't believe this!" she exclaimed and wiped the tears but the other drops had already fell on the baby's face. Qalokuhle made the baby sound and she then cried... Thembelihle looked at her with a smile. Thembelihle: "Sawubona, MaZulu. Nkazimulo." She lifted the baby as crying as she was and she placed her on her shoulder. She used smooth words and short lullaby to soften the baby until she was quiet. It was good to everyone's eyes to see the queen of the house happy and love drooling on the new baby... MaCebekhulu: "Siyabonga, ke Dalingcebo nawe Nontobeko." Dalisu: "Yes, and now we will do things the right way. Some elders may try and say a widow doesn't wed ebukhosini bethu. But that will not apply in

this day and age. You two will live together as husband and wife, you will be happy.”

Nontobeko held Dalingcebo's hand and looked at her little sister who was looking at her with a peaceful smile... Nandipha felt her heart racing, she couldn't believe that after all those years of her sister living her life held up on her painful past she was finally getting that family back in a new form. She knew that the old sister that Nontobeko was years ago, was going to come back to her and she couldn't be happier... "Yes, they better not give us problems. Or else I will leave! If they don't get you married." Thembelihle announced and everyone in the house laughed. MaCebekhulu: "Hheyi, ususihluphile kodwa ke!" she commented first and Thembelihle laughed first because she had said that deliberately as means to see what MaCebekhulu would say. The baby made the loud baby sounds. Thembelihle: "Yes!

Baby! Yes! We will leave with your grandmother.” Dalisu: “Ayi, don’t joke like that!” Thembelihle smiled looking at him and she pointed his mother with her eyes and Dalisu laughed figuring it... Nontobeko looked at the family and loved the atmosphere, she didn’t regret her decision of letting her heart be at ease with Dalingcebo... ----- Mnotho had left the child minder that Thembelihle organised for him with Nandipha in Ngcebo’s house. He’d just landed in Johannesburg and had asked his mother that she organises a person who was going to look after the child for him on their way back home. Now, he wanted some fresh air as he needed to clear his head. He couldn’t do that inside the Ngcebo’s house and so, he opted to book a hotel room. He didn’t leave Elena the way he wanted to but there was nothing he

could do. She wanted to come back with him for the sake of their child but her racist parents stopped her from leaving and they forced her to let Mnotho leave with the child... Yes, he admitted to himself, he didn't love the woman but he'd grown fond of her and they had a child together that she was willing to leave her home for. He couldn't believe how things turned out at the last hour after he had worked hard with getting Elena to be part of their child's life. He had promised her the most comfortable life in South Africa, KZN. He knew how much of an adventurous woman she was. And she wasn't going to have difficulties with adjusting to the new life... "Why does it look like the prince is troubled?" A lady asked looking at Mnotho who had his eyes in the sky. She'd seen Mnotho walking out of the hotel that she was also in... Mnotho

was seated outside the hotel now... “And who’s...” He moved his eyes down and laughed shaking his head. He stood up and packed his hands on his pocket. “Dimakatso!” he exclaimed. Dima: “It’s nice to see that you actually do, remember me.” Mnotho: “Who can’t remember their Varsity crush who actually gave me a difficult time. And I graduated without dating her.” Dima: “You were a ladies’ man, Mnotho.” Mnotho: “No! I wasn’t and what are you doing here?” Dima: “I am here on business but I will be leaving tomorrow morning.” Mnotho: “Eish, that means there’s no way we can catch up?” Dima: “How about you order some room service and wine for us. I will come to your room.” she suggested smiling at him. Mnotho: “Okay, I can do that.” He said leading her inside the hotel while telling her where his room was and they exchanged

numbers... Mnotho was on his fourth glass of the whiskey as the lady he was waiting for hadn't come to his room and the food hadn't been delivered. He still had Elena in his mind and her face when he left her. He couldn't forget her crying voice... He closed his eyes and laid back on the bed after he had put the glass on the bedside cupboard... "Some fools call for room service and when you deliver it they don't open the door." Happiness complained alone and opened the door to Mnotho's room after she had knocked shouting 'Room service' She didn't fully close the door. Today, they've fought with her father again and she decided that she was working the night shift at

the job that her father hated. Happiness sighed and shook her head looking at the man sleeping on the bed not realising that it was the man whom she'd met before. She then prepared to leave the food while her back was facing the direction of the bed... Mnotho could vividly see that there was a woman inside the suite and he concluded that it was Dima. He then reluctantly got up from the bed and not fully drunk but drunkenly marched towards 'Dima' "How did you get in here because I didn't give you the access card, Dimz?" He asked holding Happiness's tiny waist... Happiness's mind was shocked as she felt the hands of the man holding her and calling her 'Dimz' "You couldn't wait to be with me?" the half-drunk Mnotho asked and chuckled moving his body even closer to 'Dima' body. He had already anticipated that Dima wanted them

to do what they didn't do in Varsity... Happiness: "You pig! Get your hands off me!" she tried to remove his arms off her waist but Mnotho held his grip on her even tighter and Happiness felt violated as Mnotho's hardness poked on her bums. Mnotho: "What's wrong now? You want to play dirty..." he asked trying to kiss her neck and only then Dima stepped inside the room to witness Mnotho sexually harassing a woman. She saw the look on Happiness's face that what Mnotho was doing was against her will. Dima: "MNOTHO!" She shouted and instead of helping Happiness of Mnotho. She just ran off the room... Mnotho forced himself away from the woman after he'd seen Dima's face on the door and realised that he'd been touching the wrong person. Mnotho: "I am sorry!" "No! It's you! I will show you what sorry is!"

She exclaimed with tears on her eyes but her hands went on her uniform's pockets to search for her phone. She couldn't believe that she was seeing this pig again! Mnotho: "You know me?... Lord, I am sorry, miss. I just mistaken you for that lady. My head is mixed up, sorry." Happiness: "I will lay a sexual charge against you, today!" she screamed and called her father immediately while Mnotho's mind was trying to fully sober up and apologise to the lady... He followed her as she marched to the door and tried to hold her hand but she screamed even further while still on the phone with her father telling him what had happened. Mnotho let go of the woman's hand immediately and he watched her leave. He clicked his tongue and marched to his phone... He walked to the bathroom while texting Ngcebo telling him that he

needed him to drive the baby and his child minder to him early in the morning... Ngcebo had insisted that Mnotho stays in his house but Mnotho insisted the hotel was closer to the airport and it was going to make things easier for him, he said that without telling him that he wanted to have some fresh air. But now, he was in shit! "WHERE IS HE!" The big tall light skinned man, Judge Mthimkhulu roared walking around Mnotho's hotel room. He'd just stepped out of the bathroom after taking a shower, he was on the hotel gown... Happiness was with her father, her father's bodyguard, hotel manager and Dima who'd witnessed what happened. Happiness had got info about Dima's room and asked her to come back her up to her father. Happiness had called her father to show him Mnotho as means that he quickly

arranges for him to be taken into prison immediately. She did that before opening a case against Mnotho. She'd also told her father about their first encounter at the airport. She was still shocked and crying... But now, Mthimkhulu didn't expect that, the prince was the man that her precious daughter was talking about. He'd thought that it was some loser and so, Mthimkhulu saw an opportunity. Mnotho: "Sir, I can explain what happened." Happiness: "There's nothing you will explain. Daddy, I want him in prison!" Mthimkhulu: "Can you three excuse us? We will call you when we need you, young lady because you've witnessed what happened." He said looking at his guard, the manager and then Dima, last. Mnotho: "Can she first confirm that I was expecting her here?" Dima: "Don't justify what you've done Mnotho. I am

disappointed in you.” she said looking at
him but

he couldn't look at her. Dima left Mnotho looking down after Mthimkhulu had insisted that she leaves... Happiness: "Dad, why do you seem calm about this now?" she asked wiping the tears that were drying up as she had no tears left. Mthimkhulu: "We need to sit down Happy and talk about this." Happiness: "No! Why?" she looked at Mnotho who was also surprised that the man had suggested that. He couldn't recall that this was 'the judge' and her daughter that his brother had told him about. His mind was occupied; he'd gone to L.A as means to distress but he came back with more stress... Mnotho: "Sir, I was expecting the lady you saw here and I got a little whiskey while waiting for her. And I woke up I saw the woman standing here I thought it was her." he explained pointing where Happiness was standing as Mthimkhulu had

asked that Mnotho explain what happened. Happiness: "How can you think that the lady was her? She had the access card to your hotel room? And she wears the uniform as well?" Mnotho: "No, she didn't and that's why I asked you thinking it's her that how did you get into the hotel room. I didn't take note of the clothes." "THAT'S LIES! YOU ARE JUST A DIRTY MAN WHO WANTED TO RAPE ME!" Happiness shouted standing on her feet as she was looking at Mnotho. Mthimkhulu stood up and held his daughter into a hug while looking at Mnotho, the prince. Mthimkhulu: "Don't cry, my princess. And don't shout at your future husband. Don't you know he's the prince?" he asked with a smile looking at his daughter. Happiness: "The prince? My future husband? No!" Mthimkhulu: "Yes, my baby." Mnotho: "Okay, what's going on,

now?” he asked and stood up. He looked at Mthimkhulu who was looking at him. Mthimkhulu: “This is my daughter Happiness Mthimkhulu and from today, you two will get along because I will be marrying my daughter into your family.” Happiness: “Daddy!” Mnotho: “She’s dating, who in my family?” Mthimkhulu: “She will be marrying you, Prince Mnotho. And you two, will be husband and wife. You’ll be happy together.” “WHAT!” Mnotho and Happiness exclaimed and they looked at each other while Mthimkhulu was just smiling at them... He couldn’t believe that his daughter’s stupid job that done such things for his child... He couldn’t believe the turn of events for his daughter...

S2 – EPISODE 41

3 MONTHS LATER...

“What’s wrong?” Thembelihle asked sitting next to Nontobeko on the couch inside her bedroom. They’ve just had dinner and Nontobeko had asked to speak to Thembelihle in private. Nontobeko: “I have spoken to my husband about this and he is supporting me. I think it would be best that I tell you before everyone knows.” Thembelihle: “What’s that?” Nontobeko: “I am going back to the military.” Thembelihle: “Hhaybo! You are going back so soon?” Nontobeko: “Yes, I am ready.” Thembelihle: “Hhayi! I am not in support of that. You can’t go back to the military now because you’ve just lost your father and you haven’t been seeing someone regarding your past. All the past pain you need to face it because it doesn’t matter that you are married now you still need to face that past pain.” Nontobeko: “I am fine now my husband has helped me

heal.” Thembelihle: “I am not convinced by that and you need to be close to your sister now. You can even

take a weekend trip to Gauteng if needed because she's a child and she needs you." Nontobeko: "Mama, Nandipha has Ngcebo and she's fine. I can't stay I want to go and work because my mind is there now." Thembelihle: "No! I am telling you something and you are telling me the other. Your work can take a break now and you need to take care of your feelings and take care of your sister." Nontobeko: "Nandipha doesn't dwell on things mama and she doesn't need me to get through our father's death." Thembelihle looked at her and said nothing. She didn't understand how she didn't see what she was telling her. Thembelihle hadn't spoken to Nandipha closely but she knew that having a sister in your corner was the best way they could do to help each other heal. Thembelihle: "Do what you feel is best I am just surprised that

your husband supported this. But it's not my call to make so you can go." Nontobeko: "Thank you." Thembelihle: "Okay." "Goodnight, mama." She said and stood up from the couch. Thembelihle said the goodnight back... ----- "You are ready now, Mrs Zulu?" Dalingcebo asked looking at Nontobeko who was standing before him in their bedroom inside their house, KwaNongoma. It was mid-August. Nontobeko and Dalingcebo got married in July on Thembelihle's birthday, 17th of July. They had a beautiful white wedding that was followed by a traditional wedding. The rest of the family and the elders didn't have a difficult time accepting Nontobeko. She'd given birth to the first princess of Dalisu and Thembelihle's bloodline. They decided to join hands with the Nontobeko's family and Sthembiso's family to get Nontobeko

married to her prince. And she was the princess now... Nontobeko: "I have to do it now the most just to honour my father. And so, I am ready now." She replied looking at Dalingcebo and she closed her eyes as tears came back rushing... Mr Zondi died a week after Nontobeko's wedding. He got seriously ill and was hospitalised for a week before his death. It was a difficult time for the Zondi family the most and amongst them, Nandipha was the one who was hurting the most. Their father's death came to her unexpectedly because she was just travelling to KZN to visit her father in the hospital but she got there late. The old man died that morning of Nandipha's return. Dalingcebo: "My love, I know that your father is no more now but just know that he's at a better place now and he will be watching over you." Nontobeko: "Okay."

She held on tightly to her husband. Dalingcebo had done everything and anything to keep Nontobeko happy and cope with her father's death. And she couldn't ask for a better life partner. They couldn't go to their honeymoon because of her father's death. But he had been supporting her deal with the lost... Dalingcebo: "I will go get the door with these bags." He said taking Nontobeko's bag and Nontobeko allowed him to go with her bag... She went to the lounge after she had finished dressing up. She was dressed up on casual clothes, wife casual clothes with a doek on her head. There was, no wearing pants for her now because of her marriage status and the area they lived in with her husband. She had to change her dress code... "Hawu, Sanibona!" Nontobeko greeted a few members of the Zulu family

and her mother who was amongst them. MaNtombela stood up to hug her daughter. MaNtombela looked at her daughter and shook her head while wiping her tears. MaNtombela sat down next to Nandipha and Nontobeko couldn't miss that her mother was still not pleased with her decision... They all greeted her back and had small talks... Thembelihle: "We thought we could come by and say goodbye to you. We will just pray and see you, off." she told Nontobeko giving Qalokuhle to her. She was a beautiful chubby baby living with her grandmother in the palace. Now, she was to turn 8 months and could sit and crawl... Nontobeko: "Thank you." MaNtombela: "I am not happy that you are going back to the military." MaNtombela wasn't living alone now as her husband was no longer alive

and her daughters had their lives. Her
maternal home

gave her niece and nephew to live with her in the house. The nephew was a teenager and the niece was still a child doing grade 6. She had taken a break from work because of mourning she didn't want to quit her job as she felt that she couldn't survive staying at home doing nothing every day. Nontobeko: "I know, mama but I need your support." MaNtombela: "I am not saying I am depriving you my support but I am just not happy that you are going back to the military. And it's not even a month that has passed since your father's death. What will your in-laws say?" Dalingcebo: "Don't worry, mama. She has my support because I don't want to keep her when she's ready and you don't have to worry she will be doing what she does best." MaCebekhulu: "Yes, let's pray now so that Dalingcebo will drive his wife." She suggested and they all agreed...

They then sang a short song and prayed....
“Don’t lose this!” Dalingcebo said to Nontobeko putting her wedding ring on her necklace... They were inside their bedroom after the prayer. Nontobeko had Qalokuhle inside her arms. Nontobeko: “I won’t lose it.” She promised and he then put the necklace on her neck. He then kissed her forehead and the baby screamed, she sent her hands to his father’s face as means to hold his face. Her parents laughed and looked at her. Dalingcebo: “You are jealous Kuhle! Jealous of your mother.” He played with the baby’s stomach and Qalokuhle giggled loudly. Nontobeko: “Let’s go, please.” She said walking away with her giggling baby girl. Dalingcebo didn’t stop making his daughter laugh as she was still inside her mother’s arms. He was walking behind them and the baby was looking back at him

still laughing as they marched to the cars leaving the house. "Please, give her a break. She mustn't laugh this hard." Nontobeko told Dalingcebo who wasn't stopping with making the baby laugh. "I always tell Mntwana the same thing. They treat her like she's a doll functioning with battery." Thembelihle commented looking at Nontobeko who was standing before her now with the baby. Dalingcebo: "She's the most pretty when she's laughing." Nontobeko: "That doesn't mean she must laugh this hard." She said trying to give the baby to Thembelihle but she didn't take the baby. Thembelihle: "I think she needs the drive with her mom and dad. Where's Nandipha she will drive with you so that she can watch over her when you come back, Dalingcebo." she looked around but Nandipha left the house after the prayer.

They were back home with Ngcebo just for the weekend. “Ngcebo!” She called him out as he was standing outside the gate with a bunch of boys... They waited for him as he ran inside the premises... Ngcebo: “Mama?” Thembelihle: “Where’s Nandipha?” Ngcebo: “She left with her mother’s car. They will drop her in our house.” Nontobeko: “Hawu! She didn’t even say goodbye to me? I last saw her last night, what’s wrong, Ngcebo?” Ngcebo: “Eish, I don’t know, since your father’s death she’s not the same. She’s quiet and mostly wants to be alone.” Nontobeko looked down and closed her eyes. She didn’t know what to say to make Nandipha feel better. She’d spoken to her after Thembelihle had told her not to go... Dalingcebo: “Have you tried to get some help for her?” Ngcebo: “I have tried to do

that but she never went there. I don't know what to do to help her now." Thembelihle: "I will have to talk to her." she said taking the baby from Nontobeko seeing that there was no one around who was going to drive with them. "You two drive safe." She said. Nontobeko: "How about we pass by the house with Qalokuhle and ask Nandipha to go with us?" Ngcebo: "Ayi, I don't know." He left them and went back to the guys he was talking to at the gate. He didn't want to talk much he'd done a lot of that... Dalingcebo: "No, I think that we should just go without Qalokuhle." Thembelihle: "No, go and ask Nandipha to go with you." she supported Nontobeko's statement and gave the baby back to Nontobeko. They then marched to the car leaving Thembelihle behind. Qalokuhle cried as she looked at her grandmother staying behind. She lifted her

hand for her grandmother as if she was telling her to come closer while she was still crying. Thembelihle waved

at Qalokuhle. Thembelihle: “Uzobuya! Hamba no mama wakho no baba!” she shouted at the child but she didn’t stop crying. Nontobeko stepped inside the car with the baby and Dalingcebo drove off... Nontobeko walked inside Nandipha’s yard with her daughter still inside her arms... Ngcebo had built a beautiful house for Nandipha, the house was surrounded by a few huts, the outside bathroom and toilets with a few trees... The front yard had a flower vase on the porch table and the flowers planted on the front of the house... Nontobeko didn’t knock on the door but she opened it and walked inside the house... Nandipha was seated on the couch writing while she was playing deep house on the CD player. “Why didn’t you say goodbye?” Nontobeko asked Nandipha sitting on the couch that was closer to the single couch

that Nandipha was seated on. She placed the baby on the floor and Qalokuhle crawled to Nandipha's couch. Nandipha placed her pen and paper down and lifted the baby off the floor. Nandipha: "You were busy and so, I couldn't stay." She replied looking at the baby who was doing what she did best, pulling her locks. "No! Qalokuhle!" she exclaimed and tried to remove her hands from her hair. But Qalokuhle laughed without realising that she was irritating her. But how could she have? She was just a child that still couldn't differentiate... Nontobeko: "Mama MaSthole suggested that you drive with us to Richards bay along with Qalokuhle so that you will watch over her when Dalingcebo drives back." she informed her looking at Nandipha. Nandipha: "But Qalokuhle has her car seat why must I drive with you?" Nontobeko:

“Hawu, Nandipha, you know how troubling Qalokuhle can be when in the car. So, please drive with us.” Nandipha: “I am busy here trying to structure my assignment.” Nandipha was doing her first semester of her second year. Nontobeko: “You will come back Nandipha. It’s not like you will drive with us and come back tomorrow.” Nandipha: “Okay.” She got up with the baby because she didn’t want to keep turning her down. She didn’t want a drive but decided she was leaving with her because she wasn’t going to stop convincing her to leave with them. “Ngcebo, told me that you are not seeing the help that he’d hired for you. Why are you doing that?” Nontobeko asked Nandipha leading her out of the house after she had put her writing tools inside her bag. Nandipha: “You are driving with me so that you will ask me that question?” Nontobeko:

“No, I am just worried about you.”
Nandipha: “I am fine.” Nontobeko: “You are not fine, Nandipha because you are not as bubbly as you were before and it’s easy for us to notice.” She looked back at her after they’ve stepped inside the car. Nandipha had greeted Dalingcebo. “I am talking to you, Nandipha.” She reminded her.
Nandipha: “I just don’t want to talk Nontobeko.” She snapped looking at her and the baby jumped inside her hold, she held on to her shirt but didn’t cry.
Dalingcebo: “Don’t speak to your sister like that Nandipha. She’s still older than you and you will address her with respect.”
Nandipha didn’t say anything but she just held on to the baby’s fingers. “I am speaking to you.” Dalingcebo said.
Nandipha: “I heard you.” Nontobeko: “Just let her be Dalingcebo.” Dalingcebo: “No,

don't tell me to let her be because if she's hurting she needs to speak about her pain. How does she think she will recover if she's quiet and snapping at older people? You snap like this with my brother too? Is this what he has to endure on daily basis?" he took a short glance back at her and Nandipha didn't answer him she was busy looking at the baby. "I am speaking to you, young lady." he shouted at her. Nandipha: "I don't want to talk I was told that I will be watching over the baby. I wasn't told that I will talk even if I don't want to talk."

Nontobeko: "You are being rude for no reason! And this is my husband you are speaking rudely to." she shouted at her suddenly being irritated by her behaviour. She looked at her and Nandipha didn't say anything to her. "Bring my daughter to me." she commanded... Dalingcebo drove the car slowly and Nandipha moved forward to the edge of the chair. She then gave Nontobeko her daughter... She sat back on the chair and closed her eyes... ---- "Your mother is not here yet, Nkosazana?" Thembelihle asked Nkosazana who was cooking inside her kitchen of her palace. June 21st, Mlamuli was installed as the Zulu Monarch, Mnotho was his chief advisor and Dalingcebo was the member of the council... When Mlamuli was done with leaving everything in order in his farm. He had the high number of pregnant cows and

goats and he realised that the livestock that had died was really because of the ancestors' anger. And now, they were restoring his loss... He moved to KwaNongoma with his family and he left his workers to manage his farm. Mlamuli and Nkosazana weren't looking at building a new palace even though Dalisu advised Mlamuli that he needed to do that. Mlamuli told his father they were going to occupy his grandmother's palace. MaCebekhulu decided to let them fully take the palace and she moved in with Thembelihle and Dalisu. Nkosazana didn't want her to leave them but they were young and so, MaCebekhulu allowed them to occupy the palace with their sons. Before Mlamuli was installed Monarch, Dalisu performed a ritual to accept Nkosazana into the family. Makhosi, Nkosazana's siblings and other members of

the Mkhwanazi family came to the ritual but Nkosazana's brother from Nkosikhona didn't come. The elders who were not at peace with Nkosazana also accepted her into the family and peace reigned in the kingdom. Gobela was present to ensure the smoothness of the ritual and he confirmed that the ancestors were pleased with it. From that day, Nkosazana felt free and she felt as the real wife of the family, her mother was happier for her daughter. A number of rituals were held before Mlamuli's day including the ones of his brother Dalingcebo with his bride, Nontobeko. Mlamuli and Nkosazana were first accepted by the ancestors as the new Zulu leaders, the elders of the family and their people. Nkosazana: "She left with Ndabezitha(Mlamuli), mama. But they will come back. Don't worry." Thembelihle:

“Hawu, Makhosi told me I can come now.”
Nkosazana: “They will not be long. I will fix something to eat for you.”
Thembelihle: “No, I am not hungry I will go to Prince and Bongani.” She left Nkosazana inside the kitchen and went to her grandsons...

S2 – EPISODE 42

“Yuh! I am sorry, Mama’ ndlunkulu. I took a short drive with my son in-law.” Makhosi apologised and sat next to Thembelihle who was now seated alone inside the lounge. Prince and Bongani had gone to their mother to bath. Thembelihle: “And I should be heading home soon, how are you, mfazi?” Makhosi: “I am fine, MaSthole and how are you?” Thembelihle: “I am fine, but I am tired, I need to rest. Qalokuhle keeps me standing all day long when I am with her.” Makhosi: “She’s an active child, hhaybo!” Thembelihle: “Hheyi! And I don’t

know what I would have done if Mnotho expected me to look after his son as well.” Makhosi laughed. “I think being a grandmother is harder than being the actual mother to the children.” She commented. Thembelihle: “You can say that again because you’ve long had your children and then, your body would have to adjust back to the baby routine.” Makhosi: “And you keep realising that the more years fly by the more children become even

naughtier.” Thembelihle laughed. “Yes, and if I have Qalokuhle and Nhlakanipho in the house I go crazy. Nhlakanipho runs around because he can walk now and this little one would crawl after him.” she said. Makhosi: “Hhayi! I can’t believe that you and I have come this far.” Thembelihle: “Yes, I was talking to Nozibusiso after Dalingcebo’s wedding and we were just reflecting to our days of the struggle.” Makhosi: “But we held it together.” Thembelihle: “Yes, especially you, after losing your husband I didn’t think that you would pull back from that. It was a very difficult time.” Makhosi: “Hheyi, Thembelihle, I thought that I was going to die and follow him. Nkosazana was just a mess and the family was fighting with her and blaming me for allowing her to do music that killed their son. It was difficult, Thembelihle.” She shook her head.

Thembelihle: “But, how are things now?”
Makhosi: “Things are better now because Nkosazana can visit her family without calling me to cry about the fights but her brother is just difficult.” Thembelihle: “Sakhile?” Makhosi: “Yes,” she then laughed and clapped her hands once. Thembelihle looked at her with an interested eye. “Alwande, my first born called me and told me that her father called her a few days ago.” She said. Thembelihle: “He called her for what?” Makhosi: “He was asking her for money after he had tried his sons and they refused to give him money. He is blaming Alwande because she’s the one who had his taverns closed.” Mzwakhe was found guilty of attempted murder by the law and he spent 7 years in prison and was out of in parole. MaMthembu held the house down, taking care of the children and the

business that Mzwakhe had left. She would still visit Mzwakhe in prison regularly and was holding on to the relationship. When Mzwakhe got out of prison he moved back home and transferred his taverns back to his name. Days of being back home were smooth until Mzwakhe's first born budge in at the tavern, authorised to do ethnicity of the tavern and she found a number of faults that sent suppliers away and they closed down the tavern. Mzwakhe's operating certificate was taken away from him and from there, they started struggling with MaMthembu until MaMthembu couldn't take it. She decided to leave him for the man who was willing to look after her... Mzwakhe was now an old man getting drunk on his pension money with no one to look after him as he had neglected his children when they needed him most...

Thembelihle laughed. “Hhayi, I don’t feel sorry for that old man. And I hope that he won’t be contacting you.” she commented. Makhosi: “Contact, who? I will tell him to voetsek!” she exclaimed and they laughed with Thembelihle. “Yoh! Mngani wami. I didn’t think that we would sit down like this in these yards and laugh again. I know that my daughter’s marriage to your son didn’t break our friendship but things were difficult.” Makhosi commented. Thembelihle: “Yes, because you were uncomfortable with coming for visits. But finally, things have changed and now, we should just look forward to the future.” Makhosi: “Yes, God has been wonderful.” “Yes!” She agreed and took the phone that was ringing from her jersey’s pocket. She answered the phone. “My princess?” she answered Nandipha’s phone call. Nandipha: “Yebo, I

am back with Qalokuhle but I was told that you are not home.” she told her politely. Thembelihle: “Yes, I will come back home now, and don’t leave I want to speak to you about something.” Nandipha: “Okay.” She hung up the call and Thembelihle sighed looking at Makhosi now she got up from the couch. Thembelihle: “I will have to prepare lunch for us tomorrow before you leave and we will catch up.” Makhosi: “Okay.” She got up and they hugged each other. Thembelihle then left the house after

she'd had said goodbye to Nkosazana and the children. Mlamuli was not back home yet.... "Ha! She's taking a bath, and mamncane is bathing her!" Thembelihle exclaimed looking at Qalokuhle who was on her bathing basin with Nandipha bathing her... Qalokuhle screamed and hit the water. Nandipha: "A. ah!" she held her hands and bathed her without having her hands to disturb her. Thembelihle: "I will let you finish up here because Ngcebo said you two will sleep here tonight." "We will sleep here?" She asked to confirm and looked back at Thembelihle who was standing by the door looking at her as well. Thembelihle: "Yes, do you have a problem with that or you want to go to your house?" she asked looking at her still realising now that she'd changed for real and she'd been too busy to notice that this was happening

to her. Nandipha: “No, I don’t.” she looked back at the baby and lifted her off the basin. Thembelihle left the room... Ngcebo walked inside the room while Nandipha was busy dressing up Qalokuhle. Ngcebo: “Mama was here?” Nandipha: “Yes, and she told me that we are spending the night here. You told her that first but didn’t tell me about it. Didn’t you think of asking me about what I would like first before telling your mother?” Ngcebo: “It was a last minute decision and sorry for not contacting you about it first.” He replied looking at her and Nandipha didn’t say anything. “Did you have something more important that you needed to do in the house?” Nandipha: “No, it’s cool.” She lifted the baby and gave it to Ngcebo, he took the baby. “Please, take the baby I want to clean up here.” she said after Ngcebo had already taken the baby. She

then left the room with the baby's basin Ngcebo followed her out of the room... He didn't know how to escape the misery their life had turned out to be, they were never happy now because Nandipha was still struggling with moving on from her father's death. She'd become the person he never thought she would be, QUIET! He'd been with her for a long time to know that her sadness and anger didn't last long. And so, this was new to him. He'd tried to speak to her without bringing therapy up but Nandipha didn't want to talk about her feelings. He'd try to take her to therapy and she never went for her sessions not even once. He was hoping that she would be alright soon, he was hoping that she would find a way to get better alone because she didn't want him to help her... The family was having dinner, MaCebekhulu, Dalisu,

Thembelihle, Dalingcebo, Ngcebo, Mntwana and Nandipha were seated on the dinner table. They were having a conversation while having dinner. “So, if you leave this Friday when are you coming back?” Dalisu asked Ngcebo who’d just told them that he had a trip that was going to keep him away from South Africa. The trip was sending him to Zambia and neighbouring countries for three weeks. He’d told Nandipha about it and she showed no emotions about it like she always did when he was taking work trips. Ngcebo couldn’t cancel the trip because he’d confirmed it before her father’s death... Ngcebo: “I will come back on the 18th of September.” Dalisu: “You’ll be busy after that or?” Ngcebo: “No, I will take a break because I want to work on my next album.” Dalisu looked at Thembelihle, as Ngcebo’s

plans clashed with the plans that they have for themselves and their sons included. They had plans that were going to challenge their togetherness and the others commitment to help their brothers rule the throne. Thembelihle: “We will have to change our plans, baba.” Dalingcebo: “What plans?” Dalisu: “Don’t be nosy, married men are not nosy.” He said to him and they laughed at Dalingcebo. Dalingcebo: “Okay, I am sorry.” MaCebekhulu: “But I think it’s not fair that you don’t tell us what are you talking about. We need to know about it.” Thembelihle: “You will know when the time is right.” Dalisu: “Yes, but Ngcebo you can work on that album while you are home, right?” he asked looking

at Ngcebo now. Ngcebo looked at Nandipha but she wasn't looking at him. She had her eyes on her plate. Dalisu looked at Thembelihle and she shook her head with her eyes closed. Dalisu looked at his mother next and MaCebekhulu sent her eyes to Ngcebo who wasn't looking at Nandipha anymore. MaCebekhulu: "What's wrong, MaZondi?" "Eh! Nothing is wrong, gogo." She replied looking at MaCebekhulu with a smile. MaCebekhulu nodded with a smile returned. Ngcebo: "I will be needed home, baba?" Dalisu: "Yes, you will be needed home but it won't be for a long time." Ngcebo: "Okay, I can write while I am home." Thembelihle: "Okay, that's better." They then finished up their food in silence... "I can see that you are not fine, baby. What's wrong?" Thembelihle asked holding Nandipha's hand and she looked at her but

Nandipha wasn't looking at her face. She was looking at their hands. "Please, look at me and don't tell me that there's nothing wrong." She added. They were seated on the couches inside Thembelihle's bedroom. The others were watching TV... Nandipha: "No, I think that I am just stressed by my schoolwork." Thembelihle: "It's not that and Ngcebo told me that it's about your father." Nandipha: "He's dead, mama!" she said and cried, Thembelihle held her shoulders and drew her to her chest. Thembelihle: "I know, but baby he was suffering from pain and he needed to rest. Now, he's at the eternal rest." They've said those words to her over and over again but they never made her feel better. "I couldn't say goodbye to him. Why did he die, the day I had to see him? Wasn't I worthy of seeing him before he sleeps for eternity?" she looked at

Thembelihle hoping that she would answer her but Thembelihle didn't know what answer to give her. It was hurting her to see Nandipha hurting but what hurting her the most is, was the fact that she'd been busy to notice the pain that Nandipha was feeling. Thembelihle: "It's not that you are not worthy, princess but God saw it was the right time for him to take him. I am sorry that you are feeling this pain of losing him and pain of not saying goodbye to him." Nandipha: "I am angry with myself I was supposed to drop everything and go see him, mama." Thembelihle: "You couldn't do that and you didn't know that you were going to say goodbye to your father." "Can I go and sleep?" She looked at Thembelihle after she had wiped her tears. She felt that she didn't need the talk they were having now... Thembelihle didn't want to let her go

but she didn't want to push her either. Thembelihle: "Okay, but can you promise me one thing?" Nandipha: "Yes?" Thembelihle: "Will you listen to your fiancé and go speak to a professional?" Nandipha: "I will be fine, mama. I don't need to speak to anyone." Thembelihle: "No, just go to one session and if you still feel that you don't want to talk. You can stop going to the sessions." Nandipha: "Okay, I will go." She condescended. Thembelihle: "That's better, now can you get up and let your mother hug you?" she requested with a smile and Nandipha smiled genuinely. They got up and hugged each other tightly. "I love you, so much!" she said. She knew that if Nontobeko was the one to speak to her about her pain she would feel better. But she didn't listen to her when she told her not to leave... Nandipha: "I love you, too." They

said good night to each other and Nandipha left her bedroom to sleep in Ngcebo's bedroom... ----- "Hi." Mnotho greeted Happiness and pulled a chair for her. He looked at Happiness as she sat on the chair without greeting him back. Mnotho shook his head and sat on his chair... They were at the restaurant at Umhlanga, Durban.

