



Season 1

The Promise

By Kaydie

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Chapter 1

I walked silently ndichibva kumakuva where we had buried my brother. That was just a year after our parents had passed on. I looked around me, all I could see were sad faces. Kufunga kuti what was I supposed to do next zvaitonditemesa musoro. At least I had finished my final year of upper six ndangomirira kuona kuti zvichabuda zvakamira sei. Ndakavhara kumeso ndaona chamupupuri, chakauya nesimba chichisimudza dust, grass and other things. Ndakambotya nekuti zvaingonzi it was associated nenjuzu, I had no idea if that was true though. Ndakamirira kuti chipfuure and carried on walking home.

Ndaiyerera dikita not that it was hot but I was sweating badly unsure of the cause. I took Zambia randainge ndakasungira and wiped my face, as well as my neck. "You are sweating so much." Said gogo, ndivo vandainge ndichifamba navo, "it seems so." Ndakapindura ndichiwedzera kupukuta. Suddenly I felt a pain in my chest that I decided to ignore. Nekuda kwekuti I had cried so much it probably had to do with that. Ndakati fambei but it grew sharper ndikabva ndamira kufamba. "What seems to be the matter?" She asked ndikati, "it seems the pain in my chest is getting sharper."

"Urikunyanya kufunga Chenge." Vakadaro looking worried asi I faked a smile kuti vasanetseke.

"I feel like I'm next, I will probably die next." She held my hand vakati, "I rebuke such words unofunga kuti ndinonzwei when you speak such words."

"I'm sorry kungoti zvakawanda zvirikuitika pandiri and andisi kugona kuzvimisa."

"Kurwara kunopera."

"Kwa Richard hakuna kupera gogo."

"He was meant to leave saka siyana nazvo. Are you the Lord, to know about one's destiny."

"Ruregerero." Ndakadaro ndaona kuti whatever I was saying was breaking her heart. Ndakamira kufamba ndikabata chest, tete Shamiso vakasvika padhuze. My father's sister, the last born wemumba mavo, "chii nhai?" She asked vachiedza kundiwongorora.

"Ndirikurwadziwa." Ndakadaro, vakatanga kupuruzira musana. "Maybe zvinoda kuti uberekwe."

"Haa kana tinosvika." Kumira kwandainge ndaita kwakaita kuti vanhu vatange kunditarisa, vamwewo vaid a kuziva kuti chii chiri kuitika pandiri. Ndakaona kuti even I didn't want the attention saka ndakasimudzira ndikatanga kufamba. Taive tisiri kure from the graveyard just a couple of more meters to the house. I could not rest though nekuti vanhu vaid a kupihwa food to eat. Ndakapinda mukitchen where the ladies where ndikamira mukona.

"Mmmm iwo ma cabbage azonyanya pano, kubva rufu rutange kusvika nazvino ndiwo iwaya ma cabbage." Vakadaro maiguru mukadzi wemukoma wa daddy vachikudubura mapoto.

"Ko imi madii kuunza something, kutenga nyama yacho, as you can see zvakaomera munhu wese, what were we supposed to do. Its not as if he had a funeral policy at least ingadai yatibatsira pane zvimwe zvinhu." Vakadaro mainini Mai Sekai mukadzi wa bamnini

"Ndiko kunonzi kusarongeka, dai vanhu vachizivawo kuti vanogona kufa voita zviri serious. Is it ignorance kana kuti chiiko, honai iye zvino zvaakunyadzisa kuti hapana kana order, shuwa cabbage day in day out."

"Haa veduwee ko kunyarawo mufi," yakapindirwa na sahwira wemusha Mai Samson."

"Siyanai nazvo Mai Samson, iyi haisi yekuti mupindire." Vakadaro maiguru zvikanzi, "ko kudzikama kuneiko nhai, asi makanganwa kuti muri muroora here maakutaura muchiita kunge makagara pamusoro pechemba kudaro. Nemiwo muchafa mukaita makonye mukanzhuwa , kukanganwa kuti maitombonyeya vafi, mugonyeiwawo asi hapana zvamunogona kuita. Dzikamai muri paruzhinji, iwe murume wako ane mari, wamuri kuviga handiti mwana wenyu futi. Madii kuisa order and provide everything, mari yenyu imari rudzii isingashande painofanira kushanda."

"Muri kutii nhai?"

"Dzikama Mai Robert, dzikama otherwise muromo wako unokuparira." Ndaive ndangomira mukona ndichiyeredza misodzi. Ndaishaya kuti shuwa

vanhu vanoshaiwa chakanaka here chekutura pamusoro pemufi. Chairwadza chaive chekuti ainge anzi akangodonha kubasa ndiye zii, he tried at everything andingati anga asina kurongeka asi kuti sometimes munhu anenge asingazive kuti zviri kufamba sei uye achafa sei, riini. Ndakapukuta misodzi ndichibva ndati, "ndokubatsirai nei?"

"Koiwe wanga wakangomira mukona imomo kuti zviite sei, kuteerera zvatanga tichitaura?" Said maiguru ndikati, "aewa ndichangopinda."

"Handiti vanhu vageza maoko, help out pakupa vanhu sadza naiwo macabbage."

"It's okay." I said ndichitotanga kutakura maplates. "Mmm uyu dai mamuzorodza uyu," said Tete Shamiso. "kuti aita sei?" Asked maiguru Tete vakati, "munhu afirwa uyu and haasi kunzwa zvakanaka ipapa. Chest yake haisi kuita zvakanaka."

"Saka nhai tete zvinhu zvacho zvinofambiswa sei nekuti hapana vanhu vanobatsira."

"Nekuwanda kwakaita vanhu panze mune sure here . People are ready to help kune varikutovhunza kuti tobatsira nei." Handina kumira kuti ndinyanye kuteerera nekuda kweziso randainge ndapihwa na maiguru. Ndiripanze ndakasangana magogo vakati, "ko iwe waakutoshanda?"

"Ehe ndati handingamire ndinogona kutongorwara worse."

"Mmmm usadaro iwe kuita kunge pasina vanhu pano. Oh ma key aya enda kubedroom kwangu unorara ikoko."

"Gogo ko ndikazotsvagwa hazvibude."

"Anokuda anondivhunza ini." She said ndichibva ndatora makey from her ndikaenda kubedroom kwavo just to lay down. Ndirimo ndakatanga kufunga all the words that had been said about my brother. If they could say that about him I wondered what they had said when my parents died. Ndakatanga kuchema kusvika ndaakunzwa musoro kutema. Ndakazosvika pakubatwa nehope ndikarara kusvika ndazomuka husiku chaiwo ndichinzwa kuti vanhu vaenda.

"Urisei?" Was a message from Justin wataiti Jussy, yaive shamwari yangu yekumusha. He had been there masikati ese akabatsira nekutema huni zvese, "I'm okay thanks nekubatsira kwawaita."

"It's okay asi wakarara ndazoona munhu aakusaoneka."

"Ehe ndanga ndaakurwara saka ndarara mumba magogo."

"It's okay unoita bho." Akazonyarara akandisiya kuti ndirare, handina hangu kuzorara ndakamuka ndikabuda panze. Kunze kwainge kwati svibei ndakabva ndatora bucket remvura ndikaenda kunogeza sweat. Ndichipedza maiguru nemurume wavo nevamwewo vaienda Harare were going back. Nekuda kwekuti Richard wandaigara naye had died there was no reason for me to go back. Chaizongodiwa kuunza zvinhu zvake kumusha of which ndaizoenda ndichinoona kuti zvakamira sei. Ndakafamba ndichienda kunowoneka vana maiguru ndipo pandakanzwa vachiseka namainini kuti, "wamuona here murume watete Shamiso, moziva ndinonzwa Tsitsi, zvakanzi ka vane urwere uri muchibereko haachagoni kuita mumwe mwana."

"Saka vachagumira pa 1."

"Hamheno, ivo kuzoda kutonga, nyangwe vari Tete haiwa vadiki kwandiri handidi zvekujairirwa ini." Ndakaita kuti mafoot steps angu anzwike ndipo pavakamira kutaura. Ndakashaya kuti chiiko nevanhu, kunyeya havamire it's gossip after gossip. Take take nehupenyu hwevamwe vanhu kuita kunge vapedza nehwayo. "Koiwe unongonyuka kunge howa sei?" Asked maiguru ndikati, "ndirikubva kunogeza , ndanzwa kuti maakuenda saka ndauya kuzowoneka."

"Asi urikuda kuti ndikupe mari?" She asked ndikati, "aewa handisi kuda Mari ini ndangoti mufambe zvakanaka nemiwo mainini."

"Ndaida kusiya mari yekuti mama vabatsirikane asi mmm unotozona kuti vanhu vacho hamugone kuchengetedza." Ndakada kuvhunza kuti ndakambogara nagogo muchindipa mari here ndikaona kuti zvaimutsa muromo. Instead I smiled ndikati, "don't worry tinenge tiri right."

End of chapter 1

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Chapter 2

I walked away from them ndikanomira where my uncle was, bamkuru ba Robert, "I'm leaving," he said taking out a match stick he had been using to clean his teeth. "Will see you, go well."

"Make sure to take care of gogo, as you can see your brother is no longer there. Make a plan with your life, kuno hakusi kwekufarisa you might end up pregnant zvikaita zvimwe. Your brothers and sisters vakazarisa kuHarare, I wish I had space but zvakaoma." Vakadaro ndikasekerera ndikati, "this place is just fine do not worry about me."

"Mmmm." He murmured, andizive why he had the mentality that I wanted to stay with him and his family. It had never been my wish and it was certainly never going to be one. He looked at me pitifully ipapo maiguru vakasvika vakati, "parikutaurwa dzeiko pano?"

"Biding farewell that's all." Ndakabva ndatobva, I seemed to be a suspect all the time. A suspect on things I never understood. Ndakaonekana nevamwe vese aunt Shamiso vange vachiri mumba vachitaura na gogo. Vakazobuda vese and came where I was standing vakati, "ko uri kuno we thought you were still sleeping, how are you feeling."

"The pain has gone ndamuka a while ago, maakuenda?"

"Ehe." She said nodding ndikati, "mufambe zvakanaka." She caressed my face vakanditambidza mari yavainge vainayo asi yainge yakaita kuputirwa kuti vanhu vasaone. "Uone zvekuita." She said and continued, "kuri kunzi kuendwe kunotorwa zvinhu zva Richard zviunzwe kuno kumusha. Hapana kana arikuda kuita contribution ipapa, kana wauya kuHarare toenda tese, pamari yandakupa there is also bus fare yekuuya nayo."

"I will come next week."

"Ukasike since he was renting, vanhu vanenge vachida kutowana someone else wekuisa pamba pavo."

"It's okay ndouya." Mahooter emota akaita noise as people left going back to Harare. I stood with gogo and watched them all leave, takaita nguva tiripo, even after they left we still stood takatarisa kuroad. Not sure kuti taitarisei asi hapana akavhunza mumwe. We finally both sighed at the same time, "manje zvekuno ungazvigone?" Ndainzwa tone kuti ndeyemunhu aive ari worried. "If my father once lived here, managed it all and got a job. Even when he was still here, moved to town and did everything, how can I not manage. You are always here, there is nothing wrong with being here, besides it gives me a piece of mind being close to my late parents and brother."

"If you say so, let's get inside the house kwadoka uku. Manje I have not cooked there is left over sadza."

"Nema cabbage?" Ndakavhunza which made her laugh. Vachipedza kuseka vakati, "asi mukadzi wa Robert haapinde denga, vana ava ndakavarera vachishupa and nyama vaiida kunyanya Robert. Asi nhasi hanzi mukadzi wake

anga achitaura zvaanoda, akadii kutenga mombe, this time ndakazviudza kuti mombe yangu handisi kuuraya ndoda kuona kuti vanoita sei. Wavaona kuti they never contributed, kutemba kuti tichanouraya mombe yeshirikadzi iri kumusha, asi nyama dzemuma butcher kuHarare havagone nadzo."

"People are different." Ndakadaro vakati, "ehe asi vamwe havasi vanhu."

"Morevei?"

"Haiwa unoti munhu here. Akakutengera chinhu anoda kuti munhu wese azive kuti akutengera. Manje hamheno hake mukadzi wabamnini vako anga avakuda kuhakira anorohwa akafa Thomas haajaidze." Ndakaona kuti she was getting touchy ndikakasika kuti, "siyanai nazvo let's eat whatever is there." Truth is, even I was tired of the cabbage, ndainge ndarara ndisina kudya ndakazonyobvora nyobvora kuti ndigone kurara chete. Ndakazobhedhenura mari yandaive ndapihwa ndikaona itori naniwo, I was not sure what to do with it saka ndakaipeta and put it on the side. "Aneshungu mwana wangu, chibereko chete chisisipo." I looked at her face, I saw worries that she could not shake off.

"She will be okay." I tried comforting her vakati, I hope haaisiwe nemurume vachiri vadiki ka ava."

"Gogo zvaita sei nhai?"

"Ah iwe ungati munhu asina kana 30 years ane mwana hwani otonzi chibereko hachichashande."

"Saka hanzi what's next?"

"Arikufanira kubviswa chibereko." I remained silent thinking deep. She had seemed strong in front of us but probably she had no one to tell that is why she was keeping silent. She had gotten married young, from what I knew she was happy, how could such happiness be short lived. Life was very much unpredictable ndainge ndava kutya the sound of my own breath kurikutya kuti my own breath would betray me someday. I stopped eating my food suddenly ndavakunzwa moyo kumira, naivo gogo vaininge vamira vavakutadza kumedza sadza. "She will be okay." Ndakazodaro ndikanzwa vaakutura mafemo vakati, "mangwana ubate huku shamwari, izvi hazviite mhani izvi." I forced a laugh ndikati, "tinoipedza here huku yacho?"

"Tikaidya kuseni masikati nemanheru nhomba yenyama inopera."

"Tozodii mangwana acho?"

"Ha tozozviona, tinodya nemazai."

"Kakukara munenge munako asi hamusi kuzviratidza."

"Ndepapi pakanyorwa kuti varikumusha havadye nyama, ndiri chembere yakarongeka ini kusazviratidza zvangu." That statement was enough to make me laugh for a while. Hatina kuzonyanya kugara we went to sleep. Early in the morning Jussy akamukira kumba akatakura dzimwe huni, ndakanzwa gogo kutaura naye ndizvo zvakaita kuti ndibude panze nekukasika. "Aiwa maita nzou," said gogo ndichibva ndati, "haa nhasi wamukira hanzii?"

"Haa shaa pakaipa ndirikuda kubuda so ndangoti ndigare ndazviita kuchiri kuseni so."

"You didn't have to, ndanga ndichanoita but thanks, urikuenda kupi?"

"Ndirikuda kuno hodha tsuro."

"Tsuro, kuhodha?" Akaseka akati, "ndirikunotenga four, saka ndiko kuhodha kwacho."

"Wafunga mari?" Vakadaro gogo iye akati, "haa gogo ini ndinokiya kiya handidi nhamo." Takabatsirana kuseka ndikatanga kuvhunza nezvetsuro dzacho akati dzinoberekana zvisingaite. The way he spoke about it got me curious and interested asi ndakangoti, "tanga iwewe tozozviona."

"Urikunzwa sei?" He asked ndikati, "I don't know sha." Ndakabva ndanyarara and began seeing visions of my brother, alive and happy. "I'm sorry." He said ndikati, "zvinowanikwa."

"Saka you are not going back?"

"Who will I stay with?" He hit his head akati, "arg I'm silly kutokanganwa nhai."

"Yea so I will go and get my brothers stuff."

"Ukuenda riini."

"Next week."

"It's okay." He said achibva atanga kufamba ndikafamba naye ndichimuperekedza until half way. Ndakazodzokera and found gogo vatoisa mvura yehuku. "Seriously gogo?" Vakaseka vakati, "kana vanhu vari

pakuchema hazvidi vaine nzara." Vaitaura vachibuditsa misodzi ndikati, "murikuchema."

"Mwana wangu haasisina Zita panyika, mwana wake mukomana aparara asina mwana kana kuroora, saka ndodii, ndofarirei, ndirikungofushira." She sniffed vachipukuta madziwa vakati, "ndaiti pamwe achasiya muzukuru, hona there is noone Chenge."

"Ndiripo gogo."

"Yes but you will get married and bear someone else's surname, ko achanzi Ndoro ndiani?"

"But gogo you have sons."

"Ehe asi ndaida wababa vako, vamwe avo vanoshaina." Takazenge taakuchema takatarisa moto uchibvira takamirira kuboiler kwemvura kuti tiuraye huku. Noone spoke asi taive takamirira zvatainge takamirira. When the water boiled I got up and went kunobata huku, vakauya nemvura tikadira huku ini ndikawundura. She left me to get done, pandakapinda mumba she was busy kupambira sadza vachichema chete. Ndakaisa huku mupoto ndainge ndapedza kucheka kare.

"Saka hanzi chiiko na Jussy?" She asked ndikati, "atoshinga nezvetsuro."

"Ndakanzwa Mai vake vachiti aakuda kuroora."

"Hoo hanzi riini?"

"Handizive ini hanzi arikuda kuroora Pamela." Ndakaseka ndikati, "ah hoo, Pamela, chete kuti vabva kure."

"Wasekerei saka." Ndakaseka futi ndikati, "ndinonyanya kumuziva ndoosaka." The time yandaive ndichienda for holidays taitamba tese, a number of times aichinjanwa nevakomana kusango. Zvakangondiitira funny kuti ndiye munhu waaaida kuroora.

Takazopedza kubika mood yavanani and that day huku yakadyiwa kukanganwa mangwana.

End of chapter 2

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Chapter 3

Chenge

Ndakaita mazuva ndisinganyanye kubuda pamba and kufamba kwemazuva it was sinking in that I was alone. Yes gogo was there but I really was alone, no brother or sister, no mother or father, I was alone. I sniffed ndakarara pamubhedha and the chest pains started, I kept crying and ipapo ndakamuka and decided to go to Harare. It was not far from Marondera I knew kuti in less than two hours I would be in harare. "Gogo I'm leaving." Ndaitaura ndakamira pa door pavo then she said, "urikuenda kupi?"

"Harare." Ndakapindura ivo vachivhura door ravo to see me. "Aizve already ready, what's going on?"

"I have to get Richard's stuff as you know."

"Have you organized transport how will you pack everything alone."

"I'm sure I will manage, I do have a few days before month end saka handishupikane."

"You should call Trust kuti akubatsire handiti anoita zvema truck." That was my cousin mwana wabamkuru. I will see gogo."

"Manje you have not eaten anything." Vakadaro ndikati, "andina nzara nhasi." Ndakabva ndatotanga kufamba kuti ndichienda, "let me take you halfway."

"Ndinononoka don't worry about me I will find my way." Ndakamhanya neroad ndaakuenda. Ndichidarika pamba pana Jussy ndiye akandidaidza, I had decided to ignore him nekusada kunonotswa. "Urikuenda kupi?" Akavhunza achifemeruka after andimhanyira.

"I'm going to Harare?"

"I thought you said next week."

"I decided on today."

"Could there be a problem perhaps?" I shook my head ndikati, "no I felt like going today."

"Let me get my bike ndinokusiya by the bus stop."

"Unondidondedza rega ndifambe."

"Chill will you?" Akabva adzokera kumba kwavo achimhanya. I never stopped moving akandibatira muroad akati, "gara." Feeling embarrassed ndakatanga ndambotarisa kuti hakuna arikuuya here kuri kunyara kusekwa. Ndakazogara asi ndichingonamata kuti hatisangane nemunhu wekuziva. "This is embarrassing." I said to him akaseka ndikati, "seriously sure kuri kudonha."

"Gadzikika ikoko and we won't have a problem." He rode his bike fast kunondisvitsa ku bustop then he said , "urikudzoka riini?"

"Before the months ends, "wakazowana tsuro." With a smile he nodded, "ndakadziwana, a good breed." Takaseka tese ndikati, "ndimika mureri wetsuro."

"Urikundiseka, mira uone kuita kwandichaita mari."

"I heard you are getting married, congratulations."

"Wakaudzwa naani ndisati ndakuudza ndega."

"Ah asi ndiwe wega unofanira kundiudza here, when a person wants to get married and makes it known to a few, it becomes public news."

"Ndanga ndisina hangu kuzvitaure, ndatozvanzwira kwauri." Ndakafunga kuti ndainge ndataure zvisirizvo but I had said zvandainge ndaudzwa nagogo. I decided to keep quiet that was until he said, "ndiudze kuti wakaudzwa naani." Waive muvhunzo wainetsa kupindura wandaiedza kunzvenga nekuda kuchinja nyaya ndipo paakati kwandiri, "Chenge ndati wakaudzwa naani kuti ndoda kuroora."

Ndakazama kuhwanda then said, "I can't say who in specific asi ndakangonzwa zvichitaurika during my brother's funeral. I can't remember kuti ndiyani exactly akazvitaure and that's the unfortunate part." Maziso ake aitaure kuti he didn't believe asi handina kuda kuzvibatisa kuti ndakaudzwa na gogo. "Saka arisei Pamela?"

Akatanga aseka akati, "aribho."

"Sei waseka."

"It's just funny nekuti vanhu vanomuti ihure and I'm sure you have heard that part.'

"I can't say I have, sei vachimuti ihure." Ndaida kutonzwa kubvawo kwaari kunyangwe ndaiziva hangu kuti chihure chaive maari it was not my duty kuti ndishambadze pamusoro pachu. Maybe she had also changed sezvo I stayed in town most of the time ndaisaziva zvaitika. Akatura mafemo akati ,ah hamheno I think it's because munhu akakura achitamba nevakomana saka unoziva how people are like vakaona musikana achifarirana nevakomana. They have a mentality yekuti anohura."

"Zvakaoma sorry hako, saka arisei?"

"She is okay." Akapindura ndikati, "saka is that why wanyepa kuti hausi kuroora nekuti urikunyara nemunhu wako kuti akanzi hure?"

