

Well people say marriage is a sacred and a binding union that is blessed by God himself, but sometimes other people feel like their marriages are blessed by the devil himself instead of God. That is what Imani Nkateko Tau is feeling now about her marriage, her once gloomy marriage has turned from heaven to hell for her and her once loving and good husband has turned into the devil himself. She remembers the first year in their marriage, she was treated like an egg by her husband Ben Tau to a point that anything or anyone that made her cry or sad he would literally skin them alive but now it's like he finds joy and pleasure seeing her hurt or in pain. She has begged him to let her go but he blatantly said "over his dead body", he always tells her that he loves her and that she's his life but then he turns around and hurt her tremendously. Besides beating her to a pulp, he also punishes her by locking her in the basement that he calls "the vault" for days with two meals a day while sexually assaulting her every now and then. His apologies don't mean anything to her anymore because she knows few hours later or days later he will hurt her again. Well it all started two years back when she went to see a fertility specialist about the fact that she couldn't fall pregnant even though her and Ben don't use protection and she's also not on any contraceptives, then the doctor checked her and confirmed that she's fertile and suggested that she brings her husband Ben to get checked too cause it might be that he's the one with the problem since she's fertile. Well she got home that day and later on at night she spoke to her husband about her visit to the specialist and also told him her results and Ben was happy and relieved that she was fertile but then things went south when she suggest that he also go for a check-up to make sure that they are both ok and well Ben lost it and slapped her across her face and started shouting and swearing at her and also threatening her that if she speaks of such nonsense again he will show her the other side of him that she will hate and well that is when all the abuse started. Now things are worse for poor Imani cause in the eyes of everyone else he's a saint but a monster behind closed doors.

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Anyway back to the present day, Imani, her husband and sister wife who is her blood cousin were at their mother in law's house where there was a family gathering and as a wife in the family she had to come whether she wants to or not, and as for her sister-wife she is heavily pregnant and everyone is treating her like an egg while they treated her like some contagious thing cause she can't fall pregnant. She held back her tears and

she breathed out loud trying by all means to be strong and not cry in front of everyone because their nasty comments and them whispering behind her back was getting to her, then her mind started running wild and it stopped on the day her husband Ben told her he wanted to take a second wife, she remembers she received a message from her husband that fateful afternoon and he said he has something important he wanted to talk to her about. She didn't know that what he wanted to talk to her about was gonna break her already broken heart into tiny pieces.

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She remembers sitting in the lounge that afternoon watching her favorite Telenovela drama when the door opened and Ben walked in looking like he held the whole world on his shoulders and Imani stood up and she went to him and they kissed and she took his laptop bag and they went to sit down.

"you look exhausted love"

She remembers saying that to him while brushing his shoulder.

"you have no idea my love"

She remembers him saying that to her then leaning back on the couch and also kicking his shoes off and he put his feet on top of the table and breathed out loud.

"Let me bring you your food then I'll prepare you a bath"

She remembers saying that trying to stand up, but Ben held her hand and he pulled her to sit down.

"Sit so we can talk first"

"ok"

She remembers sitting down and Ben standing up and he sat on top of the table facing her and he held her hands and he breathed out loud, Imani remembers seeing that whatever he wanted to talk to her about was huge then her heart started to beat fast.

" I have something to tell you my love"

"ok im listening"

“ i.... I have decided to.... To take a second wife”

“askies? (what?)”

She said that and pulled her hands away from his grip with her eyes popped out, she couldn't believe her own husband just said that to her.

“A what?”

She remembers asking him with her bottom lip trembling.

“a second wife, it's a good decision any wise man can take when under the circumstances I face myself with”

He said with no care what so ever and Imani just sat down with tears running down her cheeks.

“Please Ben don't do this to me we.... we can adopt ok we can...”

He interrupted her.

“Adopt my black ass, listen here Imani I want to be a father to children who will have my blood run through their veins so don't tell me that shit ok”

She remembers he said that with an angry voice and she just kept quiet looking down because she knew a slap might land on her cheek since his face was turning pink by now.

“Look I love you Imani...fuck God knows I love you but I also want kids ok and ever since you miscarried you haven't fallen pregnant again and I want to be a father so me taking a second wife is the best thing and plus that might stop my family with the insults they shower you with”

He said that and sat down next to her.

“If I disagree will you still go ahead with it?”

She remembers asking him hoping and praying that he will say no but well his answer broke her tiny heart to pieces.

“Yes”

She remembers him saying that to her coldly and more tears rushed down her cheeks as that answer cut right through her heart

“ I want kids Imani and you can't seem to get pregnant it been five years, five fucken years and you have nothing to show for it as a woman so this is

the best thing for us especially you since the attention will move from you to the other wife”

She just continued to cry and Ben stood up and he took his car keys and walked out. She remembers sitting there and crying her eyes out with what Ben told her still ringing in her ears. She also remembers sitting there not believing what Ben just said to her, she knew she hasn't fallen pregnant ever since she miscarried on their first year of their marriage but for him to want to take a second wife was just too much for her, even his harsh words towards her pierced right through her fragile heart. If only she knew that the second wife is her blood cousin Desiree.

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“Imani, Imani are you ok”

Someone shook her and Imani snapped out of her thoughts, it was one of Ben's female cousins

“Ummm yeah I was just lost in my thoughts sorry, did you say something”

She said that trying to gather herself

“Yeah your husband is looking for you he said you should come to your bedroom”

“Ok sesi thanks”

Imani said that and she stood up and went to their bedroom passing Desiree her sister-wife by the door, she was holding a plate of food, she was busy eating while walking and Imani just walked passed her and went to the bedroom she uses when she's here. She opened the door and found Ben lying in bed and she immediately got bored thinking maybe he wants sex, well ever since she slept with thorsten she doesn't enjoy sex with her husband anymore. She fakes moans and orgasms and its becoming a struggle for her cause now all she feels for him is pure hate but she knows she can't leave him because he blatantly told her if she even attempts to that he'll just kill her mother and little brother. So since she can't lose them then she told herself she will endure all the abuse and torture she receives from him.

“Love you called for me”

She said that closing the door and going to sit down next to him.

“Yeah, Imani what’s going on with you?”

Her heart started beating fast and she swallowed hard thinking maybe he knows about what she did with that guy Thorsten.

“I... I don’t know what you are talking about”

She said that looking down.

“Don’t give me that ok I can see something is bothering you or better yet distracting you so now talk or do you want me to beat out the fucken truth out of you”

He said that with an angry voice and she started getting scared.

“No please don’t i...i”

She thought of a lie fast.

“I... I want a baby”

She said to him and he frowned looking at her.

“I want to adopt but you said you want your own blood so I know you won’t agree”

Then she sighed.

“I want a baby Ben, I know I can’t fall pregnant but that doesn’t mean I shouldn’t be a mother”

She then swallowed hard hoping and praying he believes her.

“It hurts seeing Desiree carrying your child Ben, I wish it was me”

Tears ran down her cheeks and Ben sighed then he moved to sit next to her and he gave her a side hug.

“Ok you can adopt”

She looked at him not believing what she was hearing and he wiped her tears.

“I know you’ll make a great mother so you can start with the adoption process after the birth of my son, you can’t steal Desiree’s shine right”

He said that smiling at her and she nodded while forcing a smile on her face with her heart breaking some more because of his choice of words.

“Good, now smile and look happy, I don't want people thinking you are not happy with me”

She forced a wide smile and he kissed her forehead, and yes she's wasn't happy with him at all in fact she has already dreamed of a thousands ways to kill him in his sleep but she doesn't have even the slightest gut to do it.

“ I love you ok Mrs. Tau, I know things are not like the way I promised you they will be when we got married but believe me everything will be good soon just hold on ok”

He said that to her and he kissed her cheek, well as for Imani she wanted so bad to spit on his face and tell him to go fuck himself but she knew better than to make him angry.

“Ok my love and I love you too”

She said that to him and he kissed her lips and she responded, the kiss went on and on and he pushed her down to the bed and he got on top of her and she immediately felt sick to her stomach but she also knew never to stop him when he wants sex unless she's on her monthly period and with that he checks if she really is. Anyway he pushed up the bed and took off his shirt and continued to kiss her hungrily until they heard a knock on the door and Ben cursed pissed off.

“FUCK, AARG MAN WHAT IS IT?”

He clicked tongue and he got off Imani with a really bad boner and he went to the door while Imani fixed herself, he opened the door and Desiree was standing there busy brushing her big baby bump.

“What is it Desiree”

He asked her annoyed as hell.

“Your mother is looking of you”

She said and as soon as her eyes landed on his boner her face changed to anger.

“Tell her im coming”

He tried to close the door but she blocked it

“Now Ben”

“I said im coming now fuck off from here”

He said that through his tightened jaw.

“So that barren thing is now more important than your own mother?”

She asked with an angry voice and Ben grabbed her by her dress and pulled her closer to him roughly with an angry look on his face

“Call her that again and I'll make sure you vomit out this baby you are carrying instead of giving birth to him!”

He warned her with a firm voice and she nodded looking scared trembled.

“Now be a good wife and go tell my mother im coming”

He let her go and she turned and walked away with tears running down her cheeks and she quickly wiped them off and continued to walk, and back in the bedroom bed turned after closing the door to find Imani busy wiping her tears off and he sighed.

“So every time someone says something hurtful towards you or about you is always gonna be this, you crying mmmmh?”

She shook her head no and she continued to wipe her tears off

“Now why are you crying?”

He asked and she didn't say anything and he sighed and walked to the bed and took his shirt and wore it.

“Imani you are my first wife and you are the woman this cold heart of mine loves and beats for and know this there's nothing that will change that ever so now I want my tough baby now and not this weak thing you hear me, Desiree might be pregnant with my child but she doesn't own my heart you do and only you so next time she tries to be smart with you tell her I said that ok”

“Ok”

Imani said that looking down.

“Come here”

He said that extending his hand to her and she got up and went to him and he cupped her face

“Good Lord you are beautiful woman and I can't believe you are mine, all mine”

She smiled a bit exposing her deep dimples and Ben smiled like a retard, even today he still can't believe how beautiful Imani is and how their kids would have looked like with her beauty and his bright complexion.

“I love you ok Montleza (nickname meaning beautiful)”

She blushed a bit.

“I love you too my husband”

He perked her lips

“Let me go, Ma is calling me and we will definitely finish things later on ok”

She nodded.

“Ok”

She said and he kissed her forehead and walked out and she sat on top of the bed and she breathed out loud, she suddenly felt light headed and she laid down and her mind drifted off to “Thorsten” her dream man, she remembered the first time she met him for the first time at a restaurant when Desiree came to her house when they were still close and she begged her to give him a letter. The thing is thorsten and Desiree where married in secret without her family knowing and since Thorsten is loaded with cash she forgot why they got married in the first place and she concentrated on his money and fame and forgot about her end of the deal. The deal was for Desiree to make Thorsten fall for her and to be a good wife to him since that is what he's being longing for being “love”, but then she let fame and fortunes got to her head and she started cheating recklessly and also used his money recklessly too with Imani's husband being one of the men she slept with. Well Thorsten got fed up and divorced her and she didn't even get a cent from him since she stupidly signed a prenuptial agreement before they got married, so when she found out she was pregnant the truth is she didn't know who the baby's father was and since she hadn't been intimate with Thorsten for weeks then she knew he wasn't the father. So before running away she begged Imani to give a letter to him that asked for forgiveness and all because she was afraid Thorsten might come after her cause she knew she didn't keep her end of the deal and he told her point blank that she will be sorry if she doesn't, but what she didn't know was he didn't care for her that much to even be bothered about her cheating and breaking the deal between them so he just destroyed the letter after reading it. So when Imani met up with him she



was captivated by his handsomeness and dark skin, and besides being embarrassed by the fact that he saw all the bruises she tried so hard to hide with make-up and a long sleeved shirt, she was also impressed that he was actually paying attention to her. She remembers feeling embarrassed but pretended to not know what he was talking about when he pointed out her bruises and since then she couldn't stop thinking about him. She then saw him again at some function she went to with her husband and that's where she found out that her dearest sister-wife/cousin was actually married to him and no one in the family knew about it, she then got to spend some time with the mysterious Thorsten when she walked out of the woman's restroom and found him waiting for her. She was truly smitten by him and his bold self especially his deep rocky voice, she remembers walking down some passage in the building while holding down a conversation and at that time instead of feeling uncomfortable and scared she actually felt safe for the first time in a long time and she wished she could spend more time with him but she knew Ben would kill her if he were to find out that she was busy talking and taking a walk with another man. That night she remembers she couldn't sleep because she kept tossing and turning thinking about him, then some day he called her checking up on her and that's when everything started. He became her escape as she couldn't wait to talk to him over the phone, and she would feel much better or be in a good mood and he also would get mad when a day passed by without them talking, and he would get more mad every time she would tell him that Ben locked her up in the "vault" or that he beat her up since they talked about everything cause she felt safe telling him things. Anyway one day he told her he wants them to meet and well she agreed and he came up with a plan that they should meet at one of his brothers' wife's Day Spa and she hesitantly agreed, and when they met for the third time well let's say one thing led to another and they made sweet love. She knew very well what she was doing was wrong because she is married and to a psycho at that but she couldn't help it because she felt free and safe with the guy but scared, suffocated and terrified with her own husband. And even though Thorsten has never told her that he loves her but his actions showed he really cared for her and deeply.

He even promised her he'll do whatever it takes to save her from her abusive and psychotic husband and she has been waiting patiently for him to do that because she can't take it anymore, him forcing himself on her even though she's not in the mood or ill and him locking her in the basement in their house that he calls the "vault" for days when she does something that pisses him off or when he had a bad day or even when Desiree "the second wife" made

him angry was just too much for one person to bare so she couldn't wait for Thorsten's plan to take place. She's close to giving up because the last time she was in the vault it was really bad cause first she was not feeling well, she kept on throwing up and feeling dizzy and also she had stomach cramps but since Ben her husband is a psychotic human being he didn't care, all he wanted was to quench his thirst of punishing and torturing someone when he found out his shipment was seized by the local authority when it arrived in the country, meaning someone snitched on him and well him being a mentally unstable coward that he is he took out his anger on Imani. The thing is Ben suffers from a multiple personality disorder that he created himself knowingly when he was still in the army, him and Thorsten where both in the south African army deployed in Congo in their 20s and that's when he created them cause everyone knows being in the army is no child's play, the things you see and experience there can damage you mentality and psychologically so for him to survive he created a second personality named "psych" and that same psych did unspeakable things, he once went on a killing spree in one of the villages there and he killed male children in cold blood and his reason was that the same boys where gonna turn into rebels when they grew up so he was preventing a catastrophe from happening, he was then arrested and was even send for mental evaluation and since he's one sly bastard he put up an act and was send to a military psychiatric institution for years until his sentence was done and he was released when he miraculously "healed" mentally. He does love Imani so much and deep down he doesn't want to hurt her but he can't help it because now he can't always control "psych", he has become strong over the years and he's more in control than Ben and Imani is the one who's suffering.

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Well back to Imani, she decided to rest a bit since it was already late in the afternoon and everyone has eaten and the dishes have been washed, people were now drinking alcohol and dancing busy enjoying themselves, she knew she'd rather stay in her room than to go out there to those people who treat her like some contagious disease and also being treated badly. She just curled herself into a ball and she just cried herself to sleep.

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In the lounge, Ben found his mother sitting there drinking tea and he sat next to her.

“You called for me Ma”

He said that and laid back on the lounge.

“Yes son, I have something I need to ask you”

“Ok ask away my first lady”

He said looking at her.

“Do you love Desiree?”

She asked honestly and he frowned looking at her.

“Why are you asking me that question ma?”

“Because you don’t treat her like your wife, she always complains that when Imani is around you don’t give her your attention and son when you are in a polygamous marriage you need to treat your wives equally for peace to rein in your household”

She told him and he clenched his jaws looking down

“Mmmmh”

He said still looking down, he was angry because ever since he married Imani and psych hurt her she had never complained to his mother not even once and Desiree who became his wife two seconds ago complained to his mother about him not giving her attention when Imani is around, he took a deep breath to calm himself and he looked at his mother.

“So answer my question”

She pressed and he cleared his throat.

“She’s carrying my child and I married her so what does that say to you Ma”

He answered her and she sighed because that answer was clear he married her because of the baby.

"look son I will never tell you how to run your household but son Desiree is carrying your heir and even though you don't love her like you love Imani can you at least give her your attention and time, remember stress is not good for the baby and son that baby is my first grandchild from you and I'll be damned if anything happens to him"

She said that to him with a serious tone and he sighed.

"I hear you Ma I promise I'll do better"

He said that with his jaws still clenched.

"Good, now that's my boy and about Imani have you seen anything different about her?"

She asked taking a sip of her tea and Ben sighed.

"Yeah, she's a bit distant but don't worry I talked to her about that and now she's ok"

She shook her head.

"No I mean physically"

He frowned.

"What are you talking about Ma?"

He asked confused.

"I think she's pregnant"

She said straight up and Ben laughed then his face became sad

"No she's not in fact she can never be pregnant Ma?"

He said that looking sad because he would give anything to have her carry his child but he knew that will never happen.

"Since when are you God Benjamin, I mean maybe God has finally answered your prayers son"

Ben shook his head remembering what the traditional healer he went to see some years back said to him.

“She can't get pregnant by me Ma and believe I know it's hard to believe it because I also took over a year to actually accept that the traditional healer I went to see was actually telling the truth”

“What are you talking about Benjamin?”

She asked concerned.

“Let's go to your bedroom and talk there”

He said that standing up and his mother followed him and they got in her bedroom and she closed the door and they sat on the edge of the bed and bed sighed looking down.

“ a year into our marriage Imani couldn't fall pregnant or at least suffer a miscarriage so she went to see a specialist and they told her there is nothing wrong with her, well I also secretly went to get checked out by a specialist and he said there is nothing wrong with me too so after a few months of her not falling pregnant even those she drank fertility pills I decided to go see a traditional healer called Ntatepule in Majaneng at Hamanskraal and he told me something that broke my heart Ma, he said the only man that will successfully impregnate Imani is her chosen one, he said she's not supposed to be mine to begin with so she will never bear me a child”

He said that with a heavy heart because he would give anything for the love of his life to carry his child.

“What are you telling me Benjamin?”

He sighed.

“He said her ancestors and other ancestors which he thinks are the guys are the ones preventing her from getting pregnant, he said she doesn't belong to me because already her ancestors chose a husband for her and it's not me”

“Modimo wa khotso (God of peace)”

She exclaimed with her hands on top of her head.

“So now you know why I say she can't be pregnant”

“Well if you can't make her pregnant son then someone else did because I know a pregnant woman when I see one”

She said that with a serious face.

“What?”

He asked with a frown on his face.

“She’s pregnant, I saw her throwing up and she’s been complaining about food not smelling good and she’s suddenly gained some weight I mean she’s even glowing”

His mother said.

“Imani would never cheat on me Ma, she knows what will happen if she does and plus she’s always in doors she only leaves the house when.....”

He kept quiet with his eyes popped out when he started thinking about her visits to the Day Spa.

“She wouldn’t do that to me Ma, she wouldn’t hurt me like that”

He said that with a trembling voice

“Just take her to the doctor tomorrow and he’ll tell you exactly what im telling you”

He shook his head continuously not believing what she was saying.

“She won’t do that to me Ma, she knows I love her more than I love myself so she won’t hurt me like that”

He said that with a shaky voice and his mother sighed.

“Just take her to the doctor because im telling you she’s pregnant, I mean even your aunt Kenosi saw her and she asked me and remember she has 8 children “

Ben said nothing because the pain he was feeling was beyond measure....

Ben felt like he was about to lose it so he stood up and walked back to Imani’s bedroom and he found her sleeping and he stood there with tears running down his cheeks. Even though he doesn’t have proof that she’s pregnant but he knew something was off with her, now he realizes that she gained a bit of weight and her skin was really glowing and she thought about how lately she has been complaining of a stomach ache and that she has been feeling sick most of the time especially in the morning and he saw her throw up once or twice but he though it’s something she ate. He then wiped his tears and he went to Desiree’s bedroom and he parked his things and also went to Imani’s bedroom and packed her things too and he took the bags and he walked out going to his car, he opened the boot of his car and

he put them inside and he slammed it shut, he saw Desiree walking towards him and he got pissed off immediately.

“I saw you putting bags in the boot are we perhaps leaving”

She asked looking at him with a straight face”

“Imani and I are leaving but you are staying behind”

He said that and walked passed her not waiting for her reply and she went after him, as for Ben his heart was bleeding and he felt like crying and screaming out the pain. He went straight to Imani's bedroom and he stood next to the bed asking himself where he went wrong, he felt like strangling her to death but then the love he has for her stopped him, he then shook her and she slowly opened her heavy eyes and she looked up at him.

“Baby why are you standing there looking at me like that”

Ben just clenched his jaws looking at her”

“Get up and follow me “

She swallowed hard when she heard the hard and cold tone of his voice.

“Ooh ok”

She said getting out of the bed and she wore her shoes and she followed him, when they got outside she saw him walking to his car and her heart started beating fast, then she heard his mother calling out to him and he stopped and turned looking at her.

“Benjamin where are you going this late”

She asked getting closer to him.

“Ma not now please I'll come see you in three days' time”

He said coldly and he kissed her cheek and attempted to walk away but then he stopped again when she spoke.

“What about Desiree I thought we spoke about your treatment towards her, you can't just leave her here and leave with your good for nothing first wife”

She said giving Imani a nasty look and Imani just looked down.

"I thought I begged you not to get involved in my marital business Ma, how I treat my wives is my business and if Desiree has a problem with it after giving birth to my son she can voetsek ( fuck off)"

He said with an angry voice and Imani knew what will happen to her tonight, if it's not the extremely rough sex then she'll end up in the "Vault".

"Benjamin Desiree is pregnant for God's sake, she doesn't need all this"

Ben looked at Desiree who was standing not far from them with an angry look on her face.

"Well if you think running to my mother every time I do something you don't like makes you think I'll love you or even worship the ground you walk on then girly you clearly don't know the man you are married to"

Then he clicked his tongue and turned to Imani.

"Get in the car and let's go wena"

He said to Imani.

"BENJAMIN"

His mother called out to him but he ignored her and Imani got in the car and Ben drove out, well the ride was silent and Imani just looked outside the window all the way busy asking herself what made him angry. Soon they arrived at home and ray told Imani to go inside and he'll bring in the bags and she did, when she got in the house she went straight to the kitchen and poured herself a glass of cold juice and when she turned to go to the lounge she was met by a gun pointed at her and the glass she was holding fell to the tiled floor.

" ba...baby wha...what are you doing"

She asked with a trembling voice.

" what's his name?"

He asked with rage all over his face and Imani just stood there frozen with nothing but fear on her face.

" wh....who?"

She asked shaking.



“I SAID WHAT'S HIS NAME DAMN IT?”

He roared and Imani jumped a bit.

“Who's that bastard that you let enter my sacred place!”

Imani just cried because she just realized he knew she found comfort in another man's arms.

“Im not gonna ask you again Imani”

He warned her cocking the gun and Imani cried out loud.

“ TALK MAN!”

He shouted at her and she just continued to cry.

“ fine you don't wanna talk, don't worry I'll make you talk”

He said that and walked to Imani and he grabbed her by her hair and dragged her to the basement, when he got there he threw her on the wet cold floor and he took off his belt.

“ take off your clothes”

He ordered her and she just cried.

“ Ben please!”

She pleaded with him but it fell on deaf ears as he swung the belt and it landed on her bare legs and she screamed out in pain.

“ I SAID STRIP WOMAN!”

He said with an angry voice and Imani took off her clothes and was left with only her bra and panty and as soon as Ben's eyes landed on her stomach his blood boiled some more.

“ why is that bra and panty still doing there, TAKE THEM OFF TOO NOW!”

And she did then he picked her clothes up and walked out locking her in, then soon he came back with a bucket of cold water and unlocked the door and found her curled up on top of the dirty sponge mattress and he went closer to her and poured the cold water on her.

“ now let's do this one last time, who entered my sacred place”

He asked her while crouching next to her.

"No one did"

She said while crying.

"Mmmmh so Jesus is the one that got you pregnant right?"

He asked her with his eyebrows raised and she just looked at him with her eyes popped out.

" wha...what? Im not pregnant"

" mmmmh so if I buy you home pregnancy tests and they come out positive what should I do to you then"

She didn't say anything.

"You know I should applaud you for that Day Spa trips you convinced me to let you go to them, I really should but then you're not that good cause now I know what you've been up too"

Imani just silently cried as she realized her life was over and she didn't even get a chance to warn Thorsten. Then Ben stood up and he swung the belt and it landed to Imani's bare back and she cried out loud.

"WHAT'S HIS NAME, I WANT HIS NAME IMANI"

She didn't say anything she just cried out loud and he swung the belt again and again and again and again busy shouting that she should tell him the name of the guy but Imani didn't budge she just cried and not said anything and that got him more angry.

"Mmmmh you don't wanna talk right well don't worry sweetheart you'll talk once im done with you"

He said that breathing heavily and he walked out and Imani continued to cry with her body aching, then soon the devil himself came back with a long rope and he tossed it over the steel roof bars then he tied Imani's hands with the other end and pulled Imani up by pulling the rope and as she stood up on her toes he went to tie it to the door handle and he went back to Imani.

"Still won't talk?"

He asked her rubbing her cheek gently.

"Please Ben im sorry ok, please forgive me"

She pleaded with him.

“ I DON'T WANT YOUR FUCKEN SORRIES IMANI I WANT THE NAME OF THE FUCKER THAT FUCKED YOU AND PLANTED HIS USELESS SEED INSIDE OF YOU”

He shouted at her grabbing her by her hair tight.

“ WHO IS HE?”

He asked while shouting and Imani just cried.

“ fine!”

Then a hard fist landed on her face and he grabbed her by her hair again as blood came out of her mouth.

“ his name Imani or else I'll do this all night until you talk then I'll go pay your crippled mother and dumb brother a visit “

She cried.

“ please Ben leave them out of this im begging you please, kill me instead ”

She pleaded with him and he just laughed and when he stopped his eyes where now darker and he had a creepy smile on his face.

“ uh uh princess Ben doesn't want you dead but he wants the name of the fucker that you gave his pussy to or im going to put a bullet through your mothers skull”

Imani just sobbed painfully.

“ now what's his name”

He asked running his hands on her breasts and he pinched her nipples hard and she screamed out loud with pain.

“ that was nice right?”

He asked with a smile on his face.

“ Ben please im sorry i.... I didn't mean to hurt you”

A punch landed on her stomach and another one and another one and she coughed out painfully.

“ HIS NAME NOW!””

He ordered her

“ fine....fine its... its Thorsten”

He stood still and looked at her with a frown on his face.

“Which Thorsten?”

He asked with that frown still on his face.

“ De...Desiree's ex-husband “

His eyes popped out looking at her and a slap landed on her face and she cried out loud, by now she had slight cramps on her belly.

“ you stupid whore, how could you mmmmh, doesn't Ben give you everything you want, I mean he even takes care of your useless mother and brother and you decide to pay him back with a plate full of your smelly shit heeh?”

He asked her holding her tight with her hair with the most scariest look ever on his face and Imani just cried.

“ ANSWER ME DAMN IT”

“ im sorry please forgive me im sorry “

She pleaded with him but it fell on deaf ears then he started whipping her with the belt all over her body until Imani's body felt numb and he stopped breathing heavily and he spat on her.

“ you know I warned him when that traditional healer told him he can never get you pregnant, to let you go cause I had a feeling that things won't end well but because he loves you he said he can never let you go now look at all this, you turned into a whore and worst part you had to sleep with his worst enemy “BEAST”

He clicked his tongue.

“ of all the men you had to fuck him and I thought maybe just maybe you are different but no you are no different to a common prostitute”

He said that with a disgusted face then he took out his phone and dialed a number.

“ yah listen carefully I want you to bring me abortion pills to my house ASAP “

He said to his doctor friend.

“ what? Why? Please don't tell me you want to give them to your second wife man”

The doctor said that with a worried tone and that made psych angry.

“ do I pay you to ask me stupid questions man!”

He asked him with a cold tone and the doctor cleared his throat.

“Im sorry man, ummm ok I'll bring them just now”

The doctor said as he didn't want to get in Ben's bad books.

“Make it snappy you have only half an hour to get here”

He said to the doctor then he dropped the call and looked at Imani.

“ Well it's time we got rid of that rubbish in your stomach sweet cheeks cause you belong to Ben and since that womb of yours can't carry his seed then it will never carry another man's seed too especially the seed of that piece of shit Beast”

Then he untied her and she fell on the floor and he walked out leaving her like that, then after some time he came back and he found her on the same position he left her then he forcefully made her drink the abortion pills and even checked if she really drank them then he went out and came back with a chair and he sat next to her and watched her as she held her stomach crying. The following day in the early hours of the morning Ben/psych was still sitting on the chair with a smirk on his face watching Imani scream out loud as she felt excruciating pains as if someone was ripping off her insides forcefully inside her stomach with lots of blood coming out between her legs, she then passed out after some time and Ben/psych stood up and checked her pulse and she was still alive. He then sat down and continued to watch her as he fought the edge to finish her off but he knew he couldn't cause that will hurt Ben to the core cause he loves her then after two hours he stood up and walked out and came back with a bucket of water and he poured it all over Imani and he picked her up and walked out with her going to their bedroom and he dressed her up in sweatpants and a hoody only and he also changed his clothes and he called one of his boys to come to the house and soon the guy arrived and Ben/psych carried Imani to his car and he put her in the boot and they drove out.

Well Ben arrived at Imani's home and he opened the gate and drove in and he got out of the car and went inside and he found Imani's mother sitting in the lounge and her little brother eating breakfast, he was ready to go to school he's doing grade 3. Well Ben/psych walked in and he walked passed

Imani's mother without acknowledging her presence and told the house help to take her things and leave immediately and the house help did as she was told since she works for him, then he walked out ignoring Imani's mother as she called out at him then he went to take Imani out of the boot and she was now awake but weak and he carried her inside and put her on the cold floor while his guy stood by the door. Imani's mother cried out when her eyes landed on her daughter and the state she's in but then she got the fright of her life when Ben/psych pulled out a gun and instructed her to shut up.

"Ma...mama....Le...Lefa"

That's all Imani managed to say and her mother just cried holding Lefa now who looked scared then Ben/psych took out Imani's phone and dialed Thorsten's numbers.

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At Thorsten's house, him and his brothers Jase, snakes and Muzi are sitting in the lounge discussing their plan of "kidnapping" Imani's mother and brother before "rescuing" Imani in two days to come, then Thorsten's phone rang on top of the table disturbing them from their discussion and as soon as he saw who the caller was he smirked.

" mmmmh the only person who makes you smile like that is none other than Mrs. Beast aka Imani "

Jase and muzi laughed and Thorsten just showed him the middle finger and he answered the call.

"Me Ahofe (my beauty)"

He said that with his deep voice and a smile on his face.

"Well well well, if it isn't the mighty Beast himself"

Ben said walking around in the lounge with a gun on his hand and a creepy smile on his face and on the other hand Thorsten's smile faded immediately when he heard Ben's voice and he quickly put the phone on loudspeaker for his brothers to listen too.

“What is it Benjamin”

He said that without even a pinch of panic in his voice while his brothers were surprised.

“So you thought we wouldn’t find out mmmmh that you are fucking Ben’s wife”

He said that and laughed an evil laugh, his guard was now holding a bashed up Imani by her hair as she sat on the cold floor covered in blood while her mother was crying silently and her brother holding on to their mother scared.

“Ooh I guess this is psycho and not Ben mmmmh”

Thorsten asked with a calm voice and Ben laughed.

“Mmmmh I like that you have a sharp mind my man”

“So what can I do for you psych”

Thorsten asked with an annoyed voice.

“ I have someone here who would like to say hello.... Say hello sweetheart”

He said getting close to Imani who was busy crying and he pointed a gun on her head and he hit her on her already pounding head with the back of the gun indicating that she should speak then Thorsten and his brothers heard a cry in the background right then Thorsten’s heart started beating fast.

“Smi... smiso hel....help me pleaseeeee”

She said that while crying and Thorsten quickly stood up.

“So I guess you were serious when you said and eye for an eye that day mmmmh?”

Ben said that and a chuckle escaped his mouth.

“And here I thought you are as dumb as they come but no you are just slow in the head”

Thorsten said that and he chuckled too.

“FUCK YOU, YOU HEAR ME FUCK YOU BEAST YOU PIECE OF RUBBISH. YOU GONNA PAY FOR SLEEPING WITH HER AND IM GONNA MAKE SURE THIS BASTARD BABY SHE’S CARRYING DIES”

Thorsten frowned and he looked at his brothers while Imani just continued to cry in the background.

“What baby?”

Thorsten asked and he quickly took Jase's phone and he typed “Imani's mother and brother” and he grabbed his car keys and wallet and rushed outside with his brothers following him.

“Ooh so you didn't know she's pregnant.... Mmmmh interesting I must say”

Then he crouched next to Imani and he looked at her with a smirk on his face while on the other end Thorsten threw the car keys to Jase and they got in the car and Jase drove out in total speed with Thorsten's heart beating fast but he kept his cool.

“It could be yours you know”

Thorsten said that because it was clear now that he knows about him and Imani and his brothers looked shocked by how calm he was cause if it was one of them, they would be throwing threats and insults at him and also panicking.

“I know she can never bare Ben children beast my man cause his traditional healer said only the one chosen by her ancestors for her will be the only man who will get her pregnant and guess what Ben is not the chosen one , so since she confessed to fucking you after I beat the truth out of her ( he said that moving the gun on her face).... I guess you are the guy we've been looking for since we found out the news about the chosen one bullshit”

Thorsten swallowed hard then he clenched his jaws while Jase was driving like a mad man on the road.

“ So let me guess you gonna kill her and send her body to me right ”

Thorsten asked with a calm but yet angry voice.

“Smie!”

His brother Snakes whispered to him cause he was worried about his reaction to this whole thing that is happening, he was way too fucken calm for his liking.

“ nah, we love her so killing her will be like killing our inner selves, and remember Ben once told you that she has the ability to calm his demons, one



of them being me so im just gonna teach her a lesson and kill the bastard in her womb if he/she isn't already dead you know"

He said that and winked at Imani and Thorsten on the other side clenched his jaws some more and he hit the head-rest of the car seat with a fist then he sighed calming himself down.

"Do you know what an egg once said psycho my man"

His brothers looked at him with that "really" look on their faces and he just ignored them.

"What?"

Ben asked clearly confused .

"It said: im authority, if you crush me I break and if you let me go I fall and break into pieces on the ground, and well my dearest retarded Ben or psycho, the moral of this proverb in simple terms for the likes of you is, power needs to be handled carefully my man. So every decision you make from now on you better be ready for the extreme consequences that will follow"

He said that to him with a serious tone and Ben on the other side got angry and his face turned hard instantly.

"Well Beast im not scared of you so bring it on bitch, ooh and just so you know this is all your fault.... And ooh since Ben has a conscience then I'll do the honors myself"

Then two bullets were heard fired over the phone, well Ben/psycho shot Imani's mother on her forehead and her little brother on his chest and Imani screamed out loud with the little strength she had left.

"NOOO... MAMA.... LE... LEFAAA... NOOO..... NOOO..... MAMAAAAAAA"

And she released a loud heart-piecing cry while Ben was laughing and Thorsten just clenched his jaws with his eyes closed while looking down, the anger he was feeling was indescribable even his hands were shaking with anger and he could feel his muscles get tight all around his body and his heart was beating as if it was on his throat ready to come out, he opened his eyes still looking down and he saw the skin on his hands was hard and it had scales on it and right then he knew his beast was awake, as for his brothers they looked shit scared cause the beast they were seeing now it wasn't the one they saw that time it killed Buhle and Bongani.

Then Thorsten and his brother's heard what sounded like someone or something being kicked with Imani's loud screams also heard and it was Imani being kicked hard on her stomach repeatedly by Ben/psycho and Thorsten shouted out loud at Ben.

"RUN BEN AND MAKE SURE I NEVER FIND YOU AND YOUR ENTIRE FUCKEN FAMILY YOU PIECE OF SHIT"

He said that to Ben over the phone with his voice scratchy and scary and Ben aka "psycho" stopped kicking Imani and he just laughed out loud.

"Catch me if you can Beast and ooh if she makes it tell her Ben is coming back for her, she's his wife after all"

Then he dropped the call while Jase was driving in high speed on the highway, as for muzi and snakes even though they looked shit scared they knew deep down that Thorsten's beast won't harm them in anyway so they were busy begging him to calm down. They finally arrived and got out of the car and ran inside while pushing people out of the way who were standing outside the yard watching as police officers where all over the yard and house, well neighbors called the police when they heard gunshots in the house. The police tried to stop them from entering the house but the brothers just pushed them aside as if they are nothing and they ran inside and found paramedics busy with Imani and Lefa while Imani's mother was sitting on her wheelchair with a bullet wound on her forehead and her eyes opened.

"You can't be here, you need to leave this is crime scene!"

One police officer said with a firm voice to them but when his eyes landed on Jase he kept quiet since he's also part of the Khumalo's payroll, anyway Muzi told the paramedics he's a doctors and they let him help them with Lefa since his wound was bad and he was losing lots of blood and in fact he wasn't looking good at all while Imani just passed out after her loud scream when Ben/psych shot her mother and brother and she was also not looking good. As for Thorsten he was standing by the door with his eyes on Imani, the pain, fear and extreme rage he was feeling was beyond measure, his whole body was visibly shaking and his eyes where blood shot red, then Jase quickly went to him when he saw him in that state.

"Bafo calm down please you can let your beast out in front of all this people, now Imani needs you more than ever please fight back the beast please, I know it's hard but please fight it back"

He pleaded with him and when he saw the paramedics were ready to wheel Imani and her brother out he went to snakes and whispered to him, he told him to take care of things here and he's gonna go with Thorsten to the hospital to keep an eye on him and snakes nodded then he pulled Thorsten out and the paramedic along with Muzi wheeled Imani and Lefa out of the house to the ambulance while Thorsten and Jase went to their car and also drove away right after the ambulance drove out.

He felt like his heart was about to explode, it was beating so fast so he stood up and walked outside, he walked around in the parking lot trying to control his breathing. He blamed himself for what happened, he kept on thinking that if only he didn't take long to save her from that abusive marriage then maybe things would be different, then again he thought of how he couldn't spoil Nomhle's wedding cause she also has been through hell and back so he wanted her to plan her wedding in piece because he knows how Ben is like he, would have ruined nomhle's wedding as his way of revenge and he wouldn't be able to live with himself especially because of the promise he made to himself and Nomhle's late father who was his uncle. Anyway his phone rang, it was his brother Nhlaka also known as Snakes so he answered.

"Mamba"

He said with his voice full of a mixture of pain and anger.

"Smie listen ummm should I tell the police what happened"

Snakes asked.

"Yeah I want everyone to look for that motherfucker including the police "

He said that then he clenched his jaws.

"Ok"

Then they ended the call and Thorsten called one of his boys.

"Sir"

That's how he answered.

"Listen here I want you to send a Red alert (emergency code) out for Ben aka Psycho with a 5 million rand reward to whomever brings him to me alive"

Thorsten told him

"Ok sir I'll get right on it"

“And that doesn't mean you should relax you should also do your bit to find that motherfucker capish”

He told him with a stern voice.

“Ofcourse sir”

Then he ended the call and he went to sit on a bench that was not far from where he was standing and he took a deep breath and dialed Bab'dlamini's numbers.

Well Bab'dlamini is the family's traditional healer and a very close family friend in fact he's more like a trusted grandfather to the brothers and everyone else in the family, that's how much they trust him, anyway he answered on the third ring.

“Smiso my boy”

Its Thorsten's African name and Thorsten sighed heavily when he heard his voice.

“She... he...will she make it baba”

He asked him with a pained voice and Bab'dlamini sighed.

“Yes she will make it but she won't be the same again Smiso, that devil broke her”

He told Thorsten.

“Then I'll make it my mission to help her deal with everything”

“But remember that it won't be easy my boy”

Thorsten sighed

“What about her brother”

Thorsten asked him and Bab'dlamini sighed”

“ his ancestors are with him now fighting and also making sure he makes it out alive, lets hope he's strong enough to make it out cause it's not clear if he'll make it or not”

Thorsten huffed and he brushed his head roughly.

“he...he said she's pregnant”

He said with a pained voice hoping Bab'dlamini will say she still is

“ im sorry my boy, that devil knew what he was doing and he succeeded in doing so, just take heart cause Imani is gonna need you now more than ever”

Thorsten clenched his jaws as reality hit him that Imani was really pregnant with his first ever child and Ben killed him/her just like he said he would.

“ smiso now it's time to focus and not break down, now listen we are on our way and Langa ( his grandfather) has already send out his boys to look for that devil, for now just concentrate on your chosen one”

“ ok baba”

He said that with a low tone.

“Good cause now it's time to show ubundoda bakho my son ( now it's time to show your manliness my son)”

The old man told him.

“ I hear you baba”

“ good Qina ndoda( be strong)”

The old man said and Thorsten sighed

“ ok baba”

Then they ended the call and he looked down and clenched his jaws.... Then he felt a hand on his shoulder, it was Jase and he sat next to Thorsten and they stayed in total silence until Jase broke it after some time.

“ I send word out to our boys and also a reward for whomever brings him to us alive”

Jase said and Thorsten just nodded.

“ she'll make it bafo”

Jase said trying to comfort him.

“ she'll never be the same again Jase that bastard broke her .... I shouldn't have taken long to save her if only i...”

Jase interrupted him

“ noo, I won't let you blame yourself for what that piece of shit did, that bastard is sick in the head bafo what kind of a man would do what he did to

the woman he claims he loves. No no no he's sick and it's a good thing we know how to deal with the likes of him, yes the damage has already been done but all is not lost cause im sure Imani will make it and so will her brother"

Thorsten sighed.

"Bab'dlamini said her brother doesn't look good and he's not sure if he'll make it but he said his ancestors are fighting hard to make sure he does"

Thorsten said to Jase with a pained voice, he wished all this was a dream but he knew it wasn't.

" now you see not all is lost so you need to be strong for Imani bafo"

Thorsten didn't say anything further he just continued to look down with his elbows on his thighs while he popped his knuckles with his jaws clenched.

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Its been hours now and even now Muzi hasn't come out to tell them how Imani and her brother are, baba and bab'dlamini called Jase to tell him that they landed and asked how Imani is but since Muzi hasn't come out to tell them how she is well he couldn't tell them anything. Anyway the brothers were now sitting at Muzi's office in total silence even Snakes has joined them and he was busy on his laptop trying by all means to track Ben, then the door opened and Muzi walked in looking drained and tired and the brothers stood up.

" how is she"

Thorsten asked and muzi sighed as he sat down and he rubbed his neck.

" she'll live bafo but..."

Muzi answered but then he stopped and clenched his jaw.

" you know, we have female kids in our family and I swear on everything I hold dear that if any of them go through even a pinch of what Imani went through im going on a killing spree not caring if I end up in jail or dead"

He said that with an angry voice.

“ the bruises on her entire body Smiso will make your body cringe and im not even talking about her face, we need to find him fozas that bitch nigga need to be tortured immensely before he's killed”

He said that looking at his brothers with an intense look on his face

“ we won't find him now trust me cause he knows we are looking for him high and low, I know how he operates so looking for him now is a total waste of time for us. We should let our boys look for him while we cross reference his last seen locations and try to pin point where he might be headed”

His brothers nodded, they were impressed with his suggestion cause if it was them only they would be looking for Ben high and low busy wasting their resources in the process but at the same time they were worried with the way he's holding it together, all they see on his face is anger and not hurt which was odd for them cause Imani is his chosen one and they are pretty much sure Ben made sure she lost the pregnancy so if it was any of them they would be looking miserable.

“ how is her brother bafo”

Thorsten asked and Muzi sighed.

“ he's in a coma bafo, well we managed to remove the bullet on his chest and luckily his small lungs didn't collapse but eish I can't promise anything with him it's a 50/50 chance cause now machines are the ones helping him to breath for now so eish “

Thorsten clenched his jaws and he looked down.

“ and....she... she lost the baby bafo im sorry, that bastard fed her abortion pills and as if that wasn't enough he kicked her on her stomach and back multiple times”

Muzi said looking down then he clenched his jaw and just continued to look down..

“ can I see her”

He asked Muzi and Muzi looked up and nodded.

“ follow me”

Muzi said standing up and he walked out and Thorsten followed him.

“ I don't feel right with the way he's calm”

Snakes said that with a worried voice.

“me too but maybe he switched to his special ops mode and he stopped himself from feeling pain”

Jase said and he huffed.

“ you know bafo Thorsten is our brother and all but I just realized something today”

Jase said

“ realized what bafo”

Snakes asked him.

“ that we actually don't know what he's capable of when he's pushed to the limit, I have a feeling Ben is gonna curse the day his mother gave birth to him”

Jase said.

“ mmmmh we should embrace ourselves for fireworks when he gets his hands on him”

Snakes said and he smirked a bit.

“ heeh dai moeskond uzovuna lokho akutshalileyo (that bastard is gonna reap what he sow)”

Jase chuckled

“ myeke Mamba ozokhomba umzi onotshwala ( leave him Mamba he's gonna pay)”

Jase said and snakes sighed

“ you know bafo I feel sorry for him”

Snakes said.

“ sorry for who, Smiso?”

Jase asked him and snakes shook his head

“ Ben10”

Snakes answered him and Jase chuckled



“ why though”

Jase asked

“ because his head is gonna end up as decoration inside the witchdoctor's cave once the mighty beast gets its hands on him”

Jase laughed and snakes just smile

“ im telling you man, did you see all those skulls in there, heeh I wonder if it will rip his head off first or his insides or it will just snap his head and rip it off”

Snakes said and Jase frowned

“ hai Mamba man”

Jase said and snakes chuckled

“What? But it's how the beast deals with its victims mos..... ummm wait should I call them victims or volunteers?”

Jase laughed

“Volunteers bafo, our beasts don't kill innocent people so its bad guys volunteering to get ripped apart by our beasts”

They laughed

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Well concerning the “beasts” they are talking about, the thing is the is an ancient secret in the Khumalo family that only male figures knew about but now even their wives know about it, the thing is all the male figures in the family have a spiritual “beast” or half human/half animal beasts in them and it's been there from generation to generation. The beast is dangerous because when it takes their bodies it racks havoc, it can kill within a second and you would swear that, that person was ripped apart by a wild animal. It is triggered by extreme anger or being in danger, well they don't zone out when it takes over and attacks in fact they see everything, but then at least when it takes over it twitches off their conscience totally. Even when they regain control of their bodies they don't feel bad or guilty in any form, it is as if they didn't just kill somebody. Well the story behind the beast thing is the brothers' great great grandfather once met a beautiful woman and fell in

love with her and soon they got married, unbeknown to him that he married the devil's daughter instead, well let's say she showed him her true colors.

She slept with almost every man in the village, she was disrespectful towards him, and she even hired people to kill him one day when he went to the farm so that she can inherit everything and enjoy those things with her endless boyfriends but luckily those men failed. A month or so later he met a beautiful young maiden by the stream who later became the Khumalo brothers' great great grandmother, you see at first he was skeptical about her, he feared that maybe she will change like his first wife did, but he couldn't ignore the fact she had a pure soul and that she was kind hearted so he took her as a second wife. Well things went from bad to worse especially when the second wife fell pregnant, the first wife poisoned their husband and luckily he didn't die but he became bed ridden instead then she just took all the valuable things in their huts and also sold her husband's cows then she ran away with her lover leaving her husband and the pregnant second wife with nothing. But one thing for sure is the second wife never left her bed ridden husband's side, she worked on other people's farms to provide for the both of them and their infant child. Well eventually her husband got better and that's when he realized that he needed to find a way to protect his next generations of males from women like his first wife so he went to a cave where a powerful witch doctor resided and he asked him to place a protection curse to all the male figures from his lean-age with isilwane( a spiritual or mystical half human/half animal beast) to protect them from harm's way, and for the beasts to choose the right woman for them who has a pure soul and kind heart like his second wife and the curse should run until the end of time starting with his already born son. And he also asked the witchdoctor to make sure the curse should never be able to be lifted off in anyway or by anyone, the witchdoctor agreed but he first wanted a sacrifice for what he was about to do and the man sacrificed his eyes and legs and manhood( meaning he could never impregnate his wife) but then he also asked the witchdoctor to protect his son from harm's way until he gives him grandchildren and he agreed. Well the most important thing about the beast is it can never harm its chosen woman in any way or another man that has the same beast in them.

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Inside Imani's ward, Thorsten was sitting on a chair next to the bed and he was holding her hand while looking down with his heart throbbing with pain, he has been sitting there like that for some time. He wanted to talk to her, to tell her that he's sorry he took his time with saving her from Ben but words failed him every time he tried, his face showed nothing but anger but deep down inside he was in pain. He stood up and leaned forward and kissed her forehead and he whispered in her ear.

" im going to find him Immy and torture him in the most cruel way then kill him in a more fucked up way and have his corpse eaten by wild animals I promise you"

Then he kissed her dry and cracked lips and he went to stand by the window fantasizing about ways he's gonna deal with Ben when he gets his hands on him.

It was now midnight and Thorsten was sitting on the couch that a nurse got for him since he was spending the night in Imani's ward, he was sitting there remembering how his life was before he met Imani. He remembers where it all began with the beast thing and the cold heartedness and he remembered the exact day, it was the day he found out his step mother is the one that killed his mother. He remembered hearing her father and some man talking in his father's study, the door was slightly opened and he was about to knock and walk in to ask his father if he could sleep over at his friend's place, he remembers it was months after his mother passed on or better yet killed.

He heard the other guy telling his father that all the evidence points to his first wife, that she's the one that paid some guy named Wole to tamper with the brakes of a car his second wife was driving. He remembers losing it and budging in the study feeling nothing but extreme anger, the guy excused himself and he walked out quickly, he remembered his father begging him to calm down and allow him to handle things and well that got him more angry cause he knew that it meant he'll call the police on her and she'll go to jail, that she'll get to live while his mother was dead. He remember seeing his father's shocked and terrified face and the next thing he saw everything happen as if it was a 3D movie, he could see his step mother's heart being ripped out of her chest and her head also being ripped off her neck, then the next thing he was in a dark place with no light but he could here and sense what sounded like a wild animal breathing hard and also granting next to him. He was terrified and he kept on trying to call out to his father but every

time he tried the animal would grant angrily and he would just cry, what he didn't know was that he was in a beast mode for three months and his father and some witchdoctor were trying to bring him back to normal but everything they tried became fatal. They even ended up sacrificing a human being after the witchdoctor was advised by another one so that his beast can let him go back to normal but what they didn't know is they were messing up his life some more, now he can't sleep for more than three hours straight, always on the third hour he wakes up panting with his heart beating fast out of its rib cage to a man's voice crying and begging him to tell them not to kill him then he would see a man being tied to a tree and a half human/half man beast ripping him to pieces, well it's always been the same nightmare since they brought him back to normal many years ago. That's how his life has been since that time his father and the witchdoctor brought him back to normal, his heart has been immune to pain, love and happiness since then and now after so many years he can love and feel pain again but now he's sitting there staring at the person that managed to melt his cold heart just because some dickhead who thinks he's above everything, anything and everyone where else he's not even close to being all that just decided to play God with her.

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Well he came back from his wild thoughts when Imani started fidgeting in her sleep, then she started screaming and the machines started going crazy making loud sounds.

"MAMAA....LEFAAA....NOOOO....."

She screamed and Thorsten stood up quickly and went to her and he pinned her down as she was busy fighting in her sleep.

"Immy...baby wake up you are dreaming"

He pleaded with her but she didn't stop

"MAMA WAKE UP PLEASE..... LEFA....PLEASE WAKE UP..... PPLEASE MAMA LOOK AT ME"

She was busy crying in her sleep saying those words, and right then nurses rushed in and they asked Thorsten to wait outside and he did while they sedated her. As soon as he got outside he screamed out loud while swearing.

“FUCK YOU BEN WHERE EVER YOU ARE YOU HEAR ME FUCK YOU, YOU PIECE OF SHIT”

Then he punched the wall hard with his fist and small cracks were left where his fist landed. He was breathing heavily then he started feeling some tyfa way and when started granting he knew his beast wanted to come out, for the first time ever he felt his beast trying to take over and he didn't know how to deal with it or how to make sure it doesn't so he quickly took out his phone and called his brother Jase and he answered on the fourth ring.

“ yah”

He answered with a sleepy voice, he didn't check the screen of his phone before he answered.

“ jase come... the... its...I can feel it bafo.... Its”

Then Jase growled a bit over the phone as his beast warned him that another one was awake or trying to wake up.

“fuck, im coming bafo, remember no one is supposed to see you in your beast form so try to find a private place and stay there im on my way and don't worry I'll find you..... and try to fight it back bafo try hard by calming yourself down, remember it feeds on your anger so please try to calm down please”

Then he ended the call and quickly got off the bed and he went to get dressed quickly while trying to call his other brothers, as for Thorsten he found an empty single ward and he got in and stumbled on things until he got to the en-suit bathroom and he got in and locked the door and he sat down trying by all mean to fight his beast from taking over but what he didn't know is its no child's play fighting it back.

“Smiso..... Smiso! ”

Jase called out to him but then he stopped when he heard something growling inside the bathroom.

“ I don't think I want to go in there Jase, I mean did you hear that? ”

Snakes said

“Will you stop being a sissy, our brother needs us so we all going in there”

Jase said to him but he just huffed.

“when I meet mkhulu in the afterlife I’ll ask him what the hell he was thinking coming up with this beast thing nx”

Jase chuckled right then Muzi walked in.

“where is he?”

He asked them.

“in there”

Jase pointed at the bathroom.

“Let’s go in”

Muzi said and him and Jase walked to the door and they opened it and Thorsten was sitting on the floor looking scary, his skin had scales on it and it was deformed, his nails and his K-9 teeth where long and blood was coming out of his mouth dripping on his shirt and jeans since he was looking down.

“Smiso look at me”

Jase commanded him and the beast looked at him and his eyes were yellowish, he was breathing hard.

“I know you’re in there Smiso so I’m begging you to fight the beast off, don’t let it control you but instead you should control it”

Jase begged him and the beast grunted, it was as if it was fighting itself but in actual fact Smiso was trying to fight it, it looked back down and continued to grunt and groan while fidgeting.

“Think of Imani Smiso, she needs you now more than ever. When she wakes up she needs to find you there so she can see she’s not alone”

Muzi also tried talking to him but then the beast quickly looked up and snakes took a step back.

“ Imani....”

The beast said with its scary deep voice and the brothers looked at each other astonished that Smiso was able to talk again whilst in a beast form.

“ yes Imani, your Immy, she needs you Smiso so please fight to take control from your beast for Imani’s sake bafo she needs you”

Jase pleaded with him and the beast looked down.

“ Imani”

The beast said again its breathing pace slowing down.

“ Imani”

It said again.

“ yes Imani bafo, your Immy, she needs you”

Muzi said and the brothers saw that the deformation of his skin was slowing fading away and his skin was going back to normal and so was his nails.

“ Imani”

Smiso said with his normal voice and when he looked up his K-9 teeth were back to normal so was the color of his eyes.

“ how... how is she?”

He asked looking at Muzi.

“ she'll be fine, we sedated her again”

Thorsten looked down again.

“ I failed her, I.... I didn't.... protect her like I promised her I.... I would.

He said with a pained voice and his brother's except for snakes got closer to him and they sat next to him on the cold tiled floor.

“ we won't allow you to do this Smiso, first of all we are not talking about an ordinary guy here but a psychotic man who finds pleasure in hurting people, and secondly the guy is her husband and not her boyfriend so you had to thread carefully cause it's not wise to go after a married woman openly, and thirdly we had a plan in motion cause you also had to consider Nomhle's feelings and happiness too cause she also had her extreme fair share of trauma and unhappiness”

Jase told him and Thorsten sighed.

“ ummm it is safe to sit next to you Smie, im tired of standing man”

They looked at him like “wtf” and he just shrug his shoulders.

“ what?”

Snakes asked and Thorsten just shook his head looking down.

“ you know he’s a special case so let’s not mind him”

Muzi said and they laughed a bit.

“ fsek Muzi”

Snakes swore at him and Muzi showed him the middle finger.

“ mxm”

Snakes said then he sat down next to them.

“ so how are you feeling now Smie”

“ my gums hurts and so are my finger nails Nhlaka”

Thorsten answered him.

“ mmmmh I can imagine, yho mfowethu hai shem your beast is the bomb im telling you, besides the fact that it comes in different forms each time it can also talk foza imagine, im telling you your beast is the king of all beasts and I cant wait to see it when its finally transformed fully”

Snakes said and the brothers looked at him like he's crazy or something.

“ what?”

He asked and Jase chuckled.

“look at this one fozas, he couldn’t even utter a single word when Smiso was in a beast form or let alone come closer but he says he can’t wait to see his beast fully transformed mxm”

Jase said and they laughed except for Snakes.

“ entlek I wasn’t talking to the two of you but to Smie, so wena Mr. tsibinki (Mr know it all) like amatswana like to say, why are you even commenting”

Snakes said to Jase and muzi laughed while Jase showed him the middle finger, as for Thorsten he was just amused by how Snakes can bring laughter without even trying especially on serious moments.

“ anyway.....well on a serious note Smie now it’s time to be strong for Immy, that girl has been through shit and now she needs Thor the Greek God, ngisho yena the God of lightning himself and not some weak man who blames himself for another man’s doings, siyazwana angithi? ( we understand each other right?)”



They looked at him astonished.

“ madoda, weeeh bafo so you can be serious if you want?”

Jase asked him.

“ fsek nkosi”

Snakes swore at him and they laughed.

“ I called Jay and told him what’s happening and he said they’ll catch the next available flight back”

Jase told them and they sighed.

“all this is messed up, you know I knew they were psychopaths out there that’s why I make sure I monitor our family members’ movements all the time but Ben is just on another level all together, can you believe he didn’t take his mother and his pregnant second wife along with him”

Snakes informed them.

“ that bastard only cares about himself, as long as he makes it then fuck anyone else including his mother”

Thorsten told them and he stood up and right then he started coughing and he vomited out blood, then he balanced himself with the wall as he felt lightheaded and his brothers quickly stood up and held him and helped him move to the basin and he washed his face and rinsed his mouth with water and they helped him walk out of the bathroom to the hospital bed and they laid him down.

“ do you always vomit out blood and feel lightheaded after your beast has calmed down?”

Muzi asked and he nodded and the brothers looked at each other.

“ ok lay down a bit and let me organize a bed for you in Imani's ward and get you a clean shirt”

Thorsten nodded.

“ let me go take the shirt and you go organize a bed for him”

Muzi nodded and they walked out.

“I can find him if I want now but that would mean I won’t be able to give Imani my full attention”

Thorsten told Jase.

“ I know and right now being there for Imani is more important than finding Ben or whatever the fuck his name is bafo”

Jase said to him and Thorsten sighed. Well after some time Muzi and Snakes came back and Thorsten changed his bloodied shirt to Muzi's clean shirt and they left going to Imani's ward. They got in and found her lying there peacefully.

“she's gonna be ok physically bafo but I don't know about emotionally”

Muzi said.

“I'll make sure she fights and pulls through even if it's the last thing I do”

Thorsten said and the guys nodded.

“ mamba don't keep your eyes off his mother and that bitch Desiree especially his mother, even though he only cares about himself but I know deep down he cares about that old witch”

Thorsten told Snakes and he nodded.

“ why don't we just abduct her and force that motherfucker out of hiding”

Muzi asked.

“ cause that's what he's expecting us to do, im sure he has already prepared a line or two to say to us for when that happens. That thing is a fucken screw up in the head”

Thorsten told them and they just shook their heads.

“ believe me he's ready for us now and I won't have us waste our resources on him just yet, I've dealt with fuckers like him before and I know how to bring them down to their knees”

He told them.

“ ok then we will keep monitoring his last seen movement “

Thorsten nodded. Well they stayed with him for like 15 minutes or so then they left but Thorsten just stayed the rest of the night watching Imani sleep.

-----

Ben was sitting in the lounge around 5 in the morning drinking his whiskey when one of his guards walked in.

“ any news”

Ben asked him and the guard nodded.

“ there are two bounty out for you from two different people and the police are also looking for you”

The guard told him and Ben chuckled.

“ ooh is it?, and how much are they”

“ 5 mil each boss”

The guard told him.

“ mmmmh I see, what about my mother and my wives”

“ ummm your mother is still at her house unharmed so is your second wife but your first wife is in a critical condition in the hospital so is her little brother”

The guard told him and he sighed, he hated what psych did but he knew the damage has already been done so what he need to do now is make sure BEAST doesn't find him.

“ why haven't they abducted my mother and Desiree to lure me out, what is their fucken plan”

He asked with an angry voice and the guard shrugged.

“ we don't know boss and we can't even find someone from the inside to spy on us all those stupid niggas are just too damn loyal or too scared to betray them”

The guard told Ben and he huffed frustrated.

“ they are planning something I can feel it I know Beast, he won't let me go just like that especially after killing his unborn baby”

He said now pacing around the small lounge then he stopped moving and looked at the guard.

“you said the police are also looking for me”

The guard nodded.

“ then get me a burner phone and let me call my mother”

“ ok boss”

Then the guard walked out and came back with a phone and he gave it to Ben and he walked out, well Ben dialed his mother's numbers and she answered on the fourth ring.

“ Ben my son is that you?”

That's how she answered her phone and Ben sighed.

“ yes Ma, how are things”

He asked her.

“ ooh thank God you are ok, my son please tell me what they are saying you did is not true”

Ben sighed he knew lying to his mother is not good cause if Imani makes it then she will tell them the truth about what happened and the boy too and plus his mother knows some of the bad things he's done before so it's no use lying to her.

“ she was really pregnant for another man Ma worst part my enemy, and I was really hurt and I still am I just wanted to hurt her and I know she loves her mother dearly so yah”

His mother started crying.

“ ooh God what have you done Benjamin, now the police where here looking for you. What about Desiree and your unborn son”

“ Ma I just lost it ok I swear I didn't mean to do what I did but I did and I can undo it now”

He said and his mother continued to cry.

“ where are you, do you even eat where you are”

He sighed.

“ im fine Mama I just wanted to make sure you are ok”

He told her and she sniffed.

“ what about Desiree and your baby, don't you care about them”

“ Ma look I have to go and ooh im gonna send guards to make sure you are safe while im gone so please don't give them troubles and Desiree must not leave your sight until she gives birth”

He told her.

“ did you call her cause she has been worried about you”

His mother told him and he sighed, the truth is he doesn't give a damn about Desiree ever since Thorsten told him that she wanted to pin the pregnancy on him first so he started doubting the baby's paternity so now he's just waiting for her to give birth so he can do a DNA test on the baby and if he's not his then Desiree is in deep shit cause she'll curse the day she met him.

“ I'll call her Ma, now stay safe and don't trust anyone”

He told her and she sighed.

“ should I go to the funeral?”

She asked him and he clenched his jaws.

“ no please don't go, I don't think Imani will appreciate seeing you there”

He said that with a painful voice and his mother could sense regret in his voice.

“ you regret it right?”

She asked him

“ yes cause I still love her so much Ma, and the fact that she's still alive and that bastard will have her now makes me more angry, I should have killed her at least that way none of us will have her”

He honestly told her and she gasped.

“ hai Benjamin don't talk like this man, you should be remorseful for what you did and not busy talking all this rubbish, look now you are a wanted man and your other wife is stressed and it's not good for your unborn baby. O batla go mpolaya ka pelo Benjamin ( you want me to die of a heart attack Benjamin) is that it?”

She said crying and Ben sighed.

“ mama stop crying, im sorry I disappointed you but I love her mama and I can't help it, I just wanted Desiree to give birth and I'll raise my son with Imani

without Desiree in the picture, I only wanted a child from her and nothing more. I didn't mean to push Imani away and make her seek comfort in another man's arms and now all this shit happened and I just don't know how to fix things"

He said that with a pained voice with tears coming out and he wiped them off and sniffed and his mother sighed.

"I know she hates me but I cant let her go, my heart won't let me I swear I just lost it and did the unthinkable I just wanted her to feel the pain I was feeling but now I think I went overboard and I don't know what to do"

"Desiree loves you Benjamin, just take her and your son and leave the country I'll be the one to come visit you"

She pleaded with him.

" my heart beats for Imani mama and no one else can't you see, I had everything planned for us and Desiree was just a pawn and nothing else and now everything is ruined because of that bastard Thorsten im sure he went after her knowing fully well she's mine and because she was vulnerable to this whole shit of me taking her cousin as my second wife so she fell for his shit, he's gonna pay and there's no way in hell he'll enjoy her while im still alive"

He told his mother with an angry voice.

"Benjamin stop all this please, just take Desiree and build a family with her and leave Imani alone she's already lost so much"

She begged him.

"IMANI IS MINE MA, SHE'S MINE AND MINE ALONE AND I WON'T LET THAT BASTARD HAVE HER, SHE'S MINE MA. I... I know she still loves me and she'll forgive me she knows she's the one that pushed me to do what I did so she has to forgive me, she's my life so she has to forgive me"

His mother cried because she could see that what her son was feeling for Imani was just extreme obsession and when someone reaches this level of obsession then there's nothing anyone can do to change that person's mind set.

"Benjamin please listen to...."

He interrupted her.

“ I have to go ma I'll call you some other time and remember Desiree mustn't leave that house until she gives birth”

Then he ended the call and he sighed and cleaned his face and called the guard in.

“ boss”

“send flowers to Imani's ward, lilies to be specific she loves them with a listening chip planted on the flowers with a card written “ Im sorry” ok ”

The guard nodded and he walked out and Ben sat down and he poured himself another glass of whiskey and he gulped it down.

“ what the fuck are you planning Beast you fucken moeskond ”

He asked himself and poured himself another glass.

-----

Thorsten was standing next to the window lost in thoughts, it was in the morning around 8 and he just came back from home, he went to shower and change clothes and Snakes told him his wife Ntombi will go buy pyjamas and toiletries for Imani so he was waiting for her to bring them then he heard a low cough and he quickly turned and he saw Imani awake and he rushed to her.

“ hey”

He said but Imani wasn't concentrating on him but on her surroundings and when her eyes landed on Thorsten's face her bottom lip started trembling with tears coming out and Thorsten held her hand tight.

“ shhhh its ok baby, its ok you're safe now he won't hurt you anymore”

He assured her.

“ am....am I dead, did.... Did he kill you... too”

Thorsten swallowed.

“We are not dead baby, you're in hospital but you gonna be ok”

He assured her again and wiped her falling tears off gently with his thumb.

“ ma...mama and Le...Lefa?”

She asked with a low tone and Thorsten looked away then back at her.

“ Lefa is also admitted in his hospital but as for your mother im sorry baby she didn't make it”

He told her and she just cried out loud painfully until the machines connected to her started beeping loud then nurses rushed in and they sedated her.

Two hours later Ntombi came with Imani's things and she left, now Thorsten was busy on his laptop returning emails from his clients then Imani woke up again and Thorsten put his laptop away and he stood up and got closer to her and he held her hand.

“ hey”

He said and she didn't say anything she just stared into space and Thorsten just kissed her forehead and he whispered in her ear.

“ look at me”

She didn't and he put his finger under her chin looking at her.

“ I said look at me Imani!”

He commanded her with his deeper and husky voice and she moved her eyes to look at him, her right eye was swollen and slightly closed so was her upper lip and most parts on her face.

“listen and listen very well, i won't let you sink into depression because of that psychotic bastard, if you want to scream, shout, curse do so ok even if you just want me to hold you tell me and I'll do it but one thing I won't let you do is sink into depression cause when Lefa wakes up he's gonna need you and I also need you to pull through”

She looked away and swallowed slowly.

“ I said look at me Imani”

She did and he sighed and perked her swollen lips.

“ I love you and just know that once I find him im gonna make sure he pays for all the years he abused you, im gonna burn him alive right after torturing him for months if not years”



Tears came out of her eyes and he wiped them.

“ you will pull through and I’ll be next to you all the way you hear me”

She didn’t say anything.

“ I said do you hear me”

He asked her and this time she nodded slowly and he kept on wiping her tears off.

“this wounds will heal physically and even though they will take some time to heal psychologically know that it’s because they will be a reminder that you went into war with the devil and came out alive and again always remember that you are not a victim Immy but a survivor you hear me”

She swallowed slowly again and also nodded slowly while tears were gushing out, right now she wanted to be alone and cry her eyes out while blaming herself for her mother’s death and her brother being shot but by the looks of things she could tell Thorsten won’t let her do that cause besides the fact that he’s scary and intimidating, she could feel that his aura around him was darker than usual and scary in a way so she knew telling him to fuck off and leave her alone was a no no. Anyway a nurse walked in holding a basin with sterilized water inside.

“ morning sir, ooh good you are awake”

She said with a smile looking at Imani but she didn’t return it.

“ ummm im here to help you bath before the doctor comes”

Imani looked at Thorsten and not at the nurse feeling uncomfortable about what she said, she didn’t want to be judged by her or have her talk about how her body has scars everywhere and stuff to her colleagues while with Thorsten she feels a bit comfortable cause he has seen her naked before and he knows what she’s been through so he won’t give her pitiful looks or ask stupid questions, well Thorsten could see she was uncomfortable so he cleared his throat.

“ would you feel comfortable if I helped you bath?”

He asked her and she nodded slowly and Thorsten looked at the nurse.

“ I’ll take it from here”

The nurse wanted to say something but the look on Thorsten’s face made her keep it to herself.

“ ummm ok, press that thing if you need assistance “

He nodded and she put the bowl down and walked out.

“ I got you ok, whatever you want and need you'll have it you hear me”

She nodded slowly and he kissed her forehead then his phone rang and he looked at Imani.

“ let me take it I'll be outside the door ok”

She nodded again , and he walked out and stood next to the guards that were stationed outside her ward and he took it out of his pocket and answered it.

“ talk to me”

“ he called his mother but I couldn't trace the call meaning he was using a burner phone”

“ ok what else”

Thorsten asked him.

“guards have been send to her mother's house”

The caller said.

“ mmmmh so that means he's not far and he's panicking cause im sure he expected me to attack his family by now so since I didn't he's not sure what's going on or what im planning or when im planning to attack”

Thorsten said pleased cause he knew he got him where he wants him.

“ok then send some guys and shoot at the guards and make sure they kill two or three and make sure one of our boys takes that job as one of his guards so we can know what's happening in there, in fact give Agent X that mission cause he's good at blending in and acquiring valuable Intel and keep me updated”

He told the caller.

“ roger that sir”

Then they ended the call and right then a delivery man walked to them holding a bunch of flowers and he greeted them.

“ im here to deliver this flowers for Mrs. Tau and im told his is her ward”

The delivery guy said looking scared as the guards and Thorsten had hard looks on their faces.

“ who are they from”

Thorsten asked him and the poor guy swallowed hard.

“ I don't know sir im just a delivery guy”

He said and thorsten took the flowers from him and one of the guards signed for them and the guy walked away quickly, thorsten checked the card and it was written “ im sorry” and it clicked to him instantly that they might be from Ben.

“ hold them for me”

He told one of the guards and he got away from them and he called Snakes.

“ smie”

He answered.

“ mamba come to the hospital now I think Ben just send Imani some flowers so I need you to check if he didn't plant a listening chip or something on them”

“ im on my way”

Then they ended the call and he went back to the guards and whispered to them.

“ keep them safe Snakes is on the way for them”

They nodded and he went inside and he found Imani looking scared, she was holding the covers tight closer with tears gushing out and Thorsten rushed to her.

“ what's wrong Immy”

She didn't say anything, her bottom lip was trembling and Thorsten just kissed her forehead.

“ you are safe now Immy ok, im here now and im not going anywhere ok”

She nodded slowly and he wiped her tears off and kissed her forehead again.

“ now let's get you cleaned up, I'll be gentle ok”

She nodded slowly looking at him, she was glad he wasn't giving her pitiful looks cause she hates them and that he was here for her cause she knows that, for as long as she's still alive and Ben is still out there he will damn sure come after her.

It's been 5 days since Imani and her little brother were admitted in hospital and she was getting better physically but emotionally it was another story altogether, she only felt safe with Thorsten around and she didn't know why cause he's also a man and he can hurt her like her husband Ben did but she couldn't help it but feel safe with him around. She has now accepted that her mother is gone and her little brother is fighting for his life and all that was done by her own husband, what she felt for Ben now was just pure hate and she couldn't help but also despise and partly blame her aunt (Desiree's mother) cause she's the cause of all this, she saw Imani as her meal ticket and she also used her mother's illness to her advantage so she sold Imani to Ben so she can score herself her lobola (dowry) money.

Anyway Imani was now sitting on a chair next to a window in her private ward lost in thoughts, she was thinking of the fact that if only Desiree's mother didn't force her to marry Ben so he can help save her mother's life, her mother would have died and rested in peace with her husband in heaven then and she wouldn't have married Ben, she wouldn't have endured the physical, psychological, emotional and mental abuse she suffered in the hands of Ben. She would have accepted things back then and she would've found herself a good job and taken care of her little brother in peace but no her aunt made her feel like her mother's death would be her fault if she dies while she could've done something to save her, she assured her that Ben is a good man from a good family and that he will take good care of her and she believed her like the naïve girl she was. She remembers the first time he beat her up and locked her in the "vault" she went to her aunt and told her what was happening and her aunt's response was that firstly she should never tell her mother about it cause it might slow her recovery process and secondly that she should never discuss her marital problems with a third party and that she should stop making her husband angry and also stop complaining when he disciplines her, she went back home feeling hurt and disappointed at her aunt cause she just told her that her husband was abusing her and her reply was " she should stop making Ben angry and also stop complaining when he disciplines her" so front then on she kept the abuse to herself until she met Thorsten.

She felt a hand on her shoulder and she froze with fear while her whole body visibly shook, all of a sudden all she could see was darkness around and not a pinch of light until he heard his voice but it sounded far.

“breathe baby....breathe it's me Smiso...please breathe”

Thorsten pleaded with her until she calmed down and she closed her eyes and when she opened them she could see clearly.

“you calm now?”

She nodded and he kissed her forehead and he took a chair and sat next to her.

“what were you thinking about, I called you a couple of times but it's like your mind wasn't even here and when I touched you, you just froze”

She looked down and played with her fingers.

“ Immy look at me”

And she quickly did and swallowed slowly cause her throat was still scratchy and painful, his voice was calm but it carried a lot of authority.

“ talk to me”

He said that looking straight into her eyes and she looked down.

“ Desiree's mother is the one that forced me to marry B....him, I didn't want to but she said if mama died and I could've done something about it she will never forgive me”

She swallowed slowly again.

“ I went to her when he first beat me up and she said I should never tell mama and also not to complain when 'he' disciplines me as my husband so I never told anyone until I met you”

Thorsten clenched his jaws looking at her and he held her hand and pulled it to his lips and planted a kiss on the back of it.

“ and guess what?”

She looked at him.

“ she married her precious daughter to the same monster she forced you to get married to because of her love of money, now your cries have been answered even though you had to lose your mother and our unborn baby

first but you are safe now Imani I'll protect you with my life or else this world will be too small for me and the person that will pose a threat to you, you hear me?"

She nodded and he kissed the back of her hand again.

" do you want to see Lefa today"

He asked her and she sighed looking down then she shook her head no.

" you know I want you to talk to me Immy you know our rule, we communicate always and whenever you don't like something or you feel like crying or screaming or even if you just want me to cuddle you let me know and I'll make it happen, we talked about this right?"

She nodded.

" yes"

She answered him.

" now talk to me"

He said to her.

" I hate seeing him like that, it's my fault that he was shot"

She said with her eyes full of tears.

" is your name Benjamin psychopath Tau?"

She shook her head no.

" do you own a gun perhaps?"

She shook her head no looking down.

" now why are you taking someone else's blame as yours?"

He asked her and she kept quiet a bit.

"its my fault cause he told me what would happen if I double crossed him and I did"

She told him and she swallowed hard fighting back her tears.

" tell me here, when your father was alive did you see him ill-treating your mother or beating her up or have you seen your mother with suspecting bruises on her body or her being unhappy?"

He asked her and she shook her head no.

“ no”

“ then if your father never did any of those things to your mother why do you think its ok for them to be done to you by some dickhead, I mean even if your father did that it doesn't mean you deserve to be abused Imani no one deserves to be abused you get that, Ben is a sick bastard and he's been one before he even met you, can you believe when we were still in the military deployed in Congo he once wiped out a village of male children for his own fucked up reasons”

She looked at him shocked.

“ yeah and he was even admitted in a military mental institution cause they thought he lost his mind but he was totally faking losing his mind and a few years later he was released saying he was now ok mentally, I don't even know how that happened but it did and now we are here”

She closed her eyes then she opened them again not believing what she was hearing.

“ so stop taking blame for what that psychopathic bastard did ok, you should concentrate on burying your mother and being there for your brother and also getting better and leave everything to me cause once I get my hands on him I'll literally skin him alive and use his useless skin as my own fucken door mat”

He said that with an angry voice and he stood up.

“ come “

She took his hand and he helped her stand up and he cupped her face but she looked away ashamed of her bruises on her face.

“ look at me Immy”

She did slowly and he planted a kiss on her lips and stared into her eyes.

“ these bruises will heal and a laser treatment will make these scars to fade away so please don't hide away from me because of them cause remember what I once told you, that they are a reminder that you went to war with Lucifer himself and came out alive and stronger even though you don't feel like it now ok”

She nodded and he kissed the tip of her nose and her forehead.

“ you do know that you turning me into a softy right, I mean this nose-tip kissing thing and forehead kisses I've accustomed to now are totally new to me, I've never done them before not forgetting even this Dr Phil thing I have going on is new to me”

He smiled at her and she lazy smiled and that made him happy that he made her smile.

“ now let's go see your brother, he needs to keep hearing your voice so he find his way back using it ok”

He told her and she nodded, she took her scarf and she wore it like mourners do so she can hide her bruised face and they walked out slowly, he didn't want her to use a wheelchair because he wanted her to exercise by walking to Lefa's ward whenever they went to see him. Another thing is he's giving her these small talks and encouraging her to talk about things so she will be able to talk to a professional when she's ready to cause for now the other person she trusts a bit and even let him touch her besides Thorsten is her doctor being Thorsten's brother Muzi and that's it so he's preparing her to be open to talk to a profession when the time comes cause now he can see she's not ready and he doesn't want to force her.

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They were now back from Lefa's private ward and Imani was now sleeping with her head on Thorsten's chest, that's how she sleeps now cause when she's not she always wakes up screaming and panting from her nightmares, it's like him holding her as she sleeps chases away her nightmares. Anyway she was now fast asleep when his phone rang, he got her head off him gently and laid it on a pillow and he got out of the bed and he took the ringing phone out of his pocket and it was a restricted number but he answered anyway.

“ yah”

That's how he answered and the caller chuckled and right then he knew who it was.

“ mmmmh what a nice surprise Benjamin”

He said that looking at the sleeping Imani.



“ let me guess you have been waiting for my call mmmmh?”

Ben said with an amused voice but Thorsten kept his serious tone.

“ now why would I do that when I have Imani to take care of by nursing her back to health mmmmh? ”

He said that knowing it will tick him the wrong way and guess what, it did.

“ so you gonna rub it in now”

He said with an angry voice and Thorsten chuckled.

“ she's mine now Benny so a man has got to brag you know”

“ fuck you Beast you hear me Imani is mine and she'll always be mine.... I mean even her last name is Tau “

Ben said with an angry voice.

“ you do know she can change back to her maiden name or even my own surname right, I mean you are a wanted man for first degree murder, attempted murder, domestic abuse and many other charges laid against you so she can have your sham of a marriage annulled”

Ben was now breathing heavily over the phone and Thorsten was chilled as hell.

“ Imani would never do that she knows she's the one that pushed me to do what I did so she can't have our marriage annulled”

Ben said and Thorsten just chuckled baffled by what Ben just said.

“ and here I thought maybe just maybe you are faking this whole psychotic thing only to find out now that you are actually mentally disturbed for real”

Then he chuckled.

“ WHO ARE YOU CALLING MENTALLY DISTURBED YOU SON OF A BITCH”

Ben snapped and Thorsten smiled cause he knew he ticked him off.

“ you Benjamin, I mean only a mentally unstable man can do what you did and still blame the victim, no normal person would say what you just said man”

Thorsten said with a smirk on his face.

“ im not mad ok I love her and she just pushed me to the limit by fucking you”

“ and before she fucked me how did she push you to do what you did to her”

Thorsten asked him and he kept quiet for a bit.

“ I don't owe you any explanation Beast I just wanted to tell you to stop playing hero to my wife cause it won't be long before we are reunited again”

Thorsten chuckled.

“ you see why I said you are mentally disturbed, just focus on that bitch called Desiree and that bastard child she's carrying “

“ look you can say what you....”

Thorsten interrupted him.

“ooh shut up Benjamin and end this fucken call Immy needs my undivided attention”

Thorsten said and that made Ben angry to a point that even psych took over.

“ keep talking shit Beast and I'll wipe out your entire family like I did with those boys in Congo”

Psych said.

“ finally, damn I was wondering when you'll take over cause Ben is just a pussy man”

Thorsten told him.

“mxm I see you got our present that came with the flowers”

“ mmmmh but it was just too predictable you are losing your touch man”

Thorsten said to psych still looking at the sleeping Imani and psych just chuckled.

“ I told Ben that you'll find the chip but hey he planted it anyway, you see he maybe a pussy but he's stubborn as hell”

Psych told Thorsten.

“ mmmm so what.... ”

Thorsten said but got interrupted when he saw Imani fidgeting in her sleep.

“ look man my woman needs me so we will chat some other time..... ooh and be ready you might be sitting there drinking your cheap whiskey not aware that im actually watching you”

Right then there was a knock on Ben's door and he froze.

“ is that you beasty?”

Psych asked taking out his gun and Thorsten chuckled then he became serious.

“ open and find out.... Remember you can run but you can't hide from me you son of bitch”

Then he dropped the call and got closer to Imani and he kissed her forehead.

“ Immy wake up”

He said shaking her and she quickly opened her eyes breathing heavily and when she saw Thorsten she tried to calm down.

“nightmare again?”

He asked her and she nodded then he perked her lips and got into bed and she rested her head on his chest and he held her and kissed the top of her head.

“ you are safe now ok”

He told her and she nodded.

“ now rest my love”

She just closed her eyes feeling safe now.

Meanwhile Ben opened his door slowly with his finger ready to pull the trigger but stopped when he saw his guard standing there.

“ shit are you fucken crazy couldn't you call out to me instead of knocking and keeping quiet, I could have killed you you dumb ass”

Psych said to the guard looking pissed.

“ so...sorry boss”

“ nx”

Psych clicked his tongue and he disarmed his gun and when to pure himself a glass of whiskey and he gulped it all down at once and he went to sit down and looked at the guard.

“ im listening”

He said to the guard.

“ ummm your second wife left your mother's place “

“ what?”

Psych said standing up and he took his burner phone and dialed Desiree's numbers and she answered on the third ring.

“ hello”

“ nyello...nyello that's all you good at nx”

Psych said and Desiree gasped.

“ Ben?”

That's all she managed to say.

“voetsek! Weren't you told not to leave the house you stupid bitch?”

She swallowed feeling offended that after so many days without even calling her and now he calls to insult her.

“ you have the nerve Ben after all the shit you have done disappearing on me and all that you were accused of, you still have the guts to insult me”

Ben chuckled.

“ the fact that I didn't even call you shows that you mean shit to me, the only thing that matters to me is that baby in your womb and that's if it's mine”

Psych told her and she swallowed.

“ how...how can you say that to me Ben”

She said to him with a breaking voice.

“ ooh suck it up we both know you are not sure of that baby's identity now shut up and go back to Ma's place before you fucken regret it nx”

She started breathing hard as anger took over.

“ fuck you Ben you hear me fuck you and I hope the police find you and lock you up for killing my aunt nx”

Psych laughed.

“hey watch it bitch, I killed the mother of the woman who owns Ben's heart so imagine what I might do to yours, I mean that old whore called your mother loves money so much that it will be easy to get to her”

Then he laughed as Desiree gasped with shock.

“now if you know what's good for you, you will go back to Ma's place and go be a good bride and don't make me call you again or else I'll do worse to you than what I did to Ben's love Imani ok”

Then he dropped the call and Desiree parked the car on the side of the road and just cried as Ben's words played in her head.

-----

It's now two days before the funeral and Imani was discharged earlier in the morning and she was now in Thorsten's house, she's gonna go home tomorrow which is gonna be a day before the funeral cause the elders advised that Nomhle (her cousin who is also married to Thorsten's brother Jay) should speak to the doctor to discharge her so she can come bury her mother, they don't even know she was discharged cause none of the elders including her aunt ( Desiree's mother) have bothered to go visit her in hospital or to even visit Lefa and that made Nomhle to not bother herself by telling them she's discharged. Anyway Nomhle once went to visit Imani in hospital and she couldn't believe the state she was in. they both cried until tears couldn't come out anymore and she promised Imani that she shouldn't worry about anything that has to do with the funeral cause she'll take care of things and Imani was grateful cause she wasn't in the right state of mind to arrange a funeral. Well the khumalo wives especially Nomhle have been hands on with the funeral arrangement whilst Imani was still in hospital, Desiree's mother tried to control things but Nomhle wouldn't let her cause her husband warned her about her and her daughter Desiree, they once even exchanged words but Nomhle just told her off as if she wasn't her aunt. As for Thorsten he has been there for Imani and he's the only thing that stops her from being depressed cause he talks to her and most importantly he doesn't pity her which is something she hated, being pitied that is.

Now Imani and Thorsten were lying in bed with her head on his chest ( her safe heaven) and his arms were around her tiny body in a protective manner.

“ I want you to do me a favor Immy”

She nodded.

“whenever you don't feel safe or you feel suffocated tomorrow and Saturday you should tell me ok”

She nodded.

“ and I know that it won't be easy being there especially since Nomhle said Desiree and her mother have been there since last week so I want you to ignore them and concentrate on burying your mother ok”

She nodded again.

“ good now rest and when you wake up and im not here know that im downstairs since my brothers are on their way here”

He told her and she shifted uncomfortably.

“ you gonna leave me here alone?”

She asked with a shaky voice and Thorsten sighed and he gently flipped them over and he was now looking down at her.

“ you are safe here Imani, this yard is full of guards to make sure you are safe, no one will ever hurt you Immy no one ok”

He told her and she nodded and he laid back on his back and pulled her to him gently and she laid her head on his chest again and she closed her eyes feeling sleepy, she drank her pain medication and it was making her drowsy. After an hour he got out of bed and covered her with a fleece blanket and he walked out leaving the door wide opened and he went downstairs and he found his brothers in the lounge watching tv while eating.

“fozas”

He greeted them and they greeted back and they also fist bumped then he sat down and sighed.

“ how is she?”

Jay asked.

“ always scared, that fucker installed so much fear in her that I don't even think she get better any time soon but it's all good cause im not going anywhere and neither is she”

The brothers nodded.

“ so any word on that crazy bastard”

Thorsten asked, well he already told them about the call he received from Ben.

“ well no one has found or seen him but ever since we increased the reward money well the underworld has been going crazy, everyone is looking for him and im sure that will make him want to move from his current hiding place to another one and bam we got him”

Snakes told him.

“ yeah I know him he's about to panic and we might even be lucky and have one of his guards betray him, I mean 10 mil is a lot of money”

Thorsten said and they nodded.

“ I saw Desiree and yeer bafo why would you decide to choose a jezebel a as wife mmmmh?”

Snakes said and they laughed.

“ please don't start snakes especially with that thing”

Thorsten told him and he sighed.

“ im just worried about Imani's safety from tomorrow and her state of mind with Desiree and her stupid mother there”

Thorsten said and he leaned back on the couch.

“ well as for her safety its sorted, we all will be there along with the guards who will try to blend in with the crowd so that they won't be spotted easily and as for her state of mind well Nomhle and the girls will have her back, we already talked to them and they know everything and what to do”

Jase told him.

“ ok, I just have a bad feeling about Saturday”

Thorsten told them

“ yeah the feeling is there with us too foza”

Jay said and the brothers nodded agreeing with him.

“ you know if it were up to me Imani wouldn't even go to the funeral but she has to be there to say her final goodbyes to her mother so im gonna make sure she wears a bulletproof for just in case ”

Thorsten told them.

“ you think he might want to finish her off Smiso?”

Muzi asked Thorsten and he nodded

“ psych might not Ben, I picked that up when he called me that time, he's unstable and his mind is fucked up cause im sure the reason he let her live is because of Ben but now that she's in my care he knows that Ben might do anything in his power to try and talk to her which will make him give away his location in the process unknowingly so the best way for psych might be to eliminate her, Im not sure but hey anything is possible with that fucker“

Thorsten told them and they kept quiet thinking hard about what he just said. Well they stayed for some time then they left and Thorsten went upstairs and found Imani fidgeting in her sleep so he got into bed and held her from behind and her body was tense, he then kissed her cheek and whispered in her ear.

“ you are safe Immy now relax”

Her body then relaxed a bit and Thorsten felt it.

“ good, now rest im here ok”

She nodded still asleep and he pulled her closer and he closed his eyes too taking his usual 3 hours sleep before he wakes up sweating and panting like he usually does.

Well the following day Thorsten helped Imani pack her clothes that Ntombi went to buy for her a day before she was discharged, she only packed clothes that she will need for only two days and Thorsten only packed toiletries and a suit for himself for Saturday, soon they left and they went passed the hospital to see Lefa and he was still the same, after an hour of sitting with him they left for Imani's home and they found the brothers and their wives there waiting for them with guards all over the yard, the neighbors where already out watching while others were picking through their windows wanting to see the state Imani was in since the last time she was here she left



in an ambulance with her brother and her mother left in a government mortuary. Anyway they got in the yard and went inside the house with Imani walking slowly and as soon as she got in house her heart started beating fast, she stopped on her tracks and held on to Thorsten as what happened that fateful morning played in her head.

“ it's ok my love, its ok”

Thorsten said holding her in a protective manner then he kissed the top of her head as she rested her head on his lower chest, and right then Desiree walked in the lounge and when she saw Thorsten she swallowed hard cause he looked yummy and handsome, her mind instantly went to when she was still married to him and the amazing and mind blowing sex they used to have with his huge anaconda buried inside of her then she frowned when she saw him holding Imani like that.

“ Thorsten, gosh you are here”

She said looking at him and he frowned looking at her with nothing but disgust displayed on his face, he then pushed Imani off him gently and cupped her face ignoring Desiree.

“ you can do this ok, im here for you my love ok”

She nodded slowly and he wiped her tears off with his thumbs and he kissed her forehead and right then Desiree's mother walked in the lounge from the bedroom and she frowned looking at Imani being held like that by another man while she's still married to Ben.

“ what kind of nonsense is this? IMANI! What rubbish is this?”

She raised her voice and Imani flinched but Thorsten didn't let her go.

“ I asked you a question man, who the hell is this? How can you let...”

“ SHUT UP!”

Thorsten interrupted her and the room went quiet, other elders walked in the lounge when they heard Thorsten's scary voice.

“ askies?”

Desiree's mother (Tintswalo) asked with her hands on her hips.

“ you heard me woman, if you have nothing better to say go jump off a bridge or something nx”

He said with a commanding voice but Tintswalo didn't move an inch.

“ hai man we are mourning people so stop all this now”

One of the elders said but it fell on deaf ears.

“ Thorsten don't talk to my mother like that ok more especially because of this barren thing”

She said with an attitude and Thorsten gave her a death stare while the brothers chuckled shaking their heads cause they knew she fucked up pretty bad by saying that about Imani.

“ barren?”

Thorsten asked then he looked at his brothers.

“ did she just call Immy barren fozas?”

He asked them.

“ yep she did foza”

Snakes said and Thorsten looked back at Desiree.

“ well at least she's not a whore like you who sleeps around to a point that she doesn't even know the real father of the bastard she's carrying”

Desiree gasped then she swallowed with tears filling her eyes.

“hey wena my daughter is married to an honorable man who is the father of her child unlike that slut who's busy holding on to another man while still married to another one nx”

She said and clicked her tongue and Imani swallowed and tried to get off Thorsten's grip but he tightened it.

“ ooh is it, did you know she was once married to me and she tried to pin that bastard she's carrying on me but I saw right through her and I told her to fuck off and divorced her ass”

He said for everyone to hear and there was gasps all around the room while Desiree's eyes filled with more tears and they ran down her cheeks.

“ you are lying my daughter wouldn't get married without my knowledge”

Tintswalo said breathing hard with anger visible on her face.

“ is he lying Desiree dear?”

Snakes asked her and she didn't say anything she just cried and mumbles and more gasped were heard around and her mother looked at her.

" tell me he's lying Desiree"

She didn't say anything she just cried and her mother swallowed.

" ooh and I divorced her cause she started whoring around sleeping with every man she could find then that fool Ben fell for her tactics when she pinned the pregnancy on him since they were sleeping together behind Imani's back and he married her and now we are here, so next time before you insult and call other women names make sure your own daughter is a saint first cause you just gave birth to a gold digging whore but hey like mother like daughter right I mean you also don't know who her father is. Anyway now that's out of the way he's a thing, Imani is mine now and if anyone has something to say better say it to my face now or forever hold your piece cause if I even hear you said some shit to her I'll rip your fucken heart out with my bare hands capish?"

Everyone looked at him shocked and the brothers smiled not believing that their brother just dropped that bombshell in front of other family members while their wives looked shocked by the news.

" good"

He said when no one attempted to even breath a single word out.

" heh nthwe e bodile leganong bathong ( this thing is rotten in the mouth) nx busy talking as if this is his father's house nx"

One of the male elders said with an angry voice

" askies what was that old man?"

Thorsten asked looking at the elder with an intimidating look and he didn't say anything

" I thought as much"

Then he turned to Nomhle as the elders walked out mumbling things.

" which bedroom will she use hlehle"

" Lefa's since hers is 'occupied' "

She said the last part looking at Desiree and her mother then she gave him the keys.

“ thanks ,lets go Immy”

He said to Imani and they walked away leaving Desiree and her mother tongue tied, as for Desiree the jealousy she was feeling when seeing Thorsten holding Imani like that tore her heart cause she wished it was her he was holding like that, even though he just humiliated her like he just did she still had feelings for him and seeing him again just awakened those feelings. Now she regretted cheating and losing him especially after the encounter she had with Ben few days ago, then her mother grabbed her upper arm bringing her back to her senses and she dragged her to Imani's bedroom since they both have been using it since they got here.

“ what is he talking about Desiree”

He mother asked her with a frown on her face as soon as she closed the door.

“ im...im sorry mama”

A slap landed on Desiree's cheek and she held it looking down as more tears came out.

“ you got married and you didn't even tell me Desiree mmmmh?”

“ im sorry mama”

Desiree pleaded but her mother would hear none of it.

“ is that even Ben's child?”

She shrugged her shoulder and her mother slapped her upper arm.

“ TALK DESIREE! is that Ben's child?”

Her mother shouted at her.

“ I don't know mama”

She said crying and her mother sat on the edge of the bed defeated with her hands on top of her head.

“ ooh this child has killed me, my God this child has killed”

She said with her hands on top of her head and Desiree just cried.

“ im sorry mama, I messed up and I think Ben suspects this child might not be his, he even threatened to kill you like he did with aunty Tinyiko”

She told her mother and she looked at her with squinted eyes.

“ what did you just say? Are you telling me that Ben, your husband really killed my sister and it wasn't just rumors?”

Desiree nodded and her mother held her head busy saying “ no no no” and she fell back on the bed and it was lights out then Desiree rushed to her and saw that she fainted and she screamed out for help.

Thorsten was sitting next to Imani on the edge of Lefa's single bed while holding her closer, her hands were visibly shaking and the cry she was crying would pierce right through even the coldest heart ever, Thorsten was holding her tight as she cried while he clenched his jaws. He let her cry out as she called out for her mother, he just wanted her to cry out all the hurt she was feeling so she doesn't bottle things inside, even when Desiree screamed out for help they didn't move an inch. Then there was a knock on the door and Thorsten told the person to come in and Nomhle did and when she saw and heard Imani's heart piercing cries tears filled her eyes and Thorsten shook his head looking at Nomhle and she wiped her tears off with her bottom lip trembling.

“ you have to be strong for her hlehle please”

She nodded and continued to wipe her tears.

“ please bring her some water to drink”

Thorsten told her and she nodded and walked out, then she walked back in with a glass full of water.

“ I mixed the water with sugar”

He nodded and she gave him the glass and she walked out as she couldn't stomach Imani's painful cries, even her voice was almost gone.

“ drink”

She got off his grip and he helped her drink the water since her hands were shaking, then he put the glass down and he wiped her face and he planted a kiss on her shaking lips.

“ look at me”

She slowly did and her eyes were swollen and red.

“ I love you ok”

Tears fell from her eyes when he said that and he wiped them.

“ look i used to read about love and I have been searching for it for years and finally now I found it and I can feel it in fact you make me feeling it in here”

He said putting her shaking hand on his left side of his chest.

“ you melted my cold heart Imani and I know this is not the right time or place to be talking about this but I want you to know that you are the first person more especially a woman I love and will ever love so me saying this Im actually telling you that you are not alone in all this Immy and you’ll never be alone, you are part of me now and that makes you family, you are not alone you hear me, you and Lefa are part of my family now ok”

She nodded and he kissed her forehead and pulled her closer.

“ you not alone Immy... you not alone”

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Well Desiree’s mother did wake up and she had been crying ever since then until they made her drink sleeping pills so she can be able to rest, while Imani and Thorsten slept in that single bed cause Imani was scared to sleep alone, in fact she begged him not to leave as she said Ben might come and abduct her in the middle of the night and so Thorsten decided to sleep there with her well more like stayed up all night watching over her even though he knew it was wrong to do that cause he knew it will seem like he disrespects this house and its elders and let alone the African culture but he just couldn’t leave her alone or with anyone else for the whole night, well it wasn’t much of a hustle for him to stay up all night watching over her since it’s what he’s used to, the thing is he finds it hard to sleep for more than 3 hours straight because of his unstable beast. Every time when the 3rd hour finishes he always wakes up sweating and panting from his usual nightmare, in his nightmare he always sees a man being tied to a pole naked with cuts all over his body screaming and calling out Thorsten’s name pleading with him to help him talk to them not to kill him then out of the blue a scary looking mystical beast that looked like something that is out of this world attacks the man and rips him to pieces and when it turns to look at Thorsten who’s been standing there frozen on the spot, that’s when he wakes up panting with sweat all over, the dream is always the same and he always wakes up when the beast turns to look at

him so his body now is used to it only having three hours of rest per day. Anyway he checked the time and it was 4 in the morning and he called Nomhle's numbers and she answered on the fourth ring since they were up all night helping out with peeling vegetables and cooking.

" bhuti"

"can you and the girls come to Lefa's room"

He told her and she agreed then he ended the call and there was a knock on the door and he told them to come In and they did then he woke Imani up and she did.

" I need to go to the BnB and freshen up so can you please help her get ready I'll be back as soon as im done"

He told them.

" it's ok don't worry Smie"

Kedi said and Thorsten looked at Imani.

" I'll be back ok"

She nodded looking down and he kissed her forehead and got out of bed and he wore his shoes.

" please don't leave her alone and no pity looks she hates them"

He told them and they nodded and he kissed her forehead one more time and he grabbed his car keys and phone then he walked out.

-----

Desiree bumped into Imani and the girls coming out of Lefa's bedroom and she frowned with a disgusted look on her face.

" mmmmh I see it's your plan neh, I mean eating my left overs since i ate yours"

Imani didn't say anything she just attempted to walk away but Desiree grabbed her arm with the attempt to stop her but Imani flinched and got startled.

“ im talking to you bitch, don't walk away when I talk to you”

She didn't see it coming cause Ntombi grabbed her hand the one that she was holding Imani with and she twisted it making Desiree to scream with pain while Nomhle grabbed her by her weave tightening her grip around it.

“ touch her again and you'll vomit out that bastard you carrying instead of giving birth to it uyangizwa lwabishi ( you hear me)”

Ntombi said to her and Desiree nodded quickly.

“ ooh and just so you know Smiso is not your left overs but you are his instead cause he dumped your cheating ass and I even heard you left without even a penny nx now you better go and find your real baby daddy and leave Imani alone nx”

Nomhle said to Desiree then she let go of her and so did Ntombi.

“ and when you see her you better look the other way, now walk bitch!”

Kedi said and the girls gave her the “ bitch you still here?” look and she walked away like a penguin with her big belly busy brushing her hand with tears in her eyes and they all clicked their tongues.

“ damn ya'll are savage as fuck and I love it”

Noma said and they giggled.

“ we are the Khumalo wives after all and we have to be savage every now and then just to prove a point”

Ntombi said and Noma just shook her head with a smile on her face, as for Imani she was just standing there looking down lost in thoughts, she was thinking about her mother and the good times they shared before her step father died and her mother suffered stroke and also before Ben came into the picture, she then came back to her senses when Nomhle brushed her back gently while her other hand wiped her tears.

“ all is gonna be well Nkateko believe it, it might not be now but it will someday, now let's go they are about to start”

They walked out and as soon as they got outside people stared at her while giving her pity looks and she just looked down until they got to the tent that was outside the gate because of the norm or myth that most black people believe in that when someone dies by being shot, being stabbed or involved in a car accident and dies he or she is not supposed to enter the yard as a



corpse unless they want to collect his or her soul if that person got killed inside the yard or house so that's why the tent is outside the yard so is her expensive dome casket covered with a brand new blanket with flowers surrounding the casket on the floor, anyway Thorsten walked to them along with his brothers and they hugged them except for Imani who was holding on to Thorsten with her body shaking.

“ whats wrong Immy”

Thorsten asked her

“that... that guy that is wearing a brown leather jacket with a white shirt works for him I've seen him in the house a couple of times Smiso”

Imani told him then she hid her face in his chest visibly shaking and he wrapped his arms around her.

“ he's here, he's here to take me, he's going to kill me Smiso, please don't let him take me please I promise I'll be a good girl I won't cry anymore or look depressed I'll be strong for Lefa just don't let him take me please”

She cried shaking and Thorsten looked at his brothers and they nodded.

“ we got this”

They said looking angry cause her pleads and cries touched the depth of their hearts, as for the wives they were busy wiping their tears off. The brothers walked away going to the guy and Thorsten bent and whispered to Imani's ear.

“ I've rather die than to let him or anyone take you or hurt you while I just watch ok, I love you now calm down cause I got you”

He kissed the top of her head and looked at the girls.

“ go sit down and when it's time to go come to us you are driving with us ok”

They nodded and Kedi held Imani closer and they went inside the tent and sat down on the front row and when Imani and Nomhle saw the coffin they sobbed and Ntombi, Noma and Kedi comforted them. And outside the tent the brother's alerted the guards and they apprehended the guy and shoved him in a car with some people watching and the car drove off and the brothers went to stand next to the tent looking at the girls.

-----

They were now at the cemetery and the brothers and the guards were on the lookout as the bad feeling they had was now strong and Jase, Jay and Smiso's beast were restless, Imani and the girls were sitting down inside tent as the pastor was busy preaching, they made sure the girls wore bulletproofs when they were inside the car driving to the cemetery, they were wearing winter jackets since it was a very cold morning so no one was gonna see the bulletproofs since they buttoned them all the way up.

" be on the lookout for something is about to happen I can feel it"

Jay said and they nodded

The pastor went on and on until the coffin was lowered into the grave and Imani screamed out loud "MAMAAA...MAMA PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME AND LEFA ALONE PLEASE MAMA" she stood up and ran to the open grave while screaming " DON'T PUT HER IN THERE SHE'S GONNA WAKE UP PLEASE STOP, MAMA WAKE UP" and Nomhle stood up too and ran after her and held her from behind stopping her from getting closer to the open grave and Thorsten rushed to her but stopped moving when he saw a shiny and bright object on the right far end of the cemetery sticking out behind a tall tombstone and his beast grunted then he shouted with a beast voice.

" GET DOWN NOW!"

He said running to Imani and Nomhle but a bullet had already hit Imani on her chest and she froze for a bit then she fell back as people started screaming and hid for cover, luckily Nomhle held Imani not caring that she might also get shot and she went down with her and as they were about to fall on the ground Thorsten caught them both and covered them with his body, as for his brothers they ran to Noma, Kedi and Ntombi as they were lying flat on the ground now as more shots were fired.

The guards were trying to see where the gunshots were coming from but they couldn't see anything because of people who were busy running away from the burial site screaming with others falling and others lying flat on the ground while covering their heads, it was just chaos everywhere, so as soon as it was clear of people running around Thorsten shouted at the guards.

" HE'S BEHIND THAT HUGE TOMBSTONE OVER THERE"

He pointed at it and the guards started shooting towards it but then the sniper shot three guards and the other guards shot back at the direction of the huge tombstone and now no shots were fired back at them.

“ CHARGE NOW!”

Thorsten said and the guard shot towards the tombstone moving towards it and as soon as they got there, there was no one behind it now.

“ CLEAR BOSS! ”

They shouted back and checked around for the shooter but nothing. Well Thorsten was now kneeling next to Imani who was lying there with blood coming out of her mouth with Nomhle in Jay’s arms crying her lungs out. He checked her pulse and he couldn’t feel it then he quickly ripped open her winter jacket and took off her bulletproof that had a sniper bullet stuck on it and he ripped open her shirt and she had a dark red bruise on her chest that looked bad and he breathed out and did CPR on her with the brothers and their wives who were crying hysterically were watching, the third time he did CPR on her right after he did Mouth to mouth she started coughing out loud and also trying to catch her breath.

“ BREATHE IMMY, BREATHE MY LOVE”

Thorsten said now holding her upper body in his arms and once she caught her breath he kissed her lips and looked at Jay.

“ I’ll be back look after her”

He told him with a tone they’ve never heard him use before.

“ Smie where are you going “

Jay asked him as he took out a gun on his back and he crocked it.

“ I’ll be back”

He got up and rushed away as the brothers looked at each other and Muzi got closer to Imani and he checked her bruised chest then they heard a loud scream, it was Desiree.

“ MY BABY NOOOO, MAMA MY BABY”

She screamed out loud as her mother screamed for help, blood was coming out between her legs and she was in pain. Muzi ignored her pleas and he focused on Imani.

“ guards go take her and rush her to the hospital and take the injured guards also”

Snakes told them as he knew it will take time for help to get here and other guards rushed to Desiree while others carried the injured guards and they rushed to their cars.

“ we need to rush Imani to the hospital she could be bleeding internally”

Muzi told them

“ I’ll stay behind for Smiso ya’ll go”

Jay said and they nodded, he kissed Nomhle and Muzi carried Imani and they rushed to the car right as the car that had Desiree in drove away quickly.

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Thorsten was now rushing to the other direction where the shooter was with his gun ready, he was busy looking around to see any movements. The yard of the cemetery was huge so he was trying to cover as much ground as he possibly can while looking around for any movement and Jay was behind him as backup even though he wasn’t aware. As he was moving forward he saw a busy road at the far end of the cemetery and he knew unless the shooter has already left the cemetery by now then he will try to escape going that way over the removed asbestos blocks to his getaway car so he concentrated looking around while moving forward slowly then he saw a male figure holding a big black sports bag with a phone on his ear on his far left side, it looked like he wasn’t in any rush to get away cause he was just walking to a whole where an asbestos block was removed and not running, then Thorsten heard some movement coming from behind him and he quickly turned to see Jay and he indicated he should keep quiet and he went after the suspected shooter and making sure he doesn’t make noise and the guy didn’t even sense that he was being followed since he was busy talking on the phone.

Thorsten got closer and he pointed the gun at him at a fine distance and he whistled cause his “war” motto in life is “ a real man doesn’t shoot another man on his back, that is cowardice in his eyes so he makes sure he faces his opponent face to face before killing them” so when he whistled he wanted

him to turn and yep he did and when he saw the beast himself standing there pointing a gun at him then the guy tried to get his hand gun from his back.

“ aah aah aah, don't even try it”

Thorsten said to the guy and the guy stood still and he smiled nervously.

“ you can kill me but I did what I got paid to do beast”

The guy said and Thorsten shook his head.

“ and the fool knows who I am and he still tried to kill my woman ( he sighed)...ooh and before I forget you missed cause she's still alive just bruised a bit that's all”

The guy's smile faded and his eyes popped out.

“ what? No I never miss”

“ I wasn't asking you but telling you so I guess you not as good as you thought you were mmmh ”

Thorsten told him and he saw the guy looking behind him and he knew it was Jay.

“ you got this Smie”

Jay asked him and he nodded.

“ yeah and ooh tell this bitch that my Immy is still alive so he's not that good”

Thorsten told Jay and Jay looked at the guy.

“ you not that good man, she's alive and kicking”

The guy swallowed hard with a feeling of failure washing over him.

“ let me guess Ben send you”

The guy nodded with his jaws clenched as he knew it was the end for him.

“ how much did he pay you”

Thorsten asked him.

“ half a mil”

He said sweating now.

“ mmmmh now look me in the eyes since you thought you can take the mighty beast on”

Thorsten said with a commanding voice and the guy did and Thor pulled the trigger and shot him right on his forehead and the guy fell back on the ground and Thorsten and Jay walked closer to him and Jay kicked him.

“ nx msunu (vulgar word)”

Jay said.

“ talk about kicking a donkey while its down”

Jay laughed and Thorsten took out a handkerchief from his pocket and crouched next to the bag and he unzipped it using the handkerchief to touch the zip and he found a sniper rifle inside and he zipped the bag while Jay was busy searching the guy and he only found a phone and a gun on him then they got up and Jay kicked him again.

“ only found a phone and a gun on him”

Jay told Thorsten.

“ mamba will check the phone out leave the gun, let's go bafo”

They left the body there and walked back to where the shooting scene happened and Thorsten took out his phone and called Jase cause it's not wise to call Snakes on times like this cause he might just pull one of his “ too soon” moment and Thorsten is just not in the mood for that now he needed to focus, Jase answered on the second ring.

“ did you find him?”

Jase asked.

“ yeah and Ben is the one that send him, how's Immy?”

Thorsten asked him and Jase sighed.

“ Muzi is still busy with her, he wants to make sure she's not bleeding internally”

“ nah she won't, I've seen those bruises before and had them too before so she'll be ok cause luckily the bullet got stuck on the bulletproof vest so the impact it was hurt her”

Thorsten told him.

“ ok, so what about the grave, who'll fill it up since people ran away”

Jase asked him.

“ Jay and I and the guards will fill it up”

Jay gave him the look and Thorsten chuckled.

“ nah wena come to the hospital to be with Imani and the girls and Snakes and I will come and help Jay and the guards to fill it up”

Jase told him and Thorsten smirked.

“ ok, tell Mamba I have a little present he needs to look at it, it's with Jay”

Thorsten said.

“ ok bafo”

Then they ended the call and Thorsten looked at Jay.

“ you, Snakes and Jase and the guards will fill up the grave while I go be with my Immy”

He said with a smirk on his face and Jay showed him the middle finger and Thorsten chuckled then Thorsten's phone rang and he looked at it and cursed.

“ fuck, its baba”

Jay chuckled.

“ and karma just visited you within second of hearing my cries, damn I love that bitch she's always spot on”

Jay said and he laughed.

“ up yours man”

Thorsten said showing him the middle finger then he answered.

“ baba”

“ I hope your chosen one is not harmed in anyway”

His grandfather said and Thorsten sighed.

“ she's only bruised baba she's gonna be ok”

Thorsten said.

“ I hope so or the five of you nizonya( you'll shit yourselves) when I get there, Dlamini and I are coming tomorrow so you better have solid solutions for me and not assumptions or stupid theories concerning that demon that killed your mother in law”

Then he dropped the call.

“ why can't this old man just enjoy his pension years gracefully like other old people do instead on keeping us on our toes like this mxm”

Jay laughed.

“ believe me he's gonna be the most hard working ancestor when he finally joins his ancestors, busy ordering us around while he's in the ancestral land, you know what they say about the wicked, that they never rest mfowethu and that's baba for you”

Jay said and Thorsten chuckled while Jay laughed.

“ no one should name their babies after him please, only one Langa is enough to ever exist in our family no no no”

And Jay laughed out loud.

It's now four days later and Baba and the brothers were now sited in Thorsten's lounge with Baba looking at them one after the other after they told him that they haven't found Ben, well he postponed his visit due to some business but now he was here and he was looking at them with an angry face. As for Imani she was sleeping upstairs, she was discharged the following day after the shooting while her little brother was still in a coma. It's not easy for her but she's taking things one step a time.

“Repeat what you just said”

Baba said looking at Thorsten and Thorsten sighed.

“ we don't know where he is but we have everyone looking for him”

“is that your excuse Smiso”

He asked looking at Thorsten with a frown.

“ it's not an excuse Baba”

“ then what the fuck is it, that bastard is out there alive while your mother in law is dead, your chosen one is traumatized, your brother in law is in a coma and Nomhle is shattered”



Thorsten sighed.

“Baba we got this, we will find him it's just a matter of time”

Jay told him and he looked at Jay.

“Nkosenye you know I hate it when you slack, I fucken hate it, all of you know that when someone threatens our family we take them out immediately”

Baba told Jay and Jay sighed.

“we know Baba but we are dealing with a psychotic man who has connections and he's also an ex-military man and like Smiso said, Ben is not an ordinary man his head is messed up and he's capable of anything”

“ more reason why he should be dead by now, what if he comes for Imani mmmmh? “

Baba said.

“ we will find him Baba for now we just need to make sure everyone in our family is safe”

Snakes said and Baba just shook his head and he stood up taking his phone out from his pocket and he walked away dialing it.

“at least he didn't shoot us”

Snakes said.

“ and im thankful for that cause I can't go home with a bullet wound Kedi would kill me this time”

They laughed and Baba came back.

“ Smiso bring Imani here I want to see her”

Thorsten swallowed and he nodded and he stood up and went upstairs and when he walked in the bedroom she was coming out of the in-suite bathroom and she quickly fixed the long sleeves of her shirt and she held them at the end.

“you up”

She nodded and he went to her and he cupped her face and planted a soft kiss on her lips and forehead and he looked at her.

“ my granddad wants to meet you”

Her eyes popped out shocked.

“ why? does he wants me to leave your house since im still married to....”

She couldn't even say his name, she asked Thorsten with her heart beating fast.

“hey relax, he just wants to see the woman that melted this stone cold heart”

He said the last part while beating his left side of his chest gently with a smile on his face and she relaxed a bit.

“ does he know?”

He knew what she was asking about and he nodded.

“ and he still wants to see me?”

He nodded again.

“ let's go my love he hates being kept waiting”

He held her wrist and she flinched, he saw that and he looked at her with a frown.

“ what's wrong”

He asked her and she looked away trying to hold it together cause she was feeling pain where he held her.

“ no... nothing”

She said that and tried to pull her wrist from him but he tightened the grip and she shut her eyes hard as she flinched with pain and he quickly held her hand and pulled the sleeves of her shirt up and his whole body froze as he looked at what she did to herself then he looked at her face and she was looking away while biting her trembling lip as tears ran down her cheeks. He then closed his eyes trying to calm himself down and when he opened his eyes then he swallowed hard and let go of her hand.

“let's go Baba is waiting for us”

She couldn't even look at him so she just wiped her tears off and she followed behind him as he walked to the door, she was wearing grey sweatpants that had purple stripes on the sides and a grey long sleeved round neck shirt and sleepers with a scarf wrapped on her head, she also had her glasses on since her right eye was slightly blinded but she can see a bit clearly with it when

she's wearing her glasses. They walked down the stairs and they got to the lounge and she stood next to Thorsten looking down and Baba scanned her from head to toes and he stood up and walked to her and he stood in front of her.

" how are you nkosazana?"

He said stretching out his hand for a handshake and Imani shook it but she flinched a bit when she felt pain on her cuts.

" im good and you sir?"

She said looking up at him now and when Baba saw her extreme beauty that couldn't even be hidden by her loss of weight and pale skin, he also got captivated by her cute deep dimples, he smiled raising his eyebrows at Thorsten and he nodded at him and Thorsten smirked. Baba couldn't even believe the beauty Imani possessed and now he understood why Ben is extremely obsessed with her.

" please call me Baba and not sir nkosazana , anyway im good too and im sorry about all the things you went through but know this you are in a better place now and no one is gonna hurt you ever again ok"

She nodded looking down and he let go of her hand and patted Thorsten's shoulder.

" lucky bastard"

He said that smiling at him and Thorsten chuckled while his brothers laughed and Baba went to sit down again.

"you can go and rest nkosazana I just wanted to see the woman that turned this cold beast in to a soft warm one"

The brothers chuckled and Thorsten shook his head looking at Baba.

"ok Baba"

She then turned and walked up stairs going back to the bedroom and she bend on her side of the bed and took out a knife and she went to the bathroom and she locked the door and she took off her sweatpants and sat on top of the toilet seat and she continued to cut her thighs from where she left off the last time, she would cut a straight line from left to right and then she would wipe the blood off with a tissue then she would apply Colgate on the cut to stop the bleeding, she cut herself a couple of times until she was

satisfied and she sat there with her eyes closed letting the pain sink in and overshadow the pain and guilt she felt inside.

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Back in the lounge.

“ sit Smiso”

Baba said and Thorsten sat down.

“I need the truth now from you, why are you letting that bastard live cause I know if you wanted him found and killed you would have in fact all of you would have”

He asked him looking straight at him with a serious look on his face and Thorsten sighed.

“ I need to make sure Imani is alright first”

He answered looking down.

“ weeeh Smiso how would she be alright while she knows that he’s out there alive and probably planning on a way to get to her”

“ Baba Imani is suicidal and I can’t leave her alone cause im afraid she might harm herself if she’s left unattended”

His mind went back to her and the cut marks he saw on her lower arms and he clenched his jaws.

“did something happen to Imani Smie”

Snakes asked him.

“ no she’s just closed off and I’m afraid she might harm herself.

He lied, he just didn’t know how if it’s right to tell them about her or not, he was still processing what he saw and he didn’t know how to go about everything.

“you should get her some help from a professional Smiso before she does something bad to herself”

Jay told him and Thorsten nodded.

“now back to the issue at hand, I want him found and killed with immediate effect cause now this shit doesn’t only revolve around you and your chosen one Smiso, it also involves the rest of the family, I mean he knows you are a Khumalo so he might hurt one of our family members just to get to you so finish this once and for all and then you can concentrate on your chosen one without worrying about that bastard, I hope im making myself clear”

“ yebo Baba”

Thorsten said.

“and it goes to all of you, now im giving you all three weeks tops to find that moergat and kill him and its not negotiable or you’ll deal with me”

Then he stood up and walked a bit the he stopped and turned.

“ooh and Smiso we never lie to each other ever in our family you hear me, when something happens we share it and find a way to solve it together, remember the is no I in our family, that girl needs professional help cause the next time she won’t do small cuts on her arm but she might stab herself or better yet drown herself or jump off the balcony”

Thorsten swallowed and the brothers looked at him.

“ she flinched like she was in pain when I shook her hand, she even loosened her grip and her hand was shaking not forgetting the visible pain she portrayed on her face”

Then Baba walked out and the brothers kept on staring at Thorsten.

“ Smiso?”

Muzi called his name and he looked down.

“ I saw the cuts now when I went to call her “

They all looked down with their jaws clenched.

“ how many times must we tell you that you are no longer alone Bafo that we have your back no matter what”

Jase said and Thorsten sighed.

“ I know that ok, I just.... I was still processing what I saw....how do I tell ya’ll she cuts herself while my mind refuses to believe it”

He told them but the truth is he's a lone walker at heart, always has been and quite frankly always will be cause that's who he has always been and he knows it will take a while for him to be open and to allow them in without feeling like they might turn on him or something. The thing is he grow up alone and many people he considered close friends and brothers have backstabbed him so he vowed to never depend on anyone for anything except for his father and his late uncle Brimah who once went to jail for him, he took the blame when Thorsten snapped and killed some boy in varsity cause he insulted his late mother. So uncle Brimah cooked up a lie to the police and told them the boy was his employee and he was selling drugs for him and he decided to steal from him and he killed him, he pleaded guilty and he was given 15 years in prison but he only spend 8 years with the help of Thorsten's father and from then onwards his Uncle became the second person he trusted.

" it's ok bafo, look I'll look for a best therapist she can see and I'll send you his/her contact details"

Thorsten nodded.

"anything else Smie we should know about"

Snakes said raising his one eyebrow.

" well the thing is I can only sleep for three hours only and after that I wake up to a nightmare that have been repeating itself since the day I was brought back from a beast form"

They all kept quiet waiting for him to say he's joking but he didn't.

" for real?"

Jay asked him and he nodded.

" wow ok so what's the nightmare about"

Jay asked him again and Thorsten sighed.

" I always see a man tied to a pole naked busy begging me to tell them not kill him then out of the blue what I think is my beast attacks him and rips him to pieces and as the beast rushes to me I wake up every damn time"

They all look at him with their eyes popped out.

" did you tell Bab'dlamini about the nightmare"

Muzi asked him and he nodded.

“ yes but not each and every details like I just told ya’ll and he said my beast is unstable Muzi and there’s so much he can do to help tame it but lately something strange has been happening to me”

“ what?”

Jay asked him.

“whenever I sleep with Imani in my arms I sleep like a baby and the nightmare doesn’t happen, like that day she was discharged I slept for 6 hours straight I only woke up when I felt Imani was trying to get off my grip, my body was even painful cause it’s not used to sleeping for more than 3 hours”

He told them.

“maybe because you found your chosen one now your beast can behave a bit”

Muzi told him.

“ yeah maybe”

“ but you should talk to Bab’dlamini about it”

Snakes said.

“ yeah I will”

Well they spoke for some time then they left and Thorsten went upstairs and found Imani sleeping then he shook her.

“ Imani wake up”

“mmmmh?”

“I SAID WAKE UP!”

He raised his voice a bit and she quickly opened her eyes and she sat up slowly.

“ get off the bed”

He told her with a serious look on his face and she slowly did.

“now take off your clothes”

“huh?”

She said that with her eyes popped out.

“ I said take off your clothes!”

He said with his commanding voice and she closed her eyes a bit as fear started to kick in.

“ im waiting Imani!”

She slowly took off her shirt and she was left with her bra and when Thorsten saw the cuts on her arms he closed his eyes as if he's in pain and she took off her sweatpants then he opened them and they were red but then when they landed on her thighs and he saw the cuts his heart bleed and he looked at her with his jaws clenched.

“why?”

He asked her and she didn't say anything she just looked down.

“ I SAID WHY DAMN IT!”

He shouted with his scary voice and she jumped a bit and tears ran down her cheeks as her whole body shook with fear.

“ YOU DON'T WANNA TALK?”

“im sorry”

That's all she managed to say as she was crying and Thorsten looked at her with a painful look on his face.

“ you are aware that you not only hurt yourself but me too right?”

He told her and she just continued to cry.

“ I just want the pain to stop Smiso, it hurts so bad and....and I can't take it anymore”

He breathed out and he rubbed his face and he looked back at her.

“ what did you cut yourself with”

She sniffed.

“ a knife I found in the kitchen”

He just shook his head not believing it.

“ bring it here”



She wiped off her falling tears and she went to her side of the bed and she kneeled down and took it under the bed and she got up and gave it to him, he checked it out and it was cleaned thoroughly and he shook his head looking at it and he walked out without saying anything to her and she just sunk on the floor and cried. He then came back and sat on the couch that was in the bedroom and he looked down with his elbows on his thighs and his hands on his head.

“you are going to see a profession and you’ll talk to her and let her help you, I hope im making myself clear “

She didn’t say anything she just sobbed and he raised his head and looked at her.

“ I’m talking to your Imani!”

She nodded.

“ now come here”

She reluctantly stood up from the floor and went to him, she was still only wearing her bra and lace underwear. She got to him and he pulled her to his lap and he held her tight with his hands around her tiny waist.

“ im not about lose you to depression Imani and I thought we talked about it”

She didn’t say anything she just rested her head on his chest.

“talk to me Imani”

“ it hurts Smiso and I just want it to stop so the pain from the cuts overshadows the pain I feel in my heart a bit”

He sighed.

“ I hate seeing you like this Imani and my hope is for Lefa to wakes up to find you doing better”

“ he’s gonna hate me when he finds out that im the reason Ma was killed”

She honestly told him and he sighed.

“ what should I do to make you realize that all this is not your fault”

He told her and she shook her head as she sobbed.

“it’s my fault Smiso, im the reason he killed her and injured Lefa and he’s gonna hate me when he finds out Smiso”

“ I know he won't in fact he will hate Ben and wish he was old enough to protect you and your mother when he finds out what you went through at Ben's hands “

He told her and she just sobbed silently and they stayed in silence for some time until Thorsten spoke.

“I think you charmed my grandfather you know, I mean he was smiling like a retard looking at your face and im not sure how to feel about that”

She breathed out loud.

“ well he is a handsome old man”

She said.

“ ooh is it?”

Thorsten said and she giggled a little.

“ for your grandmother ofcourse”

Thorsten chuckled and he kissed the top of her head.

“good”

Then he sighed.

“ I love you Imani do you get that, I want to protect you always and now I wish I can take all the pain you are feeling so you don't feel it anymore, I want you to get better and be happy, I want you to smile often so I can see your dimples on full force and I want you to eat properly so you can get your body back cause im sure normally you are not this skinny, I also want to take you and Lefa on vacations and most importantly I want to wife you and plant my seeds in here”

He said the last part pointing at her belly.

“you hear me?”

She nodded and he kissed the top of her head.

“im sorry Smiso”

She said honestly.

“it’s ok and no more cutting yourself ok, if you feel overwhelmed there is a gym downstairs and you can go punch the punching bag until you are satisfied alright?”

She nodded.

“he’s gonna come after me Smiso and I’m scared he might hurt you or one of your family members and I can’t live with that”

She said and breathed out loudly trying to calm herself down and he kissed the top of her head again.

“ don’t worry I’m going to find him and kill him in the most painful way ever”

He said that with a serious tone and she felt shivers run down her spine.

“ get dressed and lets go feed you”

She nodded and got up then his phone rang and he took it out of his pocket and answered it while looking at Imani who was getting dressed slowly.

“talk to me”

“ we got a tip off but the person wants the reward money first before he gives us the location of psych”

The caller said.

“ give me two hours and I’ll get back to you”

Thorsten said.

“roger that sir”

Then they ended the call and he send his brothers’ smses and he went closer to Imani and he cupped her face and kissed her lips. As they were walking down the stairs his phone rang and he didn’t recognize the number but he answered anyways.

“yah”

That’s how he answered but the caller kept quiet a bit and as for Imani she went to the kitchen leaving him by the stairs to answer the phone.

“ Thorsten hi”

The caller said and immediately he knew who it was, it was Desiree.

“what is it?”

“ummm”

Then she sniffed.

“ can....can I see you please I need you, I lost the baby Thorsten and... and it hurts please I need to see you”

Then she cried.

Thorsten chuckled while shaking his head.

“im sure that anesthetic drug they gave you is messing with your head”

She just cried.

“Thorsten please”

She pleaded while crying.

“ listen here Desiree I don't have time for your shit you hear me, why don't you call that useless husband of yours to come and console you”

He told her and she sniffed.

“Thorsten look I know you probably hate me and I deserve it I just want someone I can talk to about what im going through please”

“ you are so pathetic Desiree, look here girly my woman Imani is waiting for me so I don't have time for a useless and spineless bitch like you, karma has visited you so take it like a bitch you are and stop wasting my fucken time nx”

Then he ended the call and he went to Imani.

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At the hospital, Desiree was crying her lungs out after Thorsten dropped the call on her. What he said to her broke her already bleeding heart, she hoped he still cared and when she called him crying he will come running but that's not the case cause he rubbed it on her face that he's with Imani and that stung and it made the hatred she has for Imani to grow stronger. The thing is she never like Imani since she could remember cause she always had everything, she herself wished to get. She hated the fact that Imani had a loving mother who put her before everything else while she had a mother that loved money more that she loved her. She also hated the fact that Imani

was clever and intelligent while she's the "air-head" between them, she also hated that Imani's mother met and got married to a man that treated and loved Imani like his own while she doesn't even know who her real father is and all the men her mother ended with wouldn't even last three months with her while some would make advances at her even though they were with her mother.

So she pretended to like her all those years but she stopped when she started to sleep with Ben and even at that Imani never suspected anything and she even ignored Desiree's sudden change of attitude towards her, but on the day Ben went to pay for her bride price and she saw the hurtful look on Imani's face she felt peace in her heart and she vowed to make life miserable for her as her sister-wife and now all this happened and she's all alone while Imani is with her ex-husband and that pain of seeing Imani happy while she suffers is back again but not for long cause she'll be damned if she ends up happy while she ends up miserable and lonely "she thought".

Well her mother walked in her ward with some food and she put the paper bag down and sighed.

" I brought you something to eat sit up"

" im not hungry mama"

Desiree said staring into space thinking of ways to make Thorsten forgive her and take her back.

" you need to eat Desiree so you can gain some strength"

Her mother said and Desiree shook her head no with tears running down her cheeks.

" will it bring back my baby if I eat mama mmmmh, no it won't so please let me be"

She said wiping her falling tears and her mother sighed.

"I know Desiree ok but starving yourself won't bring your baby back too"

Her mother said and she just got annoyed.

"Ma please leave I need to be alone now"

“ are...are you asking me to leave Desiree”

He mother asked her with disappointment in her voice and Desiree sighed.

“ Ma please I just wanna be alone”

She said and she sniffed.

“ohk I'll come see you tomorrow then”

She said disappointed and she took her bag and walked out and Desiree breathed out loud and she closed her eyes and pictured that time she was still married to Thorsten and how wonderful and easy her life was and now Imani is living that life where else she doesn't even know where to from here since Ben is a wanted man.

“im gonna get my man back one way or the other and that bitch Imani wont stand in my way, I mean he was mine to begin with moes”

She said to herself and she sighed as her hand landed on her now flat belly and tears ran down her cheeks.

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THREE MONTHS LATER.....

Well things have been good between Thorsten and Imani, she was now seeing a therapist and she's doing well in her sessions, even though everything is going well for her but she still has moments where all of the torture and pain she went through in the hands of Ben would come crashing down on her but going to the gym and breathing techniques that Dr. Sharma taught her come in handy. She hasn't been intimate with Thorsten and she could tell it's hard on him cause now he doesn't shower with her anymore and he doesn't pull her body from the back closer to his like he did before when they cuddle, she understands that he's a man and sooner or later he's gonna fall for temptation since he's not getting some from her but she's just not ready for intimacy and Dr. Sharma told her never to feel pressured to do things she's not ready to do cause that might slower her recovery and trigger emotions she's trying to let go like all those emotions she felt whenever Ben forced her do things she wasn't comfortable with so since she's not ready for

intimacy she told herself she won't do it until she's ready and if Thorsten cares deeply for her like he claims he does he will wait for her since he told her he's in it for the long haul. Well as for Desiree and Ben they have been quiet this three months, and that call Thorsten received about Ben's location well Thorsten told his guy to set up a meeting with the "snitch" but the guy never pitched and that became about it, three weeks passed and they still haven't found Ben and Baba was on their neck and he still is. It's like Ben disappeared from the face of earth, he haven't even called Thorsten since the last time he did when Imani was still hospitalized but Thorsten knew wherever he is he's recruiting and planning and that frustrated the shit out of him cause he knows that he's capable of anything.

Even the guy he planted in Ben' mother's home doesn't have any valuable information cause Ben haven't called his mother too so it seemed like it's a dead end. Well now he's in his office and he's on the phone with his IT guy.

" so sir you want him to kidnap the mother and see if psych won't come out of the shadows?"

The guy asked.

"yeah I just want to see if he's still alive and in the country and if he contacts the chief guard you should let me know"

"roger that but sir you know he wont come out right"

His guy said.

" yeah I know I just wanna know if he's still alive that's all, I don't wanna be chasing a ghost, time is money so I wanna know if he's still alive and around"

Thorsten told him.

" roger that"

The guy said.

" you have 48 hours to abduct that old hag"

" so what should we do to her after we have confirmation that he's alive"

The guy asked.

"one bullet on her forehead and dump her corpse somewhere it will be found"

Thorsten said with a firm voice.

“got it, over and out”

Then they ended the call and Thorsten sat back on his chair and he closed his eyes, besides the fact that this Ben issue is frustrating the hell out of him, he was also sexually frustrated. He has never stayed three months without having sex not even a week would pass without him getting some and now he's starving like crazy and there's nothing he can do but to give himself hand jobs here and there and they don't quench his thirst not even a little bit and now he was tired of giving himself hand jobs, yes he tried to be intimate with Imani three weeks back and she told him straight on that she's not ready and that just frustrated him some more so since he doesn't want to push her or put her into pressure he just let her be. Then his phone rang disrupting him from his thoughts and it was Imani, then he sighed.

“my love”

“hey you good”

She asked cause she could hear that he was a bit down.

“yeah im good and you?”

Thorsten said getting up from his chair and he went to stand by the window looking outside with his left hand inside his pocket.

“im ok.....ummm I wanted to go see Lefa so I don't know if you not too busy to drive me there”

She said and Thorsten sighed, he had a conference call in 15 minutes.

“ im afraid I won't be able to drive you baby I have a conference call in 15 minutes but I will send a driver and some security details to take you there”

He told her and she sighed disappointed.

“ok then I'll wait for them”

“alright, I'll check on you during the day ok”

Thorsten said.

“ok...ummm Smiso are we good?”

She asked him and he cleared his throat.

“ yeah ofcourse baby,why?”



“ cause you are distant and I have a feeling it's because of us not being intimate”

She honestly said and Thorsten sighed.

“ look baby can we talk about this when I get home cause now it's not the right way to discuss such”

He told her.

“ooh ok bye”

She said disappointed and she ended the call and Thorsten sighed and he clenched his jaws cause he could hear disappointment in her voice

“shit”

That's all he said and his phone rang again and he recognized the number then he answered.

“yah”

“hey daddy you good?”

The caller said.

“yeah im good, I though you're out of the country”

“I was but now im back so I thought we could have some fun, Im going back to the UK next week”

Thorsten clenched his jaw as all his blood rushed to his dick then he breathed out.

“ummm im afraid I'll take a rain check on that “

He said and the girl couldn't believe it.

“wow you've never said no me Thor what's up? please don't tell me you have already replaced me”

“you know there's no other than you Nancy, im just busy”

Thorsten said.

“how about I come to your office and we can have a quickie just to clear your mind”

He breathed out loud cause that's what he wanted, to clear his mind and to release all the tension he's feeling but then he knew he couldn't hurt Imani especially now that she's doing well.

"like I said Nancy I'll take a rain check, look I gotta go we will chat later"

Then he dropped the call and he sighed.

"shit I need to fuck my balls will turn purple one of this days nx"

He said to himself then his office phone rang and went to answer it.

-----

It was later at night and Thorsten was in the shower while Imani was lying in bed waiting for him so they can talk when his phone rang and she reached for it on top of the night stand on his side and she answered it.

"Thorsten's phone hello"

"ooh hi can you give Thorsten his phone"

Nancy said and Imani breathed out to calm herself down.

"who's are you to call him at this time of the night?"

Imani asked with a bit of attitude.

"hey girly just because you get to have his dick too doesn't mean you are more important, FYI Thorsten doesn't do love and shit he just fucks and passes and only and I mean only if you are good in bed will he keep you just like he kept me, so stop with the attitude cause I might just tell him to include you in a three sum we gonna have one of this days cause he loves them and I might teach you a thing or two about how to satisfy him fully, anyway tell him to call me"

Then she dropped the call and Imani sat there breathing heavily with her bottom lip trembling, she then tried to unlock his phone since she knows the password but the password was changed and she threw it on top of the pillow frustrated and she got out of bed with her heart beating fast, it felt as if she was having a panic attack then she remembered the breathing exercises her therapist taught her and she did them until she calmed down and then tears ran down her cheeks and she quickly wiped them off and she

went to the closet and she changed to her gym wear and she got out and she went downstairs to the gym and she punched out all that hurt and anger she felt on that punching bag with tears running down her cheeks.

When Thorsten came out of the bathroom he saw that Imani was not in bed and he called out to her but nothing, then he saw his phone was now on top of the pillow and not where he left it and he huffed, he wiped himself and he put lotion on his body and he wore his pyjama pants and a vest and he wore his sleepers and he walked out of the bedroom calling out to Imani.

He started to panic a bit when she didn't answer him but he stopped on his tracks when he saw that the light in the gym room was on and he rushed there and when he opened the door he found Imani crying while she was sitting on the couch and he rushed to her, she wanted the hurt that she was feeling inside to stop but it didn't want to.

"Immy what's wrong"

He tried to touch her but she pushed his hand away from her and he swallowed.

" Imani?"

" did you sleep with her?"

She asked him without even looking at him.

"slept with who?"

He asked her.

" do you even love me or you just pity me Smiso?"

Thorsten stood up and looked at her with his hands on his hips.

" Imani what's all this? what sort of question is that"

He asked her with an annoyed tone and she chuckled and she also stood up.

" I ASKED YOU A QUESTION THORSTEN NOW ANSWER ME!"

She shouted and Thorsten raised one eyebrow looking at her and she was now looking at him with her bottom lip trembling with anger visible on her face.

“ is that how you speak to me now Imani?”

He said and she continued to look at him.

“ why did you change your password on your phone?”

She asked him ignoring his question.

“ I ASKED YOU IF THAT'S HOW YOU TALK TO ME NOW!”

He said with a firm voice but she wasn't shaken cause she was hurt and now she was busy concluding things in her mind which were not good.

“AND I ASKED YOU TWO QUESTIONS NOW ANSWER THEM!”

She said and Thorsten took a step closer to her and she stood her ground.

“Imani what's wrong with you mmmmh, you go through my phone and you still have the nerve to ask me stupid questions”

“ wow stupid questions neh, ok then Mr Boateng keep your stupid phone and keep fucking her and have your stupid three-somes and leave me the hell alone”

“what the fuck are you talking about Imani”

“unlock your phone and give it to me”

She said breathing heavily looking at him and he had a frown on his face and he was getting pissed off by the minute.

“and why would I do that this is my fucken phone and not yours”

She chuckled.

“ you are a piece of shit Thorsten you hear me you are a fucken cheating piece of shit nx”

she then tried to walk past Thorsten but he grabbed her upper arm and he pulled her back roughly but then a slap landed on his cheek and he closed his eyes for a sec and when he opened them they were red with rage then he tightened the grip on her arm hard while looking at her with an angry face, as for Imani she wanted him to beat her up like Ben did when she

disrespecting him cause she knew the physical pain she's gonna feel with overshadow the pain she feels inside.

"don't you ever in your fucken miserable life lay your fucken hand on me again you hear me!"

He said with the scariest voice ever that made Imani to tremble with fear and now she regretted slapping him.

"I said do I make myself clear!"

He said that through his teeth and she quickly nodded then he let her go and walked out of the gym and she sank on the floor and cried her lungs out, after sometime she stood up and she wiped her tears off but that pain in her heart was still there and she wanted it to stop so she went to the kitchen and she took out a knife and she went upstairs and she went to the guest bedroom and she got inside the en-suite bathroom and she stripped off her gym wear and she opened the basin drawer and she took out a sealed toothpaste and she sat on top of the toilet and she cut her thigh on top of the now healed cuts and she cleaned the cut with a tissue and she applied the toothpaste to stop the bleeding and she sat there with her eyes closed as the stinging sensation she felt overshadowed a bit the pain she was feeling inside.

She cut herself a couple of times on both her thighs and after she was satisfied with the physical pain she was feeling she cleaned the knife and put it and the toothpaste back in the drawer and she got dressed and she went to the bedroom and she got inside the covers and she hugged the pillow rocking herself until sleep took over.

In his study room Thorsten was laying on the couch pissed as hell to what Imani did, no one has ever slapped him and got away with it and he was mad angry that he can't do anything to her, if they were intimate he was gonna punish her sexually and he was gonna send his message to her clearly but that is out of the question, then he unlocked his phone and he went to his call log and his suspicions were right Nancy called and Imani answered and he knew that whatever Nancy said to Imani is what ticked her off to go all crazy on him. Then he dialed her numbers and she answered almost immediately.

" hey daddy did you change your mind"

“Nancy what is our rule”

“ummm not....not to call you, that you'll be the one to always call me”

She said with a low tone.

“ and what the fuck did you just do?”

“im sorry daddy I was missing you and....”

He cut her off.

“ now listen here, your fucken services are no longer needed indefinitely and you better lose my numbers nx”

Then he ended the call and he blocked her numbers and he laid there trying to calm himself down so he can go apologize to Imani for manhandling her like that even though she pushed him to do it

After his “calming down” session he got up and went to the gym and Imani wasn't there, then he went upstairs to the main bedroom and she wasn't there too and he huffed then he went to the guest bedroom next to the main bedroom and he found her sleeping, he thought of taking her to the main Bedroom but he though against it so he let her sleep and he went back to his study room and decided to do some work even though he knew that his head was all over the place.

The following morning he walked inside the kitchen to make himself some cup of coffee and he found Imani staring into space holding a cup in her hands, she was still wearing her gym clothes. He cleared his throat and she still didn't snap out of her thoughts so he went closer to her and touched her shoulder and she jumped up with fear and as soon as she saw that it Thorsten she calmed down a bit.

“sorry to startle you, are you ok?”

She nodded without even looking at him and she tried to walk straight but she was feeling pain on her thighs because the cuts were a bit deep so instead she limped out of the kitchen until Thorsten stopped her.

“wait what's wrong Imani why are you limping?”

He asked her but she didn't say anything and then it hit him.

“nooo, don't tell me you did what I think you did Imani”

She didn't say anything, she tried to limp herself out of the kitchen area but he grabbed her upper arm and she stopped moving.

"Imani did you cut yourself?"

"and if I did?"

He clenched his jaws looking at her.

"so every time shit happens you'll cut yourself is that it?"

He asked her and she tried to wiggle herself out of his grip but he tightened the grip.

"I asked you a question Imani"

"it's my body Thorsten so I can do whatever I want to do to it"

He let go of her and he looked at her intensely with a frown on his face.

"ooh and im leaving, thanks for letting me stay here and for taking care of me and my brothers hospital bills but I think its time I stood on my two feet and if Ben wants me dead then it will be my time to meet my maker"

Thorsten frowned hard looking at her trying to read her but she displayed different emotions on her face.

"and as for my brother you can tell them to switch off the machines since im about to die to go be with my mother and father so its better he also follow us cause I can't leave him all alone in this cruel world"

She said that then she limped out and Thorsten swallowed hard then he took his phone and conference called his brothers.

"bafo"

Muzi said first and others followed.

"whats up foza"

Snakes said.

" I think imani.....she's suicidal and i...."

He swallowed and he rubbed his face.

"Smiso what happened to Imani"

Jay asked.

“she’s cutting herself again and now she was talking about switching Lefa’s machines off and her leaving and Ben killing her”

He tried to make sense of his statement and he heard his brothers cursing.

“what happened Smiso I thought she was doing ok”

He swallowed hard.

“she...she answered my phone and one of my fuck buddies was the caller”

He honestly said.

“don’t tell us you cheated on her bafo”

Jase said.

“no man, Nancy just came back in the country and I haven’t even seen her in months”

He told them.

“it’s either you fix this and assure her that you not cheating on her and make sure she believes you or you check her into a mental institution since her sessions with Dr. Sharma looks like they are not working like we thought they are”

Thorsten sighed rubbing his head roughly and his mind went to him roughly grabbing her arm and regret filled his heart and he chose to not tell his brothers since he knows they will curse at him and also lecture him.

“ I can’t check her into a mental institution bafo what if she doesn’t come back to me, I can’t have that, no I can’t”

He said getting walked up.

“then try and fix things and if you fail Smiso then you will check her into a mental institution”

Muzi said and he didn’t say anything he just huffed.

“ look we will come by your place later”

Jase said and Smiso sighed.

“ok shap”

Then they ended the call and he held the kitchen counter with both his hands with looking down.



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Desiree got up from the floor and she tried to sit up but it was a struggle, her ribs were painful as hell and her right eye was swollen and closed and her jaws were also painful, she finally managed to sit up with tears running down her cheeks then the door opened and Ben walked in holding a bucket of water and he poured it on her and she continued to cry.

“SHUT UP BEFORE YOU MAKE ME MAD NX!”

He roared and she sobbed silently. Well it all started a day before she was discharged from the hospital, she woke up to someone pressing a cloth on her mouth and nose hard and it was lights out and she woke up here with Ben sitting on a chair next to her while she was on the floor and she knew she was fucked cause if he could have her kidnapped just like that in the hospital then he knows the baby is not his cause the baby was mixed raced meaning that white guy she was sleeping with in Paris whenever she went for her vacations was the father. So ever since Ben abducted her three months ago he has been beating and torturing her, the room she's in is dirty and it stinks and it only has a sponge mattress and a bucket where she can urinate and do number two in it and she has been getting food once a day sometimes two days would pass without getting any food or water. She would try to kill herself by hitting her head multiple times on the wall but since he has camera's installed in that room he would rush in and beat her up until she passes out, as for her mother she receive an sms from Desiree's numbers saying that she decided to go to her mother in law's house to distress, well the sms was send by Ben after they abducted Desiree and her mother never checked on her cause she's mad and hurt that she would rather let her mother in law help her with the pain she was going through of losing the baby that to let her as her mother to help her.

“I must say you look like shit”

Ben said and Desiree continued to sob.

“didn't I say cut it out with your annoying sobs!”

He said with an angry voice and Desiree kept quiet with tears running down her cheeks.

“ tell me here, what did you think was going to happen after you give birth mmmmh?”

He asked her and she just kept quiet and a slap landed on her cheek and she covered her face”

“I ask questions and you answer ok”

She nodded while sobbing silently.

“now answer my question bitch”

“ I...I prayed and hoped that the baby becomes yours”

She said with a breaking voice and he chuckled while shaking his head.

“so you knew the baby might not be mine?”

She nodded and Ben breathed out loud.

“you are a whore you know that, I guess Beast was right about you but hey I personally think you are not that useless cause you are extremely good in bed and a master of manipulation, well to some men...anyway I want you to do something for me”

She sniffed and he poked her with his foot.

“hey look at me when im talking to you”

And she did and you could see the fear that was visible on her face, she was still wearing the same pyjamas she was wearing when she was abducted three months ago and they were dirty and stinking with dried blood on them.

“I want Imani back and you gonna help me get her back or I'll kill that useless mother of yours ok”

She quickly nodded.

“good girl ,now if you try to run away or tell someone about where you were and what I did to you then girly you are dead along with your mother ok? you can ask Imani my beautiful love and she will tell you that I mean business”

She swallowed hard with her bottom lip trembling.

“ now get up and go take a well-deserved shower and make sure you smell good cause I want to tap that ass, and you better bring your A-game or you won't live to see sunrise tomorrow”

Then he stood up from the chair he was sitting on and he put his hands in his pockets.

“ I bet you thought it's all rosy for Imani when you started to envy her life with me mmmmh? I mean that's why you seduced me right cause you wanted what she wants, now guess what you have exactly what she had and you better embrace it wifey”

Then he chuckled.

“ohm and if you try to run know that they will shoot you down instantly now get up and go shower man you fucken stink yeeer”

Then he walked out and she just hugged herself and cried a gut wrenching cry thinking about the beating and torture she suffered at the hands of Ben for three whole months.

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Thorsten decided to go after Imani and when he got inside the main bedroom he saw her coming out of the bathroom with a towel wrapped around her body and when his eyes landed on her new cuts on her thighs he closed his eyes as if he's in pain and he opened them and sighed, as for Imani she pretended not to see him and she stood by the mirror and she continued to dry her hair with a dry towel while closing her eyes then she felt his hands on his waist and she froze, she then opened her eyes and she was met by Thorsten's red eyes looking at her through the mirror.

“im not cheating on you and I don't plan on doing so”

She didn't say anything she just looked away from the mirror.

“hey look me in the eyes”

She did slowly and he had a serious look on his face that looked sexy as hell and she swallowed.

“ I love you Imani and I don't know what that girl told you but its all lies cause I haven't seen her in months”

He said and she sighed.

“it doesn't matter anymore Thorsten cause....”

He cut her off.

“im Smiso or Kwame to you Imani and not Thorsten capish?”

He said with a firm voice and she sighed.

“ we will never work Smiso I mean im not ready for sex and you have been starving for months and you might say you not cheating but it's just a matter of time before you do”

He didn't say anything he just kept on looking at her through the mirror and he notice how beautiful she is with her deep dimples, now he understood why Baba was captivated by her when he saw her face but then it pained him to know that beneath all this beauty there's a broken soul.

“ I just....i mean I just relapsed just like that and it felt good when I cut myself again I don't wanna lie.....i.... it's for the best that I let you move on cause im not worth you living with a woman you cant touch or a woman you have to babysit 24/7 its not healthy for you and that girl said you love three-sums and stuff and im not about all that and....”

She stopped talking when Thorsten turned her around and he smashed his lips on hers and he immediately deepened the kiss and she couldn't help but kiss him back and when he grabbed her ass pulling her closer she moaned and Thorsten knew he got her where he wants her. He untied the towel and it fell on the floor and he grabbed her ass with both hands and he put her on top of the dresser-table without breaking the kiss and he got between her legs and they kissed passionately. She tried to break off the kiss but Thorsten wasn't having any of that as he moved from her lips to her neck and he sucked on it while he squeezed her tiny body which made her to moan out loud and she grabbed hold of Thorsten's vest tight as a sensual feeling rushed all over her body.

“S...Smiso i... gosh look we...”

He shut her up by kissing her lips, then his hand went between her legs and it landed on her wet nana and he groaned while his other hand was around her waist holding her tight. Then he went back to her neck sucking and licking slowly on it while his fingers were busy rubbing her nana slowly and that drove Imani crazy.

“Smi....Smiso gosh... we...im not....”

That's all she managed to say before he shut her up by smashing his lips on hers again, and they kissed hungrily with Smiso busy playing with her clit. He then stopped and he took off his vest and she stared at his chocolate body with those hard abs and tattoos on his body and she swallowed hard and she

tried to close her thighs tight when her clit vibrated but it was a futile thing to do as he was standing between them, as for the situation between he thighs well let's say it was river down there and she didn't know whether to push him off her or to let him do as he pleases with her.

"Smi...Smiso....look i... we"

He smashed his lips on hers and they continued to kiss hungrily, then she felt his long finger making its way inside her nana and she froze but he didn't stop instead he left her lips and he went to her neck again and he sucked on it making her to unfreeze and moan out loud when he sucked on the right spot on her neck and he didn't waste time as he moved his finger in and out of her increasing his pace with every stroke with Imani moaning out loud, even now Thorsten didn't say a word to her he just continued to service her with his finger, lips and tongue. He increased his pace faster which made Imani to cum hard with her body shaking while she bit her lower lip and he stopped and pulled his finger out and sucked on it and he smashed his lips on hers making her taste herself with their tongues dancing as one, then he stopped and took off his pyjama pants along with his briefs and the "Beast" stood up firm, strong and hard with visible veins all over it, it was even dripping and Imani swallowed hard cause she forgot how huge it is, she then looked up at Thorsten and he had a straight face on.

"Smiso im not rea...im not ready, I mean we can....you can...!"

He picked her up and put her down then he turned her around and they were both facing the mirror and Thorsten bend her a bit and he opened her legs with his right knee and he positioned himself and pushed himself in slowly then he groaned loud when half of it was in while Imani just closed her eyes shut while biting her lower lip as he stretched her walls wide, then he pushed all of it in and she moaned out loud when she felt a bit of pain while he groaned deep from his throat. He then wrapped his left arm around her waist pulling her up and his right hand pulled her chin up making her to face the mirror and he held it making sure she doesn't look away or face down.

" open your eyes Imani"

And she did slowly and she found him looking at her through the mirror, then he started to move slowly in and out of her and she moaned out loud and she bit her lower lip.

" don't ever in your life threaten to leave me again you hear me?"

He said while still moving in and out of her slowly and she didn't say anything except to moan and he pulled out and only the tip was left inside and he slammed in to her and she cried out when she felt a mixture of pain and pleasure.

" answer me Imani"

He said that still looking into her eyes through the mirror.

"ye...yes"

" and you should never in your life cut yourself or me and you we will a serious problems and trust me you don't want to deal with me when im angry... even your soon to be ex-husband know never to fuck with me when im angry you hear me"

He said still looking at her through the mirror while he moved in and out of her slowly and she swallowed hard and nodded.

" I can't hear you Imani"

"ye...yes"

She said with a shaky voice as she could see that he meant business by the look on his face. Then he started increasing his pace giving her long strokes while still looking at her through the mirror, she would close her eyes and open then every now and then as he was doing her good, now she regretted telling him that she wasn't ready for intimacy cause the pleasure she was feeling was magical. He hit it hard and fast from behind until he felt her shake from an orgasm and he didn't stop instead he went harder and faster chasing his own orgasm and after a few strokes he bend her down and he held her waist with both his hands and he went faster while groaning out loud and when he felt her body tensing he knew another orgasm was about to hit her again and he went deeper and faster with his grip getting tighter and tighter.

"fuck come for me Immy...let go my love"

And he didn't have to say it twice as she let go and she screamed out loud as she came hard and he wasn't far behind, after a few strokes he slammed into her hard and his beast growled as he shot his cum inside of her and he gasped for air a bit then he cursed.

"FUCK!"

Both their knees were shaking and he pulled out slowly and he picked up the towel on the floor and he wiped her first then himself and he picked her up and he walked to the bed and he put her down and also climbed on it and he made her lay on top of him and he held her tight. Even the stinging pain she felt on her thighs wasn't as soothing like it always is as the feeling of a good fuck she just received from Thorsten was overshadowing it right now, yes she felt tired but inside she felt alive it's like all her negative thoughts were blocked off somehow, and yes she knew sex is not the answer or a way to go about it but now she just loved what she was feeling inside, well that's until the good feeling wears off and its back to square one for her.

" all will be well Imani and im sorry for manhandling you last night and I swear it won't happen again ok"

She nodded.

"I'd rather punch a wall than to beat you up Immy, like I told you, you are safe with me ok"

She nodded again and she sighed.

"im sorry for swearing at you and for raising my voice at you and also for slapping you....im really sorry Smiso"

She said honestly and Thorsten sighed.

" never again ok"

She nodded.

"never again I promise"

She said.

"good now rest cause im not done with you yet"

Then she felt his shaft getting hard under her and she swallowed cause her nana was already a bit sore. He then flipped them over and he got between her legs and he slid in and she gasped.

" rest Immy I got this"

He said kissing her forehead and he started to move in and out of her slowly and she closed her eyes while biting her lower lip and he whispered to her.

"never ever threaten to leave me again cause my heart can't take it ok"

She nodded.

-----

It was now around 2pm in the afternoon when his phone woke him up ringing and he took it and checked the time and his eyes popped out when he saw the time meaning he slept for more than 3hours without waking up from the nightmare like he usually does, he then answered the call.

“mamba”

“I found him Smiso”

Snakes said excited and Thorsten sat up making sure he doesn't wake Imani up.

“heh?”

“I found that son of bitch Smiso, I already called the others and we will meet at your house in an hour's time, shap”

Then he dropped the call and Thorsten closed his eyes a bit and he opened them with a smirk on his face as he could already picture what he'll do to Ben. He then bend down and kissed Imani's cheek and he whispered in her ear.

“I love you so much Immy and I think you are my beast tamer cause he completely behaves when you're closer to me or in my arms”

He said and she stirred a bit and continued to sleep and he kissed her cheek again and he got out of the bed naked and he pulled the covers to cover her completely since it was chilly and he went to the bathroom.

“ so how did you find him?”

Thorsten asked Snakes, they were now in a car driving to the location Snakes traced Ben at while their wives and kids including Imani where all in Jase's house locked up in the secret room waiting for the brothers to comeback while the house was surrounded by guards.

“ Desiree called her mother using her phone and since I planted a chip on her phone and I always scanned all the incoming calls and outgoing calls



from her mother's phone and her phone as well I saw that she was making that call from a secluded place in Mpumalanga right inside the forest"

Snakes told them.

"something is not right here why would Desiree go to him knowing fully well that he killed her aunt and wasn't she in hospital?"

Jase asked.

" they are working together"

Thorsten said with a straight face.

" no way she wouldn't be that stupid man"

Muzi said.

"trust me, she is that stupid, its either he kidnapped her or she's working with him, either way we shouldn't trust her no matter what"

Thorsten told them and they all kept quiet.

-----

Jay parked on the side of the road and they all got out, it was around 4pm in the evening and they were all geared up with bulletproof vests and earpieces and they were all wearing all black. They opened the boot of the car and took out their heavily armed huge black sport bags and locked the car, they all went inside the forest with Snakes leading the way as he was following the GPS coordinates to where the house or cabin was inside the forest.

"Shhh, stop moving"

Thorsten whispered and immediately they stopped moving and listened carefully and they drew out their guns.

"the voices are not far meaning we are close"

Thorsten whispered and they all nodded.

"Yep you right bafo cause over that small hill over there is where the cabin is"

Snakes whispered back.

“ Jay, Snakes and Muzi you go that way while Jase and I will go this way”

Thorsten whispered and they nodded and started moving. When they got to the hill and Snakes took out a drone from his bag (what he calls his little toy).

“ and now?”

Jay asked whispering.

“ my new toy, I wanna see how it works”

Snakes told him also whispering and Jay chuckled.

“ yho sector 2 and sector 3 we gonna have a drone on the sky so brace yourselves for some fireworks”

Snakes said and they chuckled lightly on the other end of his earpiece.

“roger that sector 1”

Thorsten said whispering and they all chuckled then he took out a tablet and inserted it on the controller and switched it on and started doing his thing. The drone flew to the sky and he directed it to the guards that were all over the front yard and as soon they saw it they looked at it as it flew over them.

“ what the hell is that...”

One of the guards said and as he was about to jump so he can reach it as Snakes was flying it lower then Snakes pressed the green button on the tablet and bullets started coming out of it shooting at the guards and they went down one by one with Snakes chuckling amused as hell.

“ nice one sector 1”

Jase said and they chuckled, after a while he stopped shooting and it became quiet. They waited for any reaction from other guards who might be inside or at the back but nothing happened then Snakes directed the drone to the back of the house and it was empty and he turned it to infrared human sensor mode and he scanned inside the cabin for any body heat fragment and he only caught one.

“ fozas there's only one body inside the cabin and it's not moving”

Snakes said

“this doesn't feel right fozas, this whole thing was way too easy for my liking”

Muzi said and they agreed with him.

“Let’s move in and be ready for anything”

Then they moved going down the hill with guns drawn ready for anything.

-----

They kicked the door opened and Thorsten, Jay and Muzi went inside while Jase and Snakes stayed outside, they went from room to room and when they got to the main bedroom they found the unconscious Desiree on the bed naked covered in blood with no sign of Ben , then Muzi rushed to her and checked her pulse and she was still alive then he covered her with a sheet.

“ this...this is a trap or a diversion to something else”

Jay said as Thorsten was busy looking around then his eyes landed on a black bag next to the bed and he went to it and he slowly opened it and found a ticking time bomb inside.

“THERE’S A FUCKEN BOMB IN HERE LET’S GET THE FUCK OUT NOW!”

He shouted and rushed out and Muzi grabbed Desiree along with the sheet and he put her on his shoulder and then ran out, Snakes and Jase followed them until they were a bit far from the cabin then the bomb went off and the whole cabin exploded and went up in flames.

“ shit...so let me guess this was a diversion”

Snakes said.

“ but to what?”

Jay asked.

“ fuck nooo...nooo”

Thorsten said taking out his phone and he called one of the guards and it rang and the guard answered on the third ring.

“hello”

“HE’S ON HIS WAY THERE BRACE YOURSELVES!”

Thorsten shouted warning him and then he heard what sounded like gun shots and explosions then the line went dead.

“ what's going on Smiso?”

Muzi asked and Thorsten took Desiree and he put her on his broad shoulder and he started running up the hill like it was nothing with the heavy Desiree safely on his shoulder and the brothers followed him with their bags at hand.

“ HE'S ALREADY AT YOUR PLACE JASE WE NEED TO GET THERE ASAP!”

Thorsten said as he ran ahead of them and he heard them curse with Snakes making a call as he ran behind them.

-----

Ben's guy attached granites all over the heavy steel door of the safe room where Imani and the wives and kids and also Princess 'the Khumalo brothers' younger sister' who came to visit them since it was school holidays, they were all inside not knowing what was happening outside since it was sound proofed, the ladies were busy panicking as Lwazi's eyeballs were turned all white and he was busy mumbling things they couldn't understand which was a clear indication that his little beast was warning them of something while Imani and Princess were busy telling the kids some funny stories to distract them from asking endless questions about why they are locked up in there and why Lwazi was acting like that, then a loud bang was heard and the steel door fell down and they screamed, then Ben and the remaining of his boys wore their breathing masks and they threw sleeping gas inside and seconds later the room was silent.

“ take all of them to the mini-van and leave my dearest wife I'll carry her myself”

Ben said and they nodded and started taking the wives and kids to the mini-van while Ben picked Imani up and he went up the stairs that are from the basement and when he got in the lounge he decided to call Thorsten just so he can gloat and since the number was restricted Thorsten knew it probably Ben.

“ called to gloat Psych?”

That's how Thorsten answered the call and that pissed Ben off cause he sounded so chilled and that's not what he wanted.

" mmmmh I just wanted to let you know that I got my wife back so thank you brother for keeping her safe for me while I was away"

Thorsten laughed, for the first time ever he laughed at Ben and when he was satisfied he cleared his throat composing himself.

" you can laugh all you want Beast the truth is I'm better than you, I mean I got my wife back and I'm sure you found you pathetic ex-wife in my hiding place, there no need to thank me she's used trash anyway and I don't have any use for her anymore....oohh and tell your stupid brothers that I'll exchange my dearest mother for their wives and kids and I might keep this little missy here who's so damn beautiful and looks as innocent as a nun as our house maid and my sex slave whenever I take over from Ben"

Thorsten chuckled.

"just make sure you don't lay even a finger on her cause I'm on my way to get her and ooh FYI that's Nighthawk's daughter and Killer The Dragon Slayer's granddaughter so play nice and ooh I hope you're ready to meet three beasts, the black mamba and our very own black Jesus"

Then he dropped the call and the brothers where quiet with Jase flying off the road overtaking cars like it was 'NEED FOR SPEED' (the movie) with his jaws clenched.

" fozas I would call my Special Force team to join us but our number one rule is to let them know about a mission 24 hours before the mission is supposed to be carried out and we all know we don't have that much time"

Thorsten told them with a chilled voice and Snakes took out his phone and he made a call to Sticks the leader of their Elite squad.

"ghabadiya bosso ya di bosso"

That's how Sticks answered the call.

" mission at hand Sticks and it's a kidnapping, I'll send you GPS coordinates of my wife's whereabouts and we will meet where it stops moving or where they are held at in about +-60 minutes and bring your team along and don't worry about the machinery we got it just bring vests for yourself"

Snakes told him as he was looking at their wives, Imani and their kids including Princesses GPS chips planted on them that Ben probably doesn't know of as they moved.

“got it”

Then they ended the call and Snakes send him Ntombi's GPS coordinates.

“they are going west”

He informed them.

“What do we have on the west side?”

Thorsten asked him.

“besides houses and estates and townhouses, further down there are warehouses and industrial buildings”

Muzi answered for him.

“ then that's where he is going”

They nodded.

-----

“wakey wakey sleepy heads”

He said that right after the guards poured buckets of water on them and they woke up gasping for air and Ben laughed, the wives looked around and they held their kids closer to them crying as soon as they saw Ben and his guards that had AK47 guns on their hands .

“It's ok babies, its ok, it's gonna be ok”

Kedi told the kids who were crying, as for Lwazi he was now back to normal.

“stop lying to the kids beautiful, nothing is gonna be ok”

Ben said with a smile on his face.

“where is Imani Ben, what did you do to her?”

Nomhle asked him and he chuckled.

“she’s my wife you know”

She laughed a mocking laugh.

“ wife? ooh please don't make me laugh”

Then Ben's face went hard and cold.

“do you know what I do to loud mouth bitches like you pretty face?”

He said getting closer to her and Mngqobi and Lwandle got up facing Ben ready for him with their small hands folded on tight fists and he laughed.

“how cute, but hey you know I once killed a bunch of little rascals like these two before so it won't be hard for me to slit their small throats with a knife, now keep your little Chihuahuas on a tight leash before I end them”

Nomhle swallowed hard and she pulled Mngqobi and Lwandle closer to her, the boys were still giving Ben their threatening deadly looks and he chuckled.

“you are a coward you know that right? I mean what makes you think it makes you man enough and that's if you are a man at all, to kidnap small children and defenseless women”

Ntombi said holding Nqobile closer to her body.

“and now I wonder how your stupid husbands cope with your loud mouths cause with me Imani knows when to talk and when to keep her fucken mouth shut so don't make me instill that thing on you too”

Ben said with a threatening tone and Nomhle laughed.

“mxm pussy!”

She said to him and he rushed to her and slapped her hard on her cheek and the wives and Princess screamed while the kids cried.

“HOW DARE YOU BASTARD!”

Ntombi said shouting and Mngqobi and Lwandle got of Nomhle's hold and they stood up and pushed Ben away from Nomhle with tears running down their cheeks.

“ you beat mama wena....ushaya umama wena.....umshayelani umama wena?”

Mngqobi said moving towards Ben with his small hands folded into small fists.

“ngiyomtshela ubaba, ushaya u mama....ngiyomtshela!”

Lwandle said crying also moving towards Ben and Nomhle got up and grabbed both Lwandle and Mngqobi and she pulled them back and held them close as they cried trying to get off her grip so they can attack Ben and Ben laughed.

“ mmmh tough and protective of your mother neh but you little fuckers better listen to me and listen good, if you try that stunt again I'll chop your mother into little pieces while you watch you hear me?”

“FUCK YOU BEN YOU HEAR ME FUCK YOU, WHEN OUR HUSBANDS GETS HERE INCLUDING THORSTEN THEY GONNA MAKE YOU SCREAM LIKE THE LITTLE WHORE THAT YOU ARE CAUSE YOU CLEARLY DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE MESSING WITH”

Nomhle said shouting.

“mtshele Nomhle lo lwabishi nx (tell this rubbish Nomhle)”

Ntombi said and Ben laughed.

“well im not scared of your little husbands, in fact they should be the ones scared of me”

Ntombi laughed.

“well you should be”

She told him and he clicked his tongue and turned to one of the guards.

“once I'm gone with my wife make sure you fuck this one first...”

He pointed at Nomhle.

“for being forward then the rest can follow and then kill all of them once you all are satisfied”

The guard nodded with a smiles on his face.

“but wait until im gone so I don't get tempted and decide to join ya'll and you know I can't have that remember I have to leave the country ASAP”

The guards nodded while the wives cried along with the kids then he walked out going to the room he held Imani and he found her still passed out and he poured cold water on her face and he took a chair and sat in front of her and waited until she woke up.



“hi wifey”

Her eyes popped out with her bottom lip trembling.

“wow you even gained a bit of weight, dick might have been good mmmmh”

She didn't say anything she just closed her eyes hoping that it's just a nightmare and she will open her eyes and find Thorsten looking at her but no instead she found Ben still looking at her and tears just ran down her cheeks.

“no honey no crying ok, don't worry all will be fine you'll see”

She didn't say anything she just closed her eyes again and prayed silently for Thorsten to find them, then she felt his lips on her lips disturbing her from her silent prayer and she quickly looked away.

“ don't do that Imani, you know I hate it”

He said with a stern voice and she continued to look away waiting for a slap on her face but none came and Ben sighed.

“ I have changed my love I mean I'm turning a new leaf and I'm gonna make up for every bad thing I have ever done to you as long as you promise me to never lie to me or give what belongs to me to some fucker out there”

She nodded slowly cause she knows not answering him makes him angry.

“ where is nomhle and the girls along with their kids”

She asked with a low tone still not looking at him.

“fuck I missed your voice, anyway they are fine don't worry”

He told her and she knew he was lying.

“ please let them go and I'll go with you willingly, I won't fight you or cause a scene please let them go”

She pleaded with him crying and he chuckled.

“ I almost forgot how much of a good heart you have, one of the reasons I love you so much and why I can never let you go”

He said that and she breathed in and out slowly and he kissed her forehead.

“ have you slept with him since you were discharged from the hospital?”

She shook her head no lying ofcourse and he smiled.

“ good... when we make love it will be on a clean slate, this time around I swear I'll make us work and we will adopt or find a surrogate mother, no more second wife and shit ok”

She nodded slowly with tears running down her cheeks and he wiped them.

“ but hey I hope that bastard Thorsten is dead in that cabin along with his stupid brothers and that bitch Desiree nx”

He said that and Imani released a loud sob at the thought of losing Thorsten and the girls losing their husbands and the kids losing their fathers because of her, she tried to hold it but she just couldn't and he looked at her with frown on his face.

“ don't tell me you are crying for that bastard Imani”

She shook her head no quickly and a slap landed on her cheek.

“ WHY ARE YOU LYING TO ME, DO YOU SEE STUPID WRITTEN ON MY FUCKEN FOREHEAD? NX NOW LOOK AT WHAT YOU MADE ME DO, WHY WOULD YOU CRY FOR THAT BASTARD MMMMH, OR DO YOU PERHAPS LOVE HIM?”

He asked shouting and she shook her head no and another slap landed on her cheek and she closed her eyes shut as she felt a sting on her cheek.

“CANT YOU TALK?”

He roared.

“no...im... im not crying because of him but because aunty just lost her sister and now she lost Desiree too, it's gonna kill her”

She lied and his face softened.

“don't worry about that old hag she'll be fine, I did her a favor by killing that bitch she calls a daughter. Im sure by the time I deposit half a million into her account she's gonna forget that she once had a daughter that's how much she loves money”

Imani didn't say anything she just closed her eyes and silently prayed that the brothers are safe wherever they are.

-----

They parked on some gravel road off the main road and Thorsten went to the boot and dragged Desiree out and laid her on the hard ground while Snakes was busy on a call with Sticks, then Muzi came with a bottle of water and they poured it on her face with Thorsten shaking her roughly to wake her up and she finally opened her eyes slowly only to be met by a barrel of a gun on her face and she peed on herself, then she looked up and found Thorsten looking at her with the most scariest look on his face.

“ what's his plan?”

He asked her.

“ thank God you came for me Thorsten i...I was scared i.....”

The gun went off, he shot on the ground next to her face and she peed on herself some more.

“I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR SHIT DESIREE, NOW ANSWER ME OR A BULLET WILL GO THROUGH YOUR FUCKEN SKULL THIS SECOND”

He roared and she looked at him and saw his eyes change colour.

“TALK”

He said.

“ he...he kidnapped me from the hospital and beat me up and...and he forced himself....”

He interrupted her.

“ I DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT ALL THAT...ALL I WANNA KNOW IS WHAT ARE HIS PLANS”

“I...I don't know I swear, all he made me do was to call my mother so that you can track my call and he hit me with the back of his gun and I woke up now”

He clicked his tongue then dragged her back to the boot and he tossed her in and closed it with Desiree crying and begging him to let her out then he went inside the car.

“the squad is almost there, now let's go”

Snakes told them and Jase started the car and went back to the main road.

“what did the bitch say?”

Jay asked Thorsten.

“he told her to make the call that you tracked”

Thorsten answered.

“ so it was a trap?”

Snakes asked with his jaws clenched.

“mmmmh but a failed one, I mean even the timer on the bomb was a flop for us to even have enough time to grab Desiree and flee out of the house and even wait a few seconds before it went off. I think I overestimated Ben he's just sloppy and a bad strategist”

-----

They parked the car and got out and found the squad waiting for them and they gave them the big bag that had guns and grenades and they all started gearing up also putting on their earpieces.

“ feedback”

Jay said.

“ four at the back and four at the front and im sure a couple inside”

Sticks told them.

“ which one of you is a sniper”

Thorsten asked them.

“ snipe over here is”

Sticks answered.

“good now snipe you'll take out the ones from the front and also those that will come out from the building to play while we take out the ones from the back and we will meet inside when you done”

Thorsten told him and he nodded and the brothers prepared their guns and got ready.

“Snipe show me how good you are and make sure you make as much noise as you can”

Snipe nodded with a smirk on his face.

“remember to wait until we are inside before you start playing cause we will be as quiet as possible making sure we do not alert other guards that they have unwanted guests.

Muzi told him.

“roger that boss”

-----

They heard gunshots outside and the women held on tight to the kids.

“go check what’s happening out there man”

One of the guards said that to the guard that was standing next to the door and he nodded and went out.

“ I don’t think I will wait for boss to leave before I can chow this fine mamasita”

One guard said and they all laughed.

“go ahead man and maybe after you’re done with her I can have just one round, remember I have a thing for feisty women”

They laughed while the women cried begging them not to do what they want to do to Nomhle and one of the guards went closer to the women and children and he grabbed Nomhle by her hair and dragged her closer to where the other two guards were kicking and screaming with Noma, Ntombi and Kedi screaming from the top of their lungs begging him to let Nomhle go. Then Mngqobi and Lwandle got up and ran to Nomhle screaming that they should let her go and one of the guard knocked them on their small faces with the back of the gun and they fell on the floor unconscious with the women screaming, crying and cursing, Ntombi and Kedi tried to go to Mngqobi and Lwandle but one of the guards shot up in the roof.

“move and the next bullet will go through both your skulls”

He warned them and they stopped moving but they kept crying and calling out to Mngqobi and Lwandle who were laying there unconscious. Then another guard ripped Nomhle's shirt off with his hands exposing her lace bra and he smirked and sniffed her neck and licked it and as he was busy taking off her jeans the door burst open and the two guards were shot execution style on their foreheads, within a blink of an eye Thorsten was next to Nomhle and the guard that was on top of her and he grabbed the guy and tossed him away from Nomhle and as Jay was rushing to Nomhle Thorsten rushed to the guard and got on top of him and he threw countless hard punches on his face until he got satisfied while his other brothers rushed to their wives and kids, then he got up and pulled him up while grabbing him by his neck with the most scariest look on his face and he ripped his throat off and the guard fell on the floor bleeding then Thorsten threw the piece of his throat that was on his grip on the floor and turned to his brothers wives and kids and he searched for Imani with his eyes and Ntombi saw him.

"she's with him Smiso please go and get her"

She told him and he immediately ran out.

"Jay and Snakes go with him, Muzi and I got this"

Jase told them and they kissed their wives and grabbed their guns and Snakes also grabbed his drone and his remote control tablet and they went after Thorsten. They searched inside the warehouse until they ended up at the back and there was no sign of Ben and Imani, then Snakes got his drone ready and flew it up in the sky checking the surrounding areas around the warehouse and also zooming in while watching the whole thing on the tablet as the drone has a video camera installed on it while Thorsten was busy pacing up and down losing his cool with his hands still covered with the guard's blood, then Snakes saw movement of three people running while crossing the busy road to the other side going into the bushes that starts on the other side of the road with something that looks like a person on one of the guys' shoulder.

" Got them"

Snakes said and Thorsten rushed to him and as soon as he saw them he ran after them with Snakes and Jay behind him as soon as Snakes switched off his drone. Thorsten was running fast courtesy of being in the military and Special Forces while his brothers tried to keep up with him, As soon as they crossed that busy road and started heading inside the bushes Thorsten's beast took over and he completely turned into something Snakes and Jay has never

seen before, from the way Thorsten's bones made cracking sounds as he turned to the way his beat roared out loud after it turned was just bone chilling, the beast had dark skin with scales on it and it was as tall as a bear. It was squinting a bit and it also had long sharp fangs that protruded from its elongated mouth and its long and sharp black, sickle-like claws stood out while its eyes were as bright as moonlight and it also moved as fast as a cheetah.

" fuck noooo, how the fuck does he expect us to keep up with him now"

Snakes said.

"speak for yourself bafo I can just turn too and leave your lazy ass behind"

Jay said going after the beast and Snakes showed him the middle finger when Jay slightly looked back at him.

"F'SEK NKOSENYE"

Snakes Swore at him and also went after the beast.