Mthimkhulu had threatened Mnotho into marrying his daughter. He told him that should he not marry his daughter he was going to make sure that Mnotho rots in jail for a sexual harassment charge. Happiness tried to get her father to listen to her, to support her from getting proper justice but Mthimkhulu was determined into getting his daughter married. Mnotho: "I greeted you." Happiness: "And I heard you. I still think that you are a pig and you are even a dirtier pig to agree to do this to me. How can you let my father marry me to you? How can I marry a rapist?" "I am not a rapist!" He shouted through his teeth and held Happiness's hand but she withdrew the hand from him with her eyes showing him disgust and fear. Mnotho sighed and kept his hands to himself. "I am sorry, but we are here because we want to speak to your

father, right?" he asked. Happiness: "Yes." Mthimkhulu had given Mnotho three months before telling his parents about Happiness. He didn't want their relationship to look suspicious as Mnotho had told them that he wasn't in South Africa for months. It wasn't going to be convincing to the family that Mnotho had found a girlfriend that quickly. Mnotho was forced to agree to his terms because he knew what the charge would do to his life, his career, his family, his child and their kingdom. Mnotho: "When is your father leaving Durban?" Happiness: "He will leave on Wednesday as it's Saturday, today. Do you have a plan that we can present to him to prevent us from getting married?" Happiness knew that her father would force her into marriage like he'd tried to do before. He was obsessed with honouring Happiness's late mother wish, his

wife. Happiness couldn't fight with her all because she was all dependent to her father. And she knew she would be nothing without him. Mnotho: "My son, you said your father is traditional and wants an honourable man. So, how about we use my son as emotional blackmail?" Happiness: "You have a son?" Mnotho: "Yes, and he's three months old." Happiness: "Yes! That means you have a woman in your life." Mnotho: "No, silly! Didn't you hear your father saying I will have to clean the women I have in my life?" Happiness: "Oh, I remember." Mnotho: "We will tell your father that I got a woman pregnant in L.A. and that means I am not honourable as him. He will not get me married to you." Happiness: "Mxm! That's stupid and weak!" she exclaimed and looked at the waitress who was before them. "Can I have beer-battered

fish and chips...” She placed her order while Mnotho was angered by the fact that she ruled his ideas as stupid and yet she had no ideas... The waitress wrote down what she wanted as she proceeded. “I will have a beef stir fry...” He informed the waitress as she was looking at him. The waitress left them after she had gotten their orders right. “How can you tell me that my idea is stupid while you don’t have an idea?” he asked. Happiness: “I was just telling you the truth! I can’t believe I will be forced to marry a man who impregnated a woman he met while on vacation. Are you even disease free?” she asked. Mnotho laughed. “Do you think that when we get married I will sleep with you?” he asked looking at her with sharp eyes. Happiness: “I wouldn’t want to sleep with a pig like you but I am the only child that my father has

and he wants children, desperately. And an intimate relationship should be with someone you love.” She said proudly as if she knew what an intimate relationship felt... Mnotho: “You can tell your lover to impregnate you. You have a lover, right? I am not planning on having an intimate relationship with you.” Happiness: “I don’t have a lover you, fool!” Mnotho taunted his jaw and tightened his fist. “Don’t call me a fool, woman!” he exclaimed and clicked his tongue. He drank the juice that was before him. “And, I am not willing to give my sperm to a woman like you.” he added. Happiness: “You will not? You don’t know my father you will give me that child faster than you

planned.” Mnotho: “Why does it seems like you want me to sleep with you but just a few minutes ago you were telling me I am pig?” Happiness: “I can never sleep with you.” Mnotho: “It won’t come to that because this marriage will not happen.” Happiness: “And how are you planning on stopping it because I want to send you to prison after you have stopped it.” Mnotho: “What?” Happiness: “Yes, you think I will let you go?” Mnotho: “Hhayi, sorry then. It’s seems like you’ll be getting married to the prince then Miss Mthimkhulu because you are a hypocrite. I told you I made a mistake and you said you will not put me in jail if we can stop this wedding. I have no choice but to play by the book because I won’t leave my son and shame my kingdom with a mistake I made.” Happiness: “I am not sitting here with you, then.” She said getting up but

Mnotho held her hand. Mnotho: “You will listen to me and sit down because I am your future husband. And if you don’t want to listen to me I will call your father.” He gave Happiness a straight face that was followed by a grin... Happiness clicked her tongue and was forced to sit down by his words...

S2 – EPISODE 43

“I can’t believe we will talk with our sons while we don’t even know where are we going for this trip.” Thembelihle commented setting the dinner table while Dalisu was seated on his chair with Mnotho’s son, Siphosami inside his arms. Dalisu was looking at Thembelihle as she was busy. Dalisu: “Don’t worry about that because we got time.” Thembelihle: “It’s almost the end of August and Ngcebo is leaving next week.” Dalisu: “You are supposed to know where we should go and that place must

have a good cuisine not fast food.” Thembelihle laughed and said. “You love food kodwa.” She left him laughing as she was making her way to the kitchen to get food when she was done setting the table... “I can’t spend money on the trip just get to a city where they eat horrible food.” He commented as Thembelihle was back on the dining room... Now, that Dalisu had retired from the throne, Thembelihle and Dalisu had more time to themselves. Dalisu was getting back hands on to his company in Richards bay, he was doing it from home and managing his wife’s farm. He didn’t want to sit at home all day... They had no fights about ruling now but only looking after each other. Thembelihle: “I think we will have to ask Ngcebo to help us choose because he has travelled more than his brothers. And he will know what we will

love.” Dalisu: “Yes, we will do that.”
Thembelihle: “Okay, let me go get them.”
she marched to the full noisy lounge, that
had all her sons and Sbani’s daughter.
When she entered the lounge they all kept
quiet. “Why does it look like you were
talking about me?” Thembelihle asked
looking around to check if Sbani’s daughter
have arrived and she was indeed amongst
her sons... “No, mama’ ndlunkulu. We were
not talking about you but we are hoping that
you are here to tell us that we can come
and eat because I know in my house they
have had dinner.” Mlamuli responded to his
mother’s question and the others supported
him that they wanted to eat... Thembelihle:
“If you wanted to eat early you were
supposed to cook.” Banele: “Hawu! That’s
impossible! Some of us are bonding with
the king over here.” he commented, the

brothers laughed and chanted 'Yebo!'. Banele stood up while everyone supported him and stood up after him. Thembelihle looked at them as they left the lounge. She wondered who gave them the permission to leave the lounge... But anyway... She followed them to the dining room, MaCebekhulu and Qalokuhle were down at Nkosazana's palace for the night... "How are you, Sbongakonke?" Dalisu asked and looked at Sbani's daughter... They have settled

down on the table and Mlamuli have blessed the food... Sbonga: "I am fine, baba and how are you?" Dalisu: "I am fine, and thank you for coming when I called you." Sbonga: "It's no problem, Ndabezitha." Dalisu: "I have an announcement to make which is why I called you here." He said looking at them. Now, Siphosami was on his grandmother's arms. Mnotho's phone rang and Dalisu looked at him as the phone was disturbing him. Mnotho looked at his father. Mnotho: "Mageba, I will have to take this call it's very important. Please." Dalisu: "Make it fast!" He nodded and left the dining room to answer Mthimkhulu's phone call... Mnotho: "Sawubona, mhlonishwa." Mthimkhulu: "Hhayi! Hhayi! Nkosana, you can call me baba." Mnotho: "Ayke kuhle ke, unjani, baba?" Mthimkhulu: "I am fine and how are you, ndodana?" Mnotho: "I am fine

and how can I help you? I am having dinner with my father now and he gave me limited time.” Mthimkhulu: “Ayi, ndoda. I was calling to ask if you have digested my request. The three months that I have given you are way over and I don’t want my daughter to keep working at that hotel. She doesn’t want to listen to me and I think if we can begin with the marriage proposal processes she will have to listen to you better because you’ll be her husband.” Mnotho closed his eyes and shook his head. He wanted to ask him what must have happened for his daughter to work in hotels while he was a high profile man. Happiness looked smart and collected but she was working at a hotel? How did that happen? But he didn’t ask as he’d figured that he was going to have to ask Happiness, personally. Mnotho: “No, you don’t even have to ask, Mthimkhulu

because you gave me no choice and so, I have to do what you want.” Mthimkhulu chuckled. “No, don’t say it like that. My daughter told me that you have a son and don’t worry I don’t have a problem with that.” He said and Mnotho hissed, how could that witch tell her father that because he was going to tell him on his own! “You will love my daughter, she loves children and I hope you have seen that she’s beautiful.” He commented. Mnotho: “Yes, she is but I doubt that we will ever get along.” Mthimkhulu: “Don’t worry about that and now, you can go back to your father. We will speak some other time to discuss how things will happen.” Mnotho: “Okay.” They said their goodbyes and dropped the phone call. Mnotho walked back to the dinner table still feeling regrets that he’d been feeling for months about how things

turned out to be for him that night. He didn't know who to blame for the turn of events and he hadn't had the courage to tell not even his brother about it. He'd promised that he wouldn't tell, not even one soul. And Happiness had also promised her father the same thing. Mnotho couldn't figure out how he was going to live a life of pretence.

Mnotho: "Thank you for waiting."

Ndabezinhle: "Yes, we have always been waiting for you, bafo." He commented and they all laughed at his statement.

Dalisu: "Hhayi, ke. I want you all to know that your mother and I, we are taking a trip after Ngcebo's return from Zambia." "A TRIP?"

They all confirmed and looked at their father's direction and Dalisu nodded his head with his eyes looking at them.

Thembelihle: "Why does it seems like you are asking that because we don't deserve

that trip?” Mlamuli: “No, it’s not like that but who’ll be going with you and for how long?” Dalisu: “We will be going alone.” Dalingcebo: “Alone? And what about the children? Qalokuhle, Siphosami and Mntwana?” Thembelihle: “Siphosami lives with his father and Qalokuhle will go visit her grandmother, Empangeni. Mntwana will be here with his grandmother and I will leave someone who will be cooking for them.”

Mntwana: “Awu, ziyasha ke! For how long?”
Thembelihle: “Lalela! That doesn’t mean you’ll be behaving as you please.”
Dalingcebo: “Don’t worry, mama. He won’t be doing that because I will be here until your return.” He announced looking at Mntwana and he frowned while his parents were pleased to hear the news. Mntwana: “Why would you be here because you have your own house?” His brothers laughed at him as it was obvious that he thought he was going to have all the freedom in the world. Dalingcebo: “This is home and I don’t need a reason to be home.” Thembelihle: “That makes me very happy.” Mnotho: “And I think I will have to come up here as well.” Mntwana: “HAWU!” they laughed. Dalisu: “You will not be trouble here, Mntwana. You are doing grade 12 now your focus must be on your books unless if you want to fail.”

Mntwana: "I will do that, baba."
Ndabezinhle: "Where is your trip pointing you?"
Thembelihle: "We don't know yet and Ngcebo will help us decide on that."
Ngcebo: "Me?" Dalisu: "Yes, you, Rasta!"
Ngcebo widened his eyes as his father was calling him like that he'd never heard him call him like that before and everyone in the room laughed.
Ngcebo: "Baba, how can you call me, Rasta?" Dalisu: "It's wrong if I call you like that but I didn't hear you complain when-"
Ngcebo: "Okay! Okay! It's not wrong but it would be better if everyone else sticks to Ngcebo." He said fast as means to stop his father from telling everyone who was calling him, Rasta. He couldn't figure out when did his father hear Nandipha call him like that because she was not even with them now...
Thembelihle looked at Ngcebo and shook her head.
Mlamuli: "Who must

call you, Rasta? We must know?" Others: "Yes!" Ngcebo: "Eh, mama no baba, you don't have to worry about anything I will help you choose the best city that will not disgust the both of you." he looked at his parents and ignored his brother completely. Thembelihle: "Okay, siyabonga." Dalisu: "Yes, and what you must know is that, this trip has an agenda as I have even called Sbongakonke here." Them: "We are listening." Dalisu: "Your mother and I, will leave a crisis for the kingdom. It will be financial problem to be exact but you won't be able to get the funds where we normal get them. You will have all the details on the papers that we will leave." He looked at Thembelihle. Thembelihle: "Yes, and then this will request that you, all work together in helping your four siblings solve this problem in record time." Dalisu: "We are

testing your togetherness and commitment to the kingdom even though you are not fully hands like the ones who are hands on.” Thembelihle: “You will have to listen to each other and mostly listen to your king. We will come back and we will expect nothing but excellent results.” Dalisu: “Is that clear?” “NDABEZITHA!” They all chanted in agreement with what Dalisu was asking... Thembelihle looked at Dalisu with a smile and he nodded his head once to his queen... ----- It'd been a week since Ngcebo had left the country for Zambia. And Nandipha was back in her flat. After her father's death Ngcebo wanted her inside his house and even after she refused to do that he forced her to do it... She'd honoured her mother in-law's advice and went to the therapist but she didn't go back for the second session. She didn't see the value of

therapy. Her truest wishes were to have her sister help her get through everything but Nontobeko wasn't anywhere near her. She never called her even once and that alone was adding to her hurt...

She'd been busy with her assignments as means to distress because she didn't want to keep thinking about the things that she knew she couldn't change. But today, on a Saturday. Palesa had forced her out of her room as means to cheer her up. Palesa had been complaining to her that she missed the lady she first met not the girl she couldn't even recognise. Nandipha agreed to go with her and when they were walking around Mall of Africa they saw Duma with his girlfriend and three guys who were with them. They then joined Nandipha and Palesa because Duma had also felt that Nandipha had changed... Today, she was forced to loosen up and laugh with the bunch of crazy people that were around her. She didn't regret going out with Palesa because it made her feel better. It made her visit her old self and she got to remember

how much of a happy person her old self was. But things had changed... "I will go inside the chemist and please, don't hide from me." Nandipha told the bunch she was rolling with. They were done touring around and the guy with a car had promised to drive Nandipha and Palesa to their flat. Palesa: "Let me go with you." Nandipha: "No, I will go alone but just wait for me." she said without panicking because she didn't want her to be suspicious of anything. "OKAY!" They chanted and Nandipha nodded her head leaving them behind. She didn't want anyone to see what she was going to buy inside the chemist... "What a nice surprise!" Craig exclaimed as he bumped into Nandipha on the shelves hallway inside the chemist. Nandipha: "There's nothing nice about seeing your face." Craig: "Yes, babe you don't have to

be happy to see me but I am happy to see your beautiful face.” Nandipha: “Tsk! You are such a wolf.” She walked away from him passing the shelf that she was actually going to, she didn’t want him to see what she was inside the chemist to buy. “Your presence broke my friendship with my friend!” He exclaimed after Nandipha and Nandipha didn’t even turn to look at him because she felt even further angered by his horrible, annoying voice... After she had looked around the chemist she marched back to the shelf as she had seen Craig exiting the chemist with a lady she couldn’t see. Nandipha looked around her before taking the ‘Clear Blue’ pregnancy test. She then marched to the shelf with it uncomfortably as if people could see what she had in her hands... She then paid for the kit and immediately placed it inside her

bag after paying for it. She walked to Palesa and the guy drove them to their flat after they have said their goodbyes to the others... “We had a good time with you guys. What do you often do for fun?” The guy who was driving them asked looking back at them, shortly. Palesa: “We normally go out for shopping but not all the time because I am working now and she’s still studying.” Guy: “Okay, I should take your numbers just in case we have something going on. I will make sure to invite you because you are a great company to keep.” Nandipha looked at Palesa and Palesa figured that she was going to offer him her cell phone number... Palesa took the phone of the guy and punch in her numbers. They held a conversation with the guy until he dropped them off... “You better delete that number!” Nandipha said to Palesa as they

were walking on the hallway taking them to their room. Palesa laughed. "I gave him my number not the other way around." She said. Nandipha: "Okay, you will block it then after he had called." Palesa: "Yes, mama." She said and they laughed as they stepped inside the flat. "I wish Prince can go away more often because I get to have your company when he's not around." She commented and looked at her, they were unlocking their bedrooms. Nandipha: "How can you say that? He can't do that to me." Palesa: "Ncoah! I had a great time with you, rumza." Nandipha: "Thank you for cheering me up. Now, I will have some rest." Palesa smiled with a nod and they both went inside their rooms...

Nandipha immediately changed her clothes into her gown and she went straight to the bathroom with the pregnancy kit... She had missed her period in July but she didn't dwell on it because she thought it was stress but in August she missed it again. That made her suspicious because she knew that she hadn't been faithful in attending her gynaecologist... "NO!" She exclaimed and closed her eyes as the pregnancy kit showed that she was eight weeks pregnant. She dropped the kit on the floor and buried her face on her hands. She couldn't possibly imagine herself as a student mom. But why did she become so careless because now, there was no turning back time! She hissed and clicked her tongue. Palesa: "Zulu girl, can I use the bathroom. I am dying, please unlock the door." she begged her banging the door.

“WAIT!” She exclaimed and quickly took the kit she shoved it back inside the box and got up from the toilet seat. She hid the kit under her underarms... She opened the door and Palesa thanked her... Nandipha went to her room and opted to sleep after disposing the pregnancy kit... ----- After the reed dance ceremony in September Mnotho felt that it was time for him to introduce Happiness to his parents. His parents were leaving by the end of September as they were waiting for Ngcebo’s return. He had spent all his free nights before sleeping reading about Mthimkhulu and from what he had read about him he knew that he couldn’t cross him... “Are you going out?” Mlamuli asked meeting with Mnotho at the door of his house on a Thursday morning. Mnotho: “Yes, Ndabezitha I am going somewhere. Do you need me?” he asked

locking his door and he moved away from it. Mlamuli: “Yes, I have been calling you and you are not answering.” Mnotho: “I think that my phone is on silence. I was sharing a bed with Siphosami last night and the beeping sounds were disturbing his sleep.” Mnotho’s son was five months now, he was a caramel skinned coloured baby with soft black curly hair. He was the cutest baby with clear grey eyes. Mnotho felt blessed to be a father to his son even though he felt the responsibility was too much as his son didn’t have a mother but his child minder took good care of him. He didn’t want to give the baby to his mother because Thembelihle was already looking after Qalokuhle.... Mlamuli: “Okay, where are you heading? I need you this weekend.” Mnotho: “Eish, can you please take Dalingcebo because I won’t be available

this weekend, Mageba.” Mlamuli: “Where are you going? Why does it seem like these days there’s something that’s bothering you?” he asked standing next to his car as Mnotho had stepped inside his car. Mnotho: “I will speak to you when you come back but I am bringing someone that you know home for mom and dad to meet.” Mlamuli: “Huh?” he chuckled and handed out his hand to him and Mnotho handshake him with a clean smile on his face that wasn’t going to make him look suspicious to his brother. “Who is that lady? MaNkosi?” he asked. Mnotho: “Hhayi! No, I have moved on from that one. Eish, it’s someone who might cause conflict between dad and I and please, don’t ask me questions.” He replied starting the engine of his car while his brother was laughing. Mlamuli: “Are you insane?” Mnotho: “Yes, I am, bafo. Please,

go, I am rushing to Durban to fetch her.” he shouted to his brother as he was driving his car off the yard... He had sent his son to Nkosazana’s palace along with his nanny. He didn’t want Happiness to meet him just yet but she was supposed to meet his parents first... He was done feeling sorry for himself but rather accepted the situation because Happiness was also playing along now as they have been in contact on the phone...