"Unoziva kutaura kwevanhu kunongokudzosa kumashure."

"Saka hauchada?"

"Handisi kuziva ini." Ndakaseka apedza kutaura and ipapo ndakabva ndatowanawo lift. I said my goodbye ndikakwira nevamwe amai vakazoburikira paround about. "Saka iwewe uri kuenda kupi?" He asked ndikati, "Glenview 7."

"Hoo there, ndirikupfuura neko." Akadaro ndikati, "munenge matobatsira," taingotaurawo nyaya dziri general until tatosvika ndichibva ndaburuka ndikaenda. Ndakasvika pamba ndichingobatwa maoko neavo vainge vasina kundiona since I left going kumusha. Finally when I got into the house ndipo

pandakanyatsochema looking at his stuff. All the memories came flashing, ndakazvidonhedzera pasi ndikararapo ndichichema. I could not even understand it, it didn't make sense that my family was finished. I went into his bedroom hoping I would find him laying on the bed but he was not there. Pakazouya landlady vakanditarisa and hugged me. "Sorry mwanangu, kana nesu we can't believe kuti Richard is gone."

"He left me all alone ndasara ndega." I cried so much vakati, "you are never alone Chenge." Those were just words of comfort from everyone around me asi I knew that I was alone. Ndakazovaudza kuti ndainge ndauya kuzotora zvinhu and I was moving out I could not stay there anymore.

"Saka washaya zvekuita here muHarare Chenge zvekuti waakutoenda kunogara kumusha."

"Right now it's the best thing I can do, I will come back kana ndichinge ndazoona zvaakuita kuti ndidzoke."

"It's okay asi we will miss you." Vairatidza kusuwa, we had been quite close during the time yandainge ndagara navo taiwiririrana. That moment I started packing his stuff, when I saw tshirt yemusikana wake ndipo pandakafunga kumufonera ndainge ndisina kumuona kurufu rwa Richard. Haana kutora nguva akasvika akatanga kuchema akati, "ndakatadza kubata kana munhu zvake nekusatoziva manumber evanhu. Yenyu tete yaive isingaite, ndakaita zvekuudzwa kuti Richard ashaya na landlady wenyu." I felt so bad nekuti maitikiro ainge aitika zvinhu zvacho iniwo ndainge ndiine confusion. Phone ya Richard yacho yainge isina kuzowonekwa maybe it was stolen hamhenowo. Ndakatora nguva ndichimunyaradza akachema zvakandisiririsa. "And he was

telling me kuti babie taakuenda kunoona gogo kumusha, what will I do Chenge Richard andisiya ndine nhumbu, what will I do." Ndakabata muromo kushamisika, umwe moyo wakafara zvisingaite kuti he had left his seed panyika. "Oh my goodness, you are pregnant." She nodded achichema ndikati, "and gogo was crying vachiti Richard haana kusiya kana mwana. All she wanted was someone aive nechekuita na Richard kana baba vangu."

"That does make me feel better nekuti andizive what my family will do. It will be a disgrace, mwana asina baba, a child out of wedlock. Hapana kwandingaende right now nekuti Richard is dead. Handina kana kuita goodbye, andina kana kuona paakavigwa Chenge." Ndakapuruzira musana as she cried. Ndakapererwa kana mashoko ndakamashaiwa, pava paya ndakangoti, "kana uchikwanisa hande kumusha unowona gogo." Haana kupikisa nekuti naiye aive neshungu dzekuti anoona painge pavigwa Richard and maybe say good bye. Ndakazofonera Trust ndichimuudza nezvekuti ndaida kutakura zvinhu zva Richard, akabvuma fast. The two of them had always been close and vanhu vaigaroti matwins, besides kuva zera rimwechete they looked alike.

End of chapter

Kaydie

The Promise

By Kaydie

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Chapter 4

Chenge

She left after ambondibatsira kurongedza zvinhu, that night ndirindega ndakatadza kurara. I felt his presence everywhere, for a moment ndakamboti pamwe ndini ndava kupenga kana kuti maybe I was finding it difficult kuti ndirare mumba mandaigara naye. Some always said the spirit of the dead inenge irimo as long as the person asina nguva afa, and as long as the person's property is there. He was my brother but such thoughts scared me kusvika ndatanga kuona hangu tv kusvika ndabatwa nehope ndiri pasofa. Makuseni ndakafonera tete Shamiso informing her kuti ndainge ndauya, ndainge ndavarairwa zvekukanganwa kuti she had told me to inform her kana ndichinge ndasvika.

"Ndichasvikako anditi hausi kuenda nhasi?"

"Handisi, ndichaenda na Trust." Ndakadaro vakati, "abvuma? That's nice of him."

"Abvuma yes, saka mouya riini kuno kune nyaya."

"Yei." Andina kuda kutaura paphone, I promised to speak to her kana vachinge vauya. Vakazosvika around ten vaina bamkuru. "Makadii?" I greeted him

vakati, "murisei mainini." Vakabva vatosuduruka pataiva vakanogara vari vega Tete vakati, "taura tinzwe what's the story?"

"Richard akasiya musikana aine nhumbu."

"Hee." Vakabata muromo and took a seat immediately ndikati, "are you okay?"

"Ndiri right it's only kuti nyaya yawandiudza iyi yandivhundutsa iwewe wazvinzwira kupi?"

"Ndakamufonera when I came back nezuro. Akatadza kuuya kurufu nekuda kwekuti she could not get hold of me akatozoudzwa nezvekufa kwa Richard na landlady vepano.

"Maona kukosha kwema introductions and doing things the right way, what will we do nhaimi iye Richard wacho asipo."

"Andisi kuziva but she wants to go and see where we buried him, zvakaoma tete she was crying moziva ndasiririswa, it's an insane situation but I'm happy that my brother left a child panyika." Mumba makamboita runyararo until tete vasimuka vakanogara paiva na bamkuru vakatanga kuvarondedzera nyaya. Munhu wese was still in shock ndipo pavakati, "pamunoenda mese kuMarondera toenda tese ndononzwa kuti tozvifambisa sei." Takabvumirana then she asked me to bring water for bamkuru ndikanovapa kuti vanwe. "Ko hamuna kuenda kubasa?" Ndakavhunza vakati vainge vatora off day just to come with tete kwandaiva. I sat opposite them ndikati, "how are you feeling kuna tete?"

"I'm okay." Mhinduro yacho yakandiudza yega kuti she was not willing to talk about her sickness and handina kuzoenderera mberi. Vakazosimuka vakaenda leaving me there ndiri ndega. I was leaving the next day saka ndakaudza Yeukai to get ready if she was serious about going with me. Early in the morning aive asvika asi maziso aive akangozvimba nekuchema ndikati, "urisei?"

"A couple of times I thought of killing myself because I felt like I had nothing to live for."

"Nhai Yeu."

"I'm serious, look at me I have no job. Richard, my heart is gone, what will I do? He left suddenly tisina kana kutukana but kwaakaenda haasi kudzoka ndomuchengeta sei mwana, ipapa tirikuenda asi ndine mari yekudzokesa chete zvobva zvavharana." Ndaiedza kuda kudzora kurwadziwa but the truth is I didn't want to be in her situation kunyangwe hazvo I was happy she had my brother's child. Listening to her speak was painful for me, "why did he do this to me if he knew he was going to leave me." Kungodaro akabva aridza mhere chaiyo. My words were not enough to comfort her ndikabva ndangomumbundira achichema. Ndakazoti pava paya, "it was not his choice to go. What he left you is a piece of him, you should live for that."

Kuma ten Trust ainge asvika ne lorry yake takambotanga tamhoresana, apparently he had heard of Yeu before, vainge vakambotaura asi paphone ya Richard. "Hesi maiguru." He said to her asi haana kudaira mariro ainge atangidzwa, he was not expecting it akabva apusa akamira unsure what to do. Ndakangosimudza maoko ndikati, "kana neni handisi kuzvigona ini."

"Maiguru musadaro," he said worried asi aitura nemunhu asiriye. Kunyanya kuchema kwake kwakaita ndimbobuda ndichinochemawo Richard ainge asiya mutoro. I was young, what was I to do at 18. After I wiped my tears Trust came in mandaiva akati, "asi we are going with her?"

"Ehe." I said ndichigutsurira musoro and added kuti aive nenhumbu.

"Watii?"

"It seems everyone is in shock, we all didn't know."

"Saka apa kutizira here?"

"Haa anotizira aniko, she's going to see paakaradzikwa that's all."

"Haa izvi zvandipinza chando this ain't right mhani."

"What are we supposed to do, what will her family say."

"He wanted to tell me something that day and akangonditi shaa pane zvandakaita and I have to fix things fast ndichauya ndokuona, I had no idea kuti he meant this." Taitopedza nguva tichingotaura things we had no answers to. We decided on loading things kuti tichienda and tete vakasvika tichangopedza. Havana kunyanya kutaura na Yeu vakangoti tozotaura tasvika kumusha. Takazosimuka kuma 2 tese tava kuenda and we got there kuma to 4, gogo vaive vakatogara vakazembera kitchen yavo. Vachiona mota she got up vakamira kuti tiburuke, "ndakati pamwe hauchada kudzoka ini Chenge."

"Ah nhai gogo idzo two days dzandaenda here nhai?" Ndakadaro vakati, "ehe handiti wakati urikuenda nekudzoka?"

"Andina kumbodaro ini gogo." Vakabva vaakumbomhoresana nevamwe nekufamba kupinda mumba. We sat and introduced Yeu kuna gogo, kungovaudza nyaya yenhumbu chete vakaridza mhere. We all went silent kusvika vati, "ndaichema ini ndikati, imba yemwana wangu yashaika kana asara Richard kuenda asina chaasiya, nhasi Richard wandisiira muzukuru asi iye asipo, manje tinoita Seiko. Ndiani achagadzirisa zvinhu?" She cried so much Tete vakati, "zvakwana mama zvakwana murikuda kuramba muchichema kusvika kupi?"

"Kuchema kunopera here nhaiwe Shamiso?"

"Hakupere mama but honai naiye arikungochema and it's not good."

"Saka hamusi kuda kuti ndicheme?"

"Mama ndirikuti ngationei kuti todii?"

"Wototauraka nana baba Robert." Mumba makaita runyararo, kana ini hana yangu yakatanga kurova, I could already imagine all the things that were going to be said. Chimwe chakaita kuti tishaiwe zvekutaura was the fact that Trust was there and baba vake ndivo vaitaurwa nezvavo. Tete vakazoshinga vakati, "ba Robert kaana, pamwe dai mati Thomas."

"Chenge imboenda naye unomuratidza pana Richard," said gogo. Ndakasimuka naye tikaenda, tichisvika ipapo akangoti, "moyo wangu." Then she fell on his grave. "Yeu, Yeu." Ndakadaro trying to wake her up ndichiita zvekumuzunguza but haana kumuka. Ndakamhanya kumba kunoudza vaivako Trust akamhanya nemvura kunomudira ndiko kupepuka kwaakaita. Nekutya kuti zvinoitika futi gogo vakabva vatoti tidzokere kumba naye. I went with her

to my room ndikagara naye ikoko tichinyararidzana kusvika akotsira. Ndakazobuda pava paya and went back kunana gogo ndikanzwa zvaakunzi Trust aive ati he would take responsibility. Akaramba akamboti zii, ini maziso angu aive avakutomhanya mhanya ndichida kuedza kunzwisisa kuti take responsibility yaitaurwa yaireva kuti chii chaizvo.

"Ini ndiri kuti pamwe zvinhu zvacho zva Richard, pane kuti zviite mujuru zvirikuno kumusha, wadii watengesa Trust, Mari yacho yonoripa mhosva kumba kwaana Yeukai, pane kuti uzviomesere nekutakura mutoro wakakura kudaro."

"Hakusi kuzviomesera but I know he would have done the same for me. Andina kufarira zvandaona kumakuva."

"Mmm baba vako havambobvuma izvi." Gogo said iye akati, "some things should be kept between us, I know how my father is." Mumba makaita runyararo.

End of chapter

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Chapter 5

Chenge

I don't even know why my heart was beating so fast, I wanted it to stop ndakatombobata chest trying to silently control it. "What's wrong wabata hana." Asked gogo ndikati, "I'm trying to digest all this handisi kunzwisisa what Trust is trying to do." Iyewo ainge agara akanyarara without saying a word. Dai ainge achitaura maybe it was much better, ndakaramba ndakamutarisa zvekuti tauraka ndinzwisise ndipo paakazovhura muromo.

"I have made up my mind." Akadaro asi ndaiona kuti he looked a bit stressed. "Ndanga ndati atengese zvinhu zva Richard asi aramba, kana afunga kuisa chiremerera agadzirisire mukoma wake handingamumise nekuti tirikuda kuona muzukuru." Vakadaro ndichibva ndatura mafemo ndakanyarara ndakagara mucorner. I went deeper into thoughts until tete said, "saka tichanoudza here family yake kuti Richard akafa."

"Yes, ngavazive havo kuti akafa. It's something chinoshupa kusataura and they must know kuti we are taking responsibility for everything."

"Saka mari yacho wanga uinayo here Trust yekubvisa damage?" Akaseka akati, "gogo musaite semusingazive basa rangu."

"Ndinoriziva hangu asi honaka parufu pakadyiwa macabagge." Akabva atsikitsira akati, "gogo zvimwe zvacho zvinonetsa handiti makaona kuti ndakauya ndiinana mama. Ndakangobuda and when I met them ndakatoti tinotenga zvinhu asi pakaita hondo vakasvika pakuti ukasanditeerera ndicharovera zamu pamuhacha ufe hako."

"Kana maiguru vasingapenge hamheno, akange asiri mwana wavo here Richard." Said tete Shamiso vachiratidza kubatikana.

"Siyana nazvo Shamiso," said gogo vachibva vanyarara nyaya yacho ndakatoona kuti vaisada kutaura nezvayo. "Anyway handisi kunobvisa damage ndiri kunoroora." Akadaro Trust achiratidza kuti he was serious.

"Hee?" Vakadaro gogo nekushamisika, I was equally shocked. "Richard aida kunoroora." Answered Trust achibva awedzera kuti, "I failed to do everything parufu rwake, what I can do is to give his child honor, dignity to the woman he loved." Achipedza kutaura akatanga kuyeredza misodzi, I joined in ndiri mucorner mangu it was too much to take in. "Unoziva kuti ukaroora unopihwa mukadzi?" Said tete akati, "she can stay kumba kwavo if she wants, she was my brother's woman it's not as if ndaakutora mukadzi waaida, I'm just doing what he wanted to do. Kana zvichimuremera kugara kumba kwevabereki, I can get a place for her zvava kwaari."

"Hona manje kana zvadai zvinenge zvaoma Trust." Gogo said looking worried. "Hapana chinonetsa nekuti handiti we said we will be honest with her family kuti Richard akafa and we are doing what he should have done. Meaning togona kuenda tiri vashoma, kana kugara naye andifunge kuti vanoramba as long as tabhadhara roora." We all sighed kusvika tete vati, "ndakutya

muzukuru but hamheno, ndiwe unoziva zvekuita, I'll support you kana iwewe uchiti it's the best move."

"Ingoitai kana muchinge mawirirana." Said gogo. Vanhu vakazongowirirana vari vega kuti ndizvo zvavaizoita, when I left the kitchen ndainge ndafunga kumbonotaura naye tiri two. I found her achitongobva kumuka ndikati, "urikunzwa sei?"

"Andisi kunyatsoziva ini." She answered ndichibva ndagara pamubhenda paaiva ndikati, "Saka yava nemwedzi mingani?" rainge risati ravakuoneka haro dumbu racho, akabva aribata akati, "even I don't know but I'm guessing zvekuma 2½ ikoko."

"Okay... anyway I don't really know what will happen next asi Trust ati he will pay the damages, I mean roora." She sniffed akati, "ane moyo wakanaka, wait, wati roora?"

"Yeah he hit us all by surprise, hanzi he wants to do what Richard wanted to do."

"No Tete Chenge I can't let him do that, it's such a huge thing. Handina kukumbira kuti ndirikuda kuroorwa ini."

"But you wanted to get married to my brother handiti." She nodded akati, "and he is dead, Richard is dead, kubhadrara kwake roora, is that not marrying me indirectly."

"It's like Richard paying lobola, that's what he is saying." She shook her head akati, "mutoro muhombe I can't let him."

"You are carrying our child, arikuda kugadzirisa zvinhu. He will be honest with your family kuti Richard akafa and he is doing it for him. Hamheno kana kwanga kune arikuziva kumba kwenyu kwacho."

"Ndainge ndakaudza tete kuti I'm pregnant and ivo vainge vataurirana na Richard. She knows kuti Richard died and she is also very disturbed." Ndakazembera madziro ndikati, "at least someone knows saka vanozvinzwisisa, relax Yeu, Trust knows what he is doing. Akaramba akanditarisa achiratidza kupererwa, kutadza kutoziva kuti oita sei. After a short while gogo vakazotidaidza tikanogara tese where Yeu was officially told about the arrangements. Haana kupindura ipapo akangoti, "ndokumbira kutanga ndambonoona Richard wacho."

"Urikuda kunoono guva rake." Asked gogo iye akati, "ehe gogo."

"Kwawamboda kumutevera ndiko kwauri kuda kuenda futi aewa Yeu usadaro."

"Handidaro gogo, I promise ndirikuda kungotaura naye kwenguva diki diki chete."

"Mmmm nhai Shami unoti kudii?"

"She needs closure musiyei aende." Ini ndainge ndisingade hangu kudzokera naye asi ndakazoita zvekumanikidzira kubuda naye. It seemed she was more comfortable having me around, ndakabuda naye tikaenda. Patakasvika akatanga kudzora speed and walked slowly, akasvika and looked at his grave. Akagara pasi muvhu akati, "how could you do this to me. Wandisiya ndega babie, wandisiya and I'm not copying. These tears, ndiwo awaida kuona here,

inga ndiri kuchema wani chidzoka. Urikuda ndigare nani, you promised me forever ndiyo forever yacho here? What will I do with our baby usipo. He/she won't call you daddy urikuda ndiite sei? Are my tears not enough to bring you back to me, kana usingakwanise then come back for your baby."

Ndakasuduruka maziso angu anyanya kuzara misodzi ndikaenda kunogara paside peguva rababa vangu ndikati, "asi hazvo zvakaoma, mese here? Maybe I'm next andizive but I refuse to forget your memory. I hope you are okay where you are, I also hope that Richard is okay, andizive what Trust is doing but I'm hoping it makes sense." I looked back kwaiva kuna Yeu ndikaona aisa musoro wake paguva, ndakasimuka ndikanoti, "Aiwa zvakwana usadaro."

"Haasi kutaura." She said ndikati, "achataura you are stressing his spirit imbomira kuchema uchidaro."

"I need him tete Chenge I need him, he has to come back to me."

"He is not coming back." I said ndichimudhonzwa kuti asimuke, "I love him." Akadaro ndikati, "he loved you too."

"He never did cause he left." I pulled her into my arms and let her cry. Voice rake rainge rapera nekuchema takananaidzana kudzokera kumba. Haana zvaakagona kutaura akasvikogara pasi. Hapana akataura gogo vakati, "chimupa tea."

"Handina nzara gogo." Akakasika kuzvipindurira ega asi gogo vacho was not going to take no for an answer, she ignored her vakaenda mberi nenyaya yavo ye tea. Vanhu vakambochinja nyaya vakatanga kutaura dzimwe. Trust akazovhunza kuti ndiani aizomubatsira kuburitsa zvinhu ndikati Jussy.

Ndakabuda kunomudaidza he was busy netsuro dzake akabva amira zvaaiita andiona akati, "wadzoka nguvai?"

"Ndaane kanguva asi hauna kuona mota ya Trust?"

"Kupiko ndaiona ndanga ndichiti ndichazouya."

"Okay anyway arikuda kubatsirwa kuburutsa zvinhu." Ndakadaro then he smiled akati, "it's okay ndaakutouya ndimirire." Takaenda tese kumba vakabatsirana kuburitsa zvinhu tichirongedza mune imwe room yaivapo yaive isina zvinhu zvakawanda. Zvimwewo takaisa mubedroom ragogo kusvika zvese zvarongedzeka. That whole time gogo vaive vakagara na Yeu making sure kuti munhu arikunwa tea. "Ndokuona mangwana." Said Jussy achienda. "waita basa." I said akati, "iribho."

Trust haana kuenda musiri iwoyo, tese takarara kwagogo and Yeu akangonorara asina chaataura.

End of chapter

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Chapter 6

Yeu

When I noticed that Chenge was sleeping ndakamuka and sat on the bed. I was not sure what I was thinking about but my mind was blank. It was dark, my eyes couldn't see much in the darkness, it was not much of a bother because the darkness was correctly placed. It suited perfectly with my dark heart, ipapo I found myself smiling for no reason. The darkness seemed to bring happiness, it had suddenly become my best friend. I was numb, cold, I didn't even know where I was, unsure if I was living or dead. As I sat shedding tears, wishing I could die and fall into a deep sleep, deep sleep I could never wake up from, I listened to the night sounds of creatures moving, creatures I knew nothing about. In my sober senses I would have feared them but I didn't. Slowly I woke up and stood by the door, the torch on my phone showed me where the door was. Slowly I opened it and also kept checking to see if Chenge was still sleeping.

I managed to get out, pandainge ndamira panze I thought of the graveyard, ndiyo nzvimbo yandainzwa kuda kuenda. Ndakananaira ndichienda ikoko ndichinzwa kuda kunorara paside pa Richard. Hamheno zvandaifunga mupfungwa dzangu, I felt like he was lonely and he needed me, kana neniwo I needed him. Ndavakutoda kusvika ndakabatwa ruoko ndikavhunduka.

Quickly I turned around only to meet Trust standing in the dark holding my hand. "And where are you going?" He asked achiratidza kusafara ndikati, "I was taking a walk to see Richard." Ndakabva ndatarisa paainge andibata iyewo akabva atarisa ipapo ndookundiregedza ruoko. Ndakatarisa pasi akati, "why are you doing this to yourself?"

"Hapana zvandaita ini, ndatadza papi, I just wanted ..." Haana kundisiya ndichipedzisa akati, "noo Yeukai don't please. The graveyard is not a good place at night, urikuda kuenda kunoita sei? Usangane nezveusiku here."

"Inga husiku hwacho ndini."

"I'm not saying that you should not grieve but this is not right. I'm sorry you are hurting, I cannot begin to imagine what you are going through but hona hazvisi kubuda izvi."

"I can't help it ." Ndakadaro ndichibva ndagara pasi. Akagara neni pasi murima imomo tikambonyarara tichinzwa the sound of the night birds, the ones my granny had told me once kuti ukanzwa it meant kuti varoi vaive padhuze nekuti zvaifambidzana. Ndakaramba ndakatarisa that darkness ndikati pamwe ndichasangana nemuroi ndochivhunza kuti asi ndimi makatora Richard. "Let's go." Akadaro ndiri pakati pekufunga ndikati, "I want to be outside."

"How did you leave the room?" Akavhunza ndikati, "how did you follow me."

"Because I was sitting outside hauna hako kundiona." Ndakaruma ruma mukanwa ndikati, "ndangobuda Chenge paarara."

"Okay saka hande we will talk in the morning." Ndakada kusimuka ndikafunga kuti no ndaisada kusimuka ndaida kutaura naye still. "About paying lobola." Ndakamira kutaura iye ndookunditarisawo akati, "yes what about it?"

"I don't know if that is a good idea."

"It is a good idea, actually I have a bit of Richard's money that he wanted to use, he spoke about it a lot. And before he died akandibatisa 1.500, I have it and I will add whatever is needed by your family, nyangwe vakati 6000 or 7 ndobvisa iyoyo." Ndakaeredza misodzi asi handina kutaura ndipo paakati, "relax okay." I nodded ndisinganyatsoziva zvekutaura ndikazoti, "but you are married."

"I know."

"Will you tell your wife that that's what you have decided to do?" Akaramba akanyarara ndiko kuzoti, "for now I can't say anything to anyone, I'm not sure about people's reaction to this saka for now handina wandichaudza except for a few people chete. Unfortunately my wife won't be part of the people vanenge vachiziva, nyaya yacho haipere mushe." Ndakanzwa kusafara hangu nekuti masecrets had a way of coming out and zvinorwadza futi. "So you will pay my bride price." I asked one more time akati, "yes."

"I don't want to disrupt your life." Ndakadaro akati, "don't worry gulez I will make sure you live a comfortable life. When you are ready to move on don't worry about anything we won't bother you."

"I don't think I will be able to move on." Ndaitonzwa kuti muhana mangu hapana aikwanisa kuzogaramo. Iye akaita nharo akati, "one day you will, it

may not be now but you will, let's just not talk about it." Ndakasiyana nenyaya yacho ndipo pandakazosimuka naye tikananaira tichidzokera kumba. "Please don't leave this room or else I'm locking it from outside."

"I promise I won't." Ndaive ndamira padoor ndichida kupinda then he said to me, "I promise you won't lack anything." Ndakangogutsurira akandimirira kuti ndipinde mumba. Chenge akamuka anzwa ndichipinda akati, "hezvo ko manga maenda kupi Maiguru?"

"Had gone kunoita weti, ndadzoka ."

"Aaah ko mabudirei panze, muno mune chemba wani. Panze hapasi pekungobuda buda husiku." Ndakagara pamubhedha ndikati, "kutokanganwa kuti mune chemba ini." Ndakabva ndapinda mumagumbeze ndikaedza kurara hope dzichiramba. Ndichibatwa nehope ndakatanga kuona Richard akagara pamusoro peguva rake. I was standing kure naye, akasimuka akafamba kuuya pandiri tikatarisana. That moment I wanted to hug him asi akaramba ndikati, "hauchandida?"

"Ndinokuda Yeu."

"You can't even hug me?" Ndakadaro akati, "we are worlds apart now, I wish you could believe me."

"Hauchandida." I said again akati, "usadaro unondirwadzisa."

"Then hug me." I demanded akati, "I will hug you when I'm leaving for now nditarise." Ndainge ndatarisa pasi, chaakagona kusveerera maoko angu akati,

"I will always love you kunyangwe ndisipo. It's unfortunate my life was cut short but, I want you to be happy one day."

"Noo stop, I don't want to be happy without you, I need you."

"Nditeerere handina nguva yakawanda yekutaura." Akadaro ndikati, "usandisiye."

"Uchengete mwana Yeu, take care of my son." He was slowly letting go of my hand, ndakamudhonzha to hug me, which he did and quickly let me go akati, "ndati uchengete mwana wedu, ndokudai mese." Akatanga kuyeredza misodzi and gave me his back.

"Wait please wait." He vanished from my sight then I screamed ndichibva ndamuka. "What's wrong?" Asked tete Chenge, ndakachema ndiri pamakumbo pavo for a long time. Vaingopuruzira musana until ndazoti, "I dreamt of him, it was so real, he held my hands tete he did and and and"

"I'm sorry." She said hugging me. "He said I should take care of his son." Ndakapukuta misodzi ndikati, "he did tete."

"I'm sure he did, at least you finally saw his face, akaita mukomana gogo will be happy."

"Richaaard." I said his name pasi pasi ndichimudeedza , kunyangwe asina kuuya his name was all I wanted to say. Ndakazorara futi kurarisa zvekuti ndakazomuka zuva ratobuda. Ndakatarisa pandainge ndakarara ndikaona tete vamuka kare, nekunyara ndakabuda slowly ndikaona vanhu vakatogara

panze. "You are up?" Said Chenge, I smiled zvekunyara and nodded, "mamuka sei gogo."

"Ndati Chenge akusiye ukotsire ndanzwa kuti hamuna kurara zvakanaka."

"Aaah dai mandimutsa."

"Aiwa munhu akarara haamutswe." Ndakamhoresa tete, as well as Trust who was getting ready to leave. Ndakabva ndapihwa mvura ndikanogeza ndikadzoka kunogara paive nevamwe vaakutonwa tea. Ndaingonwa tea chete gogo vakati, "Aiwa idyai nechingwa."

"Andisi kuda gogo."

"Aiwa kuitira ari mudumbu asina mhosva, idyai." That brought Richard's voice achiti ndichengete mwana. Ndakamanikidzira kudya, tichipedza tete vakuru vakazoti, "saka marongei, I'm sure you spent the night thinking about what Trust said." Ndakatarisa kuna Trust who also looked at me ndikati, "it's fine."

"Hamuone magona." Said gogo Trust akati, "Richard akasiya yake ndikuisa yangu." Gogo vakawedzera kusekerera vakati, "saka zvofambiswa sei apa."

"Ndirikudzokera kunotaura natete vangu." Ndakapindura, Havana kupokana nazvo ,ndakabva ndatogadzirira kubuda na Trust, since he was going back to Harare akabva andipa lift. Ndakaonekana nagogo and Chenge tikasimuka tiina Tete vakuru. Road yese I pretended to sleep kusvika tasvika Harare tikatanga tasiya tete vakuru.

"I think I should just go with you kwatete vako kwacho." He said ndikangoti, "ehoi it's fine."

End of chapter

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Chapter 7

Prince

I was sitting in the office, ndamira kuita basa. Ndakambomira ndichifunga, everything that was happening, everything had its different effect on me, fear, pain. My heart was heavy, kunyangwe hake Shamiso was trying to be strong I knew deep down she was not taking things well. I felt like a failure ndainge ndatadza kumubatsira, I had no idea what to do next. Ndakabviswa mundangariro when she called achiti she was home. "Wadzoka?" I asked zvinyoro nyoro akati, "yes I'm back, we have things to do, kurisei kubasa?" I looked around my desk which had things scattered everywhere ndikati, "All is well wagona, I was missing you."

"Ndanga ndichikufungawo, watakurei manje for lunch."

"Handina ini, I will make a plan, ndinotenga."

"It's okay." She said achibva akata phone. My eyes were a little teary ndakaramba ndatarisa photo yake, she had been the love of my life and there was nothing that was going to change. Just that one child was okay for me ndaisava nedambudziko, I believed in love, it had to come first on all things. Ndichipedza basa I went straight home and found her busy in the kitchen imba yese yainhuwirira, I knew my wife was back. "Hey." She smiled achiisa

dishtowel pasi, akafamba akauya to hug me. After seconds of sharing a kiss ndakati, "urikubikei?"

"Kupiko mabhonzo."

"Mabhonzo eyi?" Ndakavhonzira dara asi I knew she was making pork bones. "Prince usazviitise." Ndakabva ndarohwa padumbu ndikanyepedzera kuyuwira, "asi ndakukuvadza?" She asked achiedza kutarisa kuti shuwa ndakuvara here asi ndakapedzisira ndavakuseka ndikati, "saka unenge uchimbondirovereiko kana uchizorwadziwa kuti wandirova."

"Ndinenge ndichinzwa kuda kukurova." She smiled achinditambidza mvura yekunwa. Ndakanwa ndikagadzika glass pasi ndichiti ndiyende kunobvisa hembe dzandainge ndakapfeka. "Phone yamama haisi kuita, I wanted to know kuti ndonotora riini Noel." That was our three year old son.

"Weekend will be fine huya undiudze what happened kumusha."

"Ko ndikapisa poto?"

"Andisi kuda zvekudarikwa nemakuhwa that is why ndirikuda kuudzwa usati wakanganwa." Ndainge ndatungamira kubedroom ndakazonzwa achidaidzira kuti, "makuhwa unomada hama."

"Wakandidzidzisirei kuti whatever happens you tell me. Ndakatojaira kunyeya newe ini."

"Pandichafa uchaita sei?" She said walking into the bedroom. Ndainge ndava kubvisa butsu, ndakamira ndikamutarisa ndikati, "did you really have to say that."

"I'm just saying."

"Even though you are just saying, I thought I said to you handisi kuda hangu kunzwa nyaya dzinorwadza. You are not dying you are going to get surgery and after that you will be fine."

"And if I don't make it through."

"Can you just stop please, you are not leaving me." Ndakabva ndagara pamubhedha and buried my face in my hands. She had no idea how much I needed her in my life. Everything was all about me and her, that was our life, how I had pictured it and nothing was going to change. I felt her hand on my shoulder, "I'm sorry," she whispered, "that was not so nice, I'm sorry, I'm scared."

"How can you be scared when I'm right here with you." She faked a smile that I even saw was fake." I should learn to trust you." Akadaro akawedzera kuti, "anyway Trust ati arikuda kubhadhara roora ra Yeu."

"Ah."

"That's what I thought when he said it, asi azoenda mberi explaining until we got to understand it all."

"That's an interesting twist, vanobvuma here tezvara vangu."

"Ba Robert doesn't have to know he wants to do it in secret, kana zvikabuda hamheni kumberi." Ndakaramba ndakamutarisa explaining, zvichioneka kuti even she was okay with it . Achipedza ndakati, "yaa hamheni, saka ambuya vangu vachaudzwawo here at least?"

"It's a secret babie." She reminded me akawedzera kuti, "zvauriwe uzvitaure." Ndakaseka ndichinyatsoona kuti ndaitwa munhu wemakuhwa kunyangwe hazvo she knew kuti kutaure kwaitondinetsa. I had to remind her that akati, "makuhwa anogona kungotanga."

"Shaa ndiite sorry." Ndakamudaro akaseka ndikawedzera kukumbira sorry kusvika ati, "eho sorry." Takazobuda tese ndachinja ndikanomira naye achibika kusvika apedza. Nyaya yataingotaura ndiyoyo ya tsano vaidakuroora, ndakazoneta nayo ndanyatsonzwa kuti taitaura nema angles ese. In the night ndaimunzwa tossing and turning, paakatanga kugomera ndakabva ndamutarisa ndikati, "chii babie?"

"Ndirikupindwa nechando saka chiri kundirwadza."

"Chiri kupinda nepapi?" Ndakavhunza ndichitomubata dumbu and I knew kuti chibereko chake chainge chava kumutambudza. "Ndirikuda kugarira mvura." Akadaro ndikamuka kunoisa mvura mu kettle. Akagarira kwenguva asi akatanga complaining kuti the pain was too much. Pasina nguva she was bleeding achigomera, I got scared and decided to take her to the doctor asi akaramba. "I will not listen to you." I said ndichimuita kuti asimuke where she was sitting. "Prince relax." I ignored and got her ready, by the time ratakaona doctor she was bleeding heavily. I was scared and ndainge ndabata hana, she kept a smile on her face nomatter what. It hurt me more nekuti I knew that behind that smile was a lot of pain.

After a while the doctor came back and said, we can't wait for the date that we agreed kuti tiite operation, she has to undergo the operation now."

"Is it that bad?" He nodded akati, "it has to be now."

"Do what is best and save my wife." I signed off the papers ndikagara waiting. It was late ndaisada kumutsa mama kumusha, munhu wese was still sleeping ndakabva ndangopusa kutadza kuziva kuti ndoita sei. Ndakazofunga kuudza my elder brother kuti mainini was getting operated, naivowo havana kuona message, he saw it in the morning ndichiri ndakangogara nekuti ndainge ndaenda naye kuma 3 chaiko. Around 5 my brother called vachida kunzwisisa, "I thought there was still a month?" He said

"Hamheno zvangoitika mukoma I had to take her to the hospital apa munhu ndipo paanga achitoramba."

"We are coming." Vakadaro ndikakata kuti ndifonere kumusha. Ndakataura namainini Chenge, she had just woken up, "bamkuru mati she's in hospital."

"Yes mainini, but she will be okay." Ndakanzwa kutura mafemo then she said, "regai ndione kuti ndiuye."

"Don't worry yourself mainini."

"There is no one there, don't worry I'm not coming kunogara I'm coming to see her for just a few days."

"Sorry mainini I think it came out wrong, even if you stay it's not a problem ndanga ndichiedza kuti don't worry too much about her."

"Oh ndanzwisisa." Vakadaro ndikati, "make sure kuti mama doesn't get worried zvakanyanya." Ndazvinzwa, let me get ready to come." Pandakabva paphone I wondered if I had spoken badly kuna mainini, mashoko angu had

not gotten to her well. Ndainge ndavakuona as if she thought ndaisavada kumba, ndakanzwa kunyara ndikazozviudza kuti I had made her understand what I meant.

Pakazosvika my brother ba Bruce ndipo pandakasimuka. Vaive vari vese namama vangu ndikati, "ko manovatora kumba?"

"Ehe ndatorwa ko kusazotaura kuti ndizvo zvaitika kumuroora chii?"

"Ndati andingakunetsei nekukumutsai asi I'm just glad kuti mauya. Thanks for coming." Ndakabva ndavati tigare pasi, "saka zvakwidza husiku?" Asked mama, I nodded vakati, "mmmm mumhuri mavo mune chihombe zvedi." I frowned tikatarisana na ba Bruce, ndaisada kunzwa anything negative at such a time so I got up ndikaita sendai twasanura tsoka. Ba Bruce followed me vakati, "Prince be strong."

"Ndanyarara wani?"

"I know kuti wakanyarara asi hashu dzikakubata I know you become a different man." Ndakatura mafemo ndikati, "ndiribho." After a short while the doctor came akati, "the surgery was successful but we are struggling to get her to wake up." Ndakatanga kunzwa kupera simba nekuoma mate mukanwa. Ndakaramba ndakamutarisa ba Bruce vakati, "she's not waking up but she is breathing right?"

"Yes she's breathing on oxygen." Mavoive avo ainge avakuita maungira munzeve dzangu.

End of chapter

Kaydie

Kaydie

The Promise

By Kaydie

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Chapter 8

Chenge

Ndaingonzwa hana kurova all the way to Harare. I had tried telling gogo kuti all was well asi I could see she was worried zvakanyanya. Thanks to bhasikoro ra Jussy, he had seen me ndichimhanya and came to my rescue, once again akandiendesa ku busstop. Ndaingoramba ndichitarisa phone kuona kuti nguva dzaive papi, still early it was. Ndakamboda kufonera bamkuru ndikasiyana nekuda kuvapa stress, ndakazongofona ndasvika mutown vakati he was by west end. Ndakafamba ndakanangako, ndichisvika ma face avo ainge akangouna una which left me scared. After the greetings ndakaenda kuna bamkuru ndikati, "how is she?" He looked stressed, he looked at me with pain his eyes yakaita kuti neni nditye, "just tell me." Ndakadaro vakati, "I don't know, I can't say anything, the surgery was successful so they said but she's not waking up."

"How?"

"I don't know she is taking too long to wake up zvekuti they are getting worried."

"She will be okay." Ndakakasika kupindura, I had no idea what was going on but I had that hope in me kuti all was going to be well. That's all I had to hold on to, that little faith.

"I hope so too mainini, anyway how are you, mafamba zvakanaka here?"

"Yes I was lucky, andina kana kunetsekana, ndaperekedzwa na Jussy kubva kumba ndikanosiiwa kuroad."

"Jussy wekutibatsira kutema huni here?" Ndakapindura vakati, "munhu Ari right manje."

"Yes he is." Ndakabva ndabva ndikanogara namama mai va bamkuru vaive vavakutokotsira vakagara pa bench ndikati, "mamukira ka mama."

"Yaa tamukira kuseni chaiko, haa vativhundutsa Mai Noel , unoshaya kuti chiiko chiri kuitika pamuroora wangu."

" Zvinoita zvakanaka." Takasimbisana takagara kusvika yazokwana nguva yekuti ndimboenda kunovaona. "She has gone into a coma." That's what the doctor said ndikapusa ndakamira, "a coma?" Asked bamkuru, ndainge ndatogara pasi next to her. She looked like she was sleeping peacefully, ndakabata ruoko rwavo, it was warm, at least ndakaziva kuti munhu mupenyu. "What is wrong with you?" Ndakavhunza trying to shake her. I could not understand what the doctors were saying, all I knew was that she had to wake up. Ndakaramba ndichiedza kutaura navo but she never responded. Ndakazobuda ndavakuchema ndikasiya bamkuru varimo. Ndakanogara namama vacho vakati, "ko zvirikutaurwa ndezvipi futi?"

"Hanzi she's not responding she has gone into a coma saka kumirira kuti vabude mucoma macho."

"Mmm saka zvakaoma sure kufambira munhu oramba kumuka, can she not remember kuti ane mwana here Mai Noel. Mwana achiri mudiki uyu."

"I'm sure varikutodawo kumuka asi zvirikungoramba hazvowo." Ndakaona kuti kugara navo kwaindiremera ndakasimuka kuenda kutoilet where I made a silent prayer. Gogo vainge vangomirira kunzwa kwandiri kuti zvakamira sei asi ndaisaziva kuti ndotaura kuti chii. I looked at my phone ndikabuda kuenda panze futi to look for bamkuru but found his brother instead, ba Bruce. "Bamkuru," I said to him vakati, "yes mainini."

"I need to call gogo but am not sure what to say to her, I know she is waiting to hear from me."

"For now just say all is well but she is still in hospital, we want to avoid a situation of panic."

"I understand." Ndakadaro ndokubva ndamhoresa Mai Bruce vainge vasvika. Ndakanogara futi pasi then I told Trust about the situation akati, "waudza ana mama here," meaning his mother and the rest ndikati, "andisati ini I didn't want them to tell gogo vaizoita panic."

"Yes I understand but Tete is family, people have to know of her condition."

"I know."

"Ndichauya." Akadaro and got off the phone. It was pointless hanging around there nekuti paive pasina change we had to go home of which ndakaenda

nabamkuru kumba. He went straight to his room kana kubasa havana kuenda, I was left sitting in the lounge ndisingatozive what to do. Ndakabatwa nehope ndiripo ndikazomuka kumasikati dzaakuenda kuma two and bamkuru was still in his room. Ndakafamba and got to the door ndichida kuvadaidza but the room was quiet, I left and went to the kitchen where I prepared him something to eat. Ndakatoona kuti nothing much had been done , I started cleaning up the house. When bamkuru finally came out ndainge ndakupedza vakati, "I'm sorry I didn't mean to leave you all alone."

"I understand that you needed time alone."

"Yes I did." He looked at his time vakati, "Inga time dzirikufamba, thank you for cleaning ndanga ndakubuda kutozocleaner."

"Why would you clean ini ndiripano?" I was alittle confused ndipo pavakati, "it's because ndajaira kuzviita when she's not feeling well, don't mind me kutojaira chete." Kutaura kwavo made me wonder what had been going on asi ndaitongoshaya kuti ndovhunza sei nekuti ndaivanyara zvakanyanya. It seemed a little strange though that he did all that stuff.

"I made food for you." Ndakadaro already walking to the kitchen to dish up for him. "Relax mainini I'm not hungry."

"So what should happen to the food I made for you. I know you are stressed but you can't be stressed and hungry at the same time."

"How do I eat at a time like this?" He kept staring into space ndikati, "eating when there is sickness is not a crime. Acting hopeless is wrong saka the choice is yours, where will you find energy to even pray for her when you are like

this musingadye." Ndakabva ndafamba kuenda kukitchen and dished up his food even though vainge varamba kudya. Ndakanogadzika pamberi pavo ndikasiya zvakadaro ndikabuda kuenda panze. I stayed there for a while kusvika Trust azovhunza kuti ndaive kupi ndakamuudza kuti ndaive kumba kwatete. "Asi hakuna visit?" He asked ndikati, "iriko asi hanzi manheru kuma 6."

"I told my father, vachauya kumanheru."

"Hoo it's okay." Somehow kuuya kwavo kwaindibhowa but I could not stop him, ndaisada hangu kutanga kunzwa mashoko anobhowa especially from maiguru Mai Robert. Ndakazosimuka ndaakuda kupinda mumba, ndakadongorera and saw him eating mbichana mbichana. Avoiding kuti vanyare ndakarega kupinda ndikasiya kuti vadye, after a while ndazopinda he had finished eating vaakutosuka maplates ndikati, "I was coming to clean up."

