



THE

MAN ZINI

HEARTS

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AUTHOR

# BOOK 2

1.Book 1 : My Boss My Everything

2.Book 2 : The Manzini Hearts

3. Thembeke : The First Wife (coming up next)

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CHARMAINE MATHEBULA

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*The Manzini Hearts* ♡

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Dedicated To :

My Boss My Everything fans  
My younger sister  
My friends

# \*\*\*\*\*Prologue\*\*\*\*\*

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*Mbali*♥

I hear him chuckle.

"I'm giving you 5 minutes to get those other pair and wear them or else you'll go barefoot."

He says before leaving the room. If only he could discipline his daughter not to play with my shoe he does this to me.

That girl has more than 50 dolls and teddy bears in this house and yet she sees a doll in my shoe. It is always the same shoe, the right one. She never makes a mistake of taking the left one.

I decide on wearing another pair of shoes before Khulani comes back and drag me out. Yeah I know

he will do it, I know that idiotic crazy husband of mine.

I get downstairs and everyone is around their father waiting for me with the boys each on their father's laps.

"Mommy.."

Amanda jumps on me. If only she knew how I wish to get my hands around her neck and squeeze the life out of her for hiding my shoe but I can't do it in front of her father unless I have a death wish.

"Come Nkosazana, let me hold you."

I say knowing very well that Amanda will get jealous and start throwing tantrums. I pick Nkosa up and wait for Manda to start.

"Mama, you are angry at me?"

I don't know how a two year old child knows how to speak this fluently.

"Yes."

"What did I do?"

"How many times have I told you not to play with my shoe Manda?"

Se looked down biting her fingers as a sign that she knows what I am talking about.

"But mama I stopped."

"Then where is my shoe?"

Like always she doesn't remember where she has hid it. The boys are sitting on their father's laps promising each other nothing but sweets.

"Ask Sana mama, she was the one who took it. Now put her down and pick me."

Anyways, I am Mbali Manzini the second wife of Khulani Manzini and this is my experience in polygamy Marriage!!

# Chapter 1

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*Thembeke* ♡

"No ma, I can't do that."

"You have to do it Thembeke or you enjoy sharing your man?"

Sharing your man is not something that you should /can ever be proud of no matter how much you and your sister wife get along but it is never fun. There are times when you would want to be with your husband but won't be able to because he will be busy satisfying his other wife so you will have to wait for your turn. Polygamy comes with patience, without patience you will never make it in the marriage.

Seeing your man according to a timetable you have all agreed on is not fun at all. I wish polygamy was never legal in this country and a lot of women would be happy. I am not complaining because even though my husband has two wives he still manages to make me happy, he makes both of us happy. He has shown me so much love that even made me to get along with Mbali.

My mom wants me to bewitch my husband into leaving Mbali. She is telling me all this because she doesn't know how it hurts when it backfires. I have tried that with Letty and look where that got me, I ended up being alone until Khulani came into my life and made me the happiest woman on earth. He showered me with so much love that it even made me feel bad for what I did to Letty and Quinton.

I almost ruined their happiness with my obsession for Quinton but I am glad because it has taught me a lesson to never try it on anyone again. They have taught me that bewitching someone is never a way into happiness, you will never be happy because of muti because it come with a lot of consequences I almost became barren because of it. I have learnt that you have to work your way hard into getting someone to love you on their own. A

person should love you for who you are just like Khulani chose to love me with all my flaws.

Mbali has never made me feel like she wants Khulani all to herself. She has made me love her instead even though I sometimes get jealous when it is her time to spend the week with our husband. She is such a good hearted woman, she takes my child Nkosazana as her own and I am glad for that because no woman can ever take it in her power to love her sister's wife child like her own. She has never given me a chance to think of doing something bad to her.

"Mama, Mbali is a good woman she has no bad intentions."

"Thembeke, no woman can ever want to share a man. It is already bad that she agreed to marry a man who is already married."

"I don't need this negativity mom. She has been married to Khulani for 3 whole years now and have three children who are 2 years old and you want to get rid of her now. Don't you think it is already too late for that?"

"It is never too late my child. We are going to get her out of your marriage so you can have your husband all to yourself again."

"Ma, do you know that it is because of Mbali that I was able to conceive Nkosazana. Do you know that it is because of her that Nkosazana has made it alive after being born before her time?"

"Mxm, sleep over it and get back to me tomorrow morning before I travel back home."

She says before going to bed. I even regret allowing her to come visit me. I thought it would be a good thing for her to come and visit me for the weekend because Khulani was at Mbali's place, I thought I could do with the company but it seems I was wrong. All I have brought upon myself is just trouble.

I got up and went to my room. You see this thing of Mbali loving Nkosazana like her own has made Nkosazana want to visit her for the weekend. I don't know how a 2 years old baby can even cry to go and visit someone and leave her own mother behind.

I get to bed and decide to call Mbali so I can face talk with Nkosazana. I miss my little princess. I wonder how Mbali manages to take care of 3 babies

on her own plus mine now. She wanted to go back to work when Amanda was big and strong enough to be left with a nanny but Khulani couldn't hear non of it. He told her that no wife of his will go to work leaving children at home at least not until they are 3 years old. She wasn't happy with his decisions but she had no choice but to stay and be like me.

I called her and she picked up on the third ring. I just hope that I am not disturbing anything.

"Hey."

She says sounding happy like always.

"Hey Mbali, how are you?"

"Perfectly fine and you?"

"Fine, I hope I am not disturbing anything."

"Oh no, I just finished bathing the children with the help of husby."

She says followed by a giggle and I know right then that Khulani is doing things to her. I don't know why I have not yet gotten rid of my jealousy. I have heard that jealousy is the root of all evil. I do

not want to end up doing something bad all because I can't handle seeing Mbali happy with my husband.

Even from today onwards I have not gotten over the fact that she is Khulani's wife because he cheated on me with her and impregnated her at the process. I thought I had forgiven and forgotten about it but I guess I have not because it eats me every time he is with her.

I know better than to listen to my mother because I know and understand what the elders told me. Whether I like it or not Mbali has to be in our lives. She is the pillar and protector of this family, the woman the ancestors chose for Khulani to wife, they said it was bound to happen that Khulani has to marry Mbali as his wife, it doesn't matter if it's as a first wife or second wife but as long as he has her as his wife.

"Okay, can I please face call you so I can speak to Nkosazana?"

"Ow my bad, she just went to bed. You know how much warm water makes her sleep."

"Oh yes, I guess I'll see her tomorrow when she comes back."

I say before we say our goodbyes. I went to the bathroom and got the shower ready. I took off my clothes and got inside letting the water hit on me.

"God why did I have to share him?"

Tears are now flowing down my face. I never knew that I carried so much hurt in me and I decide on letting it all out today right here in this shower.

"I do not want to resort in badly measures dear lord."

I sob.

"So I suggest you do something about this because you are the one who caused it!"

I shout as if I see him. Why would God even allow men to have as many wives as they want. He doesn't know what war he has caused by allowing this. Women are busy killing each other because of this nonsense of his.

If only he hadn't allowed the people in the bible to have more than one wife then I wouldn't be in this situation, the world would have been a better place.

I am Thembeke Manzini, the betrayed wife... I mean the first wife of Khulani Manzini and this is how I endured

*Mbali* ♥

Marriage life has been good to me. What I like the most about this marriage of ours is that our

husband has no favorite, he loves us all equally that's why we get along this well. I never thought Thembeke would forgive me and get along with me since she pulled that stunt of pretending to love me the last time. I can never forget it, how she made me believe that she loves and has accepted me as her sister wife only to find out that she was pretending.

I can never forget how my husband insulted me when she got pregnant and blamed for whatever she fed him with. How I had to leave my husband for her because I couldn't stand being insulted by my everything, getting insulted by your boss is one thing but getting insulted by your husband who is or was your boss is something else but anyways I am glad that it's all over, we are now a happy family without anyone having to pretend to love each other.

I had Khulani this whole week and I enjoyed spending the time with him. He always makes me happy, helping me with the children and cooking, a husband every woman can ever wish to have. I never thought that my boss could ever be my everything I mean look at me now, my boss is now my husband, my friend, my lover, the father of my children and all in all my everything. I never knew that my crush for him will land him in my arms with a huge shining rock on my finger.

I never thought he had eyes for me back then, no wonder they say 'wonders can never cease to amaze you'. I only thought he loved Thembeke with all his heart that he would never even cheat on her. I thought he was only using me to get away from his marital problems when he started fucking with me but no mo'guy was serious about me. Little did I know that knocking me up was only the beginning of the road for me to being his wife.

Cleaning while being itchy down there was not fun at all. I had to endure all day of seeing his yummy self in the office without even getting a taste of him. I should have known from the beginning that me having a salary different from all the other cleaners meant something, I should have known that the boss had a thing for me. I am happy to have been married to my crush, he was and will continue to be my crush he is actually my everyday crush.

Being showered with love from him made me the woman I am today. His love made me give in to being a stay home mom until the kids are at least three years old. I don't even know whether I should go back to cleaning or what but I'll cross that bridge when I get there.

Today is Saturday and Khulani is going back to Thembeke's place tomorrow together with baby

Nkosazana. I love that girl, I don't understand how I felt connected to her the time she was still at high risk because of being born before her time. Helping her to fight it all made me share a strong bond with her and I think she can also feel it that's why she loves me this much that she even has her clothes and toys here.

"Baby?"

Khulani says after the phone call I just had with Thembeke.

"Yes."

"How about we all go out tomorrow as a family, maybe go to the zoo."

"That's a great idea baba."

"Then I will call Thembeke and tell her to get ready early tomorrow."

He says before placing a kiss on my forehead making me smile like a retard. Only God knows how much I love this man. He is the man I've always wanted to be with. I pray he doesn't get another wife, I better be the last wife or there'll never be peace in this home, that's what me and

Thembeke have agreed on. It is already enough that we have to share a husband but sharing him with a third wife will just be crazy for me.

"Don't you want to give me some?"

He asks after calling Thembeke. I know what he wants and I intend on giving it to him just the way he wants it. We haven't been able to play with each other the whole day because the kids were giving us a hard time so it is now the right time for us to get down to it.

I got on top of him kissing him. Mind you we were both naked because we just finished bathing. Can you believe that we have for once taken an innocent shower together.

"But baby, the kids are just one door away."

I decide to let him beg before I give it to him willingly. I like how he gives it to me when he has begged for it. Have you ever seen how a person chews a bubble-gum just because he or she negotiated with the seller to let him or her buy two bubble-gums with just R0.50, yeah that's how Khulani takes me. He will make sure to leave me paralyzed as a sign to show that he has begged.

"I think it's better you drop that acting of yours if you still want to walk properly tomorrow at our family outing."

The last thing I want right now is to leave proof for Thembeke to see that I had sex with our man. I know she won't like it just like I wouldn't like seeing her walking like a duck all because our husband gave it to her all night. We might be very close but we don't share our bedroom affairs with each other because that will just cause a fight between us and our husband. We will begin comparing what he does to me and what he does to her and blame him for loving one of us more than the other.

I then give in easily because I don't wanna be that bragging wife. He seems happy that I easily gave in because of what he said and I let him have his way with me making sure that he goes easy on me.

The night goes well with the love of my life making love to me till I fall asleep. He made sure to cover my mouth with his shirt so my moans can not be so loud that the kids can not hear it. We don't want the children making this sounds when playing.

I make a note at the back of my head to visit my mother and go see my little bro who looks just like

his father. I never thought my mother would ever find a man who will love her so much at her age and even marry her. She is a happy woman who lacks nothing in life. God has blessed her with a daughter and a son, a husband and a stepdaughter what more can she possibly ask for.

"Come on maZungu hurry up."

I was busy looking for my shoe which I am sure that Amanda has hid them somewhere in this house. I don't know what it is with her and the obsession she has for my shoe. I always have to search for this shoe, you would swear she is a rat that takes shoes just to have a bite of it.

"Come on ma kaManda... Just put on other pair of shoes, you have a closet full of shoes."

He says making me feel like slapping him, he knows it very well that this are my favourite shoes and yet he is asking me to wear another pair so I give him a look he wasn't expecting.

"Don't you dare give me that look or else I will fuck you up right now."

"You are not fun at all."

I hear him chuckle.

"I'm giving you 5 minutes to get those other pair and wear them or else you'll go barefoot."

He says before leaving the room. If only he could discipline his daughter not to play with my shoe he does this to me.

That girl has more than 50 dolls and teddy bears in this house and yet she sees a doll in my shoe. It is always the same shoe, the right one. She never makes a mistake of taking the left one.

I decide on wearing another pair of shoes before Khulani comes back and drag me out. Yeah I know he will do it, I know that idiotic crazy husband of mine.

I get downstairs and everyone is around their father waiting for me with the boys each on their father's laps.

"Mommy.."

Amanda jumps on me. If only she knew how I wish to get my hands around her neck and squeeze

the life out of her for hiding my shoe but I can't do it in front of her father unless I have a death wish.

"Come Nkosazana, let me hold you."

I say knowing very well that Amanda will get jealous and start throwing tantrums. I pick Nkosa up and wait for Manda to start.

"Mama, you are angry at me?"

I don't know how a two year old child knows how to speak this fluently.

"Yes."

"What did I do?"

"How many times have I told you not to play with my shoe Manda?"

Se looked down biting her fingers as a sign that she knows what I am talking about.

"But mama I stopped."

"Then where is my shoe?"

Like always she doesn't remember where she has hid it. The boys are sitting on their father's laps promising each other nothing but sweets.

"Ask Sana mama, she was the one who took it. Now put her down and pick me."

I chuckle at this daughter of Khulani. So she thinks just because she has lied about not knowing anything about the shoe I will believe her.

"Please take your daughter, I can't deal."

I saying going out leaving her to cry. Yes I know she will.

I open the family car's door and buckle Nkosa on her sit. I kiss her in the cheek and wait for Khulani to come with his precious spoilt daughter, I know Nkosa is also his precious and spoilt child but she knows how to behave. She has never behaved as that daughter of mine behaves.

Khulani comes with Amanda in his arms just as expected and the boys running after them. I love this boys of mine, they know how to treat a lady as a queen, I mean just look at the way they never cry when you carry Manda. They will always tell you that men never cry and I know that it is that husband

of mine that poisoned their minds. They are just two years old and yet they have been told that they are men.

I went back inside the house to get whatever we will be needing for the day out. I just hope the children will enjoy themselves there.

After taking everything that we will need I go back and put them in the back of the car and then help Khulani in buckling up the kids.

I don't know whether I should take the front sit or Thembeke will but anyways we'll see when we get there but for now I will take the front sit.

I get inside the car and Khulani starts the engine and we are out of the gate. He places his hand on my thigh and I let him be because the kids can't see anything from where they are.

*Palesa* ♡

Finally I am getting discharged from this hell of a place tomorrow. I don't know why they would admit a sane person like me into this place right after losing my baby. They couldn't even give me a chance to mourn for my little Manzini baby, the only key that was going to bind me and Khulani together.

The first thing that I will do when I set my foot out of this place is to seek revenge for my child's death. I might have miscarried but those Manzini wives are responsible for my miscarriage. If it weren't for them I would have given birth already and enjoying my life with Khulani and our child.

I was going to have my happy family but they came and ruin it like they always do but I will make sure that they never live to enjoy their lives while they ruined mine.

"Don't worry my child, mommy is going to get you justice."

I say before letting out a laughter. I have suffered enough in this hell with this insane people. I had to tolerate being bullied by them and not getting into a fight just so I can get released and put my revenge in action.

I had to endure being beaten up by this crazy people and the nurses doing nothing about it when I report it, instead they tell me that I did it by myself all because the others were believed to be more sane than me. I had to pretend to enjoy whatever they wanted me to do just so they cannot hurt me.

It is now about to be over and I am going to make them pay the way they made me suffer. I no longer want Khulani because wanting him only comes with huge consequences like landing up here, I do not want to find myself in this place again so I am going to play my revenge safe.

I am Palesa Davids and I was once Khulani's wife!!

# Chapter 2

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*Thembeka*♡

Khulani called last night and told me that we are going on a family outing and I must say that I am not looking forward to it. How am I supposed to behave outside this house with him and his wife. I don't even know what I will say to Mbali because I have suddenly redeveloped hatred for her again.

Yes while crying last night I decided on hating Mbali, there's nothing I can love about her when she has stolen my man and of course except for the fact that she doesn't mistreat my daughter. Khulani was supposed to be my husband only, I wasn't supposed

to share him with anyone and here I am sharing a dick.

I have to enjoy the same dick he used to fuck her, that just makes me sick. I don't think I will even allow him to touch me today after knowing very well that he was with that home wrecking wife of his. I have to suck up with her all because I enjoy his sex game but that has to stop now, if it needs me to starve him sexually for him to notice how much he has broken me.

Ever since he married her he doesn't love me the same way as he did before she came into our lives. He used to love me with all his heart back then and now he has to cut that love he had for me into half and share it with that woman of his.

He had to cut his heart into half and give me the one half while Mbali gets the other half. Having only a half of his heart is not enough for me. I want all his heart just like it once belonged to me.

I've just finished bathing and cleaning the house. I don't understand why Khulani decided to get me and Mbali in the same place especially out in the public. I know I have given him the impression that I am okay with this polygamy nonsense but that

doesn't mean I want to go public with this and play happy families coz I'm not.

My mom was to leave with us so we can drop her off at the bus station. I still cannot believe what she wants me to do. I wouldn't have even thought twice before doing it back then and that taught me a lesson.

"Thembeke my child, it is not yet too late to take my offer."

How can she even call it an offer. I am done with sangomas, I do not need another Ngobese to sleep with because that one showed me flames. He had come back to haunt me the last time so I do not need that drama again. I might have too much money now than back then but I will never dare step my feet into a sangoma's yard coz that alone is just bringing unhappiness to myself.

"Mama I told you that I won't be doing that."

"You know I've heard you crying last night. It broke my heart to know that you were crying for something that we can fix."

"Your way of fixing things is not ideal to me."

She was about to say something but was interrupted by Khulani and Nkosazana. Nkosazana came running to me.

I missed my child, I bet I wouldn't have cried last night and I wouldn't be having these thoughts about hating Mbali if she was here with me. She is the only person that keeps me sane, the only person that makes me see the good in Mbali without her then Mbali will just have to kiss her second wife chair goodbye. It is all thanks to Nkosazana that I am trying so hard to get along with Mbali.

"Mama."

Khulani says to my mom then came to give me a peck on the cheek. I am glad it was on the cheek because I do not know what him and his wife got up to early this morning. He might have been muffing her and then expect me to kiss a mouth that was buried deep in her thighs.

"MaZungu."

He says making me blush, he has always managed to make me blush even after disrespecting me this much. Khulani is the only man I love. I cannot even begin to describe the love I have for

him. The love I have for my husband cannot even be compared to the obsession I once had for Quinton.

I still do not know how he manages to still be friends with Quinton even after knowing what I went through to make him mine. Most men would be jealous and wouldn't want anything to do with the man that his wife went all out through difficulties just to make him hers but hey my husband is unique.

"Khulani."

I don't feel like calling him sweet names right now.

"Are y'all ready?"

"Yes."

"Then let's get going."

He says taking my mother's luggage while I took my hand bag and picked my baby girl up and followed behind him.

"So you are fine with this?"

My mom whispers to me while gesturing with her head to Mbali and her children on my ground.

"Mama please."

I whispered back to her. Khulani placed her bag in the boot then opened the door so we can all get in. They buckled up the children in their sit. My mom got in the back and I know I'm also supposed to get in the back and watch my husband take the front sit with another woman.

"Wait Thembeke, you can take the front sit."

"Oh no please take it."

"I insist you take it."

I ended up taking it just so I can tease Khulani in front of her and make her jealous. It's about high time she knows that Khulani belongs to me, she has to see that his heart can only belong to me and no one else.

I got in the front while she got in the back with my mother. I could see the evil look my mother was giving her I have my fingers crossed that Khulani doesn't see it or else all hell will break loose for my mother.

He drove to the bus stop and we both accompanied my mother to the bus leaving Mbali with the children inside the car.

"Goodbye ma."

I say hugging her. God knows how much I love my mom.

I remember calling my mom when I came to find out about Khulani cheating on me she just turned me away and told me to never share my marital problems with anyone, even with her and yet here she is advising me to bewitch Mbali. She now wants to interfere in my marital problems when she couldn't before the matter got to this stage either way I still love her.

"Bye my children, take care of yourselves."

"Bye ma"

She got in the bus and we also went back to the car so we can start with our so called family outing. I just wish this day could just end so fast. I am really not looking forward to pretending to be happy when I am not.

I had to endure cold sleepless nights thinking about what could my husband be doing with Mbali. I had to keep myself warm with so many blankets when I have a husband who should have been the one to keep me warm. I sometimes feel like stabbing Mbali to death when it is her turn to spend the week with Khulani.

"Lost in thoughts?"

Khulani says while driving. Mbali is busy playing with the girls at the back. I looked at her through the review mirror before turning to my husband.

"No, I'm just not feeling well."

"Do you wanna see a doctor?"

He asks looking worried.

"No I'll be just fine."

I say taking his hand into mine and looked through the review mirror and saw Mbali staring at us then our hands. Khulani wanted to pull his hand away from mine but I squeezed it and he let me be. I saw the disapproval look from Mbali but she will just have suck it up, after all I am the first wife and I

have the right to do anything with my husband without asking for her approval in fact she is the one who has to ask for my approval before doing anything.

The drive to Safari Zoo was so quiet since the kids had fallen asleep and us elders had nothing to say to each other. My hand never left Khulani's hand and Mbali didn't say anything coz there was nothing she can possibly say.

We arrived at the zoo and woke the kids up. We set up the place we would be sitting at to have our breakfast. Mbali laid out a blanket on the ground and set up the plates to dish up for us.

She dished out the breakfast I believe she woke up early to prepare, luckily they were still warm. We all sat down on the ground with us the wives sitting next to each other facing the husband.

I must say that my husband is one lucky bustard, I mean who has ever had the luck to have four children of the same age, two boys and two girls, he has the dream every man dreams of having, after all he is a Manzini.

"So kids are you enjoying your food?"

Khulani asks his kids. One thing I hate about Mbali's kids is that they look just like Khulani especially the boys, Amanda has just taken his dad's eyes, nose and mouth and the rest are like Mbali. While my Nkosazana only chose to take Khulani's eyes and have my looks.

"Yes daddy."

You would swear they were attending crèche kanti no, having children with Khulani means that you have to become a teacher to your children until he thinks they are fit enough to attend crèche. I spend all my day teaching Nkosazana all the basics she needs to know for crèche and I can assure you that she will be a smart kid since she is a fast learner.

"Now finish up so we can go and see the animals."

The kids were so happy that they were going to see animals so they finished their food and asked their father to finish his fast.

"Ladies, let's get going."

We got up and packed everything into the car and went to see the animals the kids are so high and happy to see.

We first went to see the lions which scared Amanda and made her run to daddy while my Nkosazana was laughing when it roared.

"Sandile look at it, it is laughing."

Nkosazana said while giggling.

"Come on Manda it won't do anything to you."

He says attempting to put her down.

"Please daddy don't put me down, I am scared of it."

Mxm Mbali's spoilt brat.

"No Manda come on join your siblings, this creatures are locked inside so they won't harm you... Come on get down."

"But mama."

"Get down now!"

Did I perhaps think out loud that Mbali heard me, I mean she is now shouting at her child which is something rare and specially in front of Khulani.

"Mbali!"

He warns her in a way that the children couldn't notice. He even went as far as giving her a look she deserves. The look I never thought he would ever give her. I know that he doesn't want any of his children to be shouted at even by their own mother. I am glad I thought out loud that Mbali heard me because it worked in my favour.

Khulani will be reprimanding Mbali for shouting at Amanda and I will gladly stand by him. I should have thought about this earlier.

"Baba."

I know you've never heard me calling him like this but hey he has just made my day so he deserves this upgrade in name calling. In fact I feel like jumping on him and give the longest appreciation kiss.

So she thought my husband will always be cool with her all because she seduced him to cheat with her on me. Yeah I still believe that she is the one

that seduced my husband by wearing that short uniform of hers, I guess I was already too late when I made her change it. She was already done seducing him and I believe they had already started fucking.

"Mxm."

He took the kids and went to the other side to see other animals and we followed behind him.

"Daddy please put me down."

That brat now says.

"I'm not putting you down Manda."

"Daddy mommy is angry because of me so put me down."

"Manda."

"No daddy, I want to go to my mom."

He had no choice but to put her down and she ran to her mom.

"Mom I'm sorry."

Mbali gave a her fake smile. She looked like she was about to cry but couldn't cry in front of her kids. Who knew that Khulani shouting at her was all I needed to get her crying. I should do this more often until she decides to leave my man.

"It's fine Manda, go to your dad... I'm going to the ladies room."

She said and didn't wait for any of us to say anything to her, she rushed to the ladies room which was not far from where we are.

"Daddy did I say anything wrong to mommy now?"

"No baby, you didn't say anything wrong."

# Chapter 3

*Mbali*♥

I never thought that Thembeke hates my children this much. I know that Amanda is a spoiled brat but the way she said it wasn't cool at all and it was enough to let me know that my children can never be safe around her.

After all this years of me believing that she won't punish my children for their mother's sins and she goes and says this about my child. I know that I have wronged her by having an affair with her husband and then him paying lobola for me behind her back but that doesn't mean she has to talk about my children the way she wants.

I walked to the bathroom with tears threatening to come out of my eyes and not because Khulani shouted at me but because the woman I thought has forgiven me was actually pretending once more again. I can never begin to tell you what I went

through back then when she was pretending, making me fall for her stunts just so Khulani can slip out of my hands.

I sob in the lady's room until I calm myself down and note down to not let her get what she wants. I think this is another plan of hers to make Khulani think less of me and I won't let her win. Two can also play the game she is planning so she better be ready because it is now game on, I am going to show her who Mbali is.

I took out some wipes out of my handbag and wiped my face then applied some face cream and went back to join them. Thembeke did not seem happy to see that I came back looking stronger than when I left, she was probably expecting me to be coming back with red eyes and a face that tells that I'm angry.

"Manda come to mommy."

My baby girl does not even waste any seconds... She runs up to me and I pick her up while Khulani studies what's wrong with me if only he knew who is the right person he should be studying. His first wife needs God himself to come down and deliver her from the spirit of pretending.

We continue with what we came her to do. Watching the animals with the boys wishing they could touch them. I kept stealing glances at Thembeke and she didn't seem happy at all and I couldn't care less. I am tired of being the good Mbali, the Mbali that will forever tolerate her nonsense because she slept with her man and fell pregnant in the process. I will not tolerate her treating me like I was the one who asked her husband to marry me.

Only God knows the reason why he let what me and Khulani had to come this far so she better stop judging me and besides it is not my fault that her husband had a hots for me. It is not my fault that her husband felt the need to knock me up back then even if it wasn't planned but he did so she should blame him instead of me... I mean I did not shoot sperms to impregnate myself.

After watching the animals we decided to go grab some snacks at the car so we went back to the car and everyone took the snacks they wanted. The kids decided they want to go and swim luckily the was a shop that sells swimming costumes.

I took the kids and went with them to the shop to buy them the costumes while leaving Khulani and his wife to set up the braai stand so he can get on

preparing the meat so the children can eat after swimming. Everyone chose the costume outfit they wanted. The kids were so happy with their costumes that they couldn't even wait to go and change into them. I accompanied them to the rest rooms and helped them change into their costumes.

I placed their clothes inside the plastic and carried them to the car before walking them to the swimming people. They were jumping up and down getting eager to get into the pool. The pool was the rights height for the children their age to swim. They got inside while I joined the other mothers who were sitting on the benches and watching their children have fun. The kids fitted in with other children perfectly and they made friends within minutes.

"Ladies."

I greet the mothers once I got settled on the bench.

"Hey, You must be Mrs Manzini right?"

I doubt there's anyone who can not be able to recognize me when my wedding video is still going viral on every social media.

"Yes."

"Wow... I cannot believe that I am sitting with Thee Mrs Manzini."

One of the mother's exclaimed.

"I'm Sharon by the way."

She says handing me her hand for a handshake and I took it in.

"Mbali."

The other ladies also introduced themselves and they all seemed nice that is why it became easy for me to indulge in a conversation with them.

We were all laughing like we've known each other for a long time now. The children also seemed to be enjoying themselves with the other kids in the pool.

"So Mbali, are you fine with being a second wife?"

Sharon asks. I have noticed that Sharon is the talkative one amongst all this ladies. I must say that the question took me by surprise and also made me

question myself, am I really fine with being just a second wife but I will not show her that. I can't let her know that her question made me question myself too so I quickly gathered myself and answered her.

"I am fine with it."

"I also wouldn't mind being a second wife to a man like Mr Manzini... Phela he is for kills."

I couldn't help but laugh. It is fun to know that people also want to be in the same shoes as yours without knowing what it comes with. Being a second wife especially to Khulani comes with a bitter first wife, a first wife that doesn't hesitate hating your children.

"It is my man you are comparing to here."

I say warning and they all burst out laughing. Spending time with them made me forget the mood Thembeke got me into, it made me become the person I was when we came here.

Before we left I felt that this outing was actually a good thing until Thembeke spoiled it. I saw it in the car that she had no good intentions for today. She firstly placed Khulani's hand on hers in the car

when we agreed that we would not do that in each other's presence but I guess she has fooled me once again.

When she said all the sorts of things about my baby girl that's when I realized being here with her was a mistake. I should have refused to come here.

I don't believe that me and her are ever gonna see eye to eye after what she has thought out loud about my baby today I shall never play nice with her.

It is not like I am entitled to be kind towards her even when she wrongs me but I will not be like her. If she doesn't like me then what's the use for me to try and like her but that doesn't mean that I will hate Nkosa because her mother hate my kids.

I will show her that two can play the game she is playing. I will make sure she exposes her true colours to Khulani before she tries breaking us apart again.

She won't win this time around. She managed to get us divorced the last time and I now refuse to let history repeat itself. If playing like a disrespectful mistress is what will put her back into her place then so be it.

"She is right, your man is something else. He is one of men in the world whom women can kill each other for."

"You are lucky that the first wife isn't giving you any problems because if she was me I don't believe that you would still be alive."

We all burst out laughing. This people think Thembeke is all holy and though, they do not that she is the devil himself.

The kids finally came out of the pool saying they are hungry so we said our goodbyes to the ladies before we went back to our spot to grab something to eat.

*Thembeka*♡

"So babe, how about we renew our vows?"

I suggest to Khulani. Yeah this idea just popped out of my mind unexpectedly. I gave it some minutes to think and then I knew that it was the only way to show Mbali that Khulani is mine.

I have to do something because her wedding is still the talk of the world. People have suddenly forgotten about my wedding which was a hit. I can never forget the day when I said my vows to my

husband in front of a whole lot of people and the priest. It was the best day I have ever had.

I never thought for even once that he would break his vows and cheat on me with a cleaner. Couldn't he have at least gone for someone who wouldn't downgrade my status.

I am a woman of class and he cheated with a mere cleaner what sort of disrespect is this in fact in which level is this disrespect in.

He stares at me as though I have said something wrong. If he think his look will make me change my mind then he has got another thing coming. I won't be backing off this that easily... No I will actually won't be backing off this. We will renew our vows whether he likes it or not.

"Can you hear yourself maManzini?"

"Yes. Is there anything wrong with what I have I said?"

"Yes."

How can he think there's something wrong with renewing our vows.

"I don't see anything wrong with it."

"But I do."

"No baba kaNkosazana, we have to do this."

"Did you give yourself time to think about this thoroughly?"

"I've thought about this for a whole year now."

I lie.

"Then you must take another year to rethink it."

This man is sometimes something out of this world. How can he suggest such a thing.

"Do you hear yourself Khulani. All I want is for us to renew our vows only, is that a lot to ask?"

"Yes. You can't expect me to renew our vows with you."

"I am your wife if I may remember correctly so it is not wrong for husband and wife to renew their vows."

"Mbali is also my wife... did you perhaps think of that?"

"This is not about Mbali, this is about me and you."

"We are in a polygamous marriage here Thembeke, you can't expect us to renew our vows without Mbali."

"What are you trying to say?"

"If you want to renew our vows then that will also apply to Mbali. We will all renew our vows in the same day and ceremony."

I can't believe he has just said this to me. How can he expect us to do this with Mbali, this is not Uzalo where he gets to marry two women at the same time, same day in the same church and in front of the same congregation and pastor. That will only happen once I am dead.

"You must be joking."

"Do I strike you as a man to joke?"

He now acts all serious with me when he is the cause of all this. If only he had managed to zip his trouser uptight then we wouldn't be in this situation.

It is all because of him that I can no longer enjoy my life, I can't even go out there without anyone asking me how it feels to be a first wife. If only he knew that I sometimes feel like strangling him for putting me in this kind of situation.

"Then you must be fooling yourself. You are going to give me this without Mbali being involved."

He gives me an emotionless face and I don't care how angry I will get him right now but he will give me this.

"I am tired of this Khulani, I married you and not Mbali."

"What do you suggest we do because there's nothing to do in this situation."

"Then divorce her if renewing our vows needs you to, then do it."

He chuckled and went back to the meat like nothing just happened, like we didn't even have this

conversation. Yes I have just told him to divorce her and I won't be backing down on it. I do not even regret saying it actually I am happy that I did.

"I'm talking to you."

"Can you please stop being crazy for at least four hours until we are out of here."

"So I'm crazy?"

"I don't have time for this."

He says while placing the meat into a container.

What kind of bad luck much has fallen on me. What have I done to deserve this. No woman deserves to share her man.

I wish the law had placed up a law that it is illegal to take more than one wife then I wouldn't have to worry about my husband taking another wife, I would have still been his only wife.

# Chapter 4

*Mbali*♥

The look Thembeke had given me when she saw us approaching made me wish like the earth could just open up and swallow me. I was looking like the only happy woman in the world and I know that... It's not something she would like to see. She enjoys seeing me hurt and down and I will not let her see me like that, I won't let her get her victory through my downfall. I will rub salt into her wounds while I will live to be the happiest woman on earth.

I will even live to ignore every bitter move she takes on our husband with the intentions to hurt me. I will make her feel like her actions do not affect me at all. She will live to regret the day she took my kindness for granted. I am now bringing back the old Mbali, the Mbali she has always felt threatened by, the Mbali that my dearest husband fell in love with.

I will not let her change me into a good for nothing jealous woman. She thinks she is the only one who doesn't want to share Khulani, I also do not want to share him but I am respecting the fact that he loves her and there is nothing I can do about it. I

will have to make him see her true colors before she destroys.

She looked annoyed by seeing me this happy... My happiness fueled her up her bitter mood. I wonder what might have gone down between them because she looks like she has swallowed the whole lemon tree.

"Go and take the plastic so we can go and change kids."

Nkosazana ran to the car to get the plastic while I went to check on dear hubby who was preparing the last meat. He also looks like someone has pissed him off and I am sure that it is Thembeke.

"Baba."

I whisper to his ear because he seems like he didn't notice that we are here. He turned around and faked a smile. If he thinks that I will buy his smile then he doesn't know his wife at all. I pecked his lips just to annoy Thembeke even more.

"Get rid of that face."

I say before turning around to the kids. I know Thembeke saw the peck of kiss and she will not say

anything to me because I also did not say anything to her when she made her move. This was only a sign to show her that the game she is playing is now on. If she thought that I would just sit back and watch her put her plan in action then she must be dumber than I thought.

"Kids let's go!"

I saw Khulani through the corner of my eyes giving me a smile. The only thing I should do now is to leave him and Thembeke to argue some more about the fact that he let me peck his lips in front of her.

We left them and went to the rest room to get the children changed. Once they were all changed I bought ice cream for them.

"Mbali!"

Wait a minute, I know that voice. Could my ears be deceiving me or my bitch is really here?

"Lebo!"

Yes it is her. It's been long since I've seen her. She had moved to Angola with Bob because he was offered a good paying job that side. She is even

glowing with a baby bump growing. I wonder why this bitch didn't bother to inform me that she is coming.

"Look at you chom. Pregnancy suits you."

"Oh please just wait until I become fat."

We laughed because she always used to tease me when I was pregnant. She always said that I was as fat as a hippo and she would let me cry for minutes before she burst out laughing and say she doesn't mean it. She couldn't even care that she is making a pregnant woman cry.

"Come on you won't be as bad as me."

"I pray and hope so."

"Look at me forgetting that your man is even here. Bob my man."

I greet him while Lebo greets the kids.

"I hate you wena Bob, you stole my friend from me."

"Doesn't your husband give it to you in such a way that you even forget that you have friends?"

She is still as crazy as she was. I wonder how Bob survives her because the last time I checked he hated this crazy side of her.

"Come on chom, even if he did, he would never fill the void of my missing friends."

"Anyways I will come see you tomorrow, I only came here to enjoy with my man."

"When are you marrying her Bob? My children aren't getting any younger."

We all burst out laughing.

"Come on Mbali, they are only two."

"Do you hear that friend? He doesn't wanna marry you that's why he is making this excuse of my children being 2 years."

We caught up until they had to go. I was so happy to see her and the fact that she would be visiting me tomorrow and even staying for the night made go over the moon. I am now happy in such a way that Thembeke would even think I have a plan to eliminate her.

Bob finally paid Lobola for Lebo, he even engaged her. They are now in the process of planning a wedding. I am so happy because they managed to bring their relationship this far even when it wasn't easy.

As for Thabo and Inno they are not yet married and they have two children. Their children are just results of how much they love sex. The one child is 1 year old and the other is just one month old. She is the only friend I have back here. I only visit her twice a week because she can't be visiting me with an infant.

She has a baby boy and a baby girl. Thabo was forced to pay Lobola for her after the second baby was born. They didn't want to rush things but with the steps they are taking of making children they are forced to get married.

Now that Lebo is back I will have someone to accompany me to visit Inno, and I bet she will she will be more than happy to see us.

I took the kids and went back to the car. Khulani was finished with the meat and Thembekeka looked angrier than she was before we left, she didn't even want to be near her husband. I do not care about the

fight they had because I am not the who caused it, I was not here when it took place.

*Thembeke*♡

I can't believe that witch had a nerve to kiss my husband right in front of me. What happened to playing all holy holy and setting up rules. Khulani even went as far as letting her kiss him. What does this man really want.

She left me fuming in anger. All I want to do right now is to strangle the shit out of Khulani so he can learn how to behave when I am around.

I waited for that witch to disappear with the kids before I can attack their father. I stood up and gave him one hell of a slap when they finally disappeared. This will teach him not to get so touchy touchy with Mbali when I am around. I am the first wife and I need to be respected, they can't

just do as they please and expect me to do nothing about it.

"How dare you Khulani, how dare you allow her to kiss you right in front of me."

I wanted to throw in another slap but he got hold of my hand gave me a death stare. I do not care about his stares right now, all I want is to kill him. Is it not enough that he had an affair with her behind my back and he now wants to do it in front of me. Where has he shoved the respect he once had for me.

"Don't you dare woman, don't you dare lay your hand on me again. What kind of disrespect is this?"

He even has a nerve to ask me such a question when he is the one I should be asking that question.

"How can you do this to me Khulani. So you invited me all here just I can witness you and her playing happy families."

I don't know why but I was now crying and on the other side I was having a headache from all the stress of thinking a lot.

"How can you say that ma kaNkosazana?"

"It is true Khulani, why don't you divorce me if you love her that much. You have disrespected me and it's enough!"

I couldn't care if people were staring. All I want right now is to vent out my anger on him. I know that what might come out of my mouth can be something I will live to regret but I do not care at this moment. All I want is to speak whatever comes to mine.

"You must be joking ma kaNkosazana, there is no way I am divorcing you."

I know that it's no use arguing with him because all he'll do is protect Mbali but I'd rather argue with him and let him protect her because in that way he will get to know how I feel.

"If you don't then I will. It is obvious that you don't love me. I've been quiet about this because I was respecting you but I am now fed up. I will no longer take this nonsense. It's either she goes or I go, what's it gonna be?"

At this moment, I feel like I should have listened to my mother and do something about Mbali. I have

to get her out of our lives for good so we can live a happy life without a third person like we did before.

She has enjoyed my husband and it is enough. All I want right now is to have my man back. The Khulani I married. The Khulani who would never want to hurt me like this.

What happened to my husband?

What made him change?

Why doesn't he love me the same anymore?

Why does he want me to share him?

He was just staring at me as an answer. I know that he will choose her over me but I had to take my chances that's why I asked him but his silence only means what I already know, he chooses her over me.

"You know what... I'm out of here."

I went to the car to get my handbag then thought of leaving Nkosazana. I cannot possibly leave my child with that witch called Mbali. I want nothing to do with her and I never want to see my child with her. I went back to the car and waited for them to come back. I will take my child and leave this place the minute they get here.

I am tired of turning a blind eye to Khulani loving Mbali more than me. What is it that she has and I don't. Did I possibly lose the spark or I am no longer that attractive to him.

Is it because she is thicker than me and a yellow bone. Do I have to bleach myself in order to make him fuss over me like he does with her. I know he let me touch him in the car but holding and touching hands is much innocent compared to a kiss.

What are the children supposed to think? That I am the other wife where as Mbali is the other wife. I hate this damn ancestors for choosing another wife for Khulani. Couldn't they let us leave in peace.

Mbali came back with the kids and I was very happy to see my child happy but the fact that she is happy because she was with Mbali doesn't sit well with me. I know that Mbali must be happy because of I don't look happy and I won't be pretending to be happy.

I will let her believe she has won before I can struck. I want her to get a shock of her life when she comes to realize that Khulani will forever be mine even if when we argue this much and get on each other's throats.

"Come baby I want to show you something."

"What mommy?"

"Come you'll see."

I picked her up and took my handbag. I could see the hurt in Khulani's eyes when he saw that I was actually leaving. It is his fault that I have to turn to drastic measures even when I didn't want to.

I called a cab while buying a burger for my child at the zoo supermarket which is just at the gate of the zoo. The cab came after a few minutes and off we went. I asked the driver to take me home and he did.

...

I stood up from the floor while wiping my mouth. I do not know what is wrong with me. I have been vomiting a lot this days especially in the morning.

I have to see a doctor tomorrow before I leave. I am lucky that Nkosazana has not yet started with school because if she was... the move I'm about to make would affect her school work.

I am planning on going back home for a few weeks so that Khulani can remember me, so that he can feel bad for letting me slide right through his fingers. If he claims to love me like he does then I believe my plan will work. I wonder if he will even come back home today after the fight we had or he will decide to crash at his second wife's place.

I rinsed my mouth with water before going to dish up the food I prepared. It is nothing big but just something Nkosazana loves. My daughter completes me and I know that she means the world to her father. He will come looking for her when we have left.

# Chapter 5

*Khulani*♡

I don't understand what could be wrong with Thembeke lately. She has been behaving in a different way from her normal way. She is always throwing tantrums even when it is not necessary.

I know that I have hurt her by marrying Mbali but I thought we were past that stage and she has forgiven me but I guess I was wrong. She never forgave me and I will continue to be punished for it.

She wants us to renew our vows just to spite Mbali. I love this women both equally. There's no favoritism in my love for them but this renewing of vows can never happen. How can I renew my vows with her and do nothing with Mbali, what would the world think.

Sometimes Thembeke never think things thoroughly. All she wants to do is to get what she wants and hurt Mbali in the process but I won't let her. We better all suffer than letting one enjoy while others gets hurt. I don't enjoy seeing one of my wives getting sad all because I did something with the other one. All I want is to always keep them happy and never make them feel like I don't love them equally.

We couldn't continue with our outing because of Thembeke, we also had to go. How can we continue and pretend to be happy when one of us is not. I drove to Mbali's house and spent some time with them indoors. I have to give Thembeke some time to cool off before I can go back home to her. I want us

to talk as matured adults and not what she did at the zoo.

I was playing with my kids on the floor while Mbali dished up for us. We couldn't eat at the zoo after Thembeke left so we were forced to also pack and leave. She dished up the hot chakalaka for me and the plain one for the children and we ate in silence.

"Mama, this is nice."

Trust Manda to say this. There's no food she has never complemented of course only the food that has been cooked by her mother. She is very fond of her mother's cooking and she loves it.

...

It was now time for me to leave. No matter how much I fight with my wives I will always make sure to never dodge the time table. I even follow the time table when I am angry at them. This up and down driving has to end, I have to consider building them

both houses in the same yard to avoid this up and down.

I drove to Thembeke's house. I found her sitting at the dining room with Nkosazana eating. The food was just mouthwatering, luckily enough I didn't eat anything when I left Mbali's house because I did not want to upset Thembeke even more by not eating her food.

"MaManzini."

"Khulani."

Then there was total silence. I came to notice that she only calls me by sweet names when she wants something or when I have done something that she wants just like back there when I shouted at Mbali.

"I'll go dish up for you."

She says after a while.

"Thank you."

She got up and went to dish up for me. I watched Nkosazana eat her food in silence, this one doesn't talk a lot unless she is with her siblings.

I still remember the day I got married to Thembeke, it feels like it was just yesterday. I was so very in love with her, she had captured my whole heart. I was so very sure that I was gonna spend my whole life with her until death do us part and I still believe so. I really love Thembeke, she still has my heart. When I promised her that nothing will do us part except for death, I really meant it.

I know that taking a second wife wasn't part of my vows but there was nothing I could do. I tried fighting the feelings I had for Mbali but I could not succeed because they were just too much. I remember promising Thembeke that she will be the only woman who can own my heart and I have broken that promise... I have broken her too along with the promise, she is no longer the same bubbly Thembeke that I married. She is no longer the woman who would always lighten up at the sight of seeing me.

If I was able to switch off feelings I would have switched the feelings I had for Mbali before things got this far... I do not regret marrying Mbali but at the same time I regret breaking Thembeke's heart. I would have switched off the little feelings I developed for Mbali on her second day of working for me. I shouldn't have let them grow big and lead

me into the actions I took of having an affair with her.

I should have maybe stopped when Mbali gave me a chance to get back and fix things with my wife but I couldn't because she had already taken half of my heart, yes the half of the whole heart that I had given to Thembeke. She took the half and left the half with Thembeke that's why I love them equally.

I remember when I was just a teen at around 15 years, I used to tell my friends that I will never marry two or more wives. I never believed in polygamy that's why I always bragged about how I wanna be a single woman man, about how I wanna have a wife who can be proud of bragging about owning me. A man whom his wife won't be ashamed to say 'I am his only wife' but I failed to fulfill my wish. I failed to honor my wife's pride. I was her pride and I took that away from her.

I had embarrassed her in all the social medias. I am not a person who is much into social media but I ended up joining because Quinton had asked me to after he came across the comments on Thembeke's posts. I followed Thembeke's account and read all the comments. I became embarrassed to be even called a man after all the comments I read. I made my wife look like a fool. People were insulting her

left, right and center as though she has wronged them.

People made fun of how she is no longer my only wife and how her pride had been taken right under her eyes. Some even went as far as saying she couldn't satisfy me in bed that's why I went for another woman and married her. I felt the pain she might have felt when reading the comments. After those comments on the old picture, she has never posted anything on her accounts. She even went as far as deleting everything on her timeline all because of me, her embarrassment.

After all that I have put her through I believe that she is meant for me. I had made it easy for her to leave me but she didn't. She stuck with me even after everything I have put her through. She manages to put a smile on her face even when she is not happy. She tried her best to get along with Mbali just for me. She loved Mbali's kids as her own. What more could I ask from her other than forgiveness.

I have apologized to her for bringing Mbali into our lives countless times but I also had to make her understand that I love Mbali. I will not let Mbali go and same applies to her. She tried staying strong and

act like she has forgiven me until today... When she broke down and showed me her true feelings.

She made me aware of how this polygamy thing is still eating her up. I know no woman can ever want to share their man and be in a polygamy marriage so I understand where she is coming from. Her anger is acceptable but she shouldn't let the same anger make her forget how to respect her husband. I am still her husband and she has to respect me no matter how much I wrong her.

She came back with the food and gave it to me. I held her hand after taking the plate. Her eyes were red to show that she was crying. My heart broke, I wish there was something I could do to stop her heart from aching. What she has asked me to do is somehow impossible for me.

"Please sit here."

I patted the seat next to me. Nkosazana was now done eating.

"Nkosa please go to the play room and I'll join you now."

"Can I take snacks with me?"

"Yes."

She excitedly left the room for the kitchen to probably leave the plate there and take some snacks.

"Baby, talk to me."

"What more can I say Khulani?"

"Baby I'm sorry for the pain I've put you through."

"It's fine Khulani. Apologizing won't fix anything while she will continue being in our lives... You can sleep in the spare room or go back to her."

She says and hurriedly get up and went to the main bedroom.

I do not like the condition she is in right now. What can I do to ease her pain without leaving Mbali. Thembeke has to understand that I love Mbali as much as I love her, she can't make me choose her over Mbali when I can't even choose Mbali over her... I want them both hence I married them both.

I got up and went to the bedroom. I have to talk to her. I can't let her sleep without this thing

between us being resolved. We have to come to an understanding. I tried opening the door but she had locked it. I was left with no choice than to knock. I knocked on the door but she didn't open.

"Thembeke, baby please open up."

She kept quiet and let me knock. I knocked until I got tired and went back to the sitting room. I ate my food with a lot in my mind. I am glad that she has not left me, at least being angry at me and still doing her wifely duties means that she won't be leaving me at least that's how I see it. I went to the kitchen and placed my plate in the sink after eating. I had promised Nkosa that I would be joining her so I went to the play room and found her stuffing her face with snacks.

I joined her and played with her until she got sleepy. I tucked her in bed and read her a bedtime story. Out of all my children she is the only one that wants to be read a bedtime story before sleeping. The others manages to get themself to sleep without any hassles. She finally dozed off when I was half through the story.

I went to the spare bedroom and got in bed.

## *Palesa*♡

I am finally out of the mental institution. I am laying on the couch enjoying my freedom. My friend Naledi is the one that fetched me from the institution. She is the only one that has been paying me visits. She even welcomed me to her house. Naledi is the only person I have close to family. She is the only person who has supported me through everything.

She now has a daughter named Lerato. Lerato's father left when she was just 2 years old. He left for another woman after he had tried working on a relationship with Naledi until he saw it fit that they are not meant to be together. They both decided in coparenting. Naledi loved him but she couldn't keep him when he didn't feel anything for her that is why it was easy for her to let him go. She still follows him on social media. He stopped coming to see

Lerato when she was 4 years old. He only sent money to feed her until he got married and forgot that he has a child.

I salute all the woman who are able to make a man forget his own flesh and blood, children. How can you enjoy life with that man when you know very well that his children are suffering because of you. I have learnt that the hard way. I had a lot of time to think of my actions when I was locked up in that institution.

I gave the thing called life my whole mind. I came to understand that I was paying for my mistakes and I had accepted that but I couldn't accept that those Manzini wives had nothing to do with my miscarriage. According to my thinking they are the ones who caused me to have a miscarriage and they will pay severely for that. I will not spare them any pain. I want to make them go through the same pain I went through, just watch and see.

"Come on friend, you have been laying there and lost in your thoughts for the whole day."

"I just can't help myself but to get lost my friend."

"What's eating you?"

Naledi had changed after the Alison family paid her a visit after she tried using Lerato to get back at them for something they didn't do. She believed that they had taken a chance for Lerato to be raised as Quinton's child and have a nourishing childhood. Scarlett doesn't play fair with people who want to break her family. Naledi should have learnt this the time her plan was experienced on her.

I give that Scarlett woman a whole lot of respect. Naledi had planned for Scarlett to get raped but guess what, instead of Scarlett getting raped she was the one who got raped by the same men she hired. How she managed to do this is still a surprise to me. I won't even for once try that woman because she will show me flames.

"Nothing."

"It's fine if you don't wanna share with me. You will find me in the garden if you need me."

Her child was coming for a visit tomorrow and she couldn't wait for her to come back. Lerato was so angry at Naledi for being used. She didn't even pick up her calls for a whole year. Luckily enough she has a bursary that pays for her fees and still gives her money to fend herself, that's how she lived

when she wasn't in contact with her mother. She has all of a sudden forgiven her hence she wants to come back for a visit.

I logged on to social media and checked up on Mbalenhle Manzini, the second wife of Khulani. If it hadn't been this wives of Khulani I would have carried his child full term and given birth. He wouldn't have had any choice but to take me as his third wife but this wives of his spoiled it.

She hasn't posted anything for the past 3 months and it was starting to annoy me. I want her to post so I can know how their lives is placed and going.

# Chapter 6

*Thembeka*♡

I wake up early in the morning before Khulani wakes up. I managed to book two flight tickets last night and also made a doctor's appointment with the family doctor. He would be able to see me early this morning like I have asked him to. I totally have to know what's going on with me because this sickness is not on at all. I packed my bags together with

Nkosazana's bags. We will be gone for a few months or even less if Khulani does right by me.

I just hope that what I am about to do will work. I so badly want it to work because I cannot handle sharing my man any longer. I did not sign up to be in a polygamous marriage when I married into the Manzini family and I won't sign it now.

I wake my baby up and give her a warm bath while she couldn't keep her eyes open, she is not a morning person. I have to do this as quickly as possible. We will buy breakfast on the way because I don't wanna risk Khulani knowing our plan. I moisturized her body after giving her a bath and made her wear track pants along with a long sleeve vest and its jersey since it was a bit windy outside. Before I know it I was done and rushed to the bathroom and threw up. Dear God make this stop because I cannot take it anymore. Vomiting every day is not fun nor nice, I sometimes feel like I will somehow choke and die because of this vomits.

Luckily enough I had packed and place our bags in the dining room so all that was left to do was for us to grab them and get out of here. I have already informed my mother that we are coming so she can get my old room ready for me and my child. It is amazing how they kept my room as it is even when

I have left their house a long time ago, at least that's what my mother told me but anyways I will find out on my own when I get there.

I picked my bag and baby and went to the dining room. The room was dark because I had left it like that, I don't know why but something told me to do so. I switched on the light and was startled by Khulani sitting at the couch facing at my direction. What is he doing here so early. Couldn't he be sleeping and let me leave in peace.

"Khu... Khulani."

I muttered not knowing the right words to say to him right now. He had caught me red handed.

"Going somewhere?"

What do you tell a man you were planning on running away from just to make him realize that he needs you and only you in his life and no other women... I can't possibly tell him the truth because it might just ruin my plan. What do I do now. He raises his eyebrow impatiently waiting for an answer.

"I'm going to the doctor."

"At this hour?"

He says taking a glance at the clock on the wall. The look on his face tells me that he is pissed and does not believe the answer I gave him. One wrong move and I will feel his wrath. What right words would come out of my mouth that will not tint him the wrong way. His veins are popping at the sight of the bags placed in front of him. What woke him up anyway.

"Ummm. Baby, Khulani."

He gave me a death stare and I knew right there and then that shit is about to hit the fan. What have I gotten myself into now. I never wanted for things to turn out this way, all I wanted was for me and my child to leave this place peacefully and her father coming for us after he had set his mind straight at what he truly wants in his life because he can't possibly choose two wives and expect me to be one of them.

"Talk Thembeke."

"Okay, okay... I was going to my mother's place."

I confess.

"Why?"

"I'm just visiting her Khulani, I miss my father."

"When did you plan on missing him today, at this hour even?"

I hate this side of Khulani. He has never brought this side of him home. The last time he became like this was when I came to find out that he had impregnated Mbali, the only day that he has ever raised his hand on me. I never thought for once that Khulani would ever raise his hand on me. I forgave him for that but he is now taking me back to the thoughts of his hand colliding with my face all because of another woman.

"You want the truth Khulani?"

"I wouldn't have asked if I wanted lies."

He kept a straight face and also seemed calm. Dear lord be with me. The Lord's prayer is the only possible thing that I believe can save me in this matter.

"Okay then. I'm leaving you Khulani, I'm leaving you to be with your lovely Mbali."

I pretended like what I have just said doesn't hurt me at all.

"What!"

"Isn't that you love her more than me that's why you even raised your hand on me..."

I didn't mean to raise old issues but he has pushed me to that extent by that look he is giving me.

"You love her more than me and you are not even ashamed to show it. I can't live with sharing a man so she rather have you."

"You are not leaving me."

"Are you going to leave her then?"

"No but..."

"No buts Khulani it's either she goes or I go so choose baba."

"No one is leaving Thembeke."

"Then you are wrong. I am tired of becoming second best to you even when I am the first wife. I am tired of being a side cheek to you when I am a wife. I am tired of sharing you. You broke our wedding vows. You brought another woman into our lives and you expect me to be happy with that? For crying out loud you married your mistress without consulting me, your wife... I lost the place of being called your wife the day you gathered your uncles and paid lobola for her."

"Please do not say that."

I felt more courage than when he gave me his evil stares. I felt like I can conquer the world alone with this feeling that I am in. I felt like I can manage to live without Khulani and I know that I am just being fooled by this moment. I can't possibly be able to live without the love of my life.

"It is the truth Khulani. I actually meant nothing to you that's why you didn't even bother informing me that you want another wife."

"Baby, I love you."

"Love alone is not enough especially when you have to share the same love."

"Baby..."

He was cut short by his ringing phone. I wonder who could be calling him early at this time.

"Hello."

He doesn't even bother checking the caller ID.

"Yes."

He says after listening to whatever the person on the other end is saying. And then listen again.

"Hold on."

He removes the phone from his ear.

"You are on loudspeaker."

"Thembeka."

Mbali says on the other end. I should have known that she is the one who has a nerve of calling my husband at this time when knowing very well that it is my week to have him.

"Yes Mbali."

I say sounding bored. I am not interested in talking to her.

"You have to stop yourself from going there because your plan will cause you nothing but heartache."

What is she on about now.

"What are you trying to say Mbali?"

"Whatever you are planning will cost you the life of your kids."

That's what she says before the line goes dead. What does she mean by whatever I am planning will cost me the life of my kids... And what kids is she talking about when I only have one child, the nerve, liver, heart, bile that this woman has to talk such riddled nonsense to me!

"What was that all about?"

"Nothing is going to stop me from leaving Khulani, not you nor your wife can stop me. Let's go baby."

I grab the bag and pull it out with me.

Khulani is still standing on the same spot digesting that I am leaving him. He will snap out of it when I am out of this place. I call the doctor once I am in the car and inform him that I want to cancel my appointment with him because I will not be able to make it to the airport in time because Khulani had wasted my time. He understands and don't ask any further questions on what I might be feeling.

Khulani stands at the door and stare at me... Wait a minute did I just say Khulani because what I am seeing right now is not my Khulani. That is a manster, does this word even exist but anyways I'll use it. He is a manster, half man and half a monster. I can see its black saliva dripping out of its mouth, should I call it a monster or my husband.

Without even thinking twice I start the engine and reverse the car when I see it taking a step forward towards the car. Luckily enough I had opened the gate the minute I got into the car. I quickly drove out and never looked back. What had just happened back there. I stop the car at the side of the road and turn to check on Nkosazana, luckily she is sleeping in the back seat and I doubt she saw what I just saw.

I take in a few deep breaths before starting the engine and continue driving. I have to get out if this

place as soon as possible. I have to arrive back home safely so I can take in a normal breath and think properly of what just happened.

*Mbali*♥

"No please don't, please don't do it!"

I beg but it falls on deaf ears. I try reaching out to her and warn her but she doesn't listen to me, it is like I am not in the same room as her because of the way she is ignoring me.

My heart shatters at what she is about to get herself into, this is something she will never be able to get out of. This will bring misery into her life and yet she continues doing it without knowing.

"Someone please stop her!"

The man she is with gives me a smirk and that's when I realized that he has used his powers to make her not hear my warnings. He knows that what he is telling her to do will destroy her spirit and marriage, at least her marriage can be fixed but as to her spirit she will never recover from it.

"Hahaha, there's nothing you can do."

My mother in law appears from the back of the man, she is wearing a long black dress that sweeps the floor when she walks and blood is streaming down her eyes to her cheeks as she witnesses what I have been begging to stop. I can't help but cry with her because there's nothing I can possibly do to stop them.

"Stop her Mbali, she can't do this."

"I am trying ma."

"Try harder or else Khulani will hate her forever."

I try walking up to her but a strong force stops me and throws me across the room and just like that, I am now laying down on the floor after hitting the wall with my back out of the room. I got up and watched them through the window. She seems to be enjoying what she is doing.

She will regret listening to the influence of the same person who should be guiding her instead of leading her into this.

I look around me and find a rock. I try reaching down to it but my body is stuck in one place, I can't move anything except for my head and neck. I try

screaming to my mother in law but she then changes into a man I do not know.

"Hahaha, she thought she would get away without paying me! I am not called..."

I wake up panting with my nightdress drenched with sweat. I was dreaming, what a strange dream it was. I switch on my bed side lamp and find a note.

'You were not dreaming.'

And right there and then I knew that it was not a dream but a vision. I was being warned of what is gonna happen but why did I have to wake up before I could get to know the name of the person behind this and in that way I would be able to stop Thembeke. I have to stop Thembeke from what she is about to do even though it would be hard.

I decided to call Khulani and luckily he answered my call.

"...."

"Is Thembeke with you?"

"...."

I didn't even greet because what I wanted to say to Thembeke is far more important than greetings.

"Give her the phone."

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I hang up the call after saying what I wanted to say. I just hope that she has listened to what I have told her because if she didn't and go ahead with this thing of hers, she will regret her decision for the rest of her life.

# Chapter 7

*Palesa*♡

I woke up early this morning and decided to show Naledi how thankful I am for allowing me to stay here by cleaning up the house so her child can be welcomed into a clean and spotless home.

My friend loves her child with her all and she had to learn that through her child getting angry at her. She had grown anger towards Lerato since the day her father left her. The same anger is the one that made her use her daughter for her own selfish reasons. She made Lerato do things that left her being hated by the Alison family.

I don't know why Naledi used her daughter when knowing very well that Scarlett is very dangerous, she knew that Scarlett doesn't take any nonsense and yet she risked with her daughter's life. Lerato was lucky enough that Scarlett understood that she was being fooled by her own mother.

I cleaned every room I came across, it's not like she lives in a big house. It is a six room house, a kitchen, dining room, 3 bedrooms and a bathroom. Only the main bedroom has an insuit bathroom. She has done well for herself by working hard and not quitting her job. She works as a waitress at Rosé M restaurant. I should also start looking for a job because I can't always be cooped under the house off her salary.

I won't let those Manzini wives think they have pulled me down, I will rise and hunt down for job so that I can be well off when I finally attack.

I didn't leave any stone unturned in the house except for the main room where Naledi was still sleeping. I woke up very early than her today at around 04:00, I just couldn't sleep any longer. Naledi will wake up soon around seven to get ready for work and I will make sure that she wakes up to the house being cleaned and to breakfast being

ready, she has done so much for me and this is the least I could do to thank her.

After the cleaning I went to take a long bath since I still had time on my side to take a long bath then prepare breakfast before Naledi woke up. I prepared the bathtub and filled it with hot and cold water making it warm to the right temperature. I pulled off my shirt over my head then followed by pulling down my pants together with my panty and ended up with unhooking my bra after I had checked if the temperature was right for my skin. I poured the foam bath inside the water then dipped my one leg inside and felt how the water felt against my bare skin. The other leg followed and I sat down on the bath tub.

The water felt good on my skin. I don't remember when I had such a lovely bath. We only had showers at the institution because they are scared people will drown themselves in the tubs. The water hit my folds and I let out a moan from the back of my throat, I don't remember when last a man made love to me. The water feels good, I should do this more often especially after I had a long day with a tired body.

I closed my eyes and let the water take control of me. I was even humming a song 'till I ended up singing.

"If I were a boy  
Even just for a day  
I'd roll outta bed in the morning  
And throw on what I wanted and go  
Drink beer with the guys  
And chase after girls  
I'd kick it with who I wanted  
And I'd never get confronted for it.  
'Cause they'd stick up for me.

If I were a boy  
I think I could understand  
How it feels to love a girl  
I swear I'd be a better man.  
I'd listen to her  
'Cause I know how it hurts  
When you lose the one you wanted  
'Cause he's taken you for granted  
And everything you had got destroyed

If I were a boy  
I would turn off my phone  
Tell everyone it's broken  
So they'd think that I was sleepin' alone  
I'd put myself first

And make the rules as I go  
'Cause I know that she'd be faithful  
Waitin' for me to come home (to come home)

If I were a boy  
I think I could understand  
How it feels to love a girl  
I swear I'd be a better man.  
I'd listen to her  
'Cause I know how it hurts  
When you lose the one you wanted  
'Cause he's taken you for granted  
And everything you had got destroyed

It's a little too late for you to come back  
Say it's just a mistake  
Think I'd forgive you like that  
If you thought I would wait for you  
You thought wrong

But you're just a boy  
You don't understand  
Yeah, you don't understand, oh  
How it feels to love a girl someday  
You wish you were a better man  
You don't listen to her  
You don't care how it hurts  
Until you lose the one you wanted  
'Cause you've taken her for granted

And everything you had got destroyed

But you're just a boy"

I got out of the bath when I felt my fingers getting wrinkled. I took a towel and dried myself with it then wrapped it around my body and left for the room. I got in the room and moisturized my skin. I wore my black lace thong and its matching bra then put on a yellow dress and flip flops then headed for the kitchen. I took out the frying pan and got everything that I will need to make breakfast.

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We just finished eating breakfast and Naledi is getting ready for work. I decided to go out with her today to go job hunting. I feel lonely when left alone in this house so it's better I start job hunting now.

She came back after a few minutes looking all good like she is not going to serve people. I admired her most especially because she has managed to keep her body fit even after giving birth. She is one of those woman who do not want to see any fats on their body, they are actually allergic to fats.

"Let's go friend."

I went after her and let her lock the door after I was out. Thank to her baby daddy for buying her a car back then when Lerato was just an infant, look at how handy it has become to her. She drove to her work place with me and left me at the parking lot to go start my hunting. I first need to go to the internet café and print out my CV.

I walked to the internet café and do my business, printing costs too much this days. If only this people were generous enough to give us back our Cvs when they reject us so we can use the same CV and save ourselves money to print it again.

I started from the salon since I don't have much qualifications and went on to the next shops I came across and ended up in the big building where I assume is for businesses where I just hope and pray that they hire me.

*Naledi*♥

I can't believe that my baby has forgiven me for the mistake I have made. I just couldn't take not talking to her any longer, I was going to get mad if

she hadn't called me back. God works in miraculous ways. Just when I had begun to believe that I had lost her for good then she walks back into my life with her head held up right.

I can never be more happy than this, having my child back in my life is like a precious jewel to me she brightens my mood every day. Knowing that I brought such a beautiful and gorgeous human being on earth makes me feel special. I know I once took it for granted and used my daughter but trust me, I have learnt my lesson the hard way.

I have learnt to stay away from married men, look at where it brought me, I am now a single mother who raised her baby while the father went out and never came back. I know that we decided to go our separate ways but that did not mean that he should stop taking care of his responsibilities as a father to Lerato.

I know the struggle of the consequences of running after a married man, I also know the consequences of going after the man's wife. What Palesa is doing is called playing with fire. How can she go after Khulani's wives. She saw how Khulani and Quinton are close and could do anything to protect each other and yet she continues with her little stupid obsession of revenge.

She saw how Quinton dealt with me when I attacked his wife. She is getting herself into something she can never be able to come out of. Taking revenge on Khulani's wives would just mean that her life would be over with just a click of fingers.

Anyways I got off the car and went in the restaurant. People would feel sorry for me that I work at a restaurant without even knowing my salary. I am happy with where I am working because the salary allows me to do anything I want. I got inside and went to change into my uniform before I can begin with serving people.

I changed into my uniform and got my pad and pen and started taking down orders of guests. There was this one couple that looked rich and also happy. It is a young man and a young lady, oh how I wish to also have a life like them. I went to their table to take down their orders.

"Good day sir and madam, you are welcome to restaurant Rosé M. Would you like to order anything or I should give you a moment to go through the menu?"

I smile at them. The manager has always told us to be polite to guests and to also smile when taking their orders. This is one strict restaurant that I know of, one complain from the guests and you are out without any warning. That's one of the terms and conditions you sign to when being employed here.

"Thank you, I will have orange juice for now."

The young lady who is probably my age says. This is my every day life. I am now used to it. In fact I enjoy it.

"Give me a glass of Heineken."

The man says with a bold voice. It is not right to feel something for customers especially those with partners, I remind myself.

I noted their orders down.

"I will leave you to go through the menu sir and madam."

I left them and went to get them their orders. I wish I could say I don't enjoy this job but I do, I have learnt to love especially because it has taught me how to live with people. It has taught me to be a good person. Look at me now enjoying being single,

although I sometimes get lonely but I will never go after married men not even when they are the ones after me. Letty has taught me a big lesson.

I took their drinks back to them and found them laughing, they are such a good looking couple. I served them their drinks and asked:

"Have you decided on what to eat yet?"

"Yes, I will have your special with extra meat."

The young man says. His voice leads me back to the voice that got me into a situation of obsession. The voice that made me fall in love with Quinton, the voice that made me a fool and blinded me. I used to think about nothing but Quinton all day because of the love I had for him because of his voice, the voice that made me fall for him had brainwashed me.

"And you madam?"

I say after noting down what he would like to have.

"I will have the RB feast."

A woman with a diet I see, RB feast simply means Rabbit feast, as in salads. I guess she is one of those women who always wants to maintain their figure.

"No you won't have that."

The man say making the woman frown.

"You have to eat."

"But baby..."

"No buts... She will have the rib burger with chips and a salad on the side."

I wrote it down and left.

Anyways I am Naledi Shongwe and this is my everyday life!!

**Narrator**

"But you can't just order food for me."

"You heard what the doctor said. You have to eat in order to keep the baby healthy."

"I know but you know how much I hate fats."

"Its not too much fats honey, please do this for our baby."

"This is not fair, you know I can't decline your please."

The man chuckled and held her hands.

"I love you baby that's why I want to spend the rest of my life with you and our baby."

"I know baby that's why I love you too."

"Promise to never take off the ring ever again?"

"Baby you know that I never meant to take off the ring. Just that I was cleaning it and forgot to put it on after bathing then left to meet the girls."

"Just don't do it ever again. If you feel like it is dirty just say so and I'll get it cleaned for you."

"Yes baby."

He kissed the back of her hand and she gave him a smile.

# Chapter 8

*Khulani*♥

This thing of baba and bab'Khumalo staying at this side of the country is a nightmare. Them being this side means that every time something happens they will be here within seconds especially my father.

Bab'Khumalo felt it when Davenger took over me and he got my father to come over. I hate it when baba has to come to my house and lecture me on how I should not let Davenger have it's way with me.

He had arrived a few hours ago after my wife had left me. I wasn't able to control myself when Thembeke told me that she is leaving me. I love that woman for Christ's sake and she now decides to leave me. We have been married for years now and I can't let her leave me just like that. Her reason for leaving is not valid.

How can she have kept away her feelings of how she feels about this polygamy marriage. Maybe if she had voiced out her pain the day she came to find out about it I would have come up with a solution instead of her leaving. She should have sat down with me instead of packing her bags.

Could she have left because I said I will not renew my vows with her. She should know better than to leave because of things like this. I will not renew my vows with her and I will also not renew my vows with Mbali because they are both my wives and I have no favouritism.

Baba was sitting opposite to me and looking me straight in the eye like some child who is about to get a hiding. As old as I am, I'm still scared of him. I know that he won't mind raising his hand to slap me, a father of 4 children.

Bab'khumalo will be coming over tomorrow so he can take me to the river and take Davenger back to his cage. This thing of leaving me inside the river for two weeks bores the shit out of me. Two weeks is long especially now that I have to go and get my wife.

I will be inside a river instead of going to search for my wife and reason with her. I can not let Thembeke leave me, she is my first wife and my choice just like Mbali is my second wife and my choice. I have to sit her down and explain to her the love I have for her.

"Khulani."

"Baba."

Couldn't he call my name softly instead of intimidating me.

"What's this nonsense?"

Here he is acting like I am the one who asked his father to give me a beast. I never asked to be born with this thing.

"Sorry baba."

"Don't sorry me. Since when are you this weak?"

"I couldn't control my anger."

"So you thought it is better you let this demon of yours out?"

Your father's demon, not mine. I know better than to say this loud.

"No baba."

"Was this your way of wanting to end your marriage with your first wife?"

"No baba."

I was even looking down.

"Mxm, I won't blame her if she serves you with divorce papers."

"Baba!"

"Hey wena, don't you dare raise your voice at me or else I'll slap that demon out of you."

Please... Father, do so.

"I am sorry."

"It's all nyori nyori with you Khulani. Are you also sorry that you have let your wife witness your demon?"

You would believe father that I have a demon if you don't know that it's actually a beast that I have and not a demon.

"What?"

"Yes, she called me and told me about it."

"Dammit!"

I curse to myself. How could I have allowed Davenger to come out when Thembeke was still in my presence. How could I have made her witness it with her two own eyes.

I got up and paced around the room. I know how much father hates it when someone pace around the room he is in but I do not care about what he likes or hate right now.

"Tell bab'Khumalo that I'm going to fetch my wife so he shouldn't bother coming."

"You are not going anywhere."

"What baba? My wife is out there after seeing something that does not exist in her world."

"Whose fault is that?"

"Mine and I am going to fix it."

"You are not going anywhere Khulani Manzini. You will be going to the river tomorrow and get that thing to rest and only then will I allow you to go and search for your wife."

"I won't wait for 2 weeks... Two fucken weeks."

"Leave this house and you will know me."

No matter how angry I am, I can never disobey father. Going to Thembeke with Davenger not being put back into his cage only means that he will appear in front of her again. So I better stay and let him be locked in his cage than to let him scare my wife again.

I went to the room and tried calling her but her phone just sent me straight to voicemail. I hope she is fine wherever she is.

*Thembeka*♡

I arrived at the airport and decided to call baba, I'm sure he knows something about what I saw today. I know that my eyes were not deceiving me.

I took out my phone and called him and he answered on the first ring. Oh dear God let him explain everything to me or else I'll have nightmares today.

I have never seen Khulani this angry, I know that I sometimes push his buttons too far but the anger

he carried inside him today was on another level. It is by luck that I managed to go away without him harming me.

I am also thankful to God for making my child not notice what I saw. It would have traumatized her if she had seen it, especially since it looked like her father.

"Makoti."

Baba answers my call.

"Baba."

Tears were even streaming down, luckily we hadn't got off the car.

"Are you crying?"

"Baba what I saw was not meant for my eyes."

"What are you talking about makoti?"

"Khulani. "

"Your husband?"

He doesn't like it when I call my husband by his name, he says it's a sign of disrespect but I just happened to forget it now because of the fear I'm trembling of.

"Yes baba."

"How many times have I told you to respect your husband?"

I knew he would ask me such but bad for him because I do not have time to entertain it. What I saw is far more important than the respect he is talking about.

Who is he to teach me about how I should respect my husband when my so called husband didn't see it necessary for him to respect me by informing me about him wanting to take a second wife. He knew very well that I wouldn't agree to his nonsense that's why he decided to do it behind my back.

"Baba Khulani has changed into something I do not know and do not understand."

"What?"

"He is half human and half animal."

"Where are you?"

"I left him."

"Where are you makoti?"

"I'm at the airport. I am done with Khulani baba, I am divorcing him..."

I hang up the call before he can question me and try to make me stay in that polygamous marriage. I turned to look at Nkosazana and she was still sleeping.

"I'm sorry baby but we had to leave daddy."

I say before getting off the car. I had called my friend to come and pick up my car since I'll be leaving it here. She arrived minutes later.

"Oh mnghani wam." (Oh my friend.)

Pat says.

"You have been crying mnghani." (Mnghani = friend)

"I don't know what to do anymore Pat."

"What did he do now, is he cheating again?"

"No, he loves her more than me and I just cannot take it."

"Ow I'm sorry friend."

She says while hugging me. It hurts leaving Khulani but I have no choice. I cannot bare to see him happy with Mbali. He has shown me how much she means to him.

"I am leaving him, please draft divorce papers for me. I want nothing from him except for Nkosazana."

My friend Pat is a lawyer.

"No mnghani, you can't let her win."

"She has already won, there's nothing I can do now except for letting him go."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes, I don't want him anywhere near Nkosazana so please also fight for my custody because I know he will not allow it."

"Ok friend. Please heal from your heartache."

"I will my friend."

I gave her the keys and woke Nkosazana up. Pat helped me carry my luggage inside and waited till I boarded the plane.

I never wish to come back to this side of the country. This is the only place where my heart got healed and shattered into pieces. What Khulani has done to me has proven that I can never find any happiness with a man.

I thought I had find my happiness in him. I thought he understood my past and loved me with my past. History has repeated itself. I once was Quinton's one and only girlfriend, he used to love me with all in him until the day he decided to cheat on me with Scarlett. He left me for a girl I was much better than.

Khulani is also doing the same thing, he chose a woman I am much better than and married her without my consent. I tried fighting for Quinton but it back fired in my face that's why I decided not to fight for Khulani. God knows what he is doing and

if I am meant to have a man in my life then I won't have to compete with other women to have him.

# Chapter 9

## *Two days later*

*Mbali* ♡

I have been trying to call Khulani for a while now and he isn't picking up any of my calls. I am worried about Thembeke. I keep on having the same dream about her every night and it is now getting out of control.

I do not want to drive to Thembeke's house because I know that she won't be happy about me stepping my feet in her yard. She has made it clear that I shouldn't come to her house although she suger coated it.

I tried calling him one more time and I still got the same results, he is beggining to worry me now. He has never gone this long without getting in touch with his children. He always made sure that he calls each and everyday to check up on them but he hasn't this last few days.

Amanda comes running to me. She has been asking me about her father for a very long time now and I no longer know what to say to her.

"Mama is daddy coming today?"

"No baby, daddy is at work. He is very busy."

"He has been at work for long now, call him I want to talk to him."

The boys are the understanding ones. You would swear they are old men but nah they are just two years old boys.

"No Manda."

She sulks and walks to her room. I am even thinking of taking them out just to keep their mind off their father but how do I take them out when I am this worried.

An idea hits me. Maybe I should call his father then maybe he will tell me where his son is. I dial his number but it sends me straight to voicemail.

I am now convinced that they are together wherever they are, I mean their phones can't be off

at the same time. This is father and son I am talking about here.

Maybe I should call maThandi, she might know where they are. I dialed her number and I am lucky she picked up my call.

"Mbali."

"Ma, how are you?"

"I am just fine my dear and you?"

"I am also fine. Where is baba, I have been trying to get hold of him but his phone takes me to voicemail."

"I also have been trying to get hold of him for two days now. He left the house in a hurry two days ago after receiving a call from Thembeke informing him about something concerning Khulani."

"I have been trying to get hold of Khulani but I can't get through to him. The children are worried sick about him and I don't even know what to say to them anymore."

"Come for a visit, I would really like to spend the day with my grandchildren plus it will take their mind off their father."

maThandi married baba two years ago. They realized that they were both made for each other and didn't waste any time. MaThandi says that baba is the only man that has accepted her situation that she cannot carry kids. Her ex husband cheated on her and made her a fool because of her fertility problem.

I am so glad to have her as my mother in law, she has been taking care of me like her own child. You would swear that she is Khulani's mother if you don't know the truth that his mother is no more. She takes good care of him that you would swear that God made her barren so she can love and care for Khulani.

She is the one who took the step of taking care of Khulani since his mother died... No, she actually started taking care of him while his mother was still alive... Khulani had two mothers since his birth.

I am happy that she is here for my children to have someone whom they can call grandmother from their father's side. They also love her a lot just like she loves them. I am definitely sure that they will forget about their father once we get there.

"Ok ma, we will be right there."

I called my babies and got them ready to leave. I would do anything to make my children happy, one thing I know is that I will never abandon my children for days just like their father is doing right now.

"Let's go kids."

They all came running. They love being at their grandparent's house because there's a park and jungle gym for them. They play until they can't anymore.

They got inside the car and I got on my side. I received a call before I can start the engine, it is a call from Lebo.

"Choma."

"My friend, how are you."

"I am fine thanks and you choma?"

"I'm am perfectly fine, are you busy."

"I want to drive down to my in laws."

"Ow ok, call me when you are free so we can go visit Inno."

I think I might just drop the kids and then visit my friend. I have missed this friends of mine a lot and I owe myself that much to spend time with them. I am sure maThandi will not mind looking after the kids for me until I get back.

"No, actually I will just drop the kids and come meet you."

"Great then, we will drive together."

"Sure let me drive I'll see you just now."

"Alright."

She hangs up the call and I start the engine and drive to maThandi's house. I played the kid's favourite music on the way and they were all singing non stop forgetting about their father already.

This is so foolish of Khulani to leave and not say a word to me nor his children. What could it be that Thembeke called baba and told him about. It is because of her that I can't get hold of my husband

and this side I can't call her and ask her although I do have her number.

I have had enough of fighting with her, I will just let her be starting from now onwards. If she wants a fight with me then it is a fight she will not get. I won't let her have her way with me. She has provoked me and I gave in but enough is enough all will stop today.

I arrived at maThandi's house and got off the car together with my kids. I never thought I would be able to raise three children but look at me now. I am still thankful to maThandi for helping me give birth to them.

My heart still aches whenever I think of how I gave birth to Amanda. She is so precious to me that I do not want any harm to come upon her. I gave birth to her all on my own, the pain I went through all alone without anyone to help me. My own husband was not even there to support me, he was not even there to hold her when she was first born.

Maybe this is all a punishment for marrying a man who was already married. It is said that you can never be happy when you have caused another woman to shed tears, you can never be happy on a woman's cries. Maybe this is karma, she has now

found my address and I cannot blame her. What I have do to Thembeke is unacceptable, I have done some things that I can never wish to happen to me.

I am sure she and Khulani have come a long way and then me, a nobody just had to interfere in their lives. I shouldn't have allowed the affair I had with Khulani to get too far.

We got inside the house, maThandi was already expecting us. She welcomed us with open warm arms that I even felt like crying in her arms. She made me feel like her arms were my home when she hugged me and I think she also saw it.

"Bantwana bam hambani ni yo dlala nga le play room." (My children, go and play in the play room)

Thanks to Khulani my kids know and understand their father's language. They ran to the play room. MaThandi made sure that their house has a play room for when the kids visit.

Immediately when the children disappeared in the room I just broke down. I feel like I deserve this kind of treatment from Khulani after what I have done to his wife.

I no longer feel like going out with Lebo to visit Inno. My heart is heavy and I do not wanna be outdoors right now. MaThandi's place is like a home to me.

"What's wrong my child?"

MaThandi says. Lord knows how thankful I am to have maThandi as a mother in law. She is the kind of woman I can never hide anything from her, the kind of woman whom I can seek advice from.

I look into her eyes and see the worry she's carrying. My mother was never happy about me getting into a polygamous marriage, she warned me about how this things turns out and I didn't listen to her. Just one minute ago I was happy with Khulani but look at me now, he changed within a second of being with his first wife.

Accepting to be a second wife must have come with terms of being a second choice meaning he only comes to me when things are not going well between him and Thembeke. He doesn't even care about his children.

"Mbali my child, what's wrong."

I was crying in the arms of a woman who is like a mother to me.

"Ma, Khulani doesn't love me let alone his children."

"Why do you say that my child?"

"I know I agreed to be in this polygamous marriage but..."

"What is wrong, talk to me my child."

"Mama, Khulani always leaves whenever he feels like it. I never signed up for my children to be sometimes abandoned by their father when I entered into this marriage."

"What exactly are you talking about?"

"He first left when the boys were only a few months old, he was not even there when Amanda was born. He then decided to come back when he felt like he should and then left them again. They had to live almost years without their father..."

All this was making me emotional, I couldn't stop the tears from coming out. What I have went through as a child was much better than this. At

least my father never came to see me according to a timetable. When he left he left for good instead of always coming back to break my heart.

"He decided to come back then and he is now at it again. Just only a day of him living with Thembeke he now forgets his own children, he is abandoning them yet again."

"Oh come here my baby."

I can't take this anymore, I can't take my children always asking me when their father will be coming to visit them. We had made it clear that no matter where the timetable says he should spend the week at, he has to call or visit his children almost everyday. I have never stopped him from visiting Nkosazana, I even allow him to come with her whenever she feels like visiting but Thembeke is different she can never think of how the children are innocent in all this.

MaThandi took me into her arms and I just cried in the arms of the woman who is like a mother to me.

*Lebo♡*

Bob was busy massaging my swollen feet while I waited for Mbali to arrive. She has promised to come and fetch me so we can drive together to visit Inno.

Inno doesn't know that I am around just like how Mbali didn't know until we bumped into each other at the zoo. I want it to be a surprise to her.

I cannot wait to meet Inno's children, I've only seen them in pictures. I never thought that what Inno and Thabo had would turn out into something this serious, yes I saw that they were in love with each other but couldn't admit it to each other.

It had to take them to have children together so they can realize that what they were having was not just fun but love was also involved.

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It has been an hour and Mbali hasn't yet arrived. I am starting to get worried about her more especially because she isn't answering any of my calls.

"She isn't picking any of my calls."

I say to Bob.

"Don't worry, you did say that she went past her in-law's house to drop the kids off."

Yeah he is right, she might still be at her in-law's house with her kids.

"Yes."

"Why don't we play a little while you wait for her?"

He says while his hand was already running up my thigh. This bastard knows that I cannot resist his touch, he knows how I can easily get wet ever since this pregnancy.

I hate it that I do not go through all what other women go through during their pregnancy. I do not have those weird food kinda cravings. All I crave is sex, sex, sex and more sex.

I am glad my man is always here to service his child's and wife's needs, there's never a time he refuses to feed my cravings that's why I love him this much.

His hand ran up to my temple and held it so gently like it would fall and break like an egg. He brushes his hand against it and a moan escape at the back of my throat. I can feel myself getting wet.

All this virgin women out there are missing out on what sex is. I can never regret having sex with Bob because he knows the right places to hit, he knows when to be gentle with me or when to be rough. I love what we both have because it is fun and serious at the same time.

Bob has been all I need in a man, I only cheated in him because I just felt like it. He has never given me a reason to cheat on him. I was foolish to cheat on him.

He gently removed my panties, thank God I am wearing a dress so it was easy for him to so. Within a matter of seconds he was eating me up like the most delicious food he has ever eaten.

I moan as his tongue made its way through my womanhood. Its warmth sending a tingling sensation all over my body. Goosebumps all my stomach, butterflies too.

"I love you baby."

I say in the feeling of pleasure. Pleasure has made many women say and promise things they can never fulfill to men they are not even in love with.

Pleasure makes men promise women impossible things, like how can a man promise a woman heaven and earth when yet he has never even seen heaven. How can they promise us earth, something that does not even belong to him, something he can never be able to get hold of.

Lastly he made me feel like a real woman, fucking me on the couch didn't even become uncomfortable like people say it is or maybe I never felt its uncomfortableness because I was lost in the sweet love he was giving me.

Three rounds was enough for me and it had made me forget about Mbali, I even doses off on the couch.

# Chapter 10

## One week later

*Thembeka*♡

My life has been miserable for the past week. Khulani had only tried to call me the day I left the house and since then he hasn't called.

Could it be that he went back to that wife of his and forgot about me and his child. Didn't I mean that much to him that it is so easy for him to forget about me and his child.

My heart breaks into pieces when I think of how my life has turned out. I guess relationships are not meant for me. Why do I always have to be the one who has to fight to keep the relationship going.

Why do I always have to be the one who gets cheated on, always the one who lose even though I was the one wronged. Why do I always have to be the one who has to pick up all the broken pieces of

my heart and glue them together all on my own without the help of those who broke it.

Life can sometimes be unfair, all the ones who do wrong are the ones who always gets it big in life, they are the ones who are blessed with happiness when us, the ones who are innocent lose everything in life causing us to take the wrong path in life all because of this other people. We have to always suffer because of things we didn't ask upon ourselves.

I have been locking myself in my room ever since I got here, I hate to admit it but Nkosazana has also seen that something is eating me but she is just scared to say anything.

She has been playing with the kids next door, they get along very well and they are very nice kids. I know their parents so I am free when my child goes to play with their kids because I know they will not cause her any harm.

My mother has been begging me to open up to her, she says she doesn't like to see me in the state I am at and I totally understand her no mother in this world would enjoy seeing her child in this state that I am in.

Nkosazana came running into the room looking all dirty from playing. I am sharing a room with her since I don't wanna be alone at night, I need someone by my side and especially my child... She is the only thing I need right now and nothing else, she is the only one who is able to keep me sane right now.

"Mama I want to bath."

"Ok my child."

I force a smile. I do not want it to be that obvious to her that I am not well.

"Let me go run the bath for you while you take off your clothes."

"Okay mama."

I went to my en-suit bathroom and fixed the water for her then went back and found her struggling to get out of her clothes. A real smile formed on my face. She is the only thing I have right now that can remind me of Khulani.

"Come, the water is ready."

I lead her to the bathroom and entered her into the bath tub. Then started applying soap onto her bathing cloth.

I was about to wash her body when I felt bile rising up my throat, I quickly ran to the toilet and kneeled down while holding the toilet sit then threw up.

I have never threw up this badly in my life that I even felt like I was choking, I could swear that I saw my life flashing right through my eyes and was pulled back by a vacuum cleaner.

My throat was even burning because of what I was throwing up was solid, it was hard for it to come out of my throat because it needed liquid to push it out. It scratched my throat making it sore. Tears were even forming in my eyes. This shit hurts.

"Mommy are you okay?"

My baby asks with a worried voice. I am not okay, my throat is burning like hell. I do not know why this is happening to me, I don't even know the cause of it.

"Yes I am fine baby."

I said with a hoarse voice.

She looked so worried that she even wanted to cry, I had to stand up and flush down the toilet then acted strong. I can't let my be child worried about me.

"Hush baby, mommy is fine."

I rinsed my mouth and cleared my throat.

"Come let's finish up."

I bathed her then got her out of the bathtub, it was already late and almost time for dinner. I am a not sure that I will be able to digest anything tonight because of this sore throat. My mom does not know anything about what I have been going through with this vomiting, I have not told anyone yet.

We got out of the bathroom and I moisturized her skin then dressed her in her Pajamas. A knock came through the door and I know who it is.

"Dinner is ready."

I have been ignoring my mother all day, I can't face her after she had warned me about this. She told me something like this would happen and I just

kept on protecting the truth, I was hoping Khulani would stop his favoritism but clearly I was wrong.

How do you face your mother after she had tried to warn you and you ignored her, when you had taken her words for granted. I can't even look her in the eyes when talking to her.

I saw it in her eyes that she is hurt by this. The day I came back, I threw myself in her arms as soon as Nkosazana had disappeared to the room... I cried like I never did before. I never thought that I will one day be the one who will walk out of marriage without a fight.

I used to be a fighter for relationships and it has taught me a lesson. When I left my house I thought it would be better to leave without a fight but right now I feel like I should have fought for what's mine.

I shouldn't have let Mbali win so easily. I should have given her the fight she needed, I should have shown her her place in this marriage. What I have done will make her think that she is the one in control.

"We are coming ma."

All I needed was to get out to drink some water and watch some TV. I can't keep myself cooped in the room because it will drive me insane, it has already started.

"Let's go baby."

I opened the door and mom seemed happy that I have finally come out of the room. She gave me a smile and I returned it with a faint smile.

We walked to the dining room and sat around the table, mom had already set it and dad was already sited. He didn't look pleased with my red eyes. I don't know why I am crying this much when I am the one who made this decision of leaving all on my own.

"It is good to see you out of your room my child."

Father says and I just smile at him. Seeing them around me giving me sorry looks makes me wanna cry.

"Let me dish up."

My mother says and then begin dishing up.

*Mbali*♥

I couldn't make it to Lebo's house so I decided to call her and let her know instead of making her sit and expect me to come. I dialed her number and her phone rang.

"I have been trying to call you for a long time now Mbali."

She sounds a lil' angry and worried. She might have thought that something bad has happened to me.

"I'm sorry my friend but I won't be able to come today."

"Why?"

"The kids do not want me to go and you know I can't leave them when they are like this."

"You should have called a little earlier than making me sit here and expect you to come."

"I am sorry my friend."

I say before we decide to hang up.

The truth is that I don't wanna be outdoors. I just wanna stay here with my mother in law, she is the only person who knows how to comfort me right now. The only person who knows the right things to say to me without breaking me even further more.

I had decided that we will spend the night here instead of driving back home in the state I am in, at least here the children will be kept busy with their grandmother while I nurse my aching heart.

I tried calling Khulani again but I still got the same results. Whatever it is that is keeping him away from his children really knows how to do its job. This time around I will not forgive him, I will not let him come into my children's lives and walk out as he pleases.

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After taking a long soothing bath I went back to the room and applied lotion, I have no clothes here so I was left with no choice than to wear the clothes I came wearing. Mother has offered me a gown and I will be wearing it when I go to sleep.

I can't risk wearing a gown and walk around the house not knowing when baba would be coming back. What if he comes in through the door while I am still wearing the gown, that would be so inappropriate of me.

I helped maThandi to cook dinner before taking the bath. I must say it was fun cooking with her it even made me forget about the matter at hand that is worrying me. She took me to a happy place for that time and I am grateful to her for doing it. I needed someone to do it.

The kids came down running and I am sure they are hungry.

"Mama."

My baby girl says. I pick her up and kissed her forehead. The boys hate it when you kiss them, I don't know who taught them to feel disgusted when

a woman kisses them. Whoever did it rushed, they are only two years old and yet know things they shouldn't know.

"I am hungry."

"The food is ready, let's go and eat."

We walked to the table and maThandi had already fixed the table like she had promised to when I went to take a bath. The food even smelt delicious. Some people say you can never be able to enjoy the food you have prepared and I strongly disagree because the food right in front of me seems like I will enjoy it.

We sat around the table and held hands waiting for maThandi to say a prayer. She prayed for the food then I dished up for everyone.

# Chapter 11

*Thembeka*♡

I am woken up by a knock on the door later that night. Who could be knocking in my room like that this late. I am sure that it isn't mother or father because they had long gone to sleep.

"Who is it?"

"It's me Thembeke, come open."

My mother say. I guess she was not asleep after all.

I got off the bed making sure that I do not awaken Nkosazana. What could mom want this late.

"Yes mom."

"Here, wear this."

She gave me a black shirt and trouser with also a doek.

"What's this mother?"

I know that this are clothes but why am I supposed to wear them.

"I am tired of seeing you like this my child, we are going to put a stop to this pain you are feeling today."

"What are you talking about mom?"

"We are going to do what we were supposed to do the very first day we lfound out about their affair,

we have given her too much freedom and it is now time she returns it."

I really don't understand what mom is on to.

"What do you exactly mean?"

"We are going to the traditional doctor and he will know what to do."

"Ma!"

"No Thembeke, enough is enough. You can't let her take everything that belongs to you. First it was your husband and she now wants to steal your child too, we have to stop her."

Mother is right, I can't let Mbali take everything I have. I have made a mistake by allowing this marriage of theirs to get this far, I should have done something much earlier to stop it.

I shouldn't have forced myself to accept their nonsense of a marriage, I shouldn't have allowed myself to be made a fool and share my man.

It has never been my motto to share a man, I have downgraded myself and I will rectify it. Mbali

will rue the day she came into my husband's life, she will regret ever setting her eyes on him.

I have let her have her way with my man for far too long now, it is about time I desiccate her out. She stole what was so precious for me, his love for me... Made me feel like an outsider in my own marriage, made me feel like nothing to my own husband.

It is about time I take action against her, fate and karma couldn't deal with her so I have decided to take matters into my own hands.

"What are your plans ma?"

I am game on what she has in mind, I know that her plans will only benefit me and help me win back my husband's love.

I know that Khulani is no longer in love with me like he used to, he might think that I can't see through him but the truth is I do. He has proven to me that he loves her more than me and I am willing to change all that now.

I have come a long way with him to just let a mere cleaner take him away from me. If fighting for

him the same way I fought for Quinton will make him be mine alone then so be it.

"Don't worry my child, you will thank me for what I have planned out. I will not let a mere witch ruin my daughter's marriage just like that."

I will go far with her as long as her intentions are good for me.

"Okay let's go."

I followed her out to the car. It was still dark outside just like back then when I...

Anyways we got inside the car and drove off. I just hope my baby will not wake up before I return, I know how she reacts to waking up without me by her side especially in an environment she hasn't gotten used to. I know we have been here for a long time now but she still isn't used to it.

Talking about my baby, she has been bothering me about when she is going to see her cheating father. My heart breaks when I think of how he hasn't reached out to me. If he loved me as much as he claim to he would have come up here to fetch us especially since I have told him that I'll be here.

He chose to stay back with his wife and forget about me and his child. The fact that she has given him everything that he wants hurts me the most. She gave him sons, the heir to his empire something that I wasn't able to give him.

The day I gave birth to Nkosazana I thought she will be his only princess, I thought she will be the only thing that I could be able to give to Khulani that Mbali couldn't but I was wrong. Mbali later gave birth to a baby girl and that broke my heart into pieces knowing that she has once again given him something I thought I only had.

She has everything that could make him stay with her instead of me. She is well shaped and here I am out of shape. She has the ass and curves while I have an ironing board. There's nothing that I can possibly think of that I am much better at than Mbali.

I sometimes wonder who between me and her gives Khulani the best sex of his life. He has never shown me a sight that he doesn't enjoy sex with me. His expression tells it that he enjoys grinding on me and that makes me happy that at least my husband still enjoys me.

But that same happiness disappears when I think of how he could be doing the same to her or even show more emotions than he does with me. What if he enjoys her sex more than he enjoys mine.

What if she gives it to him real good than I do, I mean that's what made him cheat on me in the first place right.

I have been lost in my own thoughts forgetting that I was with my mom on our way to a place I don't know. She hasn't told me anything about where she is taking me except that we are going to a traditional doctor but as long as the results will be good for me then I don't care.

I realize that we have arrived at our destination when the car comes to a stop. The house is too scary because it has too much animal metricious ornamentations, I thought it would be a chest house but it is clear that I had thought wrong.

My mom led the way off the car and I followed right behind her because this was creeping me out, it wasn't even helping that it was still dark out here. My mom seemed calm like she is used to this place. I don't think I could ever get used to such a place.

She knocked on the door and the door automatically opened itself scaring the life out of me. I have never seen a door like this one I mean even a typical door that is used by everyone on earth even the poor can't open itself.

A voice spoke from nowhere commanding us to take off our shoes before stepping inside the house, we did as told and then got inside. This time around my mom wasn't leading the way, she was just standing in one place after the door closed itself. I could feel myself choking on my own heart which was pulled up by bile to my trachea.

I shivered because of the creepy cold that filled up the room and crept inside my clothes.

'Oh dear God, what is happening here?'

Am I even allowed to say such assertions in this place.

"Stop looking around the room if you would like to leave this place alive and kicking!"

That alone made me tremble with fear because of the sharp voice that spoke diabolically.

I fixed my eyes on the floor avoiding to look around some more because I would really love to get out of here alive. I still have a daughter to take care of and I will only be able to do that if I'm alive.

Mom held my hand and squeezed it, I guess she saw how much of a nervous freak I am right now. A part of me feels like coming here was a bad idea while the other feels like I have made the right decision by coming here because the owner of this place seems powerful that he, concluding from the voice will be able to solve the problem I bring along.

The room suddenly got dark then a light from the middle of the room flicked on and sparked down making a circle on the ground. Candles I had no idea of being here appeared from nowhere and lit up all over the room.

"Darkness of the underground arise and consume them!!"

Within a blink of an eye I felt myself moving down as though in a lift, I felt like my soul was being dragged out of my body surreptitiously.

I suddenly had inertia that something big is about to happen, something bad. I feel like I should have

come here in the first place. My heart was a losing a race against itself. I swear it would stop beating any minute from now.

We came to a stop in a ground which is just a room underground surrounded by glass walls. A penumbra appeared right across the room as though the turbid light from candles magically transmuted into a white sheet, its brittle brightness whiteness imposing itself on the vision of the shadow inflicting its luminous reality. My body shook in trepidation before it was lights out for me.

## *Unknown*♡

"Oh yes baby, yes harder please."

I pretend to moan while he tries his best to get me to reach my orgasm. This has been going on for long now, I do not feel anything for him and he has not yet noticed it just like how we want him to.

I just wish Rajesh could just quicken his plan because I can't take this any longer. Pretending to be carrying his child is worse. I can't take him fussing over me to take care of a child that's not even his, I don't even love this man.

I thank God for the doctor who helped me out when I asked him to tell this man here that it is not safe to have unprotected sex during pregnancy, I can't possibly expose my child to another man's semen expect for its father's.

He finally came while I had to imagine Rajesh doing all his tricks on my body. I had to imagine him taking me to all the high places and making me

cum countless times. He is the only one who knows how to reach my g-spot, the only one who knows how to hit the right places.

"I fucken love you baby."

This fool says and I give him a fake smile before pretending to be falling asleep. This thing of me telling him that I love him is not my thing, I hate saying such lies to someone I do not love.

The word love is only forced out of me before him because I DO NOT LOVE HIM. My heart only belongs to my Indian man and I am proud of it.

I know some people would judge me all because I am a black woman dating an Indian man.

The end

(Continuing on Thembeke : The first Wife)