S2 – EPISODE 44

“Mlamuli just left the house because he was looking for you.” Dalisu informed Mnotho and he sat next to his wife on the chairs outside their house. Mnotho: “I have seen him and I told him that I can’t leave with him because I have already made some plans.” Thembelihle: “What plans?” Mnotho: “I am bringing someone over tomorrow.” Thembelihle: “HHAYBO! So soon!” Dalisu: “What’s soon, MaSthole?” Thembelihle: “Hawu, baba. He just got back from L.A and he’s already bringing a woman over here.” Mnotho: “I don’t have to spend years knowing her mama. I want the two of you to meet her and you should know that I am marrying her.” Dalisu: “Hawu, when did you meet this woman or it’s that coloured girl?” Mnotho: “No, it’s someone different and I met her the day I landed here. We have been seeing each other ever since.”

Thembelihle: “You can be secretive Mnotho, yey!” Mnotho and Dalisu chuckled. “I know, mama but now I have to rush to the airport and tomorrow we will come here. I hope you will cook for us mama and gogo, must be there as well.” He said standing up.

Thembelihle: “Okay, I will cook for you.”

Dalisu: “And I hope you are bringing a decent girl home.”

Mnotho: “Don’t worry!”

Thembelihle: “And where’s my grandson? He’ll be sleeping with women he doesn’t know tonight?”

“No! He’s with the queen, don’t worry!” he exclaimed and rushed to his car looking at his wrist watch. He didn’t know if he trusted the words that Happiness was a decent girl. He didn’t know her and he’d told his father that the woman was decent! He didn’t want to keep asking himself about what he’d gotten himself into, for what has happened was like what has

been created. He couldn't change it... "I thought I was going to get off the plane and wait for you." Happiness commented as Mnotho was taking her bag after he had greeted her. Mnotho: "And there wasn't going to be a problem if you waited for me." Happiness: "Don't you know that it's rude to keep a woman, waiting?" Mnotho: "No, I don't know and why didn't you hug me. You are not happy that you are seeing your boyfriend?" Happiness: "Mxm! If you can try not to irritate me I promise you that we will have the miserable long life together because you heard dad, there won't be any divorce." She smiled looking at him figuring out that Mnotho was only trying to irritate her because he knew that she hated that she was marrying him. Mnotho: "Yes, I got that clear but I won't stop reminding you about your mistake because if you have

listened to me that night and didn't rush to call your father. We wouldn't be in this situation. This will be a lesson that you are too old to be a daddy's little girl now. And stop depending on him." Happiness hated those words coming from him because he knew nothing about her life and yet, he had the nerve to say such words to her. She stepped inside the car and slammed his door but Mnotho ignored that as if he knew that she was doing it on purpose. Happiness: "Yes, and now, I don't have to worry about depending on him because I will have you as my husband, right? You will look after me." Mnotho took a short glance at her and drove his car off the parking lot without breathing a word to her... "I will take your bag to our room." Mnotho said taking Happiness's bag as they were inside his house now after a long quiet drive. But

Happiness held on to the bag tightly. "What's wrong now?" he asked. Happiness: "I won't share a room with you. I mean I won't share a bed with you I can't do that." Mnotho: "Yes, you will do it because we are dating, remember?" Happiness: "No!"

Mnotho: "What if someone sees you sleeping in the guestroom? They will be suspicious of our relationship." Happiness: "We will tell them that we will share one bed after marriage." Mnotho: "Are you a virgin?" Happiness: "Why are you asking me that question because we won't have sex together, remember?" Mnotho: "Oh! Well, I guess I won't ask but I am not a virgin by the way." Happiness laughed unexpectedly and Mnotho looked at her as she was laughing. "Why are you laughing?" he asked. Happiness: "It's obvious that you are not a virgin considering how we first met. You were very much horny!" she felt strange saying that to him. Mnotho chuckled. "Oh! You still remember that." He commented walking away and Happiness followed him with her bags. Happiness: "How can I forget that because I am here

today because of that night? I regret coming to your room.” Mnotho: “You were supposed to refuse your father and screamed but no, I am sure that you didn’t even cry to him.” Happiness: “Don’t say that because you don’t how much I have fought with him and now, you are implying that I didn’t even cry because I actually want to get married to you but I don’t. I just didn’t want dad to-” she stopped herself as she realised that she was about to tell him too much about her life. She wasn’t so proud that she was a 27 years old woman but she was still dependent on her father and had nothing tangible to allow herself to be an independent woman. How could she have done that because she had failed her matric five times before deciding that she was not made for school. She wasn’t as smart as his father was but she was just dump as her

mother was. It was always difficult for her to admit that but it was the truth to her. Everything she had tried to do to generate her own money had always failed... Mnotho: "You didn't want dad to do what?" he looked back at her as he was inside the guestroom that she was going to use. Happiness: "Nothing... You have a beautiful house." Mnotho: "Oh, thank you... You can put your things here and then you can go to the kitchen to cook dinner for us." Happiness: "WHAT?" Mnotho: "Oh! Please, don't tell me you don't know how to cook as well?" Happiness: "As well?' Who's the other person that couldn't cook?" Mnotho: "Is that you being a jealous girlfriend or you are just asking?" Happiness: "Mxm! It just slipped off my tongue." He chuckled. "Okay, and yes, you will have to cook for me because I won't cook for you. And that is

part of being my girlfriend since I will be looking after you.” He informed her straight and he saw that she was getting even more irritated. Happiness: “I am not that kind of a girlfriend who cooks. I highly believe in gender equality even in relationships and marriage.” Mnotho: “Well, I am not that man who will be your equal and if you had a problem with that you weren’t supposed to say yes, when I asked you to marry me.” he shot a mocking statement and Happiness fumed. Happiness: “Can you just give me, space!” she shouted loudly. Mnotho nodded with a smile and he marched to the door. “I will be watching TV waiting for some snack while you’ll be cooking. I am tired.” He turned to face her just to tell her that and Happiness clicked her tongue... Mnotho closed the door behind him vowing to himself that he was going to make her

regret calling her father that night... He wasn't going to abuse her but he was going to make her regret it... ---- Nandipha was inside Ngcebo's house on a Thursday night she was watching the news while chatting to Ngcebo on WhatsApp. It was the Thursday of the second week since Ngcebo left the country. Nandipha hadn't told him about her pregnancy and she didn't tell anyone about it. She was

keeping it to herself after she had gone to the Doctor to confirm that she was really pregnant. She'd planned that she was going to tell Ngcebo in person... She raised the volume of the TV as what they were talking about on the news was catching her eye now. "Namuhla ekuseni eGoli owesifazane uphume ehhotela eliphambili eSandton ekhala wi izinyembezi. Lo wesifazane ukhale ngokudlwengulwa uSaziwayo okwezomculo. Igama lika lo saziwayo belingakadalulwa kodwa emva kwalesisehlo baningi abesifazane abuphumele obala ngokukhohlakala kosaziwayo abakozomculo nemidlalo kamabonakude! Lolu daba luchitheke ezinkundleni zokuxhumana. KuTwitter luhamba phambili!" the lady read the news about a lady who walked of the hotel room crying about being raped by a famous musician

that hadn't been named out to the public it was said that after the incident a number of women came out about how much dirty musicians and TV stars are towards the women who are trying to make it up into the industry. The clip of the night was broadcasted on the news without revealing the face of the lady, the interview of the lady telling what happened and Nandipha held her chest. She quickly logged off on WhatsApp and logged in on twitter, she pressed on the trends and read through the relevant hashtags. Nandipha: "No!" she stood on her feet and marched around the lounge while reading through the tweets. Her phone rang while she was busy reading. "Palesa!" She answered the call. Palesa: "Girl! Did you see what's happening on Twitter? And Prince's name is on the mix of that drama." Nandipha: "I am seeing that

too. Palesa, he couldn't have raped anybody for getting them into the industry." Palesa: "You think they're just lying?" Nandipha: "I don't know and this has been trending all day. Don't you think that he has seen it?" she asked placing her hands on her eyes. She couldn't hold her tears as she didn't know what to believe now. Why was this happening? And were they just bringing his name for nothing or there was more to it then... Palesa: "Nandipha, don't cry just call him and ask." She suggested hearing that Nandipha was crying now... She couldn't help but feel her emotions heightening and her body was overwhelmed by them. She cried... Nandipha: "I am scared, what if he thinks I believe this?" Palesa: "Just call him and ask!" Nandipha: "Okay, bye." Palesa: "Bye." Nandipha sat down on the couch and logged back in on WhatsApp. She didn't

want to call him but it would be better if she sent a voice note. She didn't respond to the text that he'd written for her... >> "Ngcebo, what's happening with everything that's trending on Twitter? Why are you quiet about it? I have just heard on the news and saw the trends on Twitter." << Nandipha sent the voice note to Ngcebo and she waited for his response while she proceeded with reading on Twitter... Ngcebo called Nandipha after he had listened to her voice note. Ngcebo: "I couldn't hear your voice note properly, can you please repeat your questions to me?" he requested abruptly and Nandipha couldn't read through his voice whether he was angry or calm. Nandipha: "There's nothing I will repeat because you heard my voice note clearly. You are telling me to repeat what I said because

uyangimaketha.” Ngcebo: “Why are you angry? What’s making you angry?” Nandipha: “I am not angry.” Ngcebo: “Don’t tell that you are not because I can hear that you’re angry and if you want to know if what’s trending is true why don’t you ask the people who are talking about it on Twitter?” Nandipha: “Oh! You are speaking like that with me now? And, why does it seem like you are the angry one between us. If I don’t ask you, who am I supposed to ask because you are the one, I know!” she shouted at him feeling angered that he wasn’t answering her but he was just ignoring her. Ngcebo: “You want me to tell you that I have never slept with a woman to get her into the music

industry? I haven't ke and the only people I have helped get into industry are males. Unless if they can come out as well and say, I have raped them then maybe you can start feeling angry." Nandipha: "Why are you worked up over this because you are supposed to tell me politely that you have never done that?" Ngcebo: "Ukuthi uyangidakelwa! And you clearly believe those people over me. I haven't said a thing about this because it doesn't affect me-" Nandipha: "That's a lie because it does affect your brand name!" Ngcebo: "Ey, voetsek ke! Tsk!" he hung up the call and Nandipha screamed his name repeatedly until she released that he had hung up the call... Nandipha roamed her sim-card and made a call to him but Ngcebo didn't answer the call. He would deliberately hang up the call until Nandipha decided to stop.

She left the lounge angry and went up to the bedroom to sleep... But she couldn't sleep as she was still reading through the tweets. Other people, were talking about Prince and Belinda, how she blossomed after dating him. Then, their relationship ended as if it was nothing. It wasn't Belinda alone but Ngcebo was dragged into sleeping with women for giving them a space into fame, not music but fame... Nandipha sat up straight and cried, she couldn't believe that this was happening. She looked at her phone as Thembelihle was calling. She didn't answer the call she just placed the phone aside and cried silently laying her head on the pillow...

Nandipha: "Hello?" she answered Thembelihle's phone call. She was still inside Ngcebo's house on a Friday morning but she was preparing for her departure to

her place. Ngcebo hadn't called her nor speak to her since their phone call. Thembelihle: "I called you last night and you didn't answer my calls." Nandipha: "I went to bed early mama." Thembelihle: "Okay, how are you?" Nandipha: "I am fine and how are you?" she asked taking her hand bag after switching off the lights on the bedroom. She then checked the lights of other rooms before heading downstairs. Thembelihle: "I am fine, I watched the news last night and Mntwana showed me the things people are saying about my son." Nandipha: "Oh, I watched the news as well." Thembelihle: "I couldn't help but feel worried about you since Ngcebo is not closer to you. I don't know what you must be thinking." Nandipha: "I have spoken to him mama, I am fine." She lied to her plainly she didn't want to discuss the matter with

her... Thembelihle: "I am not convinced Nandipha." Nandipha: "He told me he didn't do it mama and I believe him." Thembelihle: "Okay," she responded not missing that she wasn't rooted to what she was talking about and that told her that she was lying to her. She first told her she hadn't spoken to Ngcebo but now she had spoken to him and he told her he didn't do it? "How are you holding up?" she asked feeling that she was distant now. Nandipha: "I have been very well and how are you?" Thembelihle: "I am not too well because I feel like you are distant and I don't know what to do to make you feel better." Nandipha: "No, mama don't feel like that I am not being distant I wasn't fine but now I am fine." She felt bad that she was feeling that way now. Thembelihle: "Okay, call me like you used to. I didn't say stop!" Nandipha: "Okay, I will do that." They

said their goodbyes and dropped the call... Nandipha walked out of the house after the Uber she had requested was at the gate... Nandipha took the paper that was at the backseat of the car and she read through the article that was covering the Celebrities scandals and there were pictures and tweets attached. Ngcebo was also featured on the newspaper with the girls that he dated before they were known but after dating they became known and were still known. She closed the paper immediately as she didn't want to burst inside the stranger's car. She felt ashamed that she had to read such things about Ngcebo and Ngcebo wasn't making things easier for her... She stepped out of the car only to find that she had five-six journalists who were waiting for her.

They have paid the security and asked him questions about Nandipha. He took the money and gave them the information that, yes, Nandipha lived there and Ngcebo usually comes by to fetch her. He didn't confirm that they were dating... They met her half way as she was approaching the gate and they hindered her way with questions. Journalist1: "As a close friend to Prince Tee, what can you say about what's happening right now and having his name dragged on social media?" Nandipha: "I got no comment!" she replied trying to push her way through them but they didn't give her space to leave. Journalist2: "We have heard that Prince Tee comes here more often to fetch you, does that mean you have taken your friendship to the next level?" Journalist1: "And as you are studying Art are you sleeping with Prince so you can get

into the industry quicker than everyone else?” Nandipha: “I said no comment!” Journalist4: “Don’t you want to speak out so that you can help all the women in your position who have to sleep with these men to make a name for themselves?” “Can you please leave the poor girl alone!” A guy who resided at the same block of flats grabbed Nandipha’s arm from the journalists and he walked away with her but they didn’t stop following her until the guy was inside the premises with her. She sighed. Nandipha: “Thank you.” Guy: “Don’t worry about these journalists and their theory. I am pretty sure that Prince never violated those women. Some women tend to be bitter when the relationship ends.” Nandipha sighed without supplying the comment. The guy kept quiet until the lift that they were waiting for took them to their different destinations... Palesa

wasn't inside the flat and so, Nandipha locked herself in her room... She sat on her bed with her phone on her hand still looking at the scandal that was still trending. She decided there she hated this life of being questioned about everything that was connected to Ngcebo's life. How was she going to bring a child into this kind of life? She wasn't ready to be a parent but she had accepted that she was going to be one. And now, how was her child going to live a normal life? She wasn't going to keep her relationship private forever she knew that but she was only 20 years old. It wasn't wrong of her to want what she felt was best for herself and child she was carrying... "Hello, Mama Zell-" Nandipha greeted the person on the phone. "Mama Zella, you are speaking to her. How can I help you?" The woman with a soft soothing voice asked

Nandipha on the phone. Nandipha: "I found your number on the internet and I would like to make a night appointment with your clinic. I don't know if those services are still available." Mama Zella: "I no longer have a clinic but I still render services in my back yard. How can I help you?" Nandipha: "I want to have an abortion tomorrow night. I am ten weeks pregnant. Will you help me? I can't come during the day." Mama Zella: "Okay, I will organise one of my ladies to help you because I won't be available tomorrow night. You can WhatsApp me and we will talk there." Nandipha: "Okay, thank you." she hung up the call, placed her phone down and lifted her shirt to look at her tummy. It was flat as if there was nothing inside her... She could feel her heart beating pretty fast with fear

consuming her but she had made up her mind...

S2 – EPISODE 45

“My mother is expecting us at 12, can you hurry up!” Mnotho shouted at Happiness banging on the guestroom door. It was a Friday and they had to go to his mother but Happiness was still busy dressing up. Happiness: “I am coming! Just wait.” She shouted back as she was trying to tie her doek properly. Her father and aunt had told her how she was supposed to dress up because she was going to meet

the royal people and they were traditional... Mthimkhulu had told his sister about Happiness getting into a relationship with the Prince. He wanted her to give her advices on how to carry herself in their presence. Mnotho walked away and went to the car to wait for her... The previous night Happiness had cook dinner like Mnotho had told her to, she prepared the snack that he wanted her to prepare. She didn't trust that Mnotho wasn't going to call her father and complain to him about her behaviour. She had decided that she was going to play along... She walked out of the house wearing a yellow floral dress that was in between her legs she had black sandals on her feet and a black doek on her head. As she walked out of the house she couldn't help but regret calling her father that night. Now, she had in-laws she never wanted.

She had made peace with the fact that she was just an illiterate girl who wouldn't find a man to make her a wife. Yes, she wanted to get married, have children with a man who loved her but she had never wanted an arranged marriage... Mnotho looked at her as she stepped out of the house and he noted that she was not that skinny when she was wearing a dress. And she had beautiful legs, he noticed as she walked closer to his car after she had closed the door of the house. "A girlfriend sits on the front seat with her boyfriend not the back seat." He told her as Happiness was opening the back door. He wasn't looking at her but he could feel her pause reaction and she closed the door... She stepped inside the front seat with him. Mnotho had already started the engine of his car and so, he drove the car out of his premises. He

stopped and got off to close the gate... He went back inside the car and drove his car straight to his mother's palace. He looked at Happiness as she was quiet. Happiness: "Why are taking a glance at me?" Mnotho: "I wasn't taking a glance at you but at the side of the road." Happiness: "Oh!" Mnotho: "Why do you work at the hotel because your father is rich and didn't you study for a professional job?" Happiness: "How is that any of your interest?" Mnotho: "Okay, look lady, if we are going to marry each other we will have to try and get along. And that means we will have to know each other so that the families won't be suspicious of anything." Happiness: "I don't want to know you and please, just let me be." Mnotho: "Okay, but when my mother challenges you in way that will reveal that you don't know me. Don't go crying to your father."

Happiness: “Okay, you are right. We can get to know the basics about each other. Just basics!” Mnotho: “Okay.” He parked the car inside his mother’s palace and they stepped out of the car. They walked side by side to the front door of the house. Happiness: “Why wasn’t your son inside the house?” Mnotho: “Why are you asking?” Happiness: “Never mind.” She said as Mnotho opened the door for her and let her step inside the house first... She sat on the couch and Mnotho left the room to get his parents... Dalingcebo appeared from the hallway followed by Mlamuli, they were talking while approaching the door. Mlamuli was the first to see Happiness. Mlamuli: “Hawu, Happiness Mthimkhulu, right?” “Yes!” Happiness lifted her eyes to look at the two brothers and she stood on her feet. She remembered Mlamuli from the airport.

“The last time we met you were a prince but now you are Monarch. Ngonyama!” she said and bowed her head to the two brothers. They looked at each and jerked their heads. But Mlamuli was still trying to figure out how did they go about dating with Mnotho. “Yebo, I didn’t expect to see you here, nkosazana especially after the way we first met each other with the man who’d brought you here, today.” Mlamuli commented and Happiness smiled. Dalingcebo: “I am Dalingcebo since I have heard your name.” he introduced herself and they handshake with Happiness. They then said goodbyes to her and they left the house to the weekend trip they were taking...

Thembelihle smiled and looked back at Dalisu as they sat down in their chairs. Happiness wasn't looking at them straight in the eyes but she wasn't looking down either... Dalisu shook his head and hissed silently that only his wife was able to hear him. She kept the smile as she read through Dalisu's face. They both knew Judge Mthimkhulu and his daughter that was in their house, today. MaCebekhulu: "Sawubona, ntokazi." Happiness: "Yebo, sanibona, unjani, gogo?" MaCebekhulu: "I am fine, ntombi. Mnotho didn't tell us that he was bringing someone that we know indirectly." Happiness: "Hawu!" she exclaimed and looked at Mnotho with her eyes widened showing the question that she had for him. Mnotho: "Hhayi! I forgot that she was the daughter of the high profile man. It's just that she doesn't carry herself

as a rich snob.” He said holding Happiness’s hand but looking at his parents... Happiness was surprised that he was holding her hand but she kept still as if it was a normal thing that she was used to. Thembelihle: “Oh, that’s a good thing.” She looked at her husband knowing exactly how Dalisu despised Judge Mthimkhulu. Dalisu: “Even if so, you were supposed to tell us Mnotho.” MaCebekhulu: “Hhayi, Dalisu it doesn’t matter. I am just happy that my grandson is finally getting a life partner. Did he tell you about his son?” Happiness: “Yes, he did but I haven’t met him.” MaCebekhulu: “Hawu, Mnotho?” Dalisu: “Hhayi, mama, let him take things at his own pace. The girl will meet his son when he feels that now it would be a good time.” Thembelihle: “Yes, I have prepared lunch and I hope that you are not allergic to

anything.” She looked at Happiness and she admired the beauty of her dark skin. She admitted to herself that her sons had eyes for beautiful women but she wasn’t sure about Mntwana who didn’t follow girls his age. Happiness: “No, mama. I don’t have any allergies.” Mnotho: “Yes, mom she’s just like her future husband. We will be eating everything and anything in our house.” He commented tightening his grip on Happiness. MaCebekhulu and Thembelihle laughed. Thembelihle asked that they head to the dining table... Dalisu held Thembelihle’s hand. Thembelihle: “What’s wrong, now?” she whispered. Dalisu: “We can’t possibly be in-laws with Mthimkhulu. That can never happen, how can Mnotho marry that girl?” Thembelihle: “Sthandwa sami, I am begging you. Please, don’t start this fight again. Don’t do what

you did with Mlamuli to Mnotho again.” Dalisu: “No, I am going to do that but I don’t understand how can he just want to marry her so quickly? What if this man has something against my son?” Thembelihle: “Hhayi! Don’t you dare try and find fault and dirt where there’s none. Mageba. And how long did it take for you to marry me? It took months, it didn’t take Ngcebo long to pay ilobolo for Nandipha and Dalingcebo didn’t date Nontobeko for years to marry her. Mlamuli is the only one who married Nkosazana after a while of dating and that was because the delays you made for them. I don’t even want to include Ndabezinhle because I don’t know what’s keeping him. And now, you won’t sniff around this relationship, mkhulu.” Dalisu: “I wasn’t going to do it but I am not happy about Mthimkhulu being the member of our

family.” Thembelihle: “He’ll be all that, just the member of the family. This doesn’t mean you will be doing shady businesses with him.” Dalisu sighed. “Let’s go and eat because I am hungry.” He said. Thembelihle: “Can you kiss your wife first so that she can feel if your tongue won’t slip and say the wrong things to the girl?” she requested with a smile and Dalisu laughed loudly before bending his head to kiss his wife... They then went to join them for lunch and they got to ask Happiness questions about herself...

Thembelihle confirmed that Happiness wasn't really a snob as Mnotho had told them she wasn't... ----- Nandipha had stayed indoors with Palesa the whole Saturday. Palesa worked on weekdays only... They were not doing much but they were watching TV and still following on the trend about the Celebrities. The issue had been trending for three days as the Celebrity at the hotel was revealed. It was a famous Dj who was making waves in the industry but all the waves turned South after the hotel incident. There was a biggest fight in social media with fans protecting their 'favs' who'd been dragged for no reason... The newspapers had covered the proceedings of the story and that with Nandipha's response of 'No comment' and her reactions when the journalists have asked her questions... Nandipha: "Palesa, I

have to be somewhere.” She got off the couch. Palesa: “Where are you going now? It’s late, Nandipha.” Nandipha: “I have to go somewhere important.” Palesa: “Okay, Prince is still not talking to you?” Nandipha: “No.” she replied and left her without explaining further. She didn’t want to keep thinking about Ngcebo, ignoring her. If he felt like she was wrong to ask him about the news blowing then she didn’t care that he was angry... Nandipha pulled her black rip and repair jeans, they felt much tighter but she struggled her body inside them. She then zipped her black fur-trimmed parka jacket she took the money and her phone then left the house after she had tightened the sneakers strings... The journalists were no longer around. She asked the driver to take her to Ngcebo’s place... She looked down after stepping off the car, she was

driving Ngcebo's car and she rushed to the backroom house of Mama Zella. She was told that she was going to have to go straight at the backroom without knocking on the front door... She was shivering with fear as the lady sent by mama have told her to take off her jeans. She was a young female nurse that had worked with Mama at the abortion clinic before. She could recognise Nandipha from somewhere and she couldn't wait for her to leave so that she could make a call... Nurse: "Why didn't you buy abortion pills?" she asked telling her to lay down after she had drank something that didn't taste so great. Nandipha: "I couldn't buy them for some reasons." Nurse: "Okay, this is will be a little uncomfortable." Nandipha: "How can you tell me that because it is said that the abortion is pain free? I will feel pains now?"

Nurse: "I didn't say you will feel pains I just said you will feel discomfort." She told her and Nandipha kept quiet... Nandipha cried as she felt the pain that the woman had told her she wouldn't feel but now, there was no turning back. She was ending the life of her own child and she had encouraged herself that she was only doing what was best for the baby and herself... The nurse jumped on the phone after Nandipha had left. She paid the full amount and left when the nurse told her it was safe for her to leave. Craig: "Thandz, how are you?" Thandy: "Hey, you, scumbag I have some news about that girl you told me you like. But she doesn't like you because she was with one of your friends." Craig: "Which girl because I have told you about a number of girls?" Thandy: "The one you showed me at the chemist, the light skinned girl with long dreadlocks."

Craig: “Oh! Nandipha. What do you have on her?” Thandy: “She’d just left here at Mama Zella’s backyard abortion clinic. She just made an abortion of a ten weeks’ pregnancy.” Craig: “WTF! You are lying!” Thandy: “I am telling you the truth I couldn’t take a picture of her because she was too cautious but I recognised her and thought I should call you and tell you to stop liking these skanks. Do you remember the one that slept with Prince?” Craig: “Yeah! Yeah! Thank you, Thandz. I don’t know what I would be without you. You are a too African sister.”

Thandy laughed. “You owe me an expensive plate at Spur.” She said and they laughed with Craig. Craig: “You will get that plate.” Thandy: “Okay, bye, then.” Craig: “Bye.” they hung up the call. Craig didn’t tell her that Nandipha was Prince’s girlfriend. He only told her that she was just a girl he knew and liked...

S2 – EPISODE 46

19th of September was a Wednesday evening, Nandipha was dead sleeping inside her room... Palesa and Ngcebo were banging the door of her bedroom trying to get her to get up but Nandipha couldn’t hear a thing. Ngcebo: “Is something wrong with her?” he asked looking at Palesa as they have stopped banging the locked door. Palesa: “She told me that she’s feeling sick and she didn’t attend any classes this week. She has been sleeping and you know how

she sleeps when she's sick." She replied looking at him. Ngcebo: "Okay, she didn't tell you what's making her sick?" Palesa: "No, but..." she kept quiet figuring out maybe she didn't have to tell him about how Nandipha was angry with him. Ngcebo: "But what, Palesa? Please, tell me." Palesa: "The scandal about... it got to her and I think you need to talk to her and clear things for her. She's upset." Ngcebo: "Okay, but how am I going to do that because she's locked up in here? I should be on the road tomorrow going home and she... Eish, this woman!" Palesa didn't say anything but she proceeded with banging the door until... Nandipha got up from her bed and she walked to the door slowly. She knew that Palesa was the one banging the door and her suspicions were, she wanted something from her... She'd thought to go spend her

week at Ngcebo's house before his return but the thought of what she'd done to their child kept her from going there. She knew she wasn't going to tell him what she did. She had decided that she would die with that secret because she didn't know what Ngcebo would do to her should he find out. "Oh!" She disappointed as her eyes laid on Ngcebo after she had opened the door. Palesa sighed and shook her head. "I was sleeping." She explained seeing the reaction of Palesa. Palesa: "The building can burn down while you are just sleeping inside. It's exhausting." She commented and walked away. Nandipha didn't say anything to Palesa she walked back to her room and hopped back inside her covers as if Ngcebo wasn't there. She didn't lay down on the bed but she sat up straight. Ngcebo: "Sawubona, Nandipha." Nandipha: "Yebo."

Ngcebo: "How are you?" Nandipha: "I am fine and how are you?" Ngcebo: "I am fine, what's bugging you?" he asked moving closer to her and he placed the back of his hand on her forehead... Nandipha held his wrist and removed it from her. "What's wrong now, Nandipha?" he asked looking at her. Nandipha chuckled. "Are you really going to pretend as if everything is fine? You are an all cool fiancé now you are asking me about my wellbeing? When last did you text me or call me just to get how I am?" she asked looking at him straight in the eye. Ngcebo: "I have been-" Nandipha: "Don't give me the 'I have been busy' excuse because I have had enough of it! You swore at me for asking you questions!" Ngcebo: "Can you calm down?" Nandipha: "I should calm down now? Just because you are in my presence I should just calm

down. It suits you now but when you were telling me to voetsek! You were not worried about being calm.” Ngcebo: “I am sorry I didn’t mean to say that but I was just angry that you were showing me you

don't trust me, Nandipha." Nandipha: "I had every right to question you and you told me I shouldn't assume I raster ask but now because I am doing that you are angry." Ngcebo: "I am sorry. I didn't sleep with any woman just get them into fame and as people are dragging Belinda and those other girls into this, they were my girlfriends. Like I told you before we did what people who date do. I never asked for sex in exchange of something from anyone. Did you see a comment from any of those girls? No, it was just people and the media creating stories." Nandipha: "I don't care about your explanation now because when I needed it you gave me a voetsek and didn't even had the decency to type a typical apology to your so called fiancée. Now, you think I will jump because you are here? Sorry, go jump somewhere and leave me

alone.” Ngcebo: “I ain’t about to do what you are telling me.” Nandipha: “Suit yourself then!” she exclaimed getting off the bed but that abdomen pain that had been bothering her since the backyard abortion came rushing. And she screamed holding where it hurt... Ngcebo jumped from his side of the bed to reach Nandipha who had bent her body holding on to her abdomen while the other hand was holding her bed for balance. “What’s wrong?” Ngcebo asked holding her shoulders trying to help her sit down but Nandipha was determined into pushing him away from her. “STOP PUSHING ME AWAY!” He shouted out of anger and let go of Nandipha. She sat on the bed and looked at him. Nandipha: “I think I want to be alone.” Ngcebo: “I won’t do that! I won’t let you, your anger and everything that you are feeling do this to our relationship. I was

angry with you and I didn't want to keep talking about this while I was away. And I am here now telling you that I am sorry for the way I spoke with you." Nandipha didn't say anything she sighed and sat properly now that the pain had vanished. She closed her eyes shortly and sighed. Ngcebo: "What's wrong?" Nandipha: "Nothing, it's just period pains." Ngcebo: "You've never had them so intense Nandipha." Nandipha: "It's them, Ngcebo." Ngcebo: "I guess it explains why you are so irritated of me." he commented looking down at her and Nandipha didn't say anything. "I will go, Nandipha. I wanted to spend some time with you because I am going home tomorrow. I will be home for quite some time." Nandipha: "Okay, have a safe trip." Ngcebo: "Sho!" he left the room with anger and a heavy heart. Why was she behaving

that way with him because he'd apologised? He was asking himself the same question as he marched straight to his car after exiting the premises... All the feud with the media had blew over and Ngcebo didn't breathe a word about it. As he stepped inside his car he decided there that he was driving home that same night... ---- "How was your trip?" Thembelihle asked Ngcebo, he was helping his mother with breakfast in the morning. It was the second morning of his arrival home. Thembelihle and Dalisu were leaving that afternoon. She'd driven to Empangeni to leave Qalokuhle with MaNtombela. They've asked Mnotho questions about his assurance with marrying Happiness. They were asking him based on her father's life and Mnotho showed them that he was aware of Mthimkhulu's life, he was more like a

gangster behind the Judge gown. He would be accused of illegal things and easily get away with them and some would be dismissed as if they were nothing. Mnotho told his parents that he was marrying his daughter regardless. And his parents decided they were letting him be. Thembelihle was surprised that Dalisu was letting him be with that easily considering how controlling he'd been with them the previous year. He only told his wife that the throne was stressing him badly and he felt he was losing his grip on them. But now, he wanted to relax and be her lover. Thembelihle felt the deepest joy and peace... Ngcebo: "It was super fun mama. I enjoyed every moment of it." Thembelihle: "That's a good thing and the scandal that blew up..." Ngcebo: "I am still surprised that

dad didn't shout about it mama. What did he say to you?" he looked

at Thembelihle and his mother laughed. Thembelihle: “These people were just talking nonsense dragging his son’s name in the mud for no reason. You know, Ngcebo you have had all the types of scandals with this career you have chosen and this one didn’t hit home. I think it’s just instincts that we trust you.” Ngcebo: “Yoh! That’s a relief because I thought he wasn’t talking about it because he wanted to talk about it when I was home.” Thembelihle: “No, some other things you just have to ignore them. But I don’t think Nandipha took it well. I didn’t take it well too but your father calmed me down. How is she?” Ngcebo: “She didn’t take it well, mama but don’t worry I have explained everything to her and she’s fine now.” he lied to his mother without feeling ashamed. He didn’t want her to worry too much. She deserved the trip

that she was taking with her husband and nothing was supposed to worry her. Thembelihle: “Okay, that’s making me feel better. At least now, I know I will enjoy my trip while I know that everything is well back home... Go, put the plates on the dinner table.” Ngcebo: “Yes, don’t worry.” He said taking the plates and he left with them for the dining table.... His brothers, grandmother and father were seated on the table talking and laughing except Mlamuli. He was with his family. “Hheyi, Ngcebo sit down and stop managing the kitchen! That’s not for you.” Dalisu told Ngcebo as he putting the plates on the table. Ngcebo: “Hhayi, baba. I am busy with my mother and since, your mother is on the table with you it’s fair that you let me spend some time with mine before she leaves.” MaCebekhulu: “Yes! Tell him mzukulu. Let

the boy be with his mother.” The others laughed as their father didn’t comment but he looked at his mother with a surprised look on his face... Ngcebo left them and proceeded with helping his mother while they were talking and catching up... The family then sat down on the table and they had their late breakfast. Thembelihle felt that now, things were going smoothly for them and she’d prayed and was still praying that their sons don’t fail to solve the problem they have laid out for them... She couldn’t remember the day they would sleep with Dalisu without arguing about the throne but now, they would always sleep with laughter and love filled in their hearts and shining in their room... She didn’t want to worry about anything but hope that everything would fall into place... But amongst the leaders of the house, MaCebekhulu was worried about

Dalingcebo. She couldn't possibly digest how Dalingcebo was coping without his wife. She blamed Thembelihle for allowing Nontobeko to go but she didn't want to see to the fact that Dalingcebo was the one who wanted to support his wife's dreams. She'd asked Dalingcebo before and he told her that he was coping well knowing that she was working where he was. But MaCebekhulu was not convinced by that theory... "My son!" Dalisu exclaimed placing his hand on Mlamuli's head as he had bowed it to him. Dalisu sighed... The seven of them were standing by their parents' car that was going to be driven by their driver to the airport. "I trust that you will lead in this matter but be able to listen to your brothers' views. Ngonyama yakwa Zulu!" he advised and praised him. Mlamuli: "Ndabezitha!" he nodded his head and they shoulder hug

with Dalisu. Dalisu then proceeded to the others until the last born, he advised them to work together and truthfully. “Nangiphoxa nje mina nizobe senihamba niyofuna omunye umama!” (If you disappoint me you’ll need to go and look for another wife) Thembelihle exclaimed looking at them and they laughed. Mnotho: “Your wife is dramatic dad.” Dalisu: “Ay, voetsek, Mnotho!” “HAWU!” They all chanted and looked at their father as they weren’t expecting that but he just looked at his wife who was just smiling at him. They then looked at Thembelihle and she requested a group hug with them. Thembelihle: “Ngiyanithanda nonke and sizobuya I hope we will come back to good results.” She said while still on the hug. They promised her what she wished for. They then moved away from each other after telling her they

loved her. Thembelihle looked at Mntwana. Mntwana: "I will be on my best behaviour." He promised seeing the look on her eyes. Thembelihle nodded and moved to the backseat of the car. Thembelihle: "Okay, bye, bye. Ngisayojayva nobaba wenu." She told them loudly and stepped inside

the car leaving them laugh at her statement. Dalisu was also laughing inside the car along with the driver but he was laughing silently...

“The problem is that you don’t realise that using my contacts is a short cut!” Ngcebo shouted lastly at his brothers and Sbongakonke. They were seated on the chairs around the big table inside the royal house. It’d been a week since they’ve been trying to figure out who would help them get funds for the kingdom. They have tried some people and they refused to help them and now, they were back at the drawing board... Mntwana was not amongst them because he was at school and Banele was with them because he was on a week University vacation. The previous week he was communicating with them through the phone... Ndabezinhle: “You don’t have

shout Ngcebo.” Ngcebo: “Y’all have been shouting in here and now, it’s a problem if I do? Why does it seem like you treat me like your sister?” Dalingcebo: “Ngcebo, awukahle!” Mlamuli: “I really don’t know how do you think we will solve this in two weeks if you keep fighting like this.” Banele: “And I won’t be here on the second week. Don’t forget that I have school. I suggest that we stop fighting and work.” Sbongakonke: “Yes, Banele is right and I will have to agree with Ngcebo on this one. We can’t use his contacts and we can’t use any of our contacts.” Mnotho: “What should we do then?” he asked as he had been the one who suggested that they use Ngcebo’s contacts and the others supported him. Ngcebo: “We need to find other suitable people or else we won’t go anywhere.” ...’I am already stressed’... he swallowed the

words to himself. Mlamuli: “You can’t just generalize and say, other people.” Banele: “You will have to go at wide length and get foreign funds. You’ve been to L.A Mnotho and worked with footballers. Ngcebo, you’ve travelled around the world and I am sure you can suggest places that can be willing to help.” Sbongakonke: “Banele has a point.” Mlamuli: “Yes, he’s talking sense and there are others in Africa that can help us pretty fast and we will get to solve this financial crisis.” Ndabezinhle: “At least these wives you want will get a smart man.” He commented and they laughed at Banele. Dalingcebo: “And you did well by giving that suggestion because I was tired of fighting with so many men.” Mlamuli: “Hawu, yeywena?” Dalingcebo: “Sorry, Ndabezitha.” Mnotho: “Ayi, what will happen then now?” Sbongakonke: “We are writing

down possible help and we will decide on the best and others.” She suggested and they all get to work, discussing, debating and arguing until they reached an agreement... Ndabezinhle and Ngcebo were placed in charge to organise the trip for Mlamuli and Mnotho. They decide that they were going to be travelling with their partners. Mnotho tried to fight that for his side but he couldn't go against his siblings... Mlamuli adjourned the meeting as they have reached the agreement... Mlamuli: “Ngcebo, please, stay behind.” He said looking at him and Ngcebo did as he'd requested. Ngcebo: “What's wrong, Ndabezitha?” Mlamuli: “What's bothering you?” Ngcebo: “Me?” Mlamuli: “Yes, I can see that there's something that's bothering you and no, it's stressing you. What is it?” Ngcebo: “No, it's the stress of writing an

album while in a different place. I have never written away from my studio.” He lied. Mlamuli: “Oh, don’t worry, you will go back to the city soon and why is Nandipha not here because Universities are on a week vacation?”

Ngcebo: “She can’t come because she’s busy there’s a theatre play coming up and she’s part of the writers and she’s working on that.” Mlamuli: “Okay, she majored in writing?” Ngcebo: “Yes, screenplay and theatre. She wanted Social work but ended up doing this and she seems to like it.” He replied feeling that he didn’t want to sit with his brother and answer these questions because he couldn’t discuss his problems with anyone. Even Dalingcebo didn’t know about them and he was better keeping them to himself. Mlamuli: “Okay. I was starting to get worried about you but if it’s just work stress? You can go, Mageba.” Ngcebo: “Thank you.” he got up and left the house making his way to his car he stepped inside the car and drove straight to his house... He wanted to be alone for the night...

S2 – EPISODE 47

“Sawubona?” Mnotho greeted Happiness on the phone. He was laying on the bed with Siphosami sleeping on his bare chest. He didn’t sleep with him daily but when he felt like it he would sleep with him. Happiness: “Yebo, unjani?” she yawned a long yawn... Mnotho: “Such a horrible yawn, where are you?” Happiness: “Where am I? How is that any of your problem?” Mnotho: “It’s my problem because you’ll be my wife and look, lady, I will get tired of always reminding you that.” Happiness: “I am at work.” Mnotho: “Didn’t your father say you will stop working?” Happiness: “I am not your wife yet and so, that means I can work if I want to work and dad will not stop me. And not even you.” Mnotho: “Okay, and I didn’t say I was going to stop you by the way I was just asking.” He said. Happiness: “Oh, why are you calling me?” Mnotho: “A

boyfriend needs a reason to call his girlfriend?” Happiness: “Mnotho, please! Can you be a man and stop irritating me. I am working over here.” she shouted at him feeling annoyed that he was wasting her time with nonsense talk. Mnotho: “In future don’t you dare shout at me. I told you that I will not be your equal and I wasn’t joking with you there.” he told her with his voice sounding deeper and even more huskier now... Happiness didn’t say anything but all Mnotho heard that was from her, was a light sigh. “I called you to tell you that on Wednesday, I will pass by your father’s house with my brother and his queen. We are going to out of the country for some business and my brothers suggested that Mlamuli and I, take our partners along with us. I couldn’t stop them from letting me go alone and so, I will be going with you. You

will have to tell your father.” Happiness: “What? And what about my work?” Mnotho: “I think this will show you that you will need to quit that job now that you’ll be my wife. I am not your father you will do this because working at a hotel is not a job that a woman who’ll marry me should do.” Happiness: “Are you done?” Mnotho: “Yes, be safe.” He dropped the call without hearing her response. He sighed and placed the phone aside. He then laid his son next to him and closed his eyes as thoughts about this trip filled his mind... He was going to pretend to be happy with this woman and they were going to share a hotel room? He sighed and turned, why did God punish him this way? He wondered as he couldn’t sleep... Mthimkhulu was ecstatic that Mnotho was including his daughter in his trip abroad. It made him believe that Mnotho was

beginning to love his daughter already. But he didn't know that Mnotho was given no choice and Happiness didn't tell him that Mnotho was forced to go with her... Nkosazana liked Happiness the first time they got to talk to each other on the plane. They were sharing seats

while their partners were also on their own seats. By the time they were off the plane Happiness felt relieved that at least she had someone whom she was going to get along with when she was married to this man she hated with greater effort and emotions... “Don’t tell me we are going to share the bed!” Happiness exclaimed looking at their hotel suite. Ngcebo have booked a suite that they were going to share, the four of them, it was with two en-bedrooms and they were going to share the rest of the suite. Mnotho: “What did you think? We were going to have two single beds?” Happiness didn’t answer him she looked around but there were no alternatives. There was no couch inside the suite but just a single sofa. Happiness: “I can’t believe this.” Mnotho: “There must be no fuss about this because when you are my wife you’ll be sharing the

bed with me. Like, I said you won't sleep in the guest bedroom because anyone can come by and see that you are not sleeping with me. That will raise questions." Happiness: "Don't they know couples fight and sleep separately." Mnotho chuckled. "We are not about that life KwaZulu, babe." He said taking off his blazer and Happiness widened her eyes. Happiness: "Did you just call me, babe? And you can't undress while I am here!" she exclaimed looking away from him as Mnotho was taking off his shirt now... Mnotho looked at her and shook his head as Happiness was leaving the room now. She couldn't stand there and look at him undress... "You love TV?" Mlamuli asked Happiness as he'd just entered the living room where Happiness was seated watching TV. "You are not even resting?" Happiness: "No, this is my way of resting."

Mlamuli: "Okay, can you go and check if Mnotho is done dressing up. I am waiting for him, now." he told her and sat down on the couch. Happiness almost asked him why he wasn't doing that for himself but she remember. She was the guy's girlfriend now... She drew some air before opening the door she couldn't knock because Mlamuli was just there... there... She opened the door and held her breath as Mnotho was busy fastening his buttons of his shirt. Happiness sighed. Happiness: "Your brother sent me to check if you are done. He said he's waiting for you now." Mnotho: "Okay, I am coming." Happiness: "Eh, where are you going?" she asked politely and sat down on the bed... Mnotho looked back at her surprised that she was asking him that. "It's my right to know that." She gave him a cheeky face and Mnotho

chuckled. Mnotho: "We are going somewhere with my brother but we will come back with food. Do you want something specific?" Happiness: "No, as long as its meat I am good." Mnotho: "Okay." He took his wallet and headed to the door he looked back at her. She moved her eyes from him as he was looking at her direction now. "You have to sleep tonight with your traditional clothes ready because tomorrow we will have an early morning meeting. You didn't forget them, right?" he asked still looking at her. Happiness: "No, I didn't forget them." Mnotho: "Okay, good." He left the room... Happiness closed her eyes and laid on her back she couldn't help but think about how things would be if her mother didn't die. She was the one who had wished on her deathbed that Mthimkhulu would ensure that their daughter gets

married to an honourable man like she had. Happiness's mother was working as Mthimkhulu's maid, she was a young maid from a poor family in rural KZN. A family friend had organised the job for her. Mthimkhulu fell in love with her because of her humbleness and caring heart she had and he left her fiancée of two years for Happiness's mother. His family was angry when he did that because they have an illusion that Happiness's mother wanted his money as she was an uneducated girl who only had grade 10 because of her struggles with school. She wasn't gifted when it came to books. She wasn't the woman they saw fit as their bride... But Mthimkhulu married her regardless. They had two children Happiness and her younger brother who was smart like his father. But one day when

Mrs Mthimkhulu was driving back home from her son's tennis after match party.

They were killed by Mthimkhulu's mother she had hired people to kill Mthimkhulu's wife but the guns fired on them both. The son died on the scene and Mrs Mthimkhulu died in the hospital leaving Mthimkhulu with their daughter who was just like her, illiterate but with a warm heart, humble and caring. The parents had never loved their children differently because they just understood that they were their reflection... Mrs Mthimkhulu asked her husband to ensure that Happiness marries a man like him, who would love her and appreciate her as she was. She wanted an honourable man for her daughter and Mthimkhulu had tried to get their daughter married but he would always find out that those men were not honourable... He had taken a year without trying to get his daughter a husband because he'd seen that he was losing a

relationship with her. Happiness was the apple of her father's eye and he was treated like a princess by her father. But she just wanted to be able to live her life as she pleases. And Mthimkhulu always made sure that he chased away every boy he'd heard was dating his daughter. He didn't get that his wife didn't want him to arrange a marriage for her but only to ensure that she marries a good man... "Wake up and come have dinner with us." Mnotho shook Happiness awake. She'd had fallen asleep while thinking... She sat up straight and yawned. Happiness: "Thank you, I will go wash my face." She got up and marched to the bathroom to wash her face... She then went to join the family for dinner where she joined in at the conversation they were talking about... She was the first to leave the table after dinner because she wanted

to bath fast, prepare her outfit before Mnotho comes to their bedroom... She walked out of the bathroom dressed for bed and Mnotho was already sleeping on the bed topless. She closed her eyes hoping that he was dressed on his lower body... She sat on the bed and looked at him after she had fixed her outfit... She was fascinated by the way he was sleeping on the pillow! She shook her head and switched off the lights. She then quietly slept on her side, closed her eyes and said her short prayer. Her mother had taught her the importance of prayer... --- Ngcebo had asked Banele to pass by Nandipha's flat and check on her because she'd been unreachable for the past two days and he was worried about her... Banele had to go back to Johannesburg as the University vacation week was over... He was at the

door of Nandipha's flat waiting for a response. He'd checked inside Ngcebo's house and didn't find Nandipha. "Hello!" Palesa greeted Banele after she'd answered the door. Banele: "Hey, how are you?" Palesa: "I am fine and how are you?" Banele: "I am fine. I am here for Nandipha is she here?" Palesa: "No, Nandipha is in the hospital she was admitted two days ago." Banele: "What? What's wrong? Um, which hospital and where's her phone?" Palesa: "I will get her phone you'll go see her?" she asked as she could recognise that Banele was Ngcebo's brother. Banele: "Yes, I will go to her now." Palesa: "Okay, I will give you her phone and some other things that she'd asked that I bring over to her tomorrow. I am working tomorrow I was going to use my lunch to go see her." Banele: "Okay, you can bring those things

over.” He replied taking his phone out of his pocket and dialling Ngcebo’s number.

Ngcebo: “Sho, bafo. You have found her?”

Banele: “I am at her door now and her roommate just told me that she was admitted to the hospital two days ago.”

Ngcebo: “WTF! How can she... Tsk! You know what, argh! I will drive back because there’s nothing much I am doing here.”

Banele: “Yeah, come back. I am going to the hospital now with her phone and I hope she will call you.”

Ngcebo: “She mustn’t call me I will get to her when I arrive there because uzonginyanyisa if she can call me.”

Banele: “Okay, sure.” He took the bag that Palesa was giving him and he raised his hand as means to get Palesa not to walk away.

Ngcebo: “Thanks, bafo.” Banele hung up the call and locked his phone. “Eh, did you pack the cell phone charger and the adapter?” he asked looking at Palesa. Palesa: “Yes.” Banele: “Okay, thank you???” he widened his bubbled eyes waiting for her to tell him her name. Palesa: “Palesa.” Banele: “Yes, Palesa... But didn’t she ask that you call Ngcebo and tell him?” Palesa: “No, she didn’t. She said he’s busy.” Banele nodded and said his goodbye... He then left for the hospital... “Sawubona, makoti?” Banele greeted Nandipha she was seated on the bed with her eyes looking at the TV on the wall. Nandipha: “Hawu! Hey, how are you?” she managed to smile and held the bag that Banele placed on her bed. Banele: “I am fine and how are you?” he placed the food on the bedside drawer and he sat down.

Nandipha: "I am fine and wasn't expecting you here. You are from my flat?" Banele: "Yes, and it's surprising to me and upsetting to my brother that you didn't tell us you are in the hospital." Nandipha: "My phone was back in my room and I didn't want to bother Ngcebo for a minor thing." She replied with a lie, she didn't want him to know that she was in the hospital not because he was busy but of the reason she was in the hospital. Banele: "Okay, but then what's wrong?" Nandipha: "I am just having some women problems." Banele: "Oh, I don't even know what are those." Nandipha: "And believe me you don't want to know." Banele chuckled and nodded. "I will go then your roommate told me you needed this and I brought your charger and phone along." He said standing up. Nandipha: "Thank you for all this." Banele: "It's okay... And don't call

your fiancé because he's angry for now. He said he will come over here when arrives."

Nandipha: "No, wasn't he busy at home?"

Banele: "No, we were not busy for now." he looked back at the Doctor who was reading through Nandipha's file then he looked at Nandipha. He said his goodbyes and Nandipha thanked him once more... Doctor: "That was your boyfriend?" Nandipha: "No, Doctor when are you going to discharge me? I don't want my boyfriend to find me here. And I don't want him to know that I am sick because of the backyard abortion that I did." Doctor: "We can't discharge you now, Nandipha. It's late. I was planning on doing that tomorrow because after the clean-up we made on your womb your results came back looking good." She sighed. "That's a relief but does that mean I can have children in future?" she asked holding her

breath. Doctor: "Yes, you can have them but should you encounter any pregnancy scare again don't run to unsafe abortions. Go to the professionals." Nandipha: "I will not have any of those anymore. I won't repeat the same mistakes because right now I regret aborting my baby." Doctor nodded and said: "I am sorry for that. I will fix discharge papers and you should get safe transport." Nandipha: "Thank you." the Doctor left her and she tried to charge her phone to text Ngcebo and tell him not to come to the hospital... "Don't change your clothes I don't have time." Ngcebo told Nandipha holding her medication plastic bag. He was standing by the door inside her flat after he'd woken her up at 2am. Palesa was the one who opened the main door for him. And he'd told Nandipha to get up because they were leaving. Nandipha: "I

can't leave with gowns and I am looking for my books." Ngcebo: "You'll be attending while you've just got out of the hospital? Hhayi, Nandipha you won't do

that and people are sleeping now there's no one who'll see you in gowns." She wore her sleepers and took her handbag she marched to the door with it and her key on her hand. "There was no need for you to come here right away. Couldn't you have waited till morning?" she asked following him out of the flat. Ngcebo: "I won't answer that question." Nandipha didn't breathe another word she didn't want to go with him but she had no choice because if she didn't, guilt was going to kill her. The past weeks she'd felt like she was the one causing problems in their relationship than the ones they already had. She had admitted to herself that she was doing all that because of the guilt of killing their baby. She didn't know how she was going to be normal again knowing that she'd killed the baby of the man who loves her dearly. But she had

no other choice because she believed that she was doing what was best for their baby's life.... "Nandipha, wake up now and go take a shower. I have made breakfast for you that you will eat and have your medication." Ngcebo said waking Nandipha up at 10am in his house. Nandipha: "Why did you trouble yourself?" Ngcebo: "If I was sick you would have done the same and I know that we have been fighting a lot the past weeks but that didn't change how I feel about you." Nandipha: "I am sorry for everything and the anger I had towards you. I shouldn't have acted that way." Ngcebo: "I was wrong too, and I am sorry. We should put everything behind us because I don't like it when we fight." She nodded with a smile and they shared a brief morning kiss. She then got off the bed and they went to shower together... Ngcebo spent his time

taking good care of her and cheering up. And all the time Nandipha would smile and laugh, but the guilt that he was here with her looking after her for what she did to their child that didn't ease anything... Because Ngcebo was under the impression that she was admitted because of 'women problems' not because of the backyard abortion...

S2 – EPISODE 48

“And then where is Ngcebo?” Mlamuli asked his five brothers who seated on the lounge of their mother's house on a Saturday afternoon. They were watching a football match. They've just entered the house with Mnotho and the two ladies. “SANIBONA!” The brothers greeted them and Mntwana got up from the couch for the two ladies to sit. Mnotho and Mlamuli sat on their parents' chairs... They greeted the brothers back and Mlamuli looked at

Dalingcebo. Dalingcebo: “Eh, Ndabezitha. Ngcebo had to go back to Gauteng because Nandipha was admitted in the hospital but now, she out and so, he’s looking after her since we were not busy here. And Banele, had to go back to Varsity.” Mlamuli: “Okay.” Ndabezinhle: “And how did you go? My days are also numbered with me being here and I hope you have good news.” Mnotho: “Ay, you have to make some other plans to stay here longer and Ngcebo will have to come back because things are not looking good.” Ndabezinhle: “HAWU! You are not serious bafo.” Mntwana: “What went wrong, Mageba? The time we have been given is over and that means we failed?” Mlamuli: “He’s just pulling your leg. You know that we are not the ones to fail because it’s not in our blood.” The brothers made chanting noise and they clapped their hands.

Nkosazana: “And that’s all thanks to Happiness who’s a strategic thinker.”
Mlamuli: “Yes, she sharpened our approach in a very admirable way.” Mlamuli looked at Mnotho and Mnotho was looking at Happiness’s reaction. She was just smiling with her head looking down. It had pleased her that she could help in that trip and they actually listened to her ideas. She didn’t

realise until Nkosazana said it to her that she was a good strategic thinker. Brothers: "Siyabonga MaMthimkhulu!" Happiness: "It's my pleasure." Mntwana: "Mom and dad will be very happy." Dalingcebo: "Yes, we didn't get the money in record time but we fixed the financial problem." Mlamuli: "Yes, and that means our kingdom has more money now." Mntwana: "Yes, asambe so groova ke ngenye." He commented and Mlamuli swore at him. They all laughed... Mnotho: "The queen will have to organise some celebration that will happen when mom and dad come back. The council will have to be there. What do you think about that?" Ndabezinhle: "I think it's a good thing and everyone will be happy." Mlamuli: "Yes, MaMkwanazi?" Nkosazana: "Yes, I will do it and Happiness is here to help me." Happiness: "When will be that because I

should be heading home tomorrow?" Mlamuli: "I will confirm with mom and dad about their return." Dalingcebo: "And hopefully my wife would be home too because she's coming back next week." Mnotho: "And I can talk to your father to let you stay, MaMthimkhulu." He said with a smile directed to Happiness. He knew that she wasn't going to refuse anything at the mention of her father. Happiness: "Okay." She smiled back but inside she was boiling...

On the 25th of October, he was inside his house in the morning dressing up for the celebration that they were going to have in the royal house. His parents had come back home the previous night and they were happy that they were successful in working together. He wasn't too well because his wife was supposed to come home the

previous day but she gave him excuses. “Sawubona, Zulu?” Nontobeko greeted Dalingcebo standing by the door of their bedroom that was wide opened. Dalingcebo turned back quickly at the sound of her voice and he smiled letting go of his anger he marched closer to her and they hugged each other. Dalingcebo: “I thought you were no longer coming.” Nontobeko: “I wasn’t going to do that not with the way I have missed you.” she had passed by her mother’s house the previous night thinking she would visit her mother and come back with her daughter. But Thembelihle had long organised someone to fetch Qalokuhle. Dalingcebo: “I am happy to see you and I have missed you as well.” He said holding her face and he kissed her without talking any further... Nontobeko dropped her bag and concentrated on the kiss that he was

giving her. Dalingcebo moved to the door with her while their tongues were still locked. He slammed the door shut and picked Nontobeko up. She giggled and held on to his shoulders. Nontobeko: "You couldn't wait that much? We have to go to the celebration." She reminded him as he had laid her on their bed and was undressing her now. Nontobeko was also unfastening Dalingcebo's shirt. Dalingcebo: "I haven't seen you in months and so, they will understand." He told her kissing her breasts while their hands caressed their bodies and their hunger for each other grew even larger... Nontobeko was excited and ready for him, Dalingcebo then flipped her body and took a pillow to put underneath her waist. Nontobeko held on to the bedsheets as Dalingcebo entered her sharply. She felt amazing with all the love

that he was giving her. She tried to look back at his face but she couldn't see him properly he was busy thrusting harder and with a few minutes he was done but that was just a starter for him... He laid back on the bed and lifted Nontobeko to sit on him. Nontobeko: "Yazi, Dalingcebo, we have the whole two weeks to ourselves. Can we get dressed and go?" Dalingcebo: "Time is passing by as you are busy talking and doing nothing." He said holding her waist tightly as means to lift her and direct her on him because she was busy talking... Nontobeko saw that this man didn't care about anything now and so she gave him what he wanted... Now, they were all going up and down in Thembelihle's palace. The brothers have had the celebratory lunch with the council. Now, they were with family in the palace with some neighbours... "A.

ah! Qalokuhle, ngeke ngikunike ithoyizi lami!” (I won’t give you this toy) Nandipha joked with the

baby holding her doll toy and she hid it behind her. Qalokuhle would laugh loudly and try to get the toy... Thembelihle had left the baby with Nandipha inside the baby's room. They were seated on the blanket on the floor with toys around them. Nhlakanipho was also around but he was busy playing with Prince and Bongani. Qalokuhle: "Ga! Ga!" she made the sounds with her hands on the air while she was jumping her body and Nandipha laughed... Qalokuhle was 10 months. Nandipha: "Angiyena ugogo wakho mina." (I am not your grandmother) She said and shook the doll to the baby's face. Qalokuhle laughed loudly looking at Nandipha and she was laughing along with her... Nontobeko walked inside the room while they were still playing and laughing with Nandipha. She hadn't seen her baby because she was

busy since her arrival to the palace. Nontobeko: “Sanibona!” she clapped her hands once and smiled looking at her baby... Qalokuhle took a pause and looked at Nontobeko as if she was reading who she was. “Woza ku mama!” (Come to mama) she exclaimed and gave her arms out to the baby. Qalokuhle screamed and crawled to her. Nontobeko was cheering for her until she reached her. She then lifted the baby. Nontobeko: “Unjani, Nana?” she asked Nandipha but she didn’t answer her she was busy taking the toys had slipped far away. “Nandipha, I am talking.” Nandipha: “Oh, I thought you are speaking to the baby... I am fine and how are you?” she asked without looking at her. Nontobeko: “I am fine, how’s school?” Nandipha: “It’s fine. I will go to mama because she said she’ll leave before 4pm.

You are here to stay with her, right?" she looked at her. Nontobeko: "Yes, but come back when you are done." Nandipha: "I am not staying here I am going home with mama. Ngcebo said I can go visit her." Nontobeko: "Oh, when are you going back?" Nandipha: "Tomorrow, Ngcebo will come get me." she replied and played with the baby's cheeks as she was on her mother's arms now. Qalokuhle giggled. "Bye, momma. Mncwa." She kissed the baby goodbye and she said goodbye to Nontobeko... Nontobeko sat on the chair with her baby girl... "Please, don't come get me at dawn. I will be sleeping." Nandipha told Ngcebo. They were standing by MaNtombela's car that was driven by her nephew. She had sold her husband's old van and used his money to buy a better second hand van that she used mostly for

generating money. Ngcebo: "I will come at dawn because I don't know why you targeted this time to go home to visit your mother." Nandipha: "I will have my exams, soon and we both know that I won't be able to come down here because I will be busy." Ngcebo: "By the way I haven't told your mother in-law that you are leaving." "Ha! Hhayi! I don't know then. You'll sort that out and now, just hug me because mama is coming this side with my cousin." She said smiling at him and Ngcebo hugged her tightly. "I love you." she said warmly. Ngcebo: "I love you too." He kissed her cheek while she was still inside his arms. Nandipha giggled and they let go. Ngcebo then left her on the driver's seat. She had taken the keys because she wanted to be the one to drive... ---- 6th November which was a Friday afternoon, Mnotho was driven

by one of Mthimkhulu's drivers. He was driving him to Mthimkhulu's house in Houghton. Mthimkhulu had invited Mnotho over because the rest of the Mthimkhulu family wanted to meet him... They have lost hope that Happiness was ever going to have something good in her life like a fancy job, and fancy things like a house that she would have purchased with her money. And let alone a husband but they were happy that she was getting married... Yes, most family members hated Mthimkhulu's wife but they loved the children. Mthimkhulu's mother loved her grandson because he was like her son but she didn't love her granddaughter. And after killing them both in the accident she had guilt eating her up and still now, when that day comes every year she would cry like it happened yesterday. Mthimkhulu didn't know that his

mother was the one who killed his wife and son, he thought it was his enemies that he never found because the killers refused to give him names and so, he killed them. Mthimkhulu was

honourable with his wife's presence in his life but after his wife, he lost a quarter of his humanity. Happiness loved her father but she hated that he was a controlling father. She lived with him in the mansion and she had a car that Mthimkhulu bought for her on her 25th birthday after she had managed to pass her license after the 4th try. Her father wanted her to get the legit license. Happiness was walking around the front yard of her father's house trying to calm her nerves. She was nervous because her grandmother was going to be joining them for dinner. She had tried to make arrangements for her grandmother and aunt Lucy not come but she only succeeded with aunt Lucy. She knew that her grandmother couldn't hide that she hated her because she resembled her mother a lot and Aunt Lucy didn't like her as well. The others had

no problem with her. She stopped walking around and looked at the gate as their cars were driving through... “And why are you standing over there because you are supposed to help me with my bags over here.” Bethel, Happiness’s grandmother shouted at her while she was still inside her car. Happiness moved closer to the car and she opened the door for her granny. Bethel placed her hand on Happiness’s shoulder and she got off the car. Happiness: “Sawubona, gogo unjani?” Bethel: “I am fine.” She replied and walked away. Happiness sighed and took off her bag while she greeted other family members and they hugged and congratulated her as they were not present on 1st of November when Mnotho was paying ilobolo for Happiness... Now, they were seated on the dinner table inside the house after they

have introduced themselves to Mnotho. It was a warm evening and everyone was in a good mood... Mthimkhulu had asked his mother not to say anything bad about his daughter and she promised him... Aunt: "I didn't get what do you do for a living besides being involved in your father's kingdom?" she looked at Mnotho. Mnotho: "I am a physiotherapist." They all made sounds approving of his job and nodding their heads... Bethel: "That's a good job but it's a pity that you are marrying someone who doesn't even have matric she'd failed it a numerous time, just like-" Mthimkhulu: "MAMA!" He shouted to stop her from even speaking any further. Happiness had stopped eating and was looking at her grandmother. Bethel: "What? That's not a secret, Chris. And I am sure that the prince knows that his wife is illiterate just her

mother who married you for your money.”

Aunt: “Mama, this is not the time to discuss the past.” She said looking at Happiness as she was leaving the table. Mnotho sighed and stood up, yes, he didn’t know what the grandmother was revealing but he wasn’t happy that he got to find out about it this way. The old women clearly didn’t love her granddaughter Mnotho could see that... Mnotho looked at Mthimkhulu and he told him where Happiness’s room was because he knew that’s where she went... Mnotho knocked on the door once and opened it. It wasn’t locked... Happiness looked back at the person who was opening the door as she was laying on her bed holding a teddy bear. Happiness: “Why are you here?” she asked without turning to look at him. Mnotho: “You see, if you told me that your grandmother doesn’t like you and because

of the things that she said about you I was going to protect you from her.” he said standing by the door with his hand packed on his pockets. Happiness: “I don’t need your protection.” Mnotho: “Being educated doesn’t really explain who you are and just because there’s education it doesn’t mean we are all destined to fit in there and be educated. You just have to use your brains and think out of the box like you did in that trip.” Happiness: “It’s easy for you to say because you are not in my shoes and you are not being constantly reminded of your mother. How much you are useless as she was, an uneducated fool.” Mnotho: “But a smart man like your father married her regardless. They have a love story that had inspired other people who looked down upon themselves because they are illiterate not by choice. I mean, yes, people had

negative things to say about your mother marrying an educated man while she had nothing but he didn't care about that. I didn't know that you failed to finish school that's why

I asked you why you were working at the hotel.” “I just wanted to do something with my life without depending on dad for everything but I still do. And he forced me to marry you with the threats that should I not marry you he will cut me off his life and make sure that nobody hires me. I know my father would do that and so, I just agreed to marry you.” She told him sitting up straight but she didn’t look at him in the eye. Mnotho: “I am sorry for that.” He said and Happiness nodded, still without looking at him. “And now, can we go back to the table. I know you love food and you left your plate full.” He said and Happiness was forced to laugh. Happiness: “Thank you.” she said before leaving with him and Mnotho nodded. They went back to the table... Bethel: “Your father is spoiling you a lot you just leave like that when elders are

speaking to you. Gha! I don't know why I had to lose the useful grandchild." Mthimkhulu: "MAMA!" Mnotho: "I think you'll have to watch how you speak to her now because she's not just an illiterate girl now but she's my bride. And I won't just sit back while you are insulting her if you hate her that much you weren't supposed to come here. I don't care if you are older here but it's disgusting to see an elder trying to destroy her own granddaughter. You better speak ill about her when I am not here not when I am here." He said briefly and politely looking at the old woman, he felt the need to defend Happiness because the old woman was getting on his nerves... Everyone in the house was looking at him. Happiness didn't expect him to defend her like that as if she was genuinely his wife! Even her father had never stood up to her

grandmother for her that way. Bethel: “Chris, you will keep quiet while this boy is speaking like this with me?” Mthimkhulu: “Yes, because he has a right to defend his wife.” He said and couldn’t feel proud that he had got his daughter a husband, a man... Bethel clicked her tongue and they had their dinner in silence...

S2 – EPISODE 49

“Can we talk?” Happiness asked Mnotho... He was having breakfast alone on a Saturday morning. Mnotho had insisted that he was going to sleep at his brother’s house but Mthimkhulu wanted him to sleep in his house. The family left early in the morning and Mnotho wasn’t with them when they were having breakfast because he was sleeping. He didn’t sleep in Happiness’s room but he slept on the cottage located in the backyard... Mthimkhulu was not home

because he had some errands to run... Mnotho: "Yes, sit down." Happiness: "I just got off the phone with your mother and she was asking me if I have designed my dress for Izibizo." Mnotho: "You want money?" Happiness: "No, but since, we will be wearing the same colours I thought we can use the same designer." Mnotho: "Okay, and who's that designer?" Happiness: "It's Danielle Nkosi." Mnotho looked at her and tried not to panic and show her that he knew the woman. But no, maybe it wasn't the one he knew. "Can you show me the picture of that designer?" he requested looking at her. Happiness searched for her picture after she had given him the suspicious look. "This is her, she's the new designer on the block and she's making waves. I want her to design for me." she told him giving her phone to him. Mnotho

looked at Danielle's picture not dwelling much on it and he placed Happiness's phone down. He admitted the woman was still beautiful with her pink lips that he'd adored the most but he didn't want her anywhere near him. It wasn't going to be right for him to hire her to design the dress of the woman he was getting married to. What if she gets the wrong idea and thinks he was doing it to

spite her? Mnotho: “No, we are not going to use her as the designer.” Happiness: “What? Why?” Mnotho: “I don’t want a junior as my designer.” Happiness: “Come on, just because she’s new that doesn’t mean she designs bad clothes. I am requesting her because I have seen how beautiful her designs are, Mnotho.” Mnotho: “I said we are not taking her. If you are clueless about designers, there’s my mother she will help you. And if you don’t like hers Nkosazana will get you hers or you can choose someone else.” Happiness: “I don’t want someone else. I want this lady.” Mnotho: “I said no!” he stamped his fist on the table and looked at her lastly. Happiness didn’t say anything further she stood up with her phone. Mnotho proceeded with eating his food... “My daughter told me that you don’t want her to use the designer of her choice.

What's wrong with it?" Mthimkhulu asked Mnotho, they were standing beside Happiness's white Audi A3. Mnotho was waiting for Happiness because they were driving down to KZN. Thembelihle had told Mnotho to come back with Happiness. Mnotho: "There's nothing wrong I told her that I don't want a junior to design for us and she will have to do that, look for another designer." Mthimkhulu: "But I don't see anything wrong if the lady can design." Mnotho: "Baba, I said no, and I would appreciate it if you don't get too involved in our decision making. I know the marriage was arranged but-" Mthimkhulu: "I understand your point and I won't do that but maybe if you can just let her have this designer." Mnotho: "Like I said, I don't want her because she's a junior. She will have to find something who has experience. I am a

prince and everything I do has to meet that standard so as the woman I will get married to.” Mthimkhulu: “Hhayi, ngiyezwa, Mageba.” Mnotho nodded and looked for Happiness’s return... She was standing far from them but she could hear everything they were discussing about. Mnotho put his foot down and her father just let him be. It was because he was a man! Happiness concluded as she moved closer to them after Mnotho had removed his eyes from her. Happiness: “Baba.” Mthimkhulu: “Travel safe my daughter. I will see you when you return.” Happiness: “Okay, don’t miss me.” she said and smiled, Mthimkhulu laughed and opened the passenger door for her. Mnotho was already seated inside the car waiting for her as she was saying goodbye to her father... Mnotho hooted once and drove off... Happiness: “I was

supposed to be the one to drive this car because it's mine. I don't know who told you I can't drive." Mnotho: "I am driving now and what you can do is relax, and stop complaining to me because it won't help." She kept quiet and turned on the music for the long drive that she was going to have with this arrogant man who was going to be her husband... "My mother will come here in the morning and that means you will have to sleep in my room. And from now, you will sleep in my room because I have paid ilobolo for you." Mnotho informed Happiness as he had her bag on his hand. He was leading her to his bedroom. They've just arrived in his house after midnight because of the breaks they had to take along the way... Happiness: "Why do you keep pressuring me into sleeping with you in your room? Do you have intentions of

having sex with me?” Mnotho: “Don’t you think that if I found you attractive I would have tried to make a move on you by now?” he asked looking back at her and Happiness didn’t answer him. She looked down feeling bruised that he was implying that she wasn’t attractive? It broke her heart to hear him say that to her in a way she felt her heart hardening against her chest. “You are quiet now?” Mnotho added. Happiness: “I got nothing to say.” She managed to tell him without having her voice shaking. She

didn't want to further embarrass herself. This man didn't love her and so, she had no deal feeling broken by the things he had to say to her. She tried to comfort herself as she stepped inside the bedroom with him. She looked around and realised that he was a man with elegant taste... Mnotho: "You can unpack your clothes and find some space for them in my wardrobe. I have plenty of space because I don't like keeping old clothes." Happiness nodded and she did as he had suggested... Mnotho left the room and so, Happiness saw a great opportunity to change into her gown so that she would go to the bathroom... By the time Mnotho returned to the bedroom she was long gone. He then freely changed for bed he didn't care less if she would budge in and see him naked, according to him, they wouldn't be in this mess if she had listened

to him... Happiness walked inside the bedroom already on her night dress underneath and Mnotho was seated on his bed topless reading a book. "You don't moisturise your body? And you sleep with your gown on your body?" He asked looking at her as she pulled the covers while she still had her gown on her body and without moisturising her skin. Happiness felt offended by his questions she felt that his questions and statements that forced them to share a room, be naked in the presence of one another, they were making her uncomfortable. Happiness: "I have moisturised my body in the bathroom and I will take off the gown." She replied looking at him. Mnotho: "That's where you are supposed to hang your gown when you are sleeping. I don't like clothes that lie around the bedroom. I hate them and I bet you

were going to throw that gown on the floor.” Happiness got up from the bed and marched closer to the hooker. She sighed before taking off her gown she felt like she was going to be naked in the presence of a man she feared had sexually harassed her. She took off the gown finally and hang it. She moved back to the bed with the short blue silky nightdress with white designs that she was wearing... Mnotho wasn't looking at her as she was coming back to the bed. He'd looked at her after she had removed her gown just to satisfy his eye with her body if it was attractive? After he'd seen it he didn't want her to see that he'd looked at her and so, his eyes went back to his book. Mnotho: “I don't usually pray every day but I definitely pray after a long time on the road or when I return. So, we should pray.” He said putting his book away and Happiness

sat up straight. She suddenly liked that he was honest, he didn't pray 'Every day' but he did pray. That was all that mattered. They closed their eyes and prayed before sleeping... They were quietly staring in the dark as they have laid their bodies down. Happiness was thinking about her mother's family in KZN... And Mnotho was thinking about what had happened earlier, Happiness showing him Danielle's picture... His phone rang disturbing his thoughts he looked at caller ID for quite some time before answering the call. Mnotho: "Hello." Elena: "Hello, how are you?" Mnotho: "I am fine and how are you?" Elena: "I am fine, I just thought I should call and ask about Gift(Siphosami). How is he doing?" she asked with a polite voice that Mnotho knew it meant that she had been thinking and crying about him. Mnotho: "He's fine and

growing up to be chubby and he can crawl now.” Elena laughed. “He’s growing up pretty fast I guess.” Mnotho: “Yes, he is. How are you holding up?” Elena: “Argh! I am good. I was just calling about Gift and can you send me just a video of him so that I can see him?” Mnotho: “I will do that tomorrow and hopefully I won’t forget.” Elena: “Thank you, bye.” Mnotho: “Bye.” He sighed before putting his phone down. He closed his eyes without thinking too much... But Happiness was thinking too much about the phone call that he’d just received...

“You are alone here, where’s your fiancé?” Thembelihle asked Happiness who was seated on the couch watching TV after breakfast... Happiness: “He’s somewhere around the house.” She replied with a smile on her face as she looked at the baby that Thembelihle had in her arms. Thembelihle: “Okay, how are you ke, sisi?” she asked sitting down with Siphosami and she put him down. Siphosami made the baby groan sounds and crawled around the table as means to get to the couch where Happiness was seated... “I am fine mama and how are you?” She replied with a smile but that was meant for the baby that was crawling faster to reach her. “He’s just a baby yazi, he couldn’t see this shortcut.” Happiness commented and Thembelihle nodded with a smile looking at her and by her smile she saw she had a soft heart for the baby...

She'd called her because she wanted to see how she was going to be around Mnotho's son. She knew some women wouldn't tolerate children of their spouses just like she'd told Dalisu not to have children outside marriage because she wouldn't look after that child but Happiness chose Mnotho knowing that he was a father... Thembelihle: "Yes, I thought you should meet the baby and Siphosami can meet his mother. Mnotho lives with his son and so, even when you get married the child will be here unless if you don't want to look after him. I won't force the child on you because looking after him while you don't want him will only cause harm to him." Happiness: "I don't have a problem... Sawubona, Mntwana!" she greeted the baby delightedly and lifted him off the floor. Siphosami laughed as Happiness was

swinging him in the air. She loved children and seeing this baby made her heart feel at ease that even though she was going to be in a loveless marriage she was going to love this little man from a man who was supposed to be her loving husband... Happiness: “Waze wamuhle bakithi Mageba, Sthuli ska Ndaba yazi phela sengivele ngabe semathandweni! Uzongikhulula wena uthi uyangithanda nami?” she played with the baby delightedly and he was busy laughing... Mnotho was just standing afar looking at Happiness he couldn't help but smile as she was busy playing with his son genuinely and his son was laughing. He loved his son but he couldn't make him laugh that way because he was not good with playing with babies... But his son had someone who would laugh

with him now. That was what made him smile...

S2 – EPISODE 50

“What else do you want?” Ngcebo asked looking at Nandipha after she’d given her a bowl of ice cream. She was seated on the couch with warm water bottle placed on her waist. She’d taken painkillers and Ngcebo decided that she had taken enough and it was time to stop. “You can sulk all you want but I am not giving you more painkillers.” he said and sat next to her. Nandipha: “You are saying that because you are not the one having these periods pains.” She said without looking at him but busy with the ice cream. Ngcebo: “Okay, give them to me then I will feel them for you.” Nandipha pushed his shoulder with her shoulder and she laughed. “You crazy!” she commented and pouted at him. Ngcebo kissed her lips

softly. Nandipha: “And when are they playing your music video of that guy from prison?” she asked looking at him after changing the channel. Ngcebo: “Just wait and be patient madam. And I am afraid that I won’t be here when it comes out.” He looked at her and she didn’t say anything. He directed his face on the TV and they watched TV silently. He knew better than to have an argument with her while she was having her periods pains. She would be a ball of fire without stopping and for the past months it was worse... He didn’t know, he didn’t know that now, periods were a reminder of what had happened. Nandipha would be reminded of how she wasn’t supposed to be having her periods because of the pregnancy, the pregnancy that she ended...

Ngcebo: "I am happy that you will be working this December." He commented seeing that Nandipha was awfully quiet after he had touched on his trip. Nandipha: "Okay.... I think I will go sleep now." she said getting up and Ngcebo looked at her as she left the living room... She got to their bedroom and placed her warm water bottle on the bed. She then ran to the bathroom and checked the bathroom cabinet. She was looking for painkillers and she couldn't find them. She thought maybe she was short and so, took the bench, she stood on it and looked for the painkillers and they were not there. She clicked her tongue realising that Ngcebo had removed the tablets. "What are you looking for?" Ngcebo asked looking at Nandipha. He'd suspected that she was going to look for the tablets. Nandipha: "I was looking for something but

it's not here... Babe, can we go out for breakfast before you leave me and go entertain your people. And this time you just chose to go you are not forced to go." She changed the topic and left the bathroom. She was done with her exams for the semester and she was home with Ngcebo as he was still working on his album. Nandipha would also help him here and there with most pieces. Ngcebo: "If you were not working this December were going to go together to this trip." ...It was talks like this that had made her guilt numb Ngcebo was going to be an absent father. He would leave them anytime of everyday for his music. And she didn't want that for her baby... Nandipha: "You were not obliged to take this trip you didn't spend time with me last year, December and this year it's the same story. I even looked for this job

because I wanted to be here and work while you are busy with events. I made an effort but you chose the trip.” Ngcebo: “I am sorry, but my name is already-” Nandipha: “I know and I didn’t say stop going I was just telling you the truth.” She fixed the bed and hopped on the bed. Ngcebo joined her on the bed and held her closer to him. Ngcebo: “What are we going to wear for Mnotho’s pre-wedding ceremony? I am leaving and I should leave my measurements with you.” Nandipha: “You can leave them.” her phone rang and she lifted it. Nontobeko was calling her she placed the phone down. Ngcebo: “There are calls that you don’t answer now?” Nandipha: “No, it’s a private number and you know, I don’t like to answer private numbers.” She lied and held on tightly to him. “I will miss you when you are gone but it’s better because I will be working.” She

added. Ngcebo: "You are making me feel guilty because you chose to work because of me and I am leaving now." Nandipha: "Shame!" "Hawu!" he disappointed and tickled her for showing lack of sadness for him as he was regretting agreeing to the trip. Nandipha laughed loudly and held on to him tightly. Ngcebo ended up laughing as well as she was trying to tickle him back but Ngcebo would just tense his stomach. Nandipha: "You are not fair on me loosen up!" she screamed while still laughing and Ngcebo didn't loosen his stomach up. "You are such a dirty goon! Leave me alone!" she screamed trying to push him but he held her tightly without tickling her. Ngcebo: "I will miss you too, madam." Nandipha: "Rasta, let's sleep now and stop playing I want to rest." Ngcebo: "I am horny though you were holding me tightly and I couldn't help but

feel the heat of you...” Nandipha: “Let’s just sleep.” She said holding him and Ngcebo sighed agreeing that they should sleep... “What’s stressing you?” He asked holding her shoulder as he sat down on the dinner table in the morning. Nandipha looked at Ngcebo. “I have noticed that anytime of the day you would sit alone quietly as if there’s something that’s deeply bothering you. What’s wrong?” he asked. Nandipha: “No, I am just thinking about this semester’s result. I don’t think that I will pass all my modules because I have been distracted by my father’s death. I am stressing about it not something

else.” Ngcebo: “No, don’t worry babe. You will pass and if you don’t, that’s not a problem because you will make some corrections.” Nandipha laughed and said. “Just tell me ukuthi ngizoba nomlenze.” Ngcebo: “No, you’ll do some corrections.” He took his phone from his pocket and looked at Nandipha. Nandipha: “What? It’s a secret lover?” “Yes!” He replied and to spite her he stood up with the phone to answer the phone call away from the table. He was leaving her fiancée feeling angry and he knew that she was feeling that way now. Ngcebo: “Sawubona, MaZondi?” Nontobeko: “Yebo, Mageba, how are you?” Ngcebo: “I am fine and how are you?” Nontobeko: “I am not fine and my sister is the reason why I am not fine. I have been trying to call her and she’s not taking my calls. The last time I saw her she looked

upset with me and I don't know what I did."

Ngcebo: "Oh, let me give her the phone."

Nontobeko: "No, please speak to her and find out what's wrong because I am sure that she will talk when you ask her."

Ngcebo: "It's better if you talk to her now and I will take it from there if she tries to give you attitude." He said turning and shook his head as he'd seen Nandipha's back when she was running away.

Nontobeko: "Okay, give her the phone."

Ngcebo walked back to the table with his mind occupied by what was the reason for Nandipha not to talk to her sister... He gave

the phone to Nandipha but she looked at it.

Ngcebo: "Your sister wants to talk to you."

Nandipha: "I have nothing to say to her."

Ngcebo: "What do you mean you have nothing to say to her? It's your older sister, Nandipha and she wants to speak to you."

Nandipha: “Why? She wants to speak to me now because she’s back home and she wants me to laugh with her again?” Ngcebo: “I don’t know but maybe you can ask her that question.” Nandipha: “No, I am asking you because you seem to be the messenger. Why don’t you ask her on my behalf?” Ngcebo: “Yeywena! Don’t speak to me like that!” Nandipha: “Okay, I am not talking to Nontobeko.” Ngcebo: “Why are you angry at her because your sister has been calling you and you have been ignoring her calls?” Nandipha: “I don’t want to talk because now, that she’s not shaking hands with her military friends holding guns she’s remembering that she has a little sister. She was never there for me when dad died I didn’t receive her support but as a child that I was back then. When she lost her family I tried my best to make her feel

better I have been doing that all my life trying to make her laugh when she was home until she found another man. But what did she do? She ran back to her military and it's not even once that she called me to ask how I am feeling. How I am doing? And now, I should care about what she wants? I don't want to talk to her, she must go to hell for all I know and you must follow her as well. Tsk!" She got up and ran upstairs with tears in her eyes. She couldn't stop crying as she was feeling the pain all over again... Ngcebo: "Eh..." Nontobeko: "I heard all that, thank you." Ngcebo: "You have really hurt her Nontobeko." Nontobeko: "She didn't want to talk to me what was I supposed to do because when Dalingcebo and I, tried to talk to her she disrespected us. I was supposed to look at her disrespect my husband because she

didn't want to speak?" Ngcebo chuckled, a mocking chuckle. "Are you angry?" he asked. Nontobeko: "I am asking you a question! She wanted me to beg her to talk?"

Ngcebo: “You are not speaking like someone who has felt some pain and right now, you are not even showing some hurt and sympathy for your sister.” Nontobeko: “I was going to show that if she told me how she felt.” Ngcebo chuckled again. “So, much talk from someone who’d hidden her past from my brother because she ‘wasn’t ready to talk’. I think you might as well go to the real hell, tsk!” he hung up the call and rushed upstairs. But he met Nandipha at the door with her handbag on her hand. He blocked her way and hugged her tightly. Ngcebo: “I am sorry, nana. But I didn’t know that you felt that way about your sister. She didn’t do right by you and please, don’t cry now.” Nandipha: “I am sorry for insulting you.” she said avoiding that they speak about Nontobeko. She didn’t want them to discuss it. Ngcebo: “No, silly! Are you

stupid? You are sorry for what now?" he held her cheeks and looked at her with a smile on his face and Nandipha giggled in between the tears. "And now, we will calm down and sit down. That means you'll leave your bag. You want to leave my house alone in here?" he asked taking her bag away and Nandipha shook her head. Nandipha: "I won't leave." Ngcebo: "That's good, now, let's go finish our food." He threw her bag on the bed and they walked down the stairs after Nandipha had wiped her tears... They spent the remaining hours together laughing, teasing each other and Nandipha forced Ngcebo to entertain her before doing it to his fans...

Nandipha was with Duma and his squad, they were walking out of campus after they were done running errands and checking the noticeboards for supplements' list. They

were making noise rejoicing about how much they managed to dodge supplements. Nandipha: "I don't know if some of you are aware that not being on that list doesn't mean you have passed." she said out loud above their voice. "HAWU! AWUMUZWE LO!" They exclaimed and laughed trying to attack her for spoiling their mood but Nandipha ran a bit far away from them. Nandipha: "But your asses know I am talking the truth!" she screamed and they all swear at her making her laugh even harder... "Nandipha!" Craig was the one who called her name out and Nandipha looked back at him, not just her alone but the rest of the squad. Nandipha: "Eish, this dog!" she swore alone as Craig approached her. Duma: "Ey, ntwana we won't wait for you, then." Nandipha: "No, there's no problem guys. Have good holidays and

please, enjoy them responsibly.” “YEBO! MAMA!” They chanted and laughed after Nandipha had sworn at them... She shook her head and then looked at Craig with disgust... Craig: “You will need to drop that attitude because now, I have power over you.” he introduced with a mocking smile. Nandipha: “You got no power over me.” He chuckled. “Does your boyfriend know that you hang out with a squad of men? He doesn’t like a girlfriend with male friends just a piece of advice. But it doesn’t matter because your relationship will be over soon.” He said. Nandipha: “It will be over?” Craig: “Yes, and you can only save it by listening to my instruction.” Nandipha: “You are wasting my time.” She said trying to walk away. Craig: “I know about the backyard abortion and I will keep your secret only if you will do what I tell you to

do.” Nandipha froze from a moment and a loads of questions ran through her scalp. She didn’t want to turn back and look at him but she had no choice. Nandipha: “I don’t know what you are talking about and you have no proof for it.” She told him firmly with her eyes on his. Craig: “Yes, I do and I wonder how would Prince feel if he can learn that you killed his baby or maybe it wasn’t his baby?”

Nandipha: "I am not a cheater!" she shouted. Craig: "Oh, so you killed his child? Wow! But you love him?" he looked at her and Nandipha looked aside. "I will keep your secret only if I can have you whenever I want and however I want it." He blackmailed. Nandipha: "What? I won't sleep with you!" Craig: "Then I am afraid I will tell Prince the truth and my friend who told me this will support my statement. You can't even report her for disclosing this because you went to an illegal abortion clinic. Your relationship with Prince can be known and people will know you killed his child." Nandipha: "Please, if you want money I can give it to you but don't tell him. I am begging you, please." She begged him trying to hold her tears. Craig: "I have my own my money but I want to sleep with you. I will be gone for some weeks or a month I

am not sure. But when I come back I will call you about where we should meet for our first session. I won't care what you will be doing but when I say come to me you will dump everything and come to me." Nandipha: "Don't do this to me!" Craig: "If you don't I will make things worse and tell Prince that you didn't know who was the father of the child since you were cheating on him. And so, you killed the baby. I promise you he won't care about the child but he will dump you without thinking for cheating on him. So, tick, tock, you better be ready, Mrs Zulu!" he smiled lastly and left her... Nandipha closed her eyes and she let regret sunk in very slow. Why did she do this? What was she going to do? She didn't know what to say and what to think....

END OF SEASON 2!