"Sorry mainini like I said, ndakajaira, thanks for the food."

"Hazvina basa it's okay," he went out and left me. Kumanheru we went out tese tavakunoona murwere. Kwainge kwazara vanhu zvekuti I never got the chance to see her ndainge ndangowedzera zvangu number yevanhu vainge vauya. Vana bamukuru ba Robert nana bamnini Thomas vaivepo with their kids. Ndipo pandakatozoonawo vana Ester my uncle's kids hanzvadzi dzana Robert. "Saka urikupi?" Ester asked ndikati, "ndina bamkuru kumba kwavo."

"Ko wakadii kuuya kumba." I could have told her kuti baba venyu vakati kwakazara ndikaona kuti she might get me wrong kana kuti nyaya yacho

yaizobuda nepasiripo ndikati, "handiti Tete varivega here kumba. Ndangonanga ikoko kuti kana vabuda she will have me to help her."

"Ah hoo okay wozouya totaura ndine nyaya."

"Yei?" Akaseka akati, "Chenge hazviite ndikuudze tiri panapa pachipatara." I nodded ndikati, "why didn't you come kurufu rwa Richard?" She frowned akati, "mama vakati mota yazarisa."

"Haa it's okay."

"Tinenge tiri tese kunyaradzo." Akadaro ndichibva ndaenda Kuna Trust aindidaidza achida kundiudza nezva Yeu. "I saw the aunt and the aunt said go ahead asi manje nehurwere uhu tozvifambisa sei."

"Where is she now? I mean Yeu?"

"Ariko kwa tete vake."

"I think you should tell her about tete's current condition nekuti hatisi kuziva kuti vachamuka riini out of that coma. Remember things have to be done properly, I think a bit of time would be better."

"That's what I was thinking too." Akadaro tichibva tatomira kutaura nekuti baba vake vainge vabuda panze. Vakafamba namaiguru vakauya pandaiva vakati, "saka wauya nhasi?" I nodded maiguru vakati, "saka watanga kuudzwa iwe uri kumusha isu tiri Harare tisina?" Ndakabata hana ndikati, "ndaudzwa time yamaudzwa it's only kuti ndanga ndagara ndine rwendo rwekuuya kuzovaona."

"Hooo chete vanhu vanozotida kana paakudiwa kubviswa Mari, handei daddy." She said to bamkuru vachibva vaakuenda.

End of chapter

Kaydie

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Chapter 9

Chenge

Personally I felt insulted, I had not asked for anything from her and there was never a time that I did. Ndakatarisa kuna Trust who quickly said, "I'm sorry ignore them."

"It's okay anyway ndaakuenda kuna bamkuru I'm sure he also wants to leave nekuti munhu wese avakuenda."

"I will speak to you tomorrow." He waved goodbye and he walked to his car. Ester ndakaita wekubabaisa from a distance naiyewo ainge avakudhonzwa namai vake vachienda kumota. "I think we should go now?" Said bamkuru ndikati, "I never got to see her."

"I'm sorry I'm sure munogona kupinda for just two minutes." Vakabva vafamba neni going back, we met the nurse by the door akati, "too many people have been in there already you can't go in."

"She won't take long." Bamkuru begged, she sighed akati, "fine make it fast." I smiled ndikapinda nekukasika. Ndakagara paside and said, "aunt Shamiso wake up, this is hard please wake up." I wiped a little tear asi havana kumuka and time yangu ndainge ndavakutonzi ndichibuda. We went back home,

noone spoke, just like before he locked himself up in his room. Pandainge ndava kuda kunorara I could hear him sniffing, it was heartbreaking ndakabva ndananga kwanguwo ndikanorara. Early in the morning we heard the good news that she was awake bamkuru vaininge vafonerwa na doctor. Ndakajamba with excitement kana kuita anything hatina kuita we made our way there nekunonokerwa kuona munhu. Hatina kupinda one one we went in tese vachibva vapihwa a long hug na bamkuru, "how could you do that to me." Vakadaro touching her face and everything.

"I'm sorry." She apologized vachibva vatarisa kwandiri vakati, "you are here." Ndakasekerera ndikati, "where would I be, I have been worried sick ndimi Mai vangu ndimi baba vangu." Ndakasweedera padhuze pavainge vandideedza neruoko ndichibva ndanorubata ruoko rwacho. "Ndafara kukuona." She said ndikati, "I'm happy you are awake." Vaisanyanya kutaura asi vaitaura zvainzwika only kuti vaiita semunhu akaneta stereki. Ndakazobuda ndikafonera gogo ndichivaudza kuti munhu ari right asi vaive neshungu dzekutaura nemwana wavo which made me go back to her ndichinovapa phone kuti vataure. Vakataura just a bit but it was enough to make gogo happy kana neniwo I could not even hold back my happiness.

Pakazosvika vana ba Bruce navamwene vatete munhu ainge avakutotaura zvirinani. Noel akambosara neni panze takagara achivhunza vhunza mivhunzo yakawanda tichipindurana. Vana ba Robert came namaiguru asi vana Ester were not there. Andina kana kuita shungu to go where they were I stayed where I was nekuti I was trying to avoid anything that would disturb my thoughts. Ndakavarairwa ndipo pandakanzwa kunzi, "kourikuno?" I looked up and saw maiguru standing ndikati, "murisei maiguru ehe ndiko kwandiri."

"Makorokoto ka vamuka." She said ndikati, "we thank God."

"Mmmm aiwa munhu ashing tanga tavakutya kuti we are already going back kumusha."

"Kunoita sei?" I asked vakati, "aizve kunoviga munhu iwe hauna kuona zvavaiva nezuro?"

"Hoo ah chete that happens." Kusvika kwakaita Mai Bruce ndiko kunyarara kwavakaita vakabva vati, "Aiwa mainini varwisa I'm happy kuti there is so much progress."

"Ichokwadi asi zvakangooma with her age vatosara vangovawo chembere isisazvare." We all frowned wondering kuti mashoko here iwayo avainge vataura. "Zvinoita here zvamataura nhai amai?" Asked maiguru Mai Bruce ivo mai Robert vakati, "asi munenge muchida kungotsvaga chakaipa pandinotaura?" Hapana akavapindura kusvika vabva vega Mai Bruce vakati, "mainini, Mai venyu ava munogara navo sei nekuti andingazvikwanise ini."

"Ndozvavari vakadaro she always has nothing better to say."

"Then she should not speak at all it's not easy for mainini kuita surgery yechibereko at her age. She should be comforting her instead of mocking her." Vaitaura neshungu dzairatidza kuti shuwa munhu abatikana nemashoko but there was nothing we could do about it.

That day bamkuru was happy, waiona wega kuti munhu aavanefungwa dzadzokedzana kana nyaya vainge vavakutaura. After two days tete vainge vabudiswa muchipatara tava navo kumba. Gogo got on the bus vakauya

kuzoona murwere for a week vachibva vadzokera kumusha. Ini ndakasiwa ndiriko ndikanzi ndimboona kuti murwere abatsirwa and was recovering well. She was not in a bad condition but I did most of the things that she used to do on her own. Ndaimutswa early in the morning kunyangwe hangu ndainge ndakajaira kuzviita asi vaitomuka vondimutsa ndipo pandakazoti, "ndizvo zvinoita nemurwere here izvi?" She laughed vakati, "yes, wavakupinda pazera rekuti one day you will get married. Andidi kuzonyara wavakudzoswa uchinzi you are not woman enough. Anyway hembe dza bamkuru needs to be ironed." Ndakamuka nekukasira ndikati, "inguvai?"

"5:30." She said ndikati, "ah nhasi ndanonoka."

"You see now." Vakadaro vachisimuka ini ndichitevera mumashure mavo. Vakacheuka vakati, "uchiri kumashure kwangu?"

"Haa tete." Ndakaseka ndichidatika pavari ndikati, "dziri kupi hembe dzacho?"

"Ndaisa pasofa," she said ndikananga kunosimudza hembe dzacho. Ndakabatidza iron ndikasiya then ran kunogeza kumeso, ndichipedza I started ironing bamkuru vainge vapedza kugeza. "Sorry ndanonoka." I said to him vakati, "don't worry about it take your time. Ndichipedza nezve hembe I had to make him breakfast, tete vainge vakagara vachindiudza all that I needed to do. "He doesn't like his eggs over cooked, he doesn't like them under cooked either."

"Yuwi manje ndozvigona here zvavanoda."

"Ini kana ndichizvigona iwewe unozvigona." She encouraged me ndikaita asi hana ichirova. "Make sure his tea is not white and neither is it too strong." Ndakaseka ndichibva ndamira. Ivo bamkuru vakabva vati, "murikuitei?"

"Making you breakfast." Answered tete, ndainge ndavakuda kutobuda kuti ndivape space then she said, "aizve ko waakutoenda."

"Ndapedza?"

"Wavapa?" Ndakanyara ndikati, "sorry, bamkuru huyai mudyi."

"Ko hausi kudya neni?" He asked tete vakati, "Aiwa I will eat later hamheni mainini maybe she's hungry." He looked at me vakati, "mainini."

"Ah ndisiyei." Ndakabva ndatobuda fast ndikanogeza ndaida kunitora maresults angu. Pandakapedza Tete vakati, "hanzi na Trust achasvika kuno?" I nodded ndikati, "hanzi nguvai?"

"Kumanheru, since I'm a little better now tinogona kufambisa nyaya dzake zvakanaka." I nodded ndikati, "how are you feeling?"

"Don't worry about me ndiri right." Vakabva vatanga kukama musoro wavo. She looked pale instead of looking better, ndaisada kuti zvindikanganise saka ndakabuda and went off kunitora ma results angu. Hana yairova zvisingaite but when I saw them ndakatanga ndagara pasi and cried. "Oh mama I wish you were here." I sniffed wishing she has been there to hug me, I had no 15 points but I had 12 and 12 iwayo were perfect for me. Ndakafamba and left the school, the first person I called was gogo. "Mwana wemwana wangu." She said crying on the phone ndikati, "musadaro gogo."

"Manje woita sei ipapa dai vana ba Robert vari vanhu kwavo I would have asked him kuti akuendese ku University."

"Noo gogo I'm fine ndakadai and please do not ask him I don't want to live the rest of my life ndichinamata vanhu."

"Aiwa asi anofanira kukuendesa mberi if your father had been alive kuri kunzi ba Robert ndiye afa, haaimbofa akasiya vana vake vasingaende kuchikoro."

"Can we not talk about that gogo." Ndakadaro ndavakunzwa kuda kuchema. Pandakasvika kumba Tete vainge vakarara ndini ndakatovamutsa nekusvika kwangu. "She cried looking at my results vakati, "nomatter what I will make sure kuti you further your education."

"Tete you are not well?" Ndakadaro vakati, "I said you will continue nechikoro, your father would have taken you further."

"Thank you." I said hugging her tightly, bamkuru vakasvika nekutotanga kuvhunza kuti ndainge ndagona kusvika papi, he smiled vakati, "well done mainini."

"Thank you bamkuru."

"This deserves a present." He said ndikati, "I already have a present, tete is alive."

End of chapter

Kaydie

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 10

Yeu

"Manje unosvika kupi uchirutsa kudai?" Asked tete ndikati, "you should be helping me kuti ndimire kurutsa kwacho." That day ndainge ndamuka zvakakwidza and ndairutsa zvakanyanya kusanganisira nekunzwa mudumbu I was suspecting kuti maybe the food I had had the previous night ndiyo yaiita kuti ndinyanye kunzwa kuda kurutsa. "Mira ndikutsvagire coke." She said seeming worried and added, "mmmm apa ikati inoda kunetsa sei, zvakaoma, manje bamnini vako wambotaura navo." Sekusada kunyeiwa vakabva vafona ipapo, ndakageza kumeso ndikasveerera phone kuti ndidaire, "hesi Mai mwana." He said ndikati, "bamnini murisei?"

"You don't sound okay what happened?"

"Ah nhasi ma1 ndirikurwara ini."

"Chii chirikunetsa ndepapi pari kurwadza." Ndakabva ndagara ndakazembera madziro emba ndikati, "kurutsa chaiko maybe matumbu andakadya aya." He laughed akati, "ko maidyirei matumbu."

"Ndiwo aivepo and andina kubvira ndaita problem nawo pese apa."

"Sorry okay tozvigadzirisa anyway ndapedza kutaura natete. She's much better now."

"Ndanga ndichida kuuya kuzovaona asi neniwo for the past days hamheno zvanga zvichiitika, I thought I would come today then again today wacho ndabva ndarwara."

"It's okay I will come and see you later handiti."

"It's okay." Ndakabva paphone ndikati kuna tete, "hanzi ndirikuuya."

"Zvakanaka let me get you coke. Ndakasara and washed my mouth which tested bad, my throat was suddenly painful nekuda kwekuti I had been vomiting mudumbu musisina chinhu. I wanted to guggle water then I thought let me drink the coke first. Ndakasimuka when aunt came back, nguva yainge yafamba and she already wanted to make dinner. Ndakanzi ndipinde mumba where I laid on the sofa feeling as if ndaipindwa nekachando. "Take the blanket and cover yourself Yeu." Tete said vachikanda ini ndookurigamha. I covered myself bamkuru vachibva vapinda, I had to sit up and greet him. "What's wrong? Muchiri kurwara?" I nodded ndikati, "mandiigirei?" He chuckled vachiburitsa ma zappy vakati, "tunhu twacho zvakaoma. Mai Connie you never ate such."

"Haiwa tunhu twacho hatina hutano utwo." Tete called out from the kitchen but kakuvavira kaiva pama zappy ndainzwa kukafarira. Ndakazodzokera pakuzvambarara when bamkuru settled down vaakunditaudza nyaya and also telling us kuti kubasa kwavo kwaive kwabiwa the previous night. "Hezvo hakuna maguard?"asked tete

"Ariko but they had guns so they tied him up vakapinda vakatora zvavanga vachida." He was a manager ku food world saka chikafu ndicho chainge chabiwa, ndakazonzwa tete vavakuseka vachiti, "yaa kunze uku vanhu vanenzara. As long as vasina kukuvadza munhu chete it's okay?"

"There's nothing okay pakubira munhu arikuedza to make something nehupenyu hwake. Yes they did not harm the guard but imagine the trauma he went through."

"But he is alive bamkuru?" Ndakapindura ndokubva ndazvivhara neblanket ndichinzwa kuda kuchema. Vakakasika kuchinja nyaya then said, "kunzwa chando here mainini kuzvivhara kudai ini handidi hangu mukadzi anoteta." I nodded vakati, "ndobatidza heater here?" I shook my head vakati, "ndotenga maorange."

"Haa bamkuru kani." Ndakadaro ndachivhura gumbeze ivo kwaakutanga kuseka zvakaita kuti neniwo ndimanikidzire kuseka. He was trying hard to cheer me up and pasina nguva bamnini Trust vakabva vasvikawo kumba. We exchanged greetings zvakanaka Tete vakauya to sit with us for a while as her pots cooked on the stove.

"Varisei varwere?" He asked looking at me tete vakati, "mmm hamheno kuti chii nekuti mazuva adarika aya hazvina kumira mushe. Ndirikutotya kuti ndirikubika hangu asi zvese zvinogona kubuda."

"Maybe she needs tablets ndichanotsvaga mangwana ku phamaracy ndouya nawo."

"Munenge magona varisei tete venyu ndakanzwa kuti havasi kunzwa zvakana." "

"She's much better now." Akapindura achindicherechedza kuona kuti zveshuwa ndiri right here. Akazoenderera mberi kuti, "nyaya yaakufambira mberi, vasimba zvekuti vanogona kumiririra nyaya dzacho."

"Hoo saka marongi?"

"Ndotonzwa kwamuri, mainge makataura navo here vanamai nababa va maiguru?"

"Mmmm ndakasvitsa Shoko."

"Okay saka hazvina mhosva tavakutuma hedu munyai?"

"Munenge magona." She said Trust akati, "kwasara less than three weeks kuti 40 days dzikwane saka tafunga kuti tozwiita after nyaradzo ya Richard."

"Hoo aiwa hazvina kuipa munenge magona, irikuitirwa kupiko nyaradzo yacho?"

"Irikuitirwa kumusha ndiyo yatiri kuronga iyezvino as well." They agreed tete vakati, "by then ndinenge ndapihwa list rezvinodiwa it's okay." They agreed pazvinhu zvacho vakambotandara kusvika vati vaakuenda. Ndakabuda navo panze ndakafuga gumbeze rangi then he said, "saka murikudyei manje?"

"How can I even choose I'm eating whatever is there." He laughed akati, "you are allowed to choose, I told you, you are not going to lack anything. Tell me

whatever you need tirikuda mwana mudhafu, mukaramba muchirutsa kudai you will lose weight and muburitsa kamwana kakaonda."

"Inga zvakaoma you are doing enough thanks." He took out his wallet vakaburitsa 50 dollars vakandipa vakati, "just use for now I know haikwane but pane zvandiri kuronga." I was embarrassed to accept ndakatomboramba kusvika munhu aita nharo akati, "once you accept my help better accept it all."

"Ndinenge ndisingade kunetsa." Ndakadaro vakati, "mandikumbira here kana kuti ndati oi?"

"Ehoi sorry."

"I will bring medicine mangwana." I nodded vachibva vapinda mumota mavo and left. Ndakapinda mumba tete vaakuda kupakura ndookuti, "vaenda here bamnini Trust."

"Yaa vaenda." Ndakadaro ndichipfuurira kunogara pasi. "Moyo wavo wakanaka mhani?" She said ndikati, "yaa ndoona sekudaro." Bamkuru vaingoseka vakatarisa tv. Handina hangu kuvavhunza kuti vaiseka chii ndakavasiya vakadaro, ndakazosimuka ndaakunotoro maplates kuti tidye.

Husiku handina kurara zvakanaka ndaingovhunduka vhunduka. Tete Chenge ndivo vakambonditaudza husiku vaakuvhunza kuti Trust ainge asvika here. Ndakazobatwa nehope kwaakuedza asi ndichinzwa body yangu kudikitira kwakanyanya asi ndainge ndichimbotonhorwa. Bamnini vakamukira kufona vakati, "I heard you didn't sleep well and you are feeling sick."

"Maudzwa naani?" Kwaingove kuvhunza asi I knew kuti Chenge ndiye ainge ataura, ndakazongoti, "ndava right."

"Are you sure because I was thinking kuti maybe you need to be checked by a doctor."

"No I'm feeling okay don't worry." Vakazobva paphone ndikadzokera kunorara nekuti kudikitira kwainge kwatanga. Pakapinda tete vakashamisika vandibata vakati, "iwe hausi kunzwa mushe iwe."

"Ndiri right." Ndakanyepa vakati, "kwete murisei mudumbu."

"Ndirikunzwa jeko?" Ndakadaro vakati, "ah jeko pamunhu akazvitakura, muka tiende kuchipatara tione." Ndaisada kunetsana navo saka ndakamuka ndikageza. Patainge tavakuda kubuda bamnini vakasvika nemapiriritsi avaingwa vakataura kuti vachanditengera Tete vakati, "uyu munhu arikurwara uyu."

"Ndaudzwa na Chenge but it seems maiguru vacho havana kuda kundiudza, ndatomboti tiende kuchipatara vakaramba."

"Aiwa regai ndiende navo pa Suburban apo." Takazongobuda tese tikaenda ndikanoonekwa na doctor who said, "makumbo arikupisa?" I nodded vakati, "urikufungei?" Ndakaramba ndakamutarisa ndikatanga kuyeredza misodzi bamnini vakati, "she lost someone, her fiancée."

"Oh, I'm very sorry for your loss. For the sake of your health and the baby, I'm requesting that you try hard to remain calm at least until after the first trimester." He looked at Trust vakati, "I don't know how you will do it but she

has to stay happy maybe you can help her, I do understand her situation and it's a bad one, asi try by all means, if you want I can refer you to someone who can offer counseling on how to handle loss of a loved one."

"I think that would help." Said Trust ndikati, "I don't need that I will be okay?"

"You do need it and please don't say no." Akadaro ndichibva ndanyarara. Takazobvako atofonera kare the lady that he was supposed to call, hatina kuenda kumba he took me there akasiya abhadhara mari yaibhadharwa yacho for me to receive counselling until I was better. It was hard opening up to her nekuti half the time I was crying. She allowed me to achiti it was okay to let my heart grieve.

End of chapter

Kaydie☐

The Promise

By Kaydie

Chapter 11

Prince

Chenge

Ndakamutswa nophone call ya Jussy mumwe musu achivhunza kuti ndaidzoka riini kumusha then I said, "wambotarisa time here dzauri kundifonera."

"Ndanga ndichishaya hope that's why I'm calling you now, sorry hako."

"Usadaro besides that, it's so late musikana wako anoti chii uchifonera mumwe musikana this time of the night." Nguva dzacho dzainge dzafamba around 11 already and that's the time yandainge ndanyatsobatwa nehope dzainge dzavakunakidza. "I apologise really."

"Okay, anyway usazozviita." Ndakamuudza and he apologized again ndikati, "ndirikuuya panyaradzo."

"Hoo wagarisa ndakusuwa, apa tsuro dzangu pane yaapadhuze kubereka." Ndakashaya kuti sure 11 o'clock ndainge ndamutsirwa kunzi tsuro dzaakuda kubereka. "That's good handiti."

"Yeah it's good nekuti hapana inobereka less than four vana."

"Haa saka very soon dzinenge dzawanda." Ndakadaro iye akakasika kuti, "saka ndochifanobatsira gogo kutema huni handiti?"

"Aewa Jussy thanks for the thought but imbosiya vamwe vaite."

"Haa ndinenge ndichida hangu kuita it's not a big deal. I want to do it vanhu vanosvika pamba pasina chaitwa."

"Hausi kuziva maplans evanhu hapana pavacharega kuita plan yehuni." He argued with me until I asked about how his mother felt about it. "It won't be nice when she starts speaking kuti urikushandiswa kumba kwedu."

"Haa havambodaro kana Chenge iwewe uri kuzvinetsa neiko relax."

"Hoo anyway Pamela arisei."

"Haa ndizvoo koiwewe mukomana wako ari right here?" Ndakangoti zvakaoma as if ndainge ndambomuudza nezvemukomana wangu. I had been dating Anesu asi all because tainga tanetsana nenyaya yekuda kurara neni akatanga kusataura neni ini ndikasiyanawo nazvo zvekutsvaga munhu. "Aribho." I lied iye akati, "saka ariko kuHarare ikoko?"

"Ehe ariko, ndaane hope shaa tozotaura." Ndakadaro ndichitokata phone I wanted to sleep. Handina kutora nguva ndakabva ndarara but I was a little disturbed ndichingozvivhunza kuti where was my aunt going to find money to take me to university as she had promised ivo vachirwara. And mashoko agogo ekutaura na ba Robert haana kundibata mushe. Ukuwo nyaya ya Yeu yekuti she was not well and unable to accept kufa kwa Richard was worse. Maybe I had neglected her and concentrated on my aunt. I felt bad about it, ndakazorara hangu asi ndambotambura with my own thoughts.

In the morning ndakamukira kuita basa, bamkuru was home, vanhu vacho vakati nonokei kumuka, when they finally did I was making breakfast tete vakati, "watomuka."

"Mmmm, imi manonoka."

"Eh." She said sitting bamkuru vakati, "hesi mainini."

"Good morning." Ndakadaro vakati, "good morning indeed." Vakabva vagara vakanditarisa ndikati, "chii?"

"Ndine nzara," he said ndikaseka ndichiti, "ehoi I'm bringing the food mageza here?"

"Asi handisi kunhuwirira?"

"Ndanga ndisati ndazvinzwa hangu."

"Babie deo yawakanditengera hainzwike," he said to his wife vakanzi, "zva Chenge hazviteedzerwe anonyepa." Ndainyepawo sure ndainge ndainzwa kwaingova kuda kudenha. Ndakazovapa food Tete vakati, "ndiyaniko akakufonera husiku kudaro." Ndakaseka ndikati, "zvakaoma ndi Jussy hanzi ndoda kufanotema huni."

"Asi he wants to be an inlaw kumba kwedu?" Asked tete ndikati, "iiii mashura angu, achiroora ani?"

"Achiroora iwe." Vaitaura vakanditarisa ndikati, "arikuda kuroora Pamela."

"Iwe haumude here?" I shook my head fast ndikati, "haa kana I don't see him that way." Vakanyarara bamkuru vakati, "musiyei handiti haasati aroora here Jussy wacho achiri pakusarudza."

"Saka moda kuti aroore Chenge?" Tete asked bamkuru vakapindura kuti, "I have no say in whoever she gets married to ndiri mukuwasha ini. I'm just saying hangu ko kana vakadanana zvakaipei?"

"Hazvibude." She replied fast bamukuru vakati, "zvaita sei?"

"Hazvingobude chete." She said bamkuru vachibva varamba vakatarisa tete then also looked at me ndikakasika kutarisa kuside nekutonyara nyaya dzacho dzaitaurika. "Tinganetsane pamwe mainini vane wavo kare." Ndizvo zvavakazotaura ndikati, "handina ini."

"Imbogara hako usina there is no rush." Said tete bamkuru vachibva vachinja nyaya. After that breakfast ndakazombobuda na Trust who had said we needed to cheer Yeu up, we went to the lake tikanofara tiriko asi waitoona kuti zvaive zvekumanikidzira. Takazonomusiya kumba kwavo kumanheru chaiko ndikaonanawo natete vake and bamkuru. Tichibvako maiguru mukadzi wa Trust vange vaakushupa nekuvhunza kuti Trust arikupi kusvika ndapihwa phone ndikataura navo kutonyepa kuti ainge arikumba achiona murwere. Vakaseka vakati, "aizve ndandatoti atori neumwe munhu ka."

"Haa kana maiguru relax." Ndichibva paphone ndakati Kuna Trust, "zvinobuda here izvi?"

"Zvinobuda it's only kuti pane kwavanga vachida kuti tiende."

"Hoo mmm hamheno I hope so."

"Manje iwewe ukadaro unondipa confusion imbomira, waona state ina Yeu and hazviite kuti tingomurega ari ega she will lose her mind." He was right, her state was not so good. Takazosimbisana akanondisiya kumba. "How is she?" Asked tete ndikati, "she is better."

"That's good, hanzi na bamkuru varikuda ma popcorn."

"Sure here bamkuru?" Ndakadaro ndakananga kukitchen kunomagadzira, vakaseka vakati, "mainini itai chete imimi."

"Ndanga ndisina hangu kuramba." Ndakawedzera kuseka, vaimafarira zvekuti ma popcorn acho. Ndichipedza vaive vanditevera ndikati, "ndanga ndichiuya nawo?"

"Ndanga ndauya hangu kuzotora drink." He said hiding a laugh ndikabva ndangovapa bowl racho as well as the juice. Handina kuda kutandara ndakanorara nekukasika. Mazuva akafamba and we had to go kumusha kunyaradzo. Yeu wanted to go as well but I was not sure about it, nekuda kwekuti she has not been at the funeral ndakazongosiya zvakadaro tete vakabvuma kuti tiende tese asi people were not going to know. Kuri kutongotya kuti vanhu vacho vaisatembeka, zvaiva nani vazomuziva ava nemwana.

Takasvika the day before, kuvanhuwo vakangoti ishamwari yangu yekuHarare. Gogo was happy to see her ndivo vandaitotyira kuti vachamakisa nekunyanya kuratidza love yacho. Vana Mai Robert vakauya manheru and ipapowo manje everything was in order nekuti Trust ainge andipa mari

yekutenga mombe yatakasvika tikatenga, madrinks everything takabva nazvo Harare, everything was in order. Haana kuda kukasira kuuya just to avoid kubatwa namai vake just in case vaizozvibata kuti ndiye aita, ndaingoona vachitarisa tarisa and vainge vatopinda mugear rekumanager zvinhu. "Mainini wonai kuti nyama is not wasted handiti, ehe hatidi anything chitadze kufamba zvakanaka. Vanhu vekuno vakaona zvinhu vanovhunduka."

"Manje hanzi varikurara vachiita braii?" Vakadaro mainini maiguru vakapindura kuti, "haiwa braii yechiiko hakuna zvakadaro."

"Ndini ndadaro," said gogo vachipinda maiguru vakati, "amai nyama yese iyi moda vanhu vangowaster."

"Ku waster how, don't you do ma braii ku kuharare, zvayaakuitirwa kumusha moti it's a waste, amai Robert handidi munhu anotaurisa pavanhu."

"Amai ndatadzei?" She asked vachisiririsa ndikada kuseka, vainge vaakuda kuzvinyanya vakagurwa muswe. Ivo gogo vacho never answered muvhunzo wekupedzisira but I knew she had a lot to say. Vanhu vakaimba kwainge kune vanhu vekuchurch yemasowe yaipinda gogo. Vakarara vachiimba kozoti vemhuri vaisava nechekuita nechurch vaingozviitira havo zvinhu zvavo zve braii nekunwa nekuita sei saka vanhu vacho were divided. The good thing was that yard yagogo yaive yakakura ini ndaive ndakazvipfekerawo pachurch ipapo ndakabvisawo butsu sevamwe. Moto ndiwo waitoita kuti tidziirwe nekuti waive muhombe. Kwava kuedza pane akasimuka akati, "hongu maita nyaradzo asi mweya hauna zororo kuchema kuenda kwake nenguva isina kufanira. Handina kutumwa kuzopesanisa asi muzochengeta budzi raakasiya panyika." Vanhu vakatanga kuzevezerana vachida kuziva kuti budzi ripi asi isu

tainge tichiriziva, bamunini Thomas ndivo vakati, "pamusoroi ndinoda kuvhunza kuti budzi ramunoreva nderipi nekuti Richard akafa asina mwana."

"Imi munoti haana asi ini ndinoti anaye aripedyo. Nekuda kwekuti kune vakamirira kuparadza andikwanisi kuti ndikuudzei kuti riripi asi richabudikira." Vanhu vakanyarara kuti zii then he went ahead to say, "zvino kune vakamirira kuteura ropa vachishandisa mufi mweya waakumanikidzira kutakura mweya wemufi kuenda nawo kuzororo, pamuchaungana pano zvakare kachava kekupedzisira nekuti ini ndanonoka kuva pano kuti ndimise chandaona asi ndati kuungana kwenyu nenguva ichatevera pachaita shura." Hana yangu yakarova ndakagara pasi. I was sitting na Yeu ainge avakungochena ndakangoti, "usadaro you will sell yourself out wanzwa zvataurwa."

Bamnini Thomas got up again vakati, "asi pane arikudya vamwe here kana aripo ngaangotaurwa zvipere, nekuti nesuwo taneta kuchema."

"Sekutura kwandaita handina kuuya kuzopesanisa asi ndichavaka muteuro wandisingagone kutsanangura kuti ndewei." Murume akatanga kuimba akadairwa, vakaimba zvekuti ndega ndakatanga kuchema, ndainzwa maungira munzeve, akaimba akasimudza tsvimbo ndookuzoti, "ndapedza zvandatumwa." Kuvanhu vaimbenge vakagara vachiita braii kwainge kwanyararwa vese vapusa pasisina aitura.

End of chapter Kaydie☐

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 12

Chenge.

I got up slowly as my mind was already crowded ndikasiya ndati kuna Yeu ndirikudzoka. Ndakangofamba a little ndikaenda kuseri kwe bedroom yagogo ndikatozovhunduka ndanzi, "hesi." I looked up ndikaona Jussy ndikati, "what are you doing here?"

"I saw you uchibva muvanhu and I followed you." With a mind full of questions ndakabva ndavhunza one wacho muvhunzo ndikati, "and why would you follow me because ndabuda muvanhu."

"I didn't know what to do, I have not spoken to you ever since you came. You might go back ndisina kutaura newe?" Akadaro achiramba aripo as if the whole scenario was okay with him.

"Could you not wait until the morning at least kwachena." He sighed akaisa maoko muhomwe then leaned on my grandmother's bedroom, which made me feel even more uncomfortable. Kuri kunzi taonekwa kuseri ikoko it would not look so good, especially kuonekwa takagara. Ndakasimuka iye akati, "I'm sorry mira."

"Totaure kwachena." Akandidzora akati, "already it's 3am kwachena Chenge, anyway tell me ukudzokera riini?"

"Nhasi Jussy totaura kani chii newe." Ndakabva ndatofambisa ndikasvika kunodhumira pana bamkuru vaitozviendera kumota. "I'm sorry." I said embarrassed vakati, "what's going on ko kuzoita kunge muri kumhanya." Before I answered he looked behind vakaona Jussy and said, "manga muna Jussy?"

"Not in that sense."

"Andina sense yandataura ini." Vakadaro ndikaona kuti ini ndini ndega ndaakutaura zvandisina kunzi taura. "Well tangosangana kuseri?" Ndakadaro ndichishaya the best way of saying it vakati, "it's okay." It was embarrassing worse with the way he was so cool about it dai arimumwe aitondifungira zvimwe. "Ndipeiwo blanket mainini ndaakuda kurara." Vakadaro and I quickly said, "okay." Ndichingobva kuvapa ndakadzokera muvanhu, vana ba Robert vainge vaakuda kutongesa muporofita vachida kunzwisisa kuti mashoko ake aireva kuti chii asi akangoti, "mufaro kwamuri, handingawedzere kana kutapudza pashoko randatumwa naro. Zvava kwamuri kumirira chiitiko mugozotenda kwariri."

"Ini hangu handidi munhu anotaura kwaasina kuswera kana ndovhunza orega kundipindura," said ba Robert muporofita akati, "ndinotenda hangu kushoko renyu." Akasimuka paaive akagara akarovera tsvimbo pasi katatu ndiko kutoenda. Vanhu vakasara vapusa gogo vakati, "iwe ba Robert, could you not keep quiet, wadii kuti tipei solution pane kutanga kupa munhu mhosva?"

"What solution iye ati haasi kutaura anything more, maona vanhu venyu vekuchurch dzenyu vanopesanisa. Right now pazara kufungirana pakati pedu."

"Afungira munhu ndiyani?" Gogo asked bamnini Thomas vakati, "no mama siyanai nazvo izvi. If something is going on tichadzifambira nyaya dzacho."

"Kudzifambira naani?" Asked ba Robert, bamnini Thomas vakati, "kana ndega ndodzipedza." It was nomore okay because zvinhu zvacho zvainge zvaakutaurwa vatorwa vachinzwa. Kunakidzwa kwese kwaimbenge kuchiitwa nevanhu kwakapera vanhu vakasara vanyarara umwe neumwe aine pfungwa dzake. "You need to rest." I said to Yeu akati, "what's going on Chenge did that prophet say Robert was killed, and who is going to harm my baby."

"Ssshhh hande." Ndakamudhonzwa ndikanomuisa muroom mandairara. Pasina nguva Ester ainge apindamo achifemeruka akati, "hamheno zvandaona."

"Kupiko." Ndakavhunza iye achiita kufemeruka akati, "kusango uko." Ndakakasika kuti, "wanga uchiitei kusango akati, "I had gone to releave myself asi ndaona like moto wanga uchibvira."

"Zvakwana ibva wanyarara." Ndaisada kutyisidzirwa saka takarara takadaro pasina azotaura munhu nemunhu deep in thoughts. Kuma 7 ndakamuka and went out ndikaona vanhu vachiripo. Vamwewo vainge vakaungana kuchitaurwa nyaya yekuda kuziva kuti mwana wa Richard arikupi ndipo gogo pavakazoti, "handiti hanzi achauya saka musiyeyi achauya. My main issue is hanzi pano pachaunganwa, iye apedza vana vangu haangandinzwire Tsitsi kuberekera pasi. Ini ndichiripo dai ndatorwa hanguka ndapera basa."

"Ko mukanyarara nhai amai?" Said ba Robert gogo vachibva varidza mhere. It was so bad zvekuti I could not hold it but cry as well, pandakaona tete Shamie vachibuda mumba macho ndakangoti, "what's going on?"

"Siyana nazvo, gadzirira tiende." Her eyes were full of tears, tears she was trying hard to control and not show me that she was crying. Ndakaramba ndakatarisa as she walked to the car where her husband still was sleeping. When she opened the door she turned and said to me, "ndatii?" I got up immediately ndikanochera mvura yekugeza. Ndavakunogeza I met Pamela, ndainge ndisina kumuona the whole time kuti aripo. "Hesi kani, kuvhaira yuwi?" She said ndikati, "pane angavhaira pakuchema here Pamela?" Ndainge ndagadzika bucket of water pasi akati, "ko how far neyekutakurana pa bike na Jussy." I frowned ndikati, "urikuti chii?"

"Ka two wakatakurwa pa bike na Jussy, I'm wondering kuti ndezvei?"

"Are you forgetting kuti Jussy is my friend nhai Pamela."

"Yes I know but Jussy munhu avakuda kuroora handiti you know." I sighed ndikati, "I don't have time for all that, I'm still moarning my brother Pamela. Zva Jussy zvawaakutaura waakundiremedza. I never asked him kuti anditakure he offered ega, twice futi, I cant believe kuti wauya kuzovhunza such issues panyaradzo. Could you not at least wait until tapedza then wozotaura neni zvakanaka?"

"Sorry hako but ndaakuenda kumba, I just thought kuti let me ask ka 1." I shook my head ndikasimudza bucket leaving her standing. I cursed ndava ndega and bathed fast kuti Yeu auyewo ageze. When she went in to bath

ndakadaidzwa na Ester that's when I remembered kuti aive nenyaya yaainge ati aida kundiudza. Ndakaenda naye mubedroom ndikati, "ko paye waida kuti chii?" She blinked a couple of times akati, "hoo paye." As if ainge akanganwa ndikati, "ehe paye."

"Hooo ah ko nhaiwe, I heard kuti Richard was sick."

"Sick?" I asked confused akati, "ehe asi usazoti ndini ndaitaura nyaya yacho unondipinza ma1, hanzi Richard aive pachirongwa."

"Watii?"

"Ehe ndakatonzwa zvichitaurika zvichinzi hee vanhu varikuti Richard akaurayiwa asi munhu aitozvirwarira asi asingaudze vanhu."

"Ndiani akadaro?" Ndakavhunza ndavakunzwa hasha akati, "haa ipapo I can't say. Hona waakutotsamwa ini ndichikuudza zvandakanzwa."

"I lived with Richard, haana musu one wandakamuona achinwa mapiritsi, I packed his things, everything handina kana tablet, kana chiropa one chema tablets chandakasangana nacho then you tell me kuti hanzi akafa nechirwere?"

"Iii ndangotaurawo zvandakanzwa shaa ngaipere nyaya yacho." Ndakadonhedza misodzi ndakamutarisa akati, "haa Chenge waakutochema shaa?"

"Yes because it's my brother they are talking about . It's my brother Ester."

"Sorry but he was my brother too," zvakandirwadza ndikaramba ndichimuti ndiyani akataura ndipo paakazoti, "ndimai Kudzi."

"Mai kudzi?" Ndakavhura ziso that was maiguru mukadzi wa Trust. "Shaa taurira pasi vaitaura namama unoziva kuti ikabuda nyaya yacho ndopinzwa busy." Tiri pakati pekutaura akabva adaidzwa akabuda achimhanya. Ndakapukuta misodzi ndikabuda panze, ndakaona Mai Kudzi vacho vakamira nemurume wavo Trust, ndaida kunochibvondora ipapo but I thought of Ester ndikaona kuti ndinenge ndamuisa pakaoma. Ndakadzokera mumba ndikanogara ndikachema ndikati zino irema she was not even one of the people I had suspected.

When my aunt called ndakabuda kuenda kwavari vakati, "bamkuru vati mapedza here?"

"Ndaakupedza ndakamirira Yeu." She nodded and went back, Yeu achidzoka ndakangomuti ita fast. Achipedza tainge tavakubuda muroom yangu tichibva tasangana na mai Kudzi vakati, "aaah tete muri pano hatina kuzonyanya kuonana I came late naiyo hanzvadzi yenyu yaida kunonoka." She looked at Yeu vakati, "makadii henyu?"

"Tiripo." Yeu responded ndikati, "yaa ndiripano ndaakutoenda."

"Hoo ko ava ndiyani?"

"Ishamwari yangu." Ndakadaro ndichitofamba kubuda. Vakatevera mumashure vachida kutaura asi I didn't want to speak to her, I was very angry and the more she spoke I was tempted to lash out. If it was not for gogo who I met along the way hamheno kuti ndaiita sei. Takazotorana nagogo

vakundiudza about taking care of Aunt Shamiso, "I'm not there Chenge asi I'm worried about my child. Handina rugare handina zororo momumoyo, waivepo iwe, wakanzwa zvakataurika."

"Don't worry gogo it will be well." Ndakadaro ndichida kuvasimbisa asi neniwo I was scared kuti maybe i was next.

"Tichaonana pamwe ndini ndava munzira." She said ndikati, "stop it please."

End of chapter

Kaydie☐

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 13

Chenge

All the way kudzokera ndainge ndichirwadziwa with what I had heard about my brother zvekuti ndaiita ndichidzora misodzi. Takazoti tavakuda kusvika bamkuru vakati, "vanhu chiiko nemi?" Munhu wese ainge akanyarara pasina arikuda zvekutaura. "Chii babie." Asked tete bamkuru vakati, "manyanya kunyarara maakuita kuti ndide kukotsira." She laughed vakapindura kuti, "kukotsira when we are almost there." Bamkuru vakavatarisa nekubva vavatsonya ziso. Ini nekunyara ndakabva ndatarisa kunze kwewindow ndikatanga kuverenga miti. Ndakazotarisa hangu phone yangu yaive ne message from Jussy that said, "ko wazongoenda, waonaka what I said earlier that I would not see you."

"I'm sorry I had no time ndangonzi handei."

"Saka uchadzoka riini?" Akavhunza ndikati, "andizive ini kwakanaka here?"

"Ah zvakaoma I wanted to speak to you about something. Manje andichaziva kuti ndokuudzira kupi kana kuti mukana ndouwanepi I'm clueless." Ndakaita kanguva trying to think kuti what was the story. I typed and erased until I settled on asking him what it was that he wanted to say. "Hausi kudzoka anytime soon here?" Akavhunza ndikawedzera kumuudza kuti I had no idea.

His next message was more like he was pretty troubled and my absence troubled him hence living me a little confused. "Usadaro Chenge." He said, for some seconds I scratched my head and said, "why don't you just tell me Jussy."

"I don't have the best words to say, I'm scared of even saying them considering that you know about me and Pamela. I'm sorry Chenge but ndokuda." Akadaro ndichibva ndaseka loud enough to make my uncle and Aunt turn to look at me. "Aikazve." Said aunt Shamiso ndikati, "haa hapana nyaya."

"Nyaya ndiyo iripo manje, hanzii naani?"

"Mundiseke zvangu ndisiyei," vakabatsirana kuseka bamkuru vakati, "mainini vatambira shoko rerudo and I can guess from who." Ndakanyara remembering what he had seen earlier ndikati pamwe bamkuru vaakuda kundichera asi havana. Vakatoita kunge hapana chavari kuziva tete ndookuti, "musandiudze kuti Jussy?" Ndaive ndanyarara futi ndava kufunga what Jussy had said ndikatoona kuti one yake yaive yakadambuka. "Usandiitire shura handiti." Ndakamupindura iye achibva atanga kufona. Handina kuda kudaira ndakadzima tete vakati, "yaa rinenge shoko rerudo."

"Haa kana." Ndakapindura zvine ka force mukati zvakaita kuti vandiseke futi ndikapedzisira ndaakunyara. "Iye munhu arikuda kuroora angatange kutsvagana nemusikana futi here hachisi chinenge chava chihure here." Asked tete bamkuru vakati, "haasati aroora saka he's allowed to change his mind asati atambisira mwana wevaridzi nguva." I had to ignore them nekuti it seemed that nyaya ya Jussy yaivanakidza.

Takanosvika kumba kwana Yeu tichinomusiya she looked exhausted. Ipapo tete vakatora mukana wekuonana nekumhoresana na tete va Yeu. "Zvakafamba hazvo zvakana?" She asked tete vangu vakati, "aiwa all went well thank you nekutendera kuti Yeu avepo."

"Its a pity aita munyama mwana uyu kutanga nekufirwa asati agara kana mumba macho." Akabva atosuduruka Yeu and went to her room tikasara nevamwe. "Ya it has been a sad loss, zvakangooma, I'm sorry kuti it turned out this way." Tete vakadaro asi vakakasika kunzi, "musazvidye moyo, ndirikutotyira hangu Yeu asi arikuita achiita nani. Thanks to the counseling sessions aari kuenda ndirikuona kuti there is a great improvement paari."

"Zvinotendwa." Replied my aunt vachibva vaoneka kuti tiende kumba. We got home nguva ichiripo asi vanhu vaive vakaneta hapana aida zvekugara achiita nyaya takangonanga kunorara. Kumuka kwakazoitika around 1 when I could feel my stomach complaining of hunger. I rushed to bath ndikatanga kubika vamwe vanhu vachiri vakarara. Vakazomuka vakadya tikazoita vaenzi, vamwene vatete vainge vauya na Noel.

"Urikuno?" She said to me ndikati, "ehe mama ndirikuno."

"Ah hoo ndanga ndichityira kuti Noel won't have anyone to watch him since kune hurwere." Tete vakabva vadaira vega kuti, "ndasimba ini mama."

"Haa mai Noel munhu akabva kuoperation pasina nguva haisi nyore."

"Yaa asi Noel haasi problem hombe hake, varisei vana tete Sandy nababa?" she asked vamwene vacho vakati, "vatano ipapa ndanga ndaakumboti pamwe

ndikuwanirei musikana webasa asi zvinenge zvakarongeka." Aunt Shamiso laughed vakati, "musikana webasa wei nhai mama?"

"Kuwacha nekubikira ba Noel, pane wandakatotaura naye hangu ndichaita kuti mumuone." Tete remained silent bamkuru vakati, "babie urikuda musikana? It's a good idea since you are not yet strong. Mainini will be going to school soon." Havana kupindura she remained quiet vamwene vacho vakati, "amai Noel haana basa nazvo uyu."

"There is no need yemusikana mama, we have been managing fine." tete said

"Maybe you do babie." Said bamkuru asi I could tell kuti tete didn't want. Ini ndakasimuka ndichiti ndinovawanira something to eat tete ndookutevera vakati, "pano hapana basa na maid pano." Ndakamira zvandaiita ndikati, "so tell her nhai tete."

"Ndavaudza but she's that type yekuti ukavarambira inoita nyaya hombe. Ini zvenyaya nyaya handisi kuda Chenge. Hamheno I have a bad feeling about this."

"Relax we will pray about it, what bad feeling are you having?" She just blinked away her tears nekutobuda. Ndakasara ndaakusaziva kuti ko nyaya irikunetsa futi pakuva nemusikana webasa yaiva ipi futi. I had to remind myself what I had gone to the kitchen for then I did fast ndikanovapa something to eat. Vakazoenda havo kumanheru asi from that time tete was no longer around mulounge kuti titandare. Pandakaenda kutoilet ndakaita sendaita manzwira vaiita sevanhu vainetsana na bamkuru asi handina hangu kuda kumira kuti nditange ndanzwa kuti nyaya yacho yaiva yei.

Bamkuru vakazobuda pava paya, he passed me in the lounge vakati, "ah murimega?"

"Timbori vanganiko pano." Ndakavhunza ndichiseka asi maziso avo aiita kunge ambobuda misodzi. Havana kugara vakatodarikira asi vakatanga vapindura kuti, "mukomana arikupi." Ini ndikati, "mukomana akarara." Vakabuda ini ndikasara ndichienda kuroom kwaive kwakarara Noel . He was sleeping peacefully kana kuziva kuti kunze kunei. Ndakabva ndarara paside pake ndikatanga kuzvivhunza ndega kuti was the maid issue the reason aunt Shamiso vainge vanetsana na bamkuru. If that was the case then why would bamkuru cry over that, I felt uneasy by not knowing, and them arguing was even worse ndaisada kuona that scenario.

"Mama." Noel said ndichibva ndatarisa kwaari ndikati, "wamuka."

"Chenge." I smiled. Ndikati, "yes get up." He reached for my laps akarara pamakumbo achiratidza kuti he was still sleepy. He yawned akati, "water."

"Ukuida?" He nodded ndikati, "hande tinotora." Ndakabuda naye ndikadhumana na tete vachioneka kuti naivowo vambochema. It broke me asi ndaisakwanisa kuvhunza, ivo vakangokwanisa kuti, "munhu uyu amuka?"

"Amuka nekutsvaga mvura." Ndainge ndavakutotora tumbler kuti ndimudirire mvura. He was soo impatient aive ava kutosveerera tumbler achiti Chenge ndipe. "Mira kani ndokupa." Ndakadaro ndichimutambidza. "Anoshupa uyu wotomujaira." Iyewo akabva ati, "Chenge I want bread." Mama vake vakati, "haanzi Chenge ndimama." He laughed akati, "aewa ndiwe mama."

"Yes and Chenge is mama too." Zvairamba kuti ati mama takazotanga kuseka achiwedzera kuramba. Panguva yandaibika zvemanheru ndakazvishingisa ndikati, "bamkuru vaenda kupi?"

"Varikudzoka pane kwavaenda." She said getting up kwaakutondisiya ndiina Noel vachienda kubedroom kwavo. I ignored the situation and continued cooking, bamkuru vakadzoka ndaakutopedza. He smiled vakabata a plastic bag ine masweets, kumwewo kuruoko he was holding roses that he took to the bedroom ndikaziva kuti he had bought them for his wife. I smiled. Ndikaona kuti there was love out there.

End of chapter

Kaydie☺

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 14

Prince

I slowly opened the door and watched her as she lay looking pretty on the bed. She didn't move but when I got close and sat on the bed akacheuka akaramba akanditarisa. "Hey." I said reaching to kiss her cheek, "wadzoka." I nodded and gave her her roses, she brought out aaa smile achitambira akati, "these are beautiful."

"Just like you." Ndakapindura and watched her inhale the rose scent. Akatora nguva ndikati, "I'm sorry." Akasimuka kubva pamubhedha akanoisa ma roses in water. Paakadzoka akandiwana sitting on that same position, I wanted us to talk without emotions involved. I patted on the bed signaling her to come and sit with me, slowly she got on, akagara akazembera mapillow yet looking at me. She still was avoiding eye contact so I reached for her hands ndikamabata. I rubbed them a little, they felt a little cold, ndakafunga kuti aitonhorwa so I reached for a small blanket and covered her. "Thank you," she said ndikati, "I should take care of you often enough."

"That is why I seem weak in front of everyone, I can do a lot Prince."

"I know that you can, but if there is an opportunity for me to spoil you, then I should." She was my wife after all and being there for her in a way I saw fit

was no problem for me. I felt it was only right that I take more care of her until my own heart was content, anyway I removed my hands from hers ndikawedzera kuti, "I'm sorry my mother maybe a little forward. I know you said she is too pushy and you don't like it, it's okay I understand."

"But you said I was being cold towards her when she is trying to help me," akadaro ndikati, "she is my mother and you are my wife, I do not mean to choose sides between the two of you, you are my favorite women. I didn't like what you said about me taking sides and loving her more than I love you. I cannot compare the love I have for the two of you. One is my mother and I love her like my mother, the love is different because with you ndokuda semukadzi wangu, my other half, the romantic kind of love, family kind of love, my bestfriend. Saka mese ndokudai, differently yet the same. When she said she wants you to have a maid ndangoona as a good gesture since you are sick kungoonawo kuti you do need the help. I know you said mainini is here but she will be going to school and handisi kuda unyanye kushanda, I want to spoil you babie. If it means you getting up to eat and sleep then so be it I should take care of you like I vowed I would."

"Prince." Akadaro achida kuchema akati, "I'm sorry it's only kuti I'm scared, I'm scared that I will be replaced when I'm still alive. I don't even know how much time I have left but you can't replace me ndichiri mupenyu. At least replace me ndafa hangu, zvirikuitika in my family is scary and,"

"Babie stop." Ndakamumisa asati ataura mashoko airwadza, yes a lot was happening but I could not accept her death even if it was to come. It was much better nditange hangu pane kuti iye atange. "Usandimise." Akadaro ndikati,

"when it comes to such talk ndinokumisa, stop thinking kuti mama wants to bring a woman wandinozoda, it's been you and it will always be you. Usakanganwe izvozvo."

"I'm sorry ndafunga kudaro, if only you were in my position you would think a lot. There are reasons why I'm saying that it's only kuti I can't talk about it." Ndakabatikana ndikati, "and I thought you were my friend and we could talk about anything, chii chachinja ipapa." Akapukuta misodzi ndichibva ndamusiya to calm down. "I wish I could tell you what is in my heart asi zvirinani ndinyarare." Ndakaswedera padhuze naye ndikati, "just tell me Shami, I'm still the same Prince." She cried so much zvakandirwadza kusvika avakutadza kuchema kana kufema zvakanaka, "it's enough stop Shamiso, just stop I can't take this."

"No maybe I should just say it, firstly I need you to know kuti I don't hate mama and when I look at her she's also my mother. But what she said to me gets me scared everyday and ndinoshaya kuti ndoitasei to make myself whole again. Mama vakati zvawaakusara wakashota zvirinani ka mwana wangu awane mumwe. All I wanted was her to comfort me and not make me feel like I'm feeling now. When she looks at me andizive kuti vanoona chii, am I still the daughter in-law that she once loved pandakatanga kuuya."

"Stop." Ndakadaro ndanzwa moyo kurwadza. I knew she could never lie to me and the way she cried yakandiudza kuti it was true mama vainge vamurwadzisa. How could she do that to me, was the first thought that came into my head nekuti she knew I loved my wife. "I'm sorry." Akadaro ndikabva

pamubhenda, ndakapfugama pasi and reached for her hands ndikati, "I'm sorry."

"Get up please, usandidaro Prince I don't deserve that."

"If you don't deserve such saka tell me who is that deserving kuti ndimupfugamire. I wish you had told me earlier kuti waudzwa mashoko anorwadza. You have been keeping it in and I'm sorry you went through all that alone. I'm disappointed nemashoko acho and I cannot even justify them, all I can do is ask for forgiveness on her behalf."

"Handina kuti ndakatsamwa but when she mentioned musikana webasa ndangokasika kufunga kuti a replacement yaakuuya and I'm sorry I reacted based on her words."

"I do understand where you are coming from, I'm very sorry." She pulled me up and hugged me tightly. I slowly kissed her and she kissed me back. Ndakamira ndikati, "I miss you." She nodded akati, "I know, I miss you too." I felt my body yern for her, it had been long and all I wanted was my wife but I was scared that she was not properly healed. Ndakada kumira akati, "don't do that."

"I'm scared I will hurt you." Ndaitaura asi ndisingamire kumubata. "I need you," she whispered and wrestled to undress me. She still looked pale but she was beautiful, "you are beautiful." I reminded her as she moaned from my caresses. I got her under the sheets where I could hear her breath heavily as well as a pleasure my own body. "Prince." She called me as I tried getting in, scared again that I would hurt her ndakamira akati, "don't stop." I pushed

myself in and groaned from the pleasure she gave me, she held on to me tightly as I rode her slowly. So many times she whispered telling me how much she loved me, for a moment I saw tear drops. I kept making love to her until her tears stopped and all I could hear were soft screams. "I love you." She said.

"I love you more." I said feeling her every bit of her vibrations which led me to my own blow up. I looked at her for a while akati, "I wanna tell you something."

"What is it?" She sighed ndichibva paari akati, "if I don't make it promise me that you will take care of Chenge." There we go again, I thought, "Prince I know you hate hearing this..."

"Shamiso."

"Promise me." She said ndikati, "Shamiso."

"I said promise me."

"Fine I promise." Moyo wangu wainge worwadza achibva awedzera kuti, "and the only wife my heart can ever approve of is Chenge." Ndakamuka pamubhenda ndikati, "whaaat, listen I can understand taking care of her, I don't mind not at all but hell no I can never do that."

"It's fine." Akadaro ndokubva anyarara but my heart was already beating fast. Ndakamuka pamubhenda I needed to cool off I was going crazy.

End of chapter

Kavdie

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 15

Chenge

"Chenge ndoda kurara newe." Said Noel ndichibva ndaseka ndikati, "handei." Ndainge ndaona kuti no one was coming out to eat. I closed up the food ndichibva ndafamba kuenda padoor ravo hoping to say goodnight. I knocked slightly ndikati, "taakunorara I have put your food on the table."

"It's fine." She replied with a low voice ndikafamba na Noel kunorara. In the morning, I had a lot of things to do including the laundry and other things. I also had to keep checking for ma responses from the universities that I had applied to. Moyo wangu waida Africa University but it was expensive I needed a cheaper University kuti Tete vasanyanye kuita pressure. The whole time I was busy ndaive ndiina Noel padhuze pangu achindibatsira tichiseka. Takazobva when he was hungry that's when I noticed kuti noone had left their room kubva kuseni. I made breakfast, food from the previous night had not been touched. I was worried, I went to knock on the door ndichida kuziva if everyone was okay but hapana akadaira ndikabvapo and went to serve Noel.

Ini wacho it felt a little awkward kuti ndirambe ndichidya vamwe vasiri kudya I ended up ndangosiyanawo nazvo. A little later bamkuru vakabuda mubedroom ndikavamhoresa asi vakadairira pasi which made me wonder if I

had done something wrong. He avoided eye contact asi andina kuda kuzviisa musoro, ndaiva ndiri munhu asingatane kubatikana so for a moment I thought I had overstayed my welcome. I brushed off the thought ndikatanga kutaura zvangu na Yeu tichitaura about her upcoming roora and how she was managing kuma counselling sessions. Ndichibva paphone ndakaenda kubedroom kwatete because bamkuru had left, I found her about to get off the bed ndikati, "are you alright?" She smiled vachibatira madziro kuti vamuke vakati, "why would I not be."

"Manonoka kumuka and you never ate your food from last night. Ndaita breakfast, but bamkuru didn't seem in much of a good mood."

"Haa iwe, he's okay." Vakabva vaseka vakati, "ndaakunogeza, warm up the food ndirikuuya kunodya." I nodded but when she got off the bed I noticed she had been bleeding, "what's wrong you are bleeding." She was as surprised as I was, she rolled up the sheets vakati, "andina kuzviona let me wash these."

"No let me wash," ndakadaro vakaramba iniwo ndikaramba kusvika vandipa ndikanowacha. Pakazodzoka bamukuru vainge vakagara nesu tichitaura nyaya. Vakangotimhoresa and went straight to the bedroom and havana kudzoka. His behavior became weird zvekuti vainge vasisagare nesu kana tiri tese. I wanted to ignore it all but could not ndainge ndava kufeeleer out of place. If it was not because of my aunt I would have gone kumusha kuna gogo. The weekend ye marriage ya Yeu yakasvika and kwakaenda vanhu vashoma. Trust neshamwari yake, tete, gogo vakauya, ininiwo ndaivapo. There was nothing much to expect it was an emotional day and ndakangofara kuti everything went according to plan. Nekuda kwekuti the family knew kuti

Richard akafa havana kuda kunyanya kuomesa mari yavaida yakasvika mu 5000 nemombe 8. Hana yangu yaingorova and something made me uneasy. Ndakasvika pakuvhunza Trust ndikati, "tell me the truth, Richard akakupa mari here?"

He took his time to answer and said, "listen Chenge don't say a word but no, Richard haana kusiya mari, it was always between us taigara tichiti when it comes to honor, we will always make sure kuti we restore it upon each other if lost. It was his deepest wish to do this he always said, ndikashaya mari yekuroora uchandiroorera ndozokupa."

"Zvakaoma." Ndakadaro akati, "it seems yakashaika and I had promised to give him. Ndabhadhara roora saka chisiyana nezvakawanda and tell me your plans right now."

"Tete said I should look for a university to go to, saka ndakamirira whichever accepts me."

"When you need anything let me know." Akadaro ndikaramba ndakamutarisa, that is the day I told myself I would always respect the man he was. Marooro achipera vanhu vakazama kupembera and tried cheering her up, Iniwo ndaive one of the people that wanted her to smile. Gogo though asked if she could stay with her kumusha for a while but takavamisa tichiti it was not yet safe.

Zvakazonzi ambogara na tete vake for a while until zvinhu zvagadzikana. "Are you okay?" Ndakamuvhunza ndagara naye tiri two. And as much as she wanted to keep it in she failed akachema akati, "it was supposed to be him marrying me."

"It's him that has married you." Akapukuta misodzi ndikati, "welcome to the family maiguru."

"Musadaro tete." With my hand I patted her shoulder ndikati, "ndokudai." Akazembera pandiri Trust ndokuuya achiti, "imbondipai munhu iyeye tione." Ndakaseka ndikati, "ehoi, sekureva kwenyu varidzi vemukadzi." Vakafamba vakabva pandiri, they spoke for quite a while vakagara vari two and from a distance I could tell that she was crying. Pava paye he hugged her ndichibva ndazoenda hangu kuna tete and mingled with the rest of the family members. Her little sister Tafadzwa, the brother Farai nevamwewo.

Takazobvako and went home where the situation was the same. Bamkuru kungoona ndichipinda nekutosimuka. Ndakatarisa kuna tete vakati, "chii?"

"Chii chaitika apa?" Ndakavhunza vakaseka vakati, "iwewe unoona zvinhu zvisipo, hausi kuona kuti kunyara mama here." Ndakatarisa kuna gogo ndikati maybe sure that was the case and decided to ignore my own crazy thoughts.

Ndakazoti ndazorora ndikaona message yapinda nenumber yandaisaziva yakanzi, "hesi Chenge."

"Ndeip ndiani?" Ndainge ndavhara musoro nemagumbeze. Ndaizviita kakawanda kana ndaakurara at the same ndichitaura paphone. "ndi Jussy." Akadaro ndikati, "Wachinja line?"

"Ehe nekuti haundipindure pane rimwe line." It was because nyaya dzake ndainge ndisisadzifarire. I reminded him akati, "I didn't mean to push you away, kana usingandide it's fine we can stay friends asi ziva kuti ndinokuda."

"You can't tell me that uine munhu waunodanana naye."

"Ndinoda hangu kudanana newe Chenge." Ndakaseka ndikati, "ndosaka ndanga ndisiri kukupindura."

"I'm sorry anyway tsuro yangu yakabereka vana 5 dzava 9 wena apa dzimwe three dzirikutevera." Ndakaseka ndikati, "dzine nhumbu?" Akagegedza akati "mutaurirwo wazvo. Ehe dzine nhumbu."

"I'm happy for you." Iye airatidza kufarisa chaiko and I could understand his excitement. "But ndokuda hangu." Akadaro futi which made me say, "I won't speak to you, Pamela and I used to be friends, you are still together, you are my friend. Hazvibude and when I look at you hangu ndinoona brother yangu."

"That's a bit too much I can never be your brother. About Pamela I'm sorry yes I know how it is but handichanzwe kuda kuramba ndiinaye."

"And I won't be the reason for your breakup." Kufamba ndichitaurwa especially namai vake who was well known for gossip was a no. The day rakasvika gogo vainge vatombondivhunza about what happened nekuti Mai vake vainge vasvika kumba kwedu vachivhunza how he ended up carrying me on his bike. I thought of telling him about it nekuti ndainge ndisina kuzvifarira iye akati, "vanhu vanotipesanisa Chenge."

"Aewa handisi kuda hangu." Ndakaramba akati, "Fine anyway hausi kuda kuita neni business here." Ndakaseka ndikati, "rei?"

"Retsuro." Ndakaseka ndakazvivhara gogo vakati, "ko haurare here?"

"Haa gogo ndorara just now." Ndakadzokera paphone ndikati, "usadaro iwewe."

"Inzwa Chenge I can take care of everything ndirikuno hangu kana usingade. Hunza 20 dollars chete ndikutengere tsuro 4 ndinenge ndichinyora pasi kubereka kwadzo and all." Ndakaseka futi asi i was tempted ndipo pandakati, "I know nothing nezvetsuro."

"You can sell one at ten dollars. The way they breed ka zvinonakidza imagine dzikasvika hundred, ndakatoona kuti pane ma restaurant arikudzida, ikoko manje toita mari." His idea was tempting, ndainge ndichine Mari yandakapihwa na tete ndichishaya kuti ndodii. Instead of keeping it I wanted to give it a try. Ndakazoti I would get back to him ndoona kuti tingaite tese here but noone had to know ndaisada noise.

End of chapter

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 16

Chenge

I finally got accepted to three universities and I was not sure where to go . I wanted to go kure nepamba asi nekuda kwatete vakaramba I had to choose or can I actually say the only option I had was to go to UZ. "I know you wanna go kure." She said ndikati, "andina kumbobvira ndadaro ini." Ndairamba asi she probably had noticed kuti mazuva ainge adarika I was isolating myself from everyone, the only time I had someone was when I was with Noel. "You don't look so happy around here, you don't even join us for dinner what is going on?" Ndakaramba ndakanyarara ndakatarisa pasi. I didn't want to burden her with my worries asi the truth was that I could not stand the situation that I was seeing. "Babie." Vakadaro kuna bamkuru vainge vaakuda kubuda vachibva vati, "yes what's going on?"

"Waakuenda?" He nodded tete vakati, "okay ndokuona." Vakabuda ndisinawo chandataura ndikati, "ndakuenda kunobika."

"Relax, I need you to speak to me, kana usiri kufara about something be open about it. Don't worry about burdening me, I will be hurt if you continue like this." Ndainzwa misodzi yava kuungana mumaziso, that feeling of not having my parents there with me, that feeling of not belonging, feeling empty.

Ndakatura mafemo and wiped a tear from my eyes ndikati, "I'm not sure of what I have done, I may have done it unknowingly but I'm sensing like bamkuru does not want me here."

"Why?"

"It's different I believe I have overstayed my welcome, his attitude towards me has changed. Maybe ndini ndirikutadza kuona, or maybe ndafungira munhu, I know that he does not talk much but I also know how he is pavanenge vasingataurise pachu. When I greet him vanopindurira pasi, as if he does not want me to greet him. I'm not sure if I should continue greeting him or not. I'm uncomfortable, ndoda hangu kuenda kumusha kuna gogo, at least there I don't feel like I'm burdening anyone." She held my hands vakati, "all along you have been having such thoughts kana kundiudza."

"You are not well, how was I to tell you and besides I have been telling myself that maybe ndini ndine problem. I'm not saying he is a bad person it's only that handisi kungovanzwisisa chete." It was painful to say it all but after that I felt a little releaved kuti ndazviburitsa muhana. "I'm sorry, bamkuru is a little stressed, it's not that you have overstayed your welcome no but pane zvirikuvashungurudza zvisinei newe." I nodded , ndikati, "I'm sorry ndanga ndakasika kufunga what's not there." She tried kundionesa and patakapedza kutaura ndainge ndava kunzwa zvirinani ndavakutozvituka kuti ndanga ndichifungira munhu zvisizvo.

When he came back I stayed out of his way, vakaita nguva vari mubedroom na tete. We had dinner together and I noticed he was a little different vachitoedzawo kutaura and asking me how I was feeling about going back to

school. "Ndirikutya ini." Ndakadaro vakati, "what are you scared of, it's like going to high school, chete kuti uku munenge masangana nemachembere." Ndakaseka ndikati, "izvozvo zvacho ndizvo zvirikuita kuti nditye."

"You just have to know what you are there for, otherwise muma University mazara vanhu vane chikoro asi vane misikanzwa . Munhu anozogruader atove ne two ma degree, rake raakafambira ne degree rechirwere." Said aunt, ndikabva ndatotyira kuvhunduka chaiko. "Musandityise kudaro." I replied vakati, "kaana kungotaurawo hangu." Ndainge ndanyarara ndaakuedza picturing the environment, the people zvese nenzvimbo yacho I pictured it all. Even up until my graduation, I pictured my aunt naivo bamkuru and gogo there. Ndakazotura mafemo ndanzwa Noel achiti, "Chenge ndipoo nyama." Ndakaseka and gave him tete vakati, "iwe ndimama mhani."

"Havasi mama." He said achiseka vachibva vamusiya akadaro. As I washed the dishes ndaiteerera music ndakaisa ma ear phones and singing along. Ndakazoona munhu amira paside , ndakavhunduka ndikabvisa ma earphones, he was quiet ndookuzoti, "you can sing." Ndakanyara imagining the kind of noise I must have been making ndakavhara nzeve ndichiimba. Saying I could sing was a lie nekuti ndaiziva kuti hamheno zvinongoita munhu kana akaisa ma earphones. I faked a smile ndikati, "I'm sorry andina kukuonai."

"Sit.' he said ndichibva ndanzwa hana kurova. Ndakatanga ndatarisa kuti Tete vaiuya here but no she was nowhere around. Ndainge ndavakutofunga kuti pane zvandatadza ivo kwakuti, "relax you look nervous."

"I'm sorry." Ndakadaro ndichigara pasi, vakanditarisa vakati,"I'm sorry." Vakabatanidza maoko avo vakaramba vakamatarisa, at that moment I was

confused, ndaisagona kutarisa kwavari. "sorry for what?" Ndakataurira pasi pasi.

"For the way I have been acting, I was a little disturbed pandanzwa kuti you think that I don't want you here."

"I'm sorry." Ndakadaro vakati, "it's not the first time that you have thought that way. I am beginning to wonder if I'm that bad, the first time you said to me musatye henyu handisi kuuya kuzogara, then this time you are saying you have overstayed your welcome, all because of me again. I apologise, it's only kuti I can't speak much. I'm a little stressed and when I'm stressed I distance myself from people." Ipapo ndakavatarisa ndikati, "which people because na tete you seem to talk just fine, when I'm there you go quiet, when I greet you modaira like you don't want but natete all is well, saka pa distancing yourself apa ndiyani wamuri kureva nekuti the extra person is me."

He looked defeated but I wanted to understand what he meant ndipo pavakazoti, "I'm sorry maybe I have been like that because you have no idea what has been stressing me but I promise to be better."

"Don't worry I'm over it, I'm sorry ndanga ndakufungirai zvisirizvo, it's only kuti hamujairike." Ipapo he laughed vakati, "handijairike?" I nodded ndikati, "ehe mune kakundityisa so."

"I'm sorry." It was a conversation worth it nekuti when he finally got up to leave I felt better. Ndakatozopedza kusuka ndavakusekerera feeling releaved. Ndavakunorara ndakazotaura na Jussy achiti ainge anditengera tsuro nekutonditumira maphotos acho. There was a certain excitement yandainzwa,

kunzwa kuti ndainge ndatanga business rangu. Ndakazviseka iye akati, "Mira two months uone."

"Chii chinenge chaitika?" Ndakavhunza akati, "dzinenge dzabereka ka nhai, ini dzangu dzava 15 hanti I told you kuti imwe yakabereka. Do research uone kuti vanoda kutenga makanda vanozvifambisa sei ndakanzwa kuti the skin has more money." Ndakaseka ndikati, "Jussy imbomira zvekundiitisa zvinhu zvakangodaro daro soo."

"Ndopandonetsana newe ipapo because you think kuti majokes, ko ukambonditembawo so." Takaseka tese ndikati, "business rikadhakwa ndiwe."

"Ragara iro haridi vanhu vari negative." I ignored him and promised I would do my research. Ndakazotumwa na tete kuti ndiende ndonotora mari kushop yavo mutown yavaitengesa baby wear. Ndainge ndavakutodzidziswa how to order the stuff vachiti ndigare ndichiziva incase ndikazoda kuitawo. I had to do shopping for my clothes ndichinzi I could not start school ndisina hembe dzakanaka, saka I decided to call Yeu kuti tisangane mutown. She came akandiwana ndichangobva kutora mari ndikati, "Manonoka." She smiled akati, "aewa ndanonotswa nabamnini ndivo vati mirai ndiuye kuzokutorai, ndingadai ndasvika kare ini." Ndakaseka ndikati, "saka varikupi?"

"Vaenda kunoparker." She said ndikati, "aizve vachiendepi?"

"Ndotadza kuona hanzvadzi yangu here." Ndakacheuka ndikatarisana naye ndikati, "hezvo ndeipi?"

"Mfanha, andisi kugara ini ndangounza munhu. Anyway mukuitei?"

"Ndirikuda kutenga hembe dzekuchikoro."

"Hoo waakutanga?" I nodded akati, "but tete is sick I should be the one to do that at least." Akaratidza kakubatikana achibva ati, "wapihwa marii?"

"Ndakamuratidza 200 yandaiva nayo akati, "unopa tete mari yavo iwewe ndaakukupa yangu, ndokumbirawo hangu kuti mugadzirwewo misoro sevanhu vechimanje manje." Ndakaseka ndikati, "yaita sei misoro yacho?"

"Hona maiguru vako." Ndakatarisa ndikaona munhu akaisa hake magodi then she said, "ndiwo andiri kuda."

"Hazvisi kuita." Trust akadaira ivo vakaita nharo iye ndookuramba kusvika ndati eho togadzirwa." Takapihwa yakadarika yandaiva nayo iye achibva aenda. We went around asi kudhura kwehembe kwakaita ndinhonge shoma mumashop tichibva tananga hedu kumabhero. Takaswera tichitenderera ndikaita hembe dzekututa naiyewo achinhonga dzake pamari yaainge apihwa. Lunch takadya and kuenda kumba takazoita kuzvifunga paainge avakuti aneta nekufamba that's when we parted ways.

End of chapter

The Promise

By Kaydie

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Chapter 17

Justin

When I heard the knock ndainge ndatobatwa nehope but it was a very light knock. Ndakatoziva kuti Pamela ainge asvika, slowly ndakavhura door ndichinzwa kuti ndirikuvhura asi handisi kuda. "Ko wanga waakunonoka nei?" She asked ndikati,"ndanga ndarara ini." She came where I had been sleeping achibva atopinda mumagumbeze akati,"ndapindwa nechando shaa.

"Iwe wauiyirei nhasi ndakuudza wani kuti ndoda kuzororora?"

" Everyday urikuda kungozorora what's wrong with you, idzo tsuro ndidzo dziri kukunetesa." She spoke while taking off her clothes ndichibva ndati, "incase you have not noticed ndakatanga garden. Kudiridza and all is too much work, by the time I finish ndinenge ndaneta." She moved closer akati, "saka zvinokutadzisa kundiona here." Ipapo she was already undressing herself and undressing me as well doing a double job."

"Mira Pam." Ndakadaro ndichinzwa kuti it was not the right time asi kuti munhu wacho aiti kana avakuda aitoshupa."chii newe?" Akadaro ndikati,"Inga ndati ndakaneta."

" These days kubva zvangouya uya Chenge kunoku you are being funny." Ndakatarisa kusinge ndikamupira gotsi. She was right, Chenge ndaimuda kunyangwe hake ainge andiramba asi ndaimuda. It had happened ndisina kutarisira and I could not deny that I was trying hard to ignore my feelings for her. Ndaiti ndikavhara maziso ndoona the whole picture yake zvaibva zvanditorera such a long time kuti ndikanganwe nezvake. "Dhafu akadaro unomudii?" She said to me ndikati, "wakakwana here iwe?"

" Ehe ndakakwana , hauone zvauro nezvaari kuti hazvienderane." Ndakaseka ndisingade , yes she was full bodied, not dhafu anobhowa kutarisa but nice dhafu, with a pretty round face nema dimples, zvaingoenderana soo nehudhafu hwake and aive dhafu ari fit ainakidza kutarisa. Ndakabviswa in those thoughts when she said, "haunyarare mhani iwe."

"Ah iwe ndotadza kunyarara nezvauro kutaura, akataura kuti mukadzi mudhafu akashata ndiyani. Hausi kuona kuti zvese zviri proportional plus akataura kuti slender akanaka ndiani?" Akaridza tsamwa akati, "saka urikuti ndakashata?" Aive amuka agara ndikati, "seriously Pam why are you behaving like a child. Chenge used to be friends with you ndiwe wega wakatanga kuzvibvisa paari out of jealousy." again akaridza tsamwa akati, "out of jealousy my foot, she only has a behavior yekuda kuzviona as if she's all that and a special kudarika vamwe vese."

" How when she is so humble . The difference between you two is that she has a reputation of being decent and you have a bad reputation yekuva gafa pakushedegurwa." Ndakarohwa mbama ndikati, "apa wandiroverei when we are having a discussion?" Ndainge ndamukawo ndagara tatarisana then she

said, "why are you speaking like that about me. Kumashure kwese uko you never had a problem with my reputation, how people judged me never mattered. Buy today you compared me to her zvausati wamboita, next thing uchanditi hauchandida."

" I have never had a problem with you Pam but waakutanga kupinza mumwe munhu panyaya dzedu, worse that person is still my friend, who has been good to me and handina problem naye. Iwewe kana usingamufarire don't come and speak ill of her as if you are perfect ndizvo zvandiri kuramba." Akafutisa face achibva ati, "all this nekuti ndataura kuti anozvida? Iribhoo?"

" Shaa I apologise if it came out wrong ndirikungoedza hangu kukutsiura. If you want me to take your side just because tinodanana then forget about it." Takazorara tatsamwisana nenyaya yachenge and musi iwoyo handina hangu kuzotaura naye ndichimupa update yezvaiitika. Kuma 3 ndipo pandakanzwa ndaakubakwa batwa ndikaziva kuti shasha yavapadhuze kuda kuenda. I ignored her asi chinonetsa is that kana uine chimwe chinhu chinofunga chega pauri zvinonetsa, ndakazonzwa avakuti,"even if you ignore me there is someone who won't ignore me." Pfungwa dzangu dzaingove pakuti siyana nazvo asi umwe munhu aita kuti shanda munhu. When I noticed kuti sure ndakurirwaa ndakasveerera pandaichengeta tunhu twangu, ndakapfeka fast nekutotanga kushanda munhu. Akaita kuvhunduka nekuti ndakapinda ne force yese yakasangana nehasha dzandainge ndichinadzo. Ndakaita muromo wekumuvhara nekuti muchemerero wake got me worried kuti mama vaigona kunzwa kuti mumba mangu mune munhu arimo.

Chandaizongofarira paari was the fact that aizoita kuti zvinakidze even ndanga ndisingade. Pandakapedza ndakanzwa musana kurwadza ndikaziva kuti ndinenge ndazvinyanya kuita nehasha kwacho. "Saka unenge uchiramba iwe uchida hako." She said cleaning herself up ndikati,"zvakaoma." Ndakazodzokera kunorara, past four paakabuda avakudzokera kumba kwavo kuti anotanga nekutsvaira pamba. Hapana aimboziva kuti she was with me unless kuri kunzi pane amuona. Five o'clock ndainge ndavakutaura na Chenge achiti she was getting ready kuti atange chikoro hamheno zvaaienda kunoita it was her first day. "I wish you well sha." Ndakadaro akati,"thanks, dzamuka sei tsuro?"

" Handisati ndadziona ini I'm about to go."

"Iribho asi ndiri kutya first day iwe." I smiled ndikati, "relax handiti, unoita bho."

" Be well." Akadaro achibva azonyarara. Iniwo I got up and went outside ndichinoona nezvetsuro dzedu, feeding them as well and rushing kuenda kugarden rangu kunodiridza. Ndainge ndaisa miriwo yaikura fast so that ndohodhesa muriwo as well as sell mushoma mushoma. "Hesi Jussy." Akadaro Nyari achidarika kuroad na Marry , apa kumhoresa kwacho munhu aimhoresa achihwandisa face. Ndakatomboseka ndikati,"ndeipi kuriseiko kumvura." They were carrying ma bucket e mvura vachibva kumugodhi. "Kuri bho." She said ndikati ndipoo ka yekunwa." Kwaingove kudenha hako iyewo akabva aseka akati,"Jussy ukwane, ndionekwe hangu ndichitura mugomo wemvura pano naPamela." Vakabva vaseka vachienda ndikadaidzira kuti,"handiti ndinenge ndichiida mvura yacho." Haana kuzopindura she kept laughing

achifamba kuenda. Ndakaenderera mberi nekudiridza muriwo wangu, I knew kuti in less than a month ndinenge ndavakutengesa muriwo.

It was exhausting, mvura yainge isiri kunaya the way we knew kuti inenge ichinaya nayo kunana March saka ndaifanira kukwinya kudiridza. Ndakazooka mama vamira vakati, "ko wanga waakukumbira mvura kuna Nyari kuti zvaita sei?" Ndakaseka ndichikanda bucket kure ndikati, "nhai mama, murikuzvifambisa sei. Ndagara ndinongo denhanha neteam iri wani."

"Ehe hazvo asika ko Pamela akazvinzwa." Ndakafamba ndichienda where she was and took off the gumboots ndikati, "izvo zvaazvake izvo haanganditadzise kutaure nevanhu."

"Ko ukangodzika, pamashure apa ndaiedza kukukavhira nyaya dzaChenge asi mmm waakuda kutanga zvimwe." Ndakaseka ndikati, "matanga, adii Chenge munhu arikuenda hake kuuniversity hamudi muroora akadzidza."

"Kudzidza akadzidza hake asika mumusha mavo munofiwa handidi kuti uunze mweya werufu murudzi rwenyu nekuti munopedza kuzvarira vana pasi saambuya vake." I was actually bothered by her words zvekuti ndakangoti, "mama sefai mashoko. That's not nice haisi choice mufunge."

"Ndamboti ichoice here ini, I only said kuti munofiwa ini hangu zvemariro handidi." Ndakaramba ndakavatarisa ndichibva ndazodaira phone yangu yaifonewa nemwana wamainini munin'ina wamama aive afona neshoko rekuti munin'ina wamama ainge ashaikira kuparirenyatwa. Ndakapererwa kuita kunge mashoko avainge vataura kuti havadi rufu ndiwo ainge aita kuti

titambire shoko rerufu. Ndakatura mafemo vaive vanditarisa vachida kunzwa what the call was about ndikati, "mainini Mai Clive vashaika."

"Kushaika kuti vaenda kupi?"

" She had an accident vashaika vachangosvika paparirenyatwa." She screamed zvakapisa tsitsi and fell to the ground kutoona kuti munhu afenda. Ndakamhanya ndikanoti, "mama mukai?" Asi she could not hear me ndakazoita zvekuvamwaya mvura. Vakamuka nekutanga kuchema futi nenguva diki vanhu vainge vauya kuzoona, ndaakutovaudza nezverufu. That was the thing about kugara makaungana ungana it took minutes kuti vanhu vauye kuzobata maoko. Ndainge ndachigara pasi manje unable to think straight, everything was suddenly confusing.

The only person I spoke to was Chenge, ndiye wandakafonera ndichinzwa misodzi ichibuda akati, "you are going to be fine I'm so sorry."

"Haa shaa am hurt." Ndaitaura ndavakupukuta misodzi, I loved my aunt , she was one of nicest people I knew. "Saka muchadii?" She asked ndikati,"andisi kuziva." Andina kuzonyanya kutaura naye, I had to be a man and see what needed to be done.

End of chapter

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 18

Chenge

Ndainge ndavakubva kuchikoro pandakavhunzwa kwandaive natete ndikati ndaive ndakutopinda mutown. "Watosimuka here?" She asked ndikati, "ndiri pa gate."

"Mira ipapo ndati kuna bamkuru vauye kuzokutora. There is no point yekuti iwewe uuye nemakombi mota iripo, you are coming from the same direction zvirinani mubatane." Ndainge ndavakutopinda mukombi ndakabva ndamira and decided to wait for him. Havana kutora nguva he found me sitting alone vakati, "I'm sorry I'm late."

"No you are not late, besides I was already getting into town I should have met you there." He smiled vakati, "it's not a big deal pindai tiende." Ndainge ndavakunogara kumashure when he said, "huya ugare kumberi?" Ndaitya kushaya nyaya navo kumberi ikoko saka ndakaramba ndakagara kumashure. Tasvika mutown he asked if I was hungry ndikati, "no handina nzara ini." He nodded but still parked and went out to buy something for aunt. I was worried about Jussy saka ndakatanga kutaura naye ndichinzwa kuti zvaive zvakamira sei akanditi mama vake was already on the way to Harare. He was still looking

for someone to take care of tsuro, "ndirikufunga kuti pamwe ndikumbire gogo vako vanditarisire but it might be a bother don't worry ndoita plan."

"Pakaipa but are you okay though?"

"I'm not Chenge." Ndakanzwa tsitsi, I could relate to his pain asi ndakamusimbisa and promised kuenda kurufu kwacho kana achinge auya. Bamkuru vakadzoka ndichitobva paphone vakati, "ndi Jussy." Ndakanyara ndikada kutsenga mukanwa vakati, "relax it's not a big deal."

"Afirwa namainini vake." Ndakazotaura ndisingade kuti vafungidzire kuti pane zvirikuitika pakati pedu. He looked at me vakati, "hanzi vafira kupi?"

"Kuparirenyatwa."

"That's sad, I'm sorry." Ndainge ndavakutotanga imagining how she had died ndipo pandakanzwa kumutswa kwemota tavakuenda. All the way ndainge ndakanyarara ndipo pavakazotanga kundivhunza about my day at school trying to make a conversation. I had decided to study Insurance ndiyo yandainzwa kuti yaindiitira zvakanaka. Takasvika kumba giving him ma updates vachindisimbisa kuti zvinoita nekuti he also worked at an insurance company. "When you need help I will be here." Vakadaro parking the car. I smiled and got out to meet vamwene vatete vange vauya nemunhu kuti azoshanda pamba.

Ndakamhoresana navo vakati, "kuchena here uku nhai Chenge." Ndakaseka ndichipfurira ndichidaidzira kuti, "kuchena kupiko ibhero iri."

"Eh rakanaka haro handiti vakawanda ndiko kwavari kutenga here." I ignored her ndikati, "maswera sei tete?"

"Hesi." Vakadaira zvakare ndichifamba kuri kuvavarira kunosiya my bag in the room. Ndakazomhoresa Noel ndadzoka nekuti he had rushed outside to welcome his father. Vakapinda vese ndipo pakanzi na tete, "uyu anonzi Abigail, she will be working for us auya namama."

"Makadii?" Ndakadaro akati, "hie." I smiled, vamwene vatete vakati, "munhu ari right zvokuti plus tsika ndipo pamusha padzo." I didn't care about whatever she was saying, I only cared about tete being happy. I wondered how and when she had agreed to it nekuti ndaitoti inyaya yainge yakapera kare pakasauya musikana. Abby wacho aive akangotarisa pasi semuroora. Bamkuru never said anything but he looked at his wife who looked away and I knew kuti pane nyaya. I didn't want to be there during that awkward moment ndakasimuka and went to the kitchen kwandaiziva kuti basa rangu ratanga, rekubika zvemanheru. Ndakaita kanguva ndiriko ndipo mama pavakauya vakati, "ko wadii wadeedza Abby uyu agare ajaira nekuti kumurega kudai anoramba achiita semuroora kuri kutya chete." Ndakavhara poto yangu ndikati, "ah mama handiti achangosvika here, give her sometime to settle down achabika hake."

"Hoo saka kurisei kuchikoro?" She asked sitting down vachitarisa zvandaiita ndikati, "I can't say much ndichangotanga, I will only know kana mazuva achinge afamba."

"Hoo ah zvakanaka, kudzidza kwakanaka hako unowana chinoita kuti uzvimiririre mangwana." I nodded ndookuvhunza kuti vaive vasvika nguva vakati, "handina nguva ndasvika ini."

"Okay do you need me to make you something?" Vakaita sevasina kunzwa then she got up to serve herself. It was good nekuti there was no disturbance pabasa rangu. Tainge tava kutaura nyaya vachingorimo chete, vakazoenda tete vachibva va yawo ndikati, "ko mazobvuma?"

"Zvinonetsa." She replied checking to see kuti ndaibikei ndikati, "kwana Jussy kwaita rufu hanzi mainini vake is gone."

"Haaa iwe vapi? Asi ndosaka mama vanga vachifona but I couldn't hear her properly." I nodded ndikati, "ndofunga kudaro." When she left ndakaona kuti she had been affected by the death yamainini va Jussy. Abby akazouya ku kitchen trying to make a conversation neni. Semunhu munyowani I understood kuti it was still hard for her to get used to everyone all at once I tried making her feel comfortable. "Saka do you go to church?" I asked akati, "yes ndonamata yekwa pastor Chris."

"Hoo unopindira kupi?" She smiled akati, "ndopindira kuBelvedere." She seemed quite educated kana kuti ndingati, her English was so good and the way she carried herself didn't suite her kuti ave maid. Handina hangu kuda kuvhunza zvakanaka nekuti ndainge ndapedza kubika it was time for dinner. There was a weird atmosphere panguva yacho yekudya zvakaitsa kuti ndide kubvapo asi ndakazonyara vanhu. Ndakakasika kudya ndikaenda kukitchen and pakauya Tete ndakati, "what is going on?" Havana kugona kutaura nekuti Abby akabva apinda. That night kana hope hadzina

kunyatsobata, ukuwo Abby aingoti padiki padiki ozora mafuta ake nekusprayer perfume ndakazoti, "asi it evaporates kusara pasina chinhu here perfume yacho." She smiled akati, "iwe nditorine obsession ye perfume ufunge."

"Hoo." Ndakadaro ndikati, "ko mafuta ayo ndeeyi?"

"Oh this?" Akataura achisimudza ndikati, "yes that?"

"It's annointed oil I use it manheru, you never know kune ma monitoring spirits."

"Hoo okay, ndiwo api."

"Ah Chenge how can you not know ma monitoring spirits , they are those spirits that will be there watching your everything and they are there to mess up your life."

"I see." Ndainge ndavakutozvivhara hangu musoro negumbeze pakanzi na Noel, "Chenge ukudhonzha gumbeze." Ndakaseka ndikati, "haa dzikama ndadhonzha nguvai." Kaive kati kwati kwati neni Abby paakapindawo kunorara. Mama had gone to sleep in another room saka taive vasikana tega. Ndakazovhunza Jussy if he had found someone wekusiya kumba akati ainge amuwana kureva kuti he would be on the way the following day.

My routine never changed it's only kuti ndainge ndavakumukisa kuitira pakugeza apo tisanonotsane na bamkuru. Pavakabuda vakabuda neni, tatova kumberi vakati, "saka marara bho na Abby?" Ndainge ndakatarisa phone, ndakasimudza musoro ndikati, "ehe tarara bho."

"Ndokumbirawo." Vakadaro ndikati, "chii chacho." Vakanditarisa nepa view mirror then he said, "nevermind hazvina basa."

"Kuzvifunga nekuda kuzvitaure means zvine basa handiti?" Ndakadaro vachibva vanyepedzera kuseka vakati, "not really, it's nothing." He left me confused and he never mentioned what he had wanted to say kusvika ndasiyana nazvo. That day ndakakasika kubva kuchikoro nekuti tainge tawirirana natete kuti tiende kurufu rwa mainini vaJussy. Takaita zvekupihwa madirections naye akazoita zvekutitora kuroad. Akanyatsofara zvandakaona kuti munhu afara kutiona. "Ndanga ndisiri kuziva kuti muchauya for sure." Akadaro achimhoresa tete then looked back at me. "Totadza nei when we are neighbours nhai, kana kumusha tozoiva kuti Jussy anoita kuti zvifambe." Akaseka tikafamba tichienda kumba kunobata maoko. Mai vake vakaratidza kushamisika when she saw me but could not speak vaioneka kuti vainyanya kuchema, all she said was, "maitabasa nekuuya kwenyu."

For a while we stayed there bamkuru ndookuzouya kuzotitora. Takaperedzwa na Jussy and tatova pamota he held my hand akati, "wait." Ndakamutarisa removing my hand from his ndikati, "watii?"

"I had missed you." Ndakatarisa kumota kwandainge ndamirirwa vanhu vachove vese vakanditarisa ndikati, "ndokuona Jussy."

End of chapter

Kaydie

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 19

Change

When I got into the car tete ndivo vakatanga kuti, "hanziiko na Jussy ndaona akubata ruoko." Nekusada kunzi pane zvakawanda zvainge zvakataurika I was quick to say, "Haana kutaura chinhu angonditi thanks for coming."

"Uchaita makuhwa shaa." Said bamkuru vachitaura kuna tete who laughed vakati, "ndadii hangu didn't you see the way he was looking at her."

"Anga akamutarisa sei?" Bamkuru asked tete vakati, "wanga usina kutarisa here?"

"Ndanga ndisina ini." He lied nekuti both of them had been looking at me zvakataurwawo natete kuti ko kuramba hanzii tese tanga takatarisa ikoko."

"Zvatanga takatarisa zvakatosiyana." Vakapindura vachiseka nekutomutsa mota. Justin was still looking at the car akabva asimudza ruoko and waved at me. I was embarrassed to wave back, kunyara kunzi ndasimudza ruoko ndichiita bye bye. I managed to send a message though yandakati, "be well and don't stress to much," kwaingova kuti asabatikane.

" Watadza kana kunditi bye?" He responded in a way which made me sense a bit of pain pa message yake, I quickly said, "sorry." Ndainge ndava focused on the phone zvekuti andina kunzwa kuti ndainge ndavhunzwa If I wanted food." "Ndonodya kumba." Pandakaro tete vakabva vati, "okay fine handei tese tingonodya kumba kwacho."

" Kana muchida you can have food musanditevedzere ini."I said ndaona kuti ndaakuvhiringa maplans avo.

"No let's all have food out here." Said bamkuru vachiwedzera kuti he did not feel like eating at home. We went out and ordered kfc , I used to pass through but never had a meal there. Ndakanyara bamkuru vaakuvhunza what I wanted ndikashaya kuti ndoti chii kusvika ndati, "I will have whatever you are having."

" Are you sure cause I'm having zinger wings." I quickly nodded tete vakati,"are you sure?"

" Asi anoshata." Ndakavhunza ndava kunyara kunge there was something I had said wrong but only to be told kuti they were hot. Feeling a little embarrassed ndakabva ndati, "get me something that's not hot."

"Wrap maybe?" Asked bamkuru ndikati,"if you think it's okay for me then take it."

"I want your choice," vakadaro ndikati,"I trust your choice." Ndakabva ndatofamba kuenda kunogara pasi waiting for them to buy. I watched them stand in the queue to pay, tete vaiita vachitarisa kwandiri hamheno vaifunga

kuti ndinotiza here. We sat to eat chatting, "food was nice , I noticed though that tete was suddenly a bit quiet ndikati, " what's wrong ?"

"Nothing nhasi ndakasira kunzwa hope ini, anyway ndirikuuya I want to go to the bathroom." Vakasimuka and left, leaving us sitting tiri two. "Is my choice okay for you?" He asked ndikapotsa ndadzipwa I don't even know kuti ndakatadza kumedza sei. He patted my back zvekuti ndimire kukosora but it felt a little uncomfortable zvekuti I moved my body slightly away from him vakati,"I'm sorry I didn't mean to touch you." Immediately I felt bad nekuti I knew that he had not done it on purpose he was only trying to help me. I looked into his eyes and he had an apologetic look that forced me to say, "I should be the one to say sorry, andina hangu kungojaira kubatwa."

" I should have asked for your permission, I apologize." He was making me feel so bad ndakadaira kuti,"asking for my permission ndichida kudzipwa here it does not make sense."

"Yet your body sensed my touch which made you almost run." I sighed ndikati,"when you are not used to it the body reacts even absent mindedly." He looked away from me nyaya ichibva yamira kutaurwa, it didn't seem like a conversation we could keep having. Pakadzoka tete kudya kwacho became hard I wanted to go home . I had no idea what it was about him that made me scared, whenever I was left alone with bamkuru I would feel like running away.

When we got home Noel was asleep already, Abby was still waiting for us asi sevanhu vaive vakaguta we never ate, takangonanga kunorara. When Abby came into the room akandiwana ndaakutobatwa nehope akati, " asi vanhu

vepano don't say when they are eating out." I was too tired to respond ndakangoti , "it doesn't happen often, I mean tete has been sick. Nhasi tangonangawo nepa KFC because we were coming from the funeral." She didn't seem that happy but again I was too tired to pay attention. Akazora mafuta ake and sprayed nekutorara ndipo pandakati, "are you not praying?"

" Ndaisa mafuta angu." Akapindura ndikati, " yes you did but you didn't pray. Uchaita sei ma monitoring spirits akauya?"

"Ndazora mafuta like I said." I was confused and I had to ask, "asi mafuta acho ndiwo munamoto wako kana kuti munamoto wakaitwa nemumwe munhu?"

" You ask too many questions Chenge can we sleep please." She answered with an annoyed tone which made me mind my own business. Mazuva akafamba and mainini va Jussy vakavigwa we went back musi wekuvigwa kwavo pa Warren hills. We never stayed for long nekuti tete vaitaura zvekuti she was not feeling well. When we got back home vakaita nguva vakarara, pavakamuka I went in ndanzwa vachindidaidza vakati, "sit," kureva pamubhenda pavo, "how are you feeling?" Ndakavhunza vakati, "ndave right manje." I smiled kunzwa kurerukirwa then she started telling me about how she met bamkuru in high school. Ndaiseka vachitaura vakasvika pakuti, "this is why I love him, he never cheated on me for the time that I have been with him, I can happily say I'm one of the wife's that never came across such horror. If he ever did then he made sure not to make me find out, nekuti andidi kunyepera munhu over things that I have no proof of."

" You have been a very lucky woman manje these days ma1 ukangoramba kurara naye avakutokuramba." Ndakataura ndavakufunga benzi

rakandiramba. Vakandiseka vakati,"ndizvo zvawakarambirwa?" I nodded vakawedzera kuseka vakati,"then he was not worth it. You need that one in a million man, who does not treasure things without value, the one that treasures you." Ndaiseka zvangu trying to imagine where I would find such a man nekuti whatever I was seeing around me did not match up to that. Worse kuchikoro kwandainge ndavakuenda waingoona vanhu muzvikona, kissing and touching, it's all that was there. After a while of chatting ndakazobuda to get her juice. That weekend she kept saying she wanted to go kumusha kunoona gogo and that's exactly what we did , takaenda tikanoona gogo tikaswera. When we were about to leave ndakazoona tete vananga kumakuva, I didn't ask ndakangoti hamheno zvavaida kunoita. We waited for her to come back and pava kadzoka I could tell she had been crying.

Ndaisada kuchema saka handina kuvavhunza kuti sei vainge vachema, I figured the environment made everyone emotional. We left gogo tikadzokera kumba, early in the morning she said that she wanted to go to Church. Munhu wese akangopererwa nekuti we had no idea where to go. We ended up going to the Methodist Church that was nearer tikasvikako kune a beautiful service yandakanzwawo ichindibata bata.

Takaita four ma Sundays akatevedzana going to that church but on the night of the fourth Sunday ndakazonzwa bamkuru vaakuti, "rush to open the car door," vachindikandira ma keys. Ndakavhunduka and rushed, pandakazocheuka I noticed he was holding tete Shamiso, she was bleeding badly. Fear hit me and I didn't want to think about the worst. I held my heart all the way to the hospital and waited impatiently to be told that she was going to be okay. As my heart pounded, bamkuru was worse , he kept pacing

up and down trying to breath in and out ndikaona kuti he was not taking it well. A couple of times I watched him wipe a tear, semurume he was trying hard to hold it together.

After a while the doctor came out vakati Kuna bamkuru, "you can go in and see her," vakabva vatofambisa and went there. Vakaita nguva then he came out vachindiudza kuti ndaidiwa. My heart was very uneasy ndakapinda hangu asi ndichitya. She didn't look good but she reached for my hand vakati, "I never told you about how hard I worked so that we could build that house together." I shed a tear ndikati, "how can you be talking about houses at a time like this?"

"Haa ibvapo iwe ukuchema chii ipapa?"

" Because I hate it when you get sick?" She reached to wipe my tears vakati, "do you love me that much?" I nodded fast vakati, "then promise me that everything of mine will yours?" I frowned ndikati what do you mean everything of yours will be mine."

" Hunza ruoko." She said vachida kuita pinky promise, I was confused so I just gave her my little finger then they locked vakati, "you will never leave my son alone and I can't watch my son being taken care of by another woman asiri wedzinza rangi."

" Stop it." Ndakadaro vakati, "if you love me promise that what's mine will be yours promise me now."

" What are you saying." I asked crying vakati, "promise me." Vainge vaakuyeredza misodzi ndakabva ndati, "okay okay I promise but what exactly are you saying." That moment bamkuru vakabva vapinda ndikanzwa kuchema

kwemishini,I watched her little finger leave mine ,my heart pounded, my mouth opened out of shock. Bamkuru called the doctor but by the time he came in machine yainge yatoti tiiiiiii.

End of chapter *Last free chapter*

Kavdie

The Promise

By Kaydie

0777684685

Chapter 20

Prince

My heart's pounding was no less than the fear of losing her. Ndakatarisa doctor ndikati, "whats going on?"

"Please leave the room." He ordered but I could not leave her alone. I could not let her be by herself, "I said leave please." I was pushed out of the room but I stood by the door outside, through the small glass I watched them trying to revive her, ndakabata musoro and looked at Chenge who was bursting into tears uncontrollably ndikati, "don't do that please she ain't dead."

"I didn't say she was dead bamkuru but I'm just crying."

"For what then?" Ndakavhunza akati, "andizive kuti ndikuchemei, I'm crying for no reason." Ndakabvisa maziso angu kwaari and looked through the glass again ndikaona vachimuvhara nejira rewhite. Immediately I opened the door ndikati, "what the hell are you doing."

"I'm sorry." Said the doctor ndikati, "why are you saying sorry? For what muvhurei mhani?"

"She's gone." Vakadaro ndikati, "Aiwa haana." Ndakamuvhura ndega ndikati, "babie... Babie muka." I was panicking badly, "sei asiri kufema?" Ndakadaro kuna doctor then looked back at her ndikati, "babie... Mai Noel.. mukadzi wangu why are you not breathing, why are you doing this to me. Ndakuita sei? Ndakutadzira chii, sorry okay, for everything I'm just sorry."

I felt the doctor's hand touch my shoulder akati, "calm down Prince your wife is gone."

"Don't say anything if you are going to say that." I was so angry with the doctor zvekuti a part of me wanted to hit him. Ndakarara pachest yaShamiso ndikati, "you promised me that you would never leave, what is this Shamiso nhai?" Ndakabata moyo wangu ukatanga kuita sharp pain, I only managed to pull a chair closer kuti ndigare doctor vakati, "Prince are you okay?" I could not answer him but he attended to me ndikati, "don't worry about me ndiri right."

"You are not okay I need to check your heart."

"Even if you check my heart hazvina zvazvinobatsira, as long as she ain't breathing don't worry about me breathing."

"Prince." Akadaro but I ignored him ndikafonera ba Brian ndikati, "mukoma."

"Yes whats going on?" He asked ndikati, "I'm dying, mukoma ndaakufa inini."

"Slow down chii? Warwara here?" Ndakagomera nepain akati, "Prince chii?"

"Mukoma doctor varikunditi Shami afa, mukoma what will I do how will I survive."

"Urikupi?" He asked ndikati, "at the hospital." Vakangoti ndirikuuya and hung up. Ndakanzwa kubaiwa injection ndakavarairwa, hasha dzandakanzwa dzakadzikamiswa neinjection, ndaida kusimuka kuti ndimurove asi ndakatadza. Ndakazongonzwa avakuti, "I'm sorry I had to do this for your own good, your heart is not in a good condition right now." They put me on the bed ndikaona ndaakuvhara maziso but not even for long ndakamuka after 45 minutes. Ndakatarisa kwandainge ndasiya Shami ndikamushaya, ndakasimuka fast and went out ndichida kunoonna kuti aiva kupi but ndakasangana na baBrian vakati, "I'm sorry."

"Noo mukoma haana kufa."

"Prince." Vakadaro holding my shoulder, "Prince andisati ndambokunyepera anditi? I'm telling you now kuti mainini Shami is nomore." Ndakanzwa kupera simba ndikagara pasi, she had succeeded in breaking me. Kundipa chironda chaive so deep I could not even explain it. I could not even understand kuti sei ainge abvuma giving up so soon, and so young. Before we could even grow old together ainge andisiya. "Get up." Said ba Brian ndikati, "where's Chenge?"

"Ndamuisa kumota she is not taking it well she was screaming." Ndakasimuka ndikafamba kuenda kumota kwaaiva ndikaona akagara akabata kumeso. Ndakavhura door ndikaona maziso ake azvimba akati, "vamuka handiti?" I had no idea what to say ndakabva ndavhara door remota ndikati, "Shamiso betrayed me." Ndainge ndavakufamba kunogara pamuti ba Brian vakati, "what do you mean."

"She betrayed me, she knew that she would not make it, she prepared herself, she made me do things, make promises she she she." I could not even say

anything but I understood all she had done. Ndakatura mafemo, chandainge ndavakunzwa dzaingove hasha chete. "Let's organise zverufu," vakadaro mukoma ndikati, "she asked to be buried next to her brother."

"Whaat? Why? Handiti mukadzi wedu here haasi kuenda kumusha kwedu?" I shook my head ndikati, "that was her last request pandamutakura ndichiuya naye kuchipatara, she said, "ndokumbira unondiisa pane hanzvadzi yangu."

"And you are okay with it?"

"What am I supposed to do when she made these decisions all by herself. It's like I had no say in it all?"

"Calm down Prince, mira kuita hasha." Akadaro ndikati, "hasha, hasha, okay okay fine ndamira kuita hasha." Ndainzwa chest ichida kuputika I could not even understand what was happening to me. I wanted to burst but I was holding back trying to control myself. We decided kutumira shoko kune the rest of the family members but ndakatukwa naba Robert vakati, "waenda naye ikoko hauna kana kutaura and now you are calling us uchitaura kuti Shami afa?"

"Tsano." Ndakadaro vakati, "iye zvino ndiritezvara."

"Tezvara ruregerero but angorwara without warning and the important thing at that time was rushing to the hospital with her kuti anowana proper help. Ndatombofunga kuti zvaita nekuti pandapinda she was okay ndangobuda two minutes ndikadzoka munhu avakutofema kekupedzisira."

"Hamuite kunge Shami mwana wenyu ka nemaitiro enyu aya." Ndakapererwa ndikashaya kuti mhosva yangu yandainge ndapara futi yaive yechii. Ndakatambidza phone kuna ba Brian because I couldn't even handle mashoko asina kunaka kubva kwavari, ini ndaive panguva yekuchema. Vakataura vese kwenguva refu vachingokumbira ruregerero. After a while he came pandaiva and said, "zvakaoma vanhu ava vanoshupa, ngatingoita kuti zviite, chibata munyai aende nemari yemhere obva avaudza zvido zvemufi kuti aida kuvigwa ikoko saka tinenge tava kunanga ikoko." Ndakatarisa mukoma ndikati, "mukoma andina kana simba inini."

"That's why ndiripo, relax I will do it all vanga vari mainini vangu, are you okay?" He asked vaona ndabata hana ndikati, "don't worry about me ndiri right." We got busy kuti zviite and when we were done takabva tananga kumba, I had no idea kuti ndotaura kuti chii kuna Chenge nekuti all she had were tears asingataure nemunhu.

Tichisvika kumba my mother was there already yainge yangova mhere asi I begged for some time alone. Ndainge ndamira mumba ndookugara pamubhedha, not even sure what to do. Ndainzwa bundu pahuro asi ndichitadza expressing how I was feeling nekuti I still had hope kuti I would be told that they had made a mistake. Ndakakanda kanda mapillow kure nehasha ndichibva ndaona tsamba yaive mu envelope. I frowned ndichiitora, ndakavhura nekukasika ndikaona yakanzi, *babie I'm sorry, I know by you reading this it means I'm already gone. I may have gone to another place but I want to say thank you for loving me the way you did. No man would have loved me better than you and I will forever be grateful. I know that you may be angry, feeling like I gave up too soon but I tried Prince. I also wanted to grow old with*

you but andizvo zvandainge ndakarongerwa. The time that I met you, fell in love, lived with you was enough to make me love you forever. I'm setting you free to start another life, our journey together has ended here, take care of yourself and our son. I love you

Ndakaikanda kure nehasha ndikasimuka ndichibuda. Ndakasangana namama vakati, "hanzi tirikuenda kuMarondera?" I nodded vakati, "kuti wanga usina kuroora here?"

"Ndakarooro mama asi iye ndiye kwaanga achida kunoradzikwa."

"Kuti zvaita sei asi kwedu kunodyiwa zvitunha?" I stopped walking ndaakuda kuvhura muromo ba Brian vakabva vati, "mama ko mukangodzora mashoko. Kana imi mukafa muchasiya mataura zvishuviro zvenyu."

"Eh hazvo ndoradzikwa pane murume wangu kumusha kwemurume wangu. Vanhu vanotu kudii kunzwa kuti muroora aradzikwa kumusha kwavo."

"Give me a break mama ndirikurwadziwa please." Ndakadaro vachibva vanyarara. Ndakatora Noel ndikabuda naye panze akati, "mama varikupi daddy." I sighed ndikati, "mama is sleeping."

End of chapter

Kaydie