

A person's hands are cuffed to a horizontal metal bar against a dark, textured wall. The person is wearing black wristbands and a red strap is visible on their upper arm. The image is used as a background for the book cover.

*Free Me From The Chains Of Love*

# CHAINED

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{WARNING :: EMOTIONAL  
TRIGGER , READERS  
DISCRETION ADVISED}

# \*PROLOGUE\*

\*Zara\*



“You will marry this man , I was not asking you in case you missed it . It’s an order , now

pull yourself together and stop  
embarrassing me”

The words of my father ring in  
my head

As tears stream down my face ,  
and I feel my chest closing up as  
I try so hard not to scream

It feels like just yesterday ,  
when he said that to me

So ignorant to my tears and  
cries , all he wanted was just  
money and nothing else

It's been two years

Two years of pain , misery and  
tears

Enduring abuse day in and out ,  
more like a slave of pain

This has become my life , and I  
can see there's no escape

I'm locked inside this hell hole

It's been two years since I've  
seen the sun , and just felt fresh  
air

Yes !



I haven't stepped foot outside  
this fortress of a house in two  
years

I'm chained on this bed , as if I'll  
run away

Every single bone in my body  
feels like it's going to break

I wonder how my sister is doing  
, she was only 4 when I left

She's 6 now

She's the only good memory I  
have of home

I'm wondering if she's also  
being raised , just so she can be  
sold

My mother failed to stand up  
for me , she failed to fight me

She will fail her too , if she's  
ever dealt the same fate as me

I move my arm wiping my tears  
off

After two years , I still cry when  
I think about my pain

And how my father ruined my  
life

I still cry , when he beats me like  
it's a new thing

I guess I'm not that strong

I hear footsteps approaching ,  
slowly I turn facing the other  
way

The door opens , and I can just  
tell it's not him

When he enters , the whole  
environment just changes

I heave a sigh of relief

Bones : madam

How ironic , I'm called a madam

Yet I'm chained like a dog

Me : yes Bones

Oh I have to oblige , and just  
cooperate

Unless I want trouble , of which  
I don't

I suffered enough beatings last  
night

Bones : sir is ready for you , he  
would like your presence on the  
dinner table

He has his days , where he  
wants me eating with him

And on most days , I'm just  
brought food into this tiny room

Like some kind of a prisoner ,  
but then I am one

From day one of the so called marriage , he alienated me away from my family

Well , the so called family

Bones : you have less than an hour to get done

He unchains my feet



Me : thank you

He walks out , leaving the door  
opened

I guess those are orders

I get up from the bed , and take  
my bloody dress off

I wasn't allowed to clean up  
after the beating

I got chained on the bed bloody  
as I was

There's only cold water in here

But it'll have to do , because I  
have to clean up

I get in the basin , and start  
bathing as fast as I can

I can't take more than an hour

And the bruises stings

Oh !

I mean the new ones

The old ones have turned into  
marks , like permanent scars

I dry and lotion , using the ointment lotion

At least , it'll subside the pain and get me through the stupid dinner . I pull out a black formal dress , with black formal heels

I walk down , and he's already sitting down . His back turned on me

The dinning area , is an open  
plan

He doesn't even turn to look at  
me

I move over to where my plate  
is set

I greet pulling out a chair

He doesn't bother greeting back

He just orders Tia to bring food

Poor Tia , she just runs like a  
little child following orders

I wonder what kind of a woman  
gave birth to such a monster

I dart my eyes to him , and he  
just eats

I guess I should eat too

By the time I'm halfway with my plate , he's done eating

Still in silence he gets up , and walks upstairs

Right now , I don't know if I should continue eating or leave the food here

I am hungry , I couldn't eat as fast as he did . He's the one who invited me on the table , now he's left

If I eat it all , I can get into trouble for eating without being told to

More like eating , not in his presence when he's the one who called me



If I leave it , I can get into  
trouble for being ungrateful

I sigh back on the chair , not  
knowing what to do

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\*Zenkosi\*

*Zenkosi*



Me : where is my daughter ?

Tears are just streaming down  
my face

My hands are trembling and  
sweating

I keep looking at the car that's  
following behind me

I am shit scared

I feel like this steering wheel will  
slip out of my hands

Me : please .....I am begging you  
. Tell me where is my child

All I care hear is his breathing  
and nothing

Me : I am begging you , just give  
me my daughter and I will let  
you be

He says nothing

And after a few minutes , he  
drops the call

I let out a scream

The car behind me passes

I heave a sigh of relief

As tears blurry my eyes

I part by the side of the road

Just letting the tears flow

My heart beating so fast

I can't be weak now , I have to  
fight and get my child back

I take a deep breath and wipe  
my tears off

The door opens , I am startled  
by that

And there's this tall man

Him : Mrs Black come with ?

Without even thinking twice , I  
lean under my seat to grab the  
gun



But he just grabs me , and it  
slips off my sweaty hands

I let out a scream , trying to  
fight him

He's too strong for me , as he  
pulls me out of my car

My forehead hits on the  
window , and it fucking hurts

He just carries me like a sack of  
potatoes to the black car on the  
road

I don't even see the car

I scream as he must throws me  
inside at the back

There's a man , and he's holding  
a gun

Him : make a fuss , I won't  
hesitate to blow your brains

Me : you're just bluffing

He chuckles annoyed

As the other goes to the drivers  
seat

I try to open the door , but it's  
locked

He gets in and just drives off

Him : try me

Me : lay a hand on me , and he  
will kill you

He laughs

I close my eyes

My daughter needs me , I  
cannot afford to act out like a  
fool

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\*Kenan\*

*Kenan*



He opens the door , and they  
walk in

She looks like a mess

One look at her , and my rage  
just boils

Me : what the fuck happened ?

Ace : she was .....

I draw my gun , and he moves  
to the door

Ace : we tried to be clean as we  
can , she was just difficult

I point the gun at him



Ace : I .....

I pull the trigger , and it lands  
on his forehead

He falls down blood gushing out

I look at Drew

Me : clean this mess

I heave a sigh , darting my eyes  
to her

She has one deadly stare on me  
, my heart just shutters into a  
million pieces

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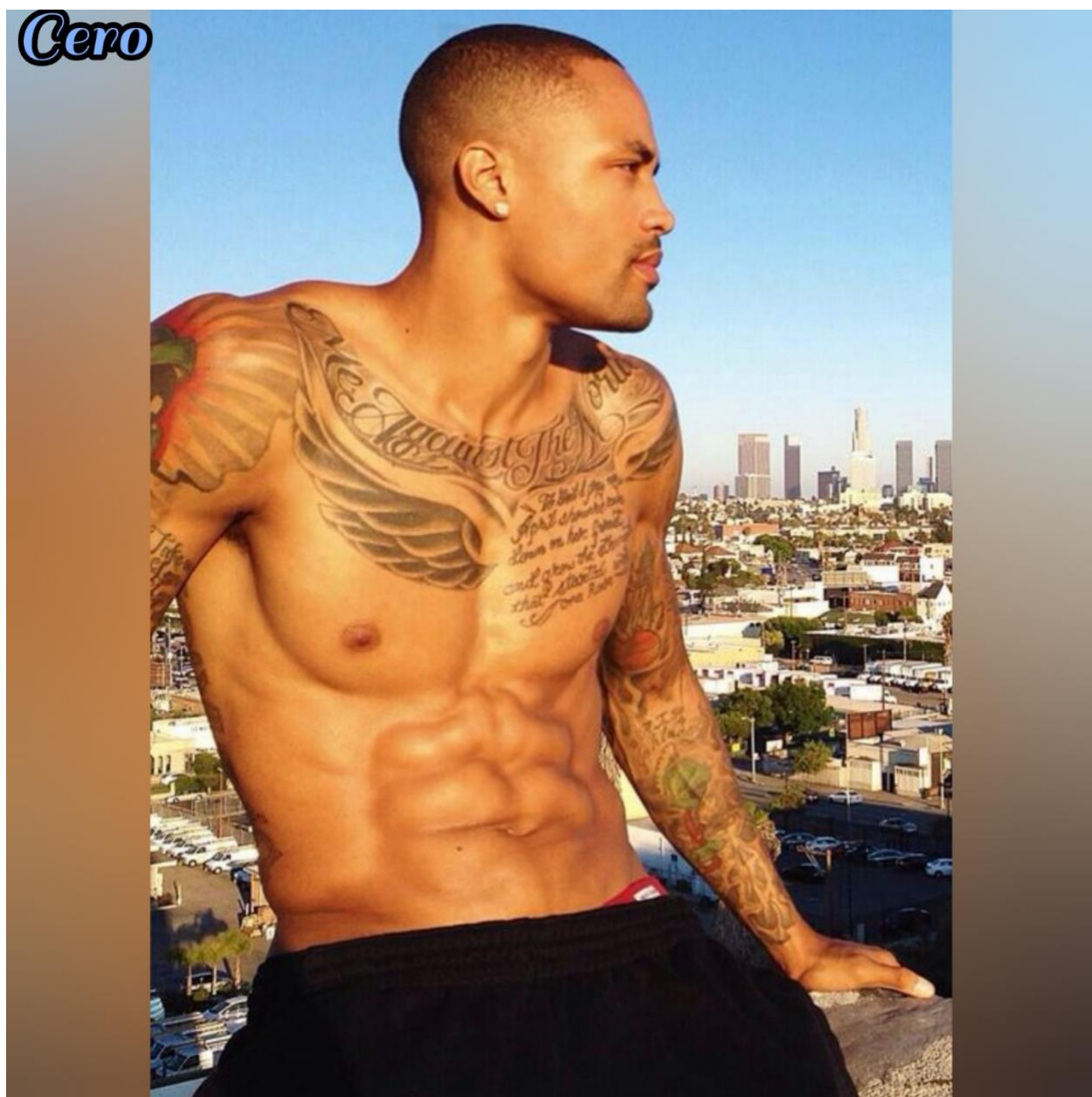
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\*INSERT 01\*

\*TWO YEARS EARLIER\*



\*Cero\*



Me : what's this ?

They all look at me

Me : this is fucking nonsense ,  
and I didn't pay for this shit

Leo walks in

Just annoying me worse than I  
already am right now

Without knocking , doing the same shit I'm always warning him about

He looks at the girls and shakes his head

Clearly disapproving , and not very much pleased

Me : take them to the dungeon , all of them . Let them die there



, they're just useless to me .  
And get me Trevor on the line ,  
if he doesn't want my money  
anymore he should just say .  
And not serve me mediocre  
work

Fuck Kenan for this shit , I don't  
know what he was thinking  
putting Trevor in charge

This one is always just full of  
shit

And not delivering what's asked  
of him

They nod quickly dragging the  
girls out

Leo : brother , what's wrong  
with you ?

Me : this is not your fucking  
kingdom , what so you want ?

I pull a chair and sit down

I am not in his righteous moods

Leo : you're better than this

Cero , you have sister's and they  
have girls ....

Me : fuck off !

He sighs

Me : do you think anyone would  
be a fool to dare touch my  
blood ?

Leo : you need to stop this ,  
what if one day the same  
misfortune befall them ?

He must not bore me , does he  
think I fucking care ?

Leo : you're better than this ,  
these girls are people's  
daughter's

Me : well they're not mine

Leo : it's useless to talk to you ,  
when you don't want to see to  
reason . And just to see how  
messed up you are . You're like  
a child who suffered some  
trauma

Me : would you like to see  
trauma ?

He just stares at me.

Me : leave , and don't ever  
come here again . Let this be  
the last time I tell you

Leo : I swear it's like we are not  
from the same womb

Me : spare me your  
righteousness

He nods slowly

Leo : I hope you're really able to  
live with yourself , with the pain  
you're causing the families of  
those girls . Karma has a way of  
repaying itself

Me : it's not my fucking problem , that their so called families failed to protect them from men like me . Now brother , thanks for the lecture as always it was useless

He laughs shaking his head going out

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**\*Zara\***

I look at him shocked , not believing what he just said . I'm thinking maybe he's joking

But he has this thing he does with his middle finger

When he's really saying something and he means it

That's how I know he's serious  
about this

Me : Babe ?

He doesn't move

I go sit next to him

Me : marriage ? But we've been  
together for a month

That's such a short time to get married , after being with someone

Trevor : I know , but I'm not counting . And a man knows the first day he meets his woman , that she's his . I don't see why we should wait

This is so sudden , and well unheard of

Who gets married after being together for a month ?

And mind you , in that month we've been dating

I've only seen him for two weeks

The other two weeks , he was just distant

And if this is how men sees  
things , then it's them

I'm not a man

So I don't see this like how he  
sees it

No !

I need time

Trevor : do you want to think about it ?

He sound somehow not pleased

Me : I ..... you know I love you

He gets up

Trevor : if you're going to give me speeches , about why you

can't accept my proposal please  
don't

He buttons his suit jacket

I get up holding his hand

I love him , as insane as it might  
sound

I do love him



Me : don't walk out on me

Trevor : I don't want to force  
you into something you don't  
want

I caress his cheek , touching his  
beard

Me : I want you babe , you  
know that . And there shouldn't  
be any doubts

He stares at me , for quite a  
while

He leans down giving me a kiss ,  
I gladly welcome

His hand on my throat , slightly  
choking me

But not too hard to close my  
airway

After a few minutes he pulls out

Trevor : let me go , I'll call you later . I have business to attend to

Me : I love you babe

Trevor : I love you sweetheart

He moves back , and I watch  
him as he walks out

I heave a sigh

That was crazy

It's too soon for marriage , but I  
also don't want to loose him

The two weeks we've been  
together , have been amazing

And I got to fall for him

But marriage is a huge step

And I think we're rushing it

So it's definitely wise to hold off  
on that for a bit

I hope he can understand , and  
not pressure me

We still have time , there's no need to rush marriage

We should also be getting to know each other better

I mean , isn't that what people in relationships do ?

They get to know each other better , taking their time . And

not rushing such a huge and big  
commitment

He's so awkward , it just feels  
like I'm not in a relationship  
with a normal guy

And maybe I am not , but he's  
who I'm with

I turn back and continue with  
my laundry

He just walked in here

And I wasn't even expecting him  
that he's coming

But he always does this , it's a  
norm to him now

He just rocks up , without even  
saying a word



I used to confront him about  
that

But I could see , it offended him  
in a way

And he got suspicious of me ,  
that maybe there's another  
man

And that's why I wouldn't want  
him coming here without saying

To avoid drama and quarrels , I  
stopped asking him why he  
doesn't say when he's coming

But as for today !

That was a visit I did not even  
anticipate

A whole marriage proposal talk  
?

I hope we can put this aside ,  
and just focus on us

And we can revisit the talk again  
, after some time

Just not now , it's too soon

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\*Trevor\*



I knock at the door , and the  
man of the house opens

He frowns looking at me

Me : Mr Zondi

He walks over closer to the door  
step

Zondi : yes ?

Me : I'm sorry to just show up  
at your home uninvited sir

Zondi : young man , who are  
you and what can I do for you ?

I smile

He looks like a greedy man

And a man who could  
appreciate some power

Me : my bad , I'm Trevor Nyathi  
. I'm here about your daughter  
Zara

At the mention of his daughter ,  
that gets me his attention

It's the look he's giving

I know he's now eager to know  
what I'm about



Damn I'm good ! Should give  
myself a pat on the shoulder

Zondi : I see , well let's get in

He makes way , and I walk  
inside

He leads me to the lounge , we  
both sit down

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\*INSERT 02\*

\*Trevor\*

Zondi : you say you're here  
about my daughter ?

Me : yes

Zondi : what about her ? And  
how do you even know her ?

I clear my throat

Me : she's my girlfriend

He stares at me

Forming some hard look

Me : well fiancé now , because I  
asked her to marry me and she  
agreed

The gaze slowly dies down

Zondi : I do not know this

Me : yes , I've been asking her when is she going to tell her family about us . And the fact that we're going to get married , but she has been very hesitant . It's like she's scared or something . I don't know , or

maybe she's not ready . I took  
the liberty to come here ,  
because I don't want to lose her  
. And I love her very much

Zondi : nonsense , this is very  
good news . Why should she be  
scared to share such with us ?

Me : I don't know

I rub my hands together

Me : I am sorry to just rock up into your home , it's just that I really do love her . And I don't want her changing her mind , maybe she's still thinking if she really does want to marry me

He shakes his head , very much disapprovingly



Zondi : nonsense ! She will marry you , what's there to think about ?

I let out a fading smile

Me : I don't have parents , I'm the only one left of my family . My uncle's live very far , and there isn't a good relationship there . I know I have to do things the right way , and bring family to come pay for things

Zondi : you want to pay ?

Bloody idiot !

That's the only thing on his  
mind

Me : yes

He laughs

Zondi : that's not a problem ,  
just come on your own . I won't  
call family members either , so  
you feel comfortable

Fool !

Me : thank you so much , I  
appreciate this

Zondi : so , when do you think  
you'll come and pay ?

Me : I can even pay right now ,  
just name your price . And  
please , don't hold back

He looks at me , slightly  
shocked

Zondi : without a doubt Zara is  
definitely marrying you

Me : you have no idea how  
happy that makes me

Zondi : yes , now let's get to it .  
My daughter is a jewel , so do  
expect me to charge you

I chuckle

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\*Zara\*

Me : he asked me to marry him

Lizzy : what ?

I nod

She laughs , I am still taken  
aback by this

Lizzy : plug me with whoever you're seeing , because I've been chasing the same man for 3 years . He has 2 baby mama's , he has more side chicks I can count . And in a month , you're already getting married

I laugh , she's just being crazy right now

Me : well I didn't agree



Lizzy : why not ?

Me : it's too soon , we're rushing this

Lizzy : girl ! You're refusing marriage , while some of us are crying for it ?

Me : well , it's a lifetime commitment . I don't know

Trevor that well , I believe we still need more time getting to know each other

Lizzy : you can do that , while you're still married

She doesn't get this

Me : what if we find out we're not compatible ? Then what ? Divorce follows , no !

Lizzy : don't cry when he goes ,  
and finds another

Me : then it would mean , it's  
wasn't meant to be

I sigh

As much as I love him , I don't  
think rushing to marriage is a  
good thing

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\*Trevor\*

Ace : Cero wants to talk

I sigh , just already annoyed  
hearing that name

Me : about what ?

Ace : he doesn't sound happy  
about the girls we got him

Me : that fucker can go fuck  
himself , he's never happy .  
Does he think I fucking create  
these girls from a factory ?

I get up

Me : he's an ungrateful piece of  
shit

I pour myself a glass of whiskey

Me : he was on our case , he rushed us for those girls . He must deal with what we sent him

I down the glass

Ace : do I tell him off ?

Me : do whatever shit you must do , I don't have time for him .  
He can go run to Black for all I care

Ace : he can be a problem

Me : he's not my problem

Ace : all I'm saying is that , he's our biggest client . And if he's not happy , it reflects bad on us



Me : and who pays your pay  
check Ace ? Me or Cero ?

He sighs

Ace : of course it's you

Me : then stop bothering me  
with this nonsense , Cero is just  
unbelievable . He can go on Tue  
streets , and find what he wants

Ace : understood , I will talk to him

Me : I pay you after all , I won't entertain this nonsense of that Italian . I'm getting married in a few days , he can deal with his shit

Ace : marriage ?

Me : we're not friends Ace

He laughs walking out

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\*Zara\*

I look at my ringing phone

And it's been ringing for a while  
now

I grab it and answer

Me : hello ?

Trevor : hello ? Are we friends  
now ?

I sigh

His tone is just so off

Me : babe , I'm sorry . I was taking a shower , I answered my phone in a rush

He sighs

Trevor : dinner tonight ?

Me : perfect

Trevor : I'll come pick you up , let's say 19:00

Me : okay , what should I wear ?

Trevor : I booked at the Greats

I smile , that is my favourite restaurant . Even though I barely eat there , cause I cannot afford . Like it's quite expensive , but worth every penny

Me : formal it is

Trevor : I love you

Me : I love you too babe

He drops the call

I place my phone on the bed ,  
and grab my lotion

I hope he doesn't speak about  
that marriage thing again



I just can't deal with that

Wouldn't my parents kill me , if  
I say I'm marrying a man I met a  
month ago

And have only spent two weeks  
with him

That sounds insane

I'm not ready for that marriage

My phone beeps , and it's a message from my father asking that I come home tomorrow

I respond him back that I'll come

I haven't gone home in a while , and I miss my mother and little sister

Work has me a bit busy

It's crazy being a nurse ,  
sometimes I work insane hours  
and I hardly have time for  
anything

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\*INSERT 03\*



\*Trevor\*

Zara : dinner was lovely babe ,  
thank you

She places a kiss on my lips , I  
pull her closer for a deeper kiss

Me : anything for you  
sweetheart

I fix her jacket

Me : I wish you can spend the night with me

Zara : I'm working tomorrow , and my father asked to see me

Good

At least he will finally tell her she has no choice but to just marry me , cause I paid that idiot a lot of money

Me : okay , I'll see you say later  
?

Zara : of course

Me : walk in , I'll wait

She smiles

I give her a kiss , she walks away  
to her apartment



I wait until she walks inside ,  
and I get into my car driving  
away

Her father better be calling her ,  
to get her in line with this  
marriage nonsense

I did not pay that much money  
for nothing

He better make it worth my  
while

I don't have the so called time  
she needs , to decide

Whether she marries me or not

In this manner , I'll just take her

It's not like she'll have a choice

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\*Zara\*

I walk in , and strange enough  
it's very quite in the house

Where are people in this house  
?

Me : mom !

I call out , but nothing

The door wasn't locked , and  
the small gate was also opened

I take out my phone to call her ,  
but dad walks in

Me : oh , I thought the house  
was left empty and unattended

I laugh walking to him , we hug

Dad : you're so grown , I hardly  
see you anymore

Me : come on , it's work

Dad : and other things

Me : what things ?

He takes my hand we walk to  
the kitchen

Dad : we'll talk , that's why I  
asked you to come home

Me : oh

We sit down on the high chairs

Me : where is mom ?

Dad : they went out , I just  
wanted us to talk without  
disturbance

Me : what's going on ?

Dad : why didn't you tell me ,  
someone has asked for your  
hand in marriage ?

I frown

Where does he get that ?

Me : what ? Who ?



Dad : are you not dating Trevor Nyathi ?

Wait ....how does he know all of this ?

Me : dad ?

Dad : he came here , and told me he asked to marry you

What the hell ?

Me : and I told him ...

Dad : that you will marry him

Hell no !.

When did I say that nonsense ?

Me : there must be a mistake  
here

Dad : what mistake ?

What's going on ?

Me : yes he asked to marry me ,  
but I told him I'm not ready we  
should wait

Dad : why wait ?

And this man !

Me : we barely even know each other , and we haven't even been dating for that long

I defend

Dad : well you will get to know each other in marriage , do you know how many girls your age are longing for marriage ?

Me : that's them , I am not in a hurry

Dad : you must know , you're going to marry him

Me : but dad !

Dad : I am not debating with you Zara , and he's already paid

What ?

I get up

Dad : sit down !

He roars

I sit down , all kinds of emotions  
just overwhelming me

How can Trevor do this to me ?

He didn't even say anything at  
dinner last night

Tears stream down my face

I am feeling such pain and  
betrayal I cannot explain

How can my father also agree  
to this ? Doesn't he get that it's  
nonsense

He's failing me right now

This man is supposed to protect me , but right now he's failed me

It's like he's decided to just sell me off

I wonder how much Trevor paid him for this



Why couldn't he just wait ?

It's not like I said I don't want to marry him

I just said , it's too soon we should wait a bit

I don't understand why he's doing this

Dad : what are those tears for ?

Gosh !

He doesn't even care

I wonder if my mother knows  
about this

She's my only hope right now ,  
because it seems like my father  
has made up his mind and has  
decided

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\*Trevor\*

She has been calling , and I've  
been ignoring her calls . 20  
missed calls , that's crazy

I get in taking my jacket off

As the phone rings again

I answer , pouring a glass of  
whiskey

Me : babe

I'm welcomed by sniffs and  
cries

No doubt she's crying

Me : what's wrong now  
sweetheart ?

Zara : how can you do this to me ?

I down the glass

Me : what did I do ?

Zara : oh please ! Don't act like you don't know

She's raises her hoarse voice

And I'm just wondering if she's  
been crying all day long

That's stupid and crazy

Zara : how can you tell my  
father I agreed to marry you ,  
and pay him ?

Me : did you say no ?

Zara : no but .....I said we can wait

Me : if you didn't say no , then we can't exactly say you didn't agree

She burst into a sob

Me : stop crying , you'll get sick . Get some sleep , I'll come see you in the morning . I love you



I drop the call shaking my head  
heading upstairs to my room

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\*INSERT 04\*

\*Zara\*

I open the door , surely I look  
like a mess

But I don't care

It's his fault

And I cannot believe he did this  
to me

And he looks like he doesn't  
even care

Trevor : babe , you look bad

Me : how can you go and do that ?

Trevor : I thought we spoke about it , I surely must have missed you saying no

He's fucking with me right now

Me : you know I didn't say no , but I also didn't say yes either

Trevor : baby I am sorry , but it's done now . What can I do ?

I sigh turning , he grabs my arm

Trevor : I am sorry okay ? We won't make it a big deal then , I've paid the dowry . So why don't we just go to home affairs , sign and just leave it at that ? Like until you're ready for a wedding where you'll be walking down the isle

This just keeps getting crazy and  
crazy

I barely slept

I just cried my eyes out , not  
wanting to believe this

Now he doesn't even care  
about a wedding

Even signing at court is crazy

Trevor : see ? I am talking to you , and you ignore me . Then what must I think ? That it's okay

I just look at him tongue tied

Trevor : okay , I guess it's fine . I will go and secure us a date at home affairs



He lets go of my arm and pecks  
my lips walking out

I grab my phone and call my  
father

It rings for a while , and he  
answers

Dad : Zara

Still doesn't sound happy with me

Me : please don't make me do this , I don't want to marry ....

Dad : don't get on my nerves you child , you're getting married and that's that . Do you want to embarrass me ?

Like really ?

What about me , and what I  
want ?

He clicks his tongue dropping  
the call on me

I am such an idiot

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\*Musawenkosi\*



Me : where is she ?

He laughs

Siya : you're still asking about  
her even now ?

I chuckle

Me : I asked a question ?

And it's just a question

Siya : they moved to Santorini in Greece

Me : mhm , when was that ?

Siya : just a few months back

I nod slowly

Siya : give it up , she won't be back . She's pregnant

Me : really ?

He takes a sip of his beer and  
nods

Siya : yeah , probably at 6 or 7  
months now

Me : I see

Siya : she just wasn't yours man



Crazy how my father is on my  
case now about getting married

He's like what king rules  
without a wife

I do get him though

There are other issues I cannot  
handle

And I'll ask my mother or my  
twin sister to intervene

And if I had a wife , none of that  
would be happening

But I am not in a rush

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\*Kenan\*

Cero : I am very disappointed  
with Trevor

I heave a sigh

I swear power has gone and  
gotten into his head , and it's  
annoying

Me : I could ....

Cero : no Black , ever since you  
left him there he's  
underperforming

Me : what would you have me do ?

Cero : I will personally go there myself

This is crazy

Me : if it will please you to see the girls before they're shipped to you , it's all fine

Cero : I will be in touch

I drop the call downing the glass  
of scotch

I can't deal with Cero and  
Trever , as if I'm running a  
creche here

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\*Trevor\*

I sigh answering his call

Kenan : what is wrong with you  
?

Me : what ?

Kenan : Trevor you're forgetting  
yourself , I cannot keep babying  
you like you're a child . This shit  
just never ends with you , it's  
fucking getting under my skin



right now . Like what the fuck is wrong with you ?

Me : what did I do ?

He's pissed I can tell

Kenan : don't you get tired of Cero and the others always complaining about you ?

Fuck !

Whatever the hell is wrong with  
that Tuscan prince

Kenan : I have shit I'm dealing  
with , I cannot be running after  
your ass like this

Me : I ....

Kenan : don't fucking give me  
excuses

I shake my head slowly

There's no talking to him when  
he's this angry

Me : I'll fix it

Kenan : you better , if this is too  
heavy for you just fucking tell  
me

Me : it's .....

He drops the call on me

Me : great !

Just what I need

I just want to deal with this Zara  
issue first

Honestly business can wait

Cero just loves blowing things  
out of proportion and for shit

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\*Zara\*

Me : did he tell you that he just married me off ?

Mom : he said you two are engaged , and dating

I sigh

Me : mom , I barely even know  
Trevor to agree marriage to him

Mom : exactly what happened ?

Me : your husband just chose  
money over me

Mom : I'm sure it's not like that

Me : of course you will take his side , I'm your child ! For once can you just take my side , and hear me out

Mom : Zara ....this is not about sides

Me : fine , it's clear who you have chosen

My parents though !



I drop the call switching my  
phone off

It'll probably piss Trevor off ,  
but he can go take a hike

He went behind my back

And he doesn't even feel bad  
about what he's done

It seems so normal to him

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\*INSERT 05\*

\*Trevor\*

She looks so pissed

Too bad , there's no turning  
back for her right now

We're here and it's all done

Her mother tried calming her  
down

After she made a spectacle of  
us , and almost embarrassing us  
with her stunts

Running away from her  
apartment

And her father found her , as  
she was driving out

She put on a fight

The man even has reddish eye  
to show for it

Zondi : take care of my flower

He's bullshitting me right now

What does he care ?

I paid a lot of money for this  
daughter of his

Me : I will

I look at her , and tears stream  
down her face

She's not happy , she's not even  
pretending

Me : babe , you're hurting me  
right now . It's like we are not in  
love

I wipe her tears

Me : I am sorry my love

Zara : all I asked for , was a bit  
of time



Me : I am sorry

She sighs

Zara : can we just go ?

I smile

Me : with pleasure

She just turns going to my car

Without even looking at her  
parents , or saying goodbye to  
them

And this is exactly what I want

She's playing right into my  
hands

Me : I am sorry , once she's  
better she will reach out

Zondi : of course , we will give  
her time

We shake hands and I walk  
away heading to the car

She's done crying now

Me : I love you baby

She says nothing

I drive heading to my house

Zara : where are we going ?

I side eye her

Me : to my place

Zara : I thought I'm going to my  
apartment

Me : you're a married woman  
now , and your place is where  
your husband is at

She keeps quite

And the rest of the ride is just in  
silence

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\*Zara\*

He didn't spend the night with  
me

I have no idea where he slept

I've just showered now

And walking downstairs

I find him in the kitchen eating

He looks dressed like he's going  
somewhere

I sit down

He doesn't lift his eyes

I pour juice for myself

He continues to eat , until his  
place is half clean



Me : I need to go get my car  
and clothes , and my work  
uniform

Trevor : car and work uniform  
for what ?

Is he being for real ?

I look at him

Me : for work obviously

He chuckles

Me : and I just go see my friend  
, I will be back later . I don't  
know what time though

Trevor : what do you think this  
is ?

I look at him

He has such a cold stare I have  
never seen

Me : I ....

A lump gets stuck on my throat

Trevor : let's make this clear ,  
you are no longer working . You  
don't need your car anymore ,  
and there's no friend you're  
going to see

Me : what ?

Trevor : I did not stutter

I know I don't know this man  
that well

But what he's showing me right  
now I have never seen

Trevor : where is your phone ?

Me : uhm ....it's upstairs

He gets up

And I'm just left stunned by his  
reaction and words right now

After a while he comes down

I'm startled as he smashes my  
phone on the wall

Me : what ?

I'm on my feet , my eyes  
popped out of their socket

Trevor : from today , this house  
is your work and whatever  
friend you need

He says and turns walking out

It takes me a few minutes to  
gather myself

I head to the lounge door and  
it's locked

I walk back to the kitchen

And it's the same thing

The door is locked

Me : wha.....

I try to wreck my head , like  
what just happened here

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\*Zenkosi\*



He walks in

Me : babe are you okay ?

Kenan : yeah

He walks over and places a kiss  
on my cheek

Me : you have been looking  
somehow the past few days

He sighs

Kenan : it's just work

Me : are you sure ?

Kenan : yes my love

Me : mhm , if you're not happy  
that we moved here then  
maybe we .....

Kenan : baby , I am happy here .  
I don't care where I am , just as  
long as I'm with you

I smile

Me : okay , if something is  
bothering you . You can always  
talk to me

Kenan : I know , that's why I  
love you

I laugh

Kenan : how about we go out tonight ?

Me : I would love that

Kenan : great then , I am sorry I have been distant

Me : it's okay , just as long as we're okay

He holds my hand

Kenan : we're more than okay ,  
this is us after all

This move was my plan

I just hope I didn't get him to do  
something he didn't want to do

It would really suck , to be  
halfway across the world

So far away

Away from family and all

To be stuck with a very moody  
and grumpy husband

It wouldn't be okay if he's not  
happy here

So I hope it's really work and  
nothing else

It was getting too much back home

With the cops and all

Like it was becoming a norm ,  
like one thing after the other

Honestly we were not getting  
peace at all



So I figured just moving and  
staying away would be so much  
better

We've had peace here

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\*INSERT 06\*

\*A FEW DAYS LATER\*



\*Trevor\*

Me : what business did Cero  
have coming to South Africa ?  
Babysitting me like I'm a child ,  
like I don't know what I'm doing  
. Having me run the streets  
kidnapping girls , saying my men  
are incompetent

Kenan : either they're  
incompetent or you are

Me : what ?

He chuckles

Kenan : you heard me , Cero is our biggest client . He pays a lot of money for these girls , if you don't give him what he wants he ought to pull out or put you in line . And I am not loosing money because of you

Me : I am not a child Black ,  
you're just like him . You  
uprooted your life , you're living  
well in Greece . All you know is  
just throwing and shouting  
orders , if you think you can do  
better than me come to the  
streets and kidnap these  
women and girls yourself

I drop the call on him

Me : is this it ?

He nods

Me : and you're certain there's  
no record of this stupid  
marriage anywhere ?

John : yes

Me : if my name ever pop up  
anywhere , if her family start



looking for her . I swear , I will  
kill you

He swallows hard

John : I erased everything ,  
there's no marriage that's  
existing . Or anything tying you  
to her

I hand him the envelope with  
money and turn walking away

I get into my car and drive to my house

I know she's still alive

I have been checking the cameras inside the house

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\*Zara\*

This must be a very bad  
nightmare

I keep hoping I'll wake up from  
it

It's been days now

Without Trevor in sight

I'm all alone in this house

With no way out

All doors locked , and I'm just  
shut out from the outside world  
and everyone else

I have no communication  
whatsoever with anyone

It feels like a dream

I don't know what to do with  
myself

I just feel stuck here , with no  
way out

Actually it feels like I am caged

My phone is completely  
shuttered

There's really no using it

And there are no landlines in  
this house

Most rooms are also locked

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\*Trevor\*

I get home and find her sitting  
in the lounge

Zama : you're back



She gets up and comes to me

Zara : babe what's going on ?

Me : what are you talking about  
?

Zara : you locked me in here ,  
for over a week . And you just  
left me

Me : left ?

She sighs

Me : I'm back am I not ?

Zara : what's going on ?

I close my eyes and take a deep  
breath

I look at her

I hope I didn't just buy a thing  
that's going to annoy me here

Zara : I need a phone , so I can  
call my parents

I chuckle

Me : you think they give a shit ?  
Your father sold you in a snap ,  
he doesn't care if you live or die

Zara : if he knew a monster you were , he wouldn't have taken your money

Me : he took it , so what does that make him ?

Zara : you lied to him !

Me : you're his daughter , and nothing of mine

Her jaw drops

Me : I need to go freshen up

I walk past her

Zara : Trevor I am talking to you  
!

She raises her voice

I turn and slap her so hard , she  
falls down on her ass

Crying out in pain

I just stare at her , tears stream  
down her face

She looks at me shocked as hell

Zara : you ....you slapped me ?

She asks in shock

Zara : did you just slap me ?

She gets up , still holding her  
cheek

Me : this is your new reality ,  
damn make peace with it

Zara : you cannot keep me a  
prisoner here , and think you

can put your filthy hands on me

....

I land a punch on her face ,  
blood comes gushing from her  
nose

She wails

Me : do you want to see what I  
can do to you ? Keep trying me ,  
and you won't live for long



She lifts her t-shirt , placing it on her face

Me : go clean yourself up

I click my tongue going up to my room

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\*Zara\*

What have I gotten myself into  
?

I look at myself in the mirror

And I look like shit

The mark on my cheek

And my nose is painful , it even  
feels like it has shifted

I can't stop the tears streaming  
down my face

Who is this man ?

He's definitely not the man I  
thought loved me

I feel like a slave or a prisoner of  
some kind fight now

He has put his hands on me ,  
something I never thought he  
could do

And definitely has alienated me  
from everyone

I can't even call my family for  
help

Right now I'm just wondering , if  
anyone is even worried about  
me

Like have they gone to my place

Or maybe tried calling me

After hearing nothing from me  
in a week

Or they think I'm busy enjoying  
this marriage

My father got me into this

Even after I tried to get away

He dragged me from that car ,  
to home affairs

And made sure I marry Trevor

After begging him over and over  
again

He didn't even know this man  
enough to take his word

Or his money for that matter

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\*INSERT 07\*



\*Zara\*

I hear the door opening

I'm in one of the rooms

He just shoved me in here last  
night

I didn't even sleep a wink

I was in pain the whole night

My nose is really hurting bad

I was even scared to cry to him

Scared that he will hit me again

Footsteps walk in

I want to turn and look who it is

But I am scared

I only have a fleece on

And I jump off the bed , as ice  
water is poured on me

I shiver like hell looking at him

Who is this animal that's  
standing before me ?

My teeth are gashing together

I try hugging myself

Half side of my clothes , is wet

Trevor : this is not your father's house

Well I know that

I want to respond , but I'm scared that might get me a slap

Trevor : now that you have gotten the memo , this is your life now . No more working for you , no more friends . No more

going out , and most definitely  
no more your pathetic family .  
Is that clear ?

I stand still , not saying anything  
back

He walks closer , throwing the  
bucket down

I shake a bit

I move back slowly , as he keeps walking towards me

He chuckles shaking his head

I'm stopped , when my back hits the wall

He raises his hand , I raise my arms to stop whatever slap is coming covering my face



But he chokes me instead

Trevor : do you understand ?

Do I really understand ?

Like am I understanding that  
this is my life now ?

Am I understanding that this is  
how I am going to live ?

That there's no escape here

That I am just giving in

Without even a fight

I am a human being after all

I am entitled to my life

To live it however I want , and  
not be subjected to anything

I try holding his hand , trying to  
push him back

But he tightens his grip on my  
neck

Tears stream down my face

Trevor : don't make me ask you  
again ?

I try opening my mouth to plead  
with him

But nothing comes out

He's really closing my air way

Just choking the life out of me

Is this really how I die ?

In the hands of this man

He slams me so hard against the  
wall

That the back of my head makes  
such a loud thud

If it was anything hard

I swear my head would have  
made a crack on this wall

I close my eyes , just crying in  
pain

As I feel like my head is spinning  
, and cut in half

I just nod numerous times

In hopes that he lets go

Because I can't bare the pain  
now

He finally let's go

And I drop down on my knees  
coughing , like my insides are  
coming out

Trevor : you look like a mess ,  
clean up and come eat . I'm glad  
we could understand each  
other

He clicks his tongue and walks  
out

I just curl down on the floor  
crying , my hand on my burning  
throat

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\*Trevor\*





She walks down in the most  
skimpiest short dress I have  
ever seen

One look at her , and I focus  
back on my food

I side eye Ace , and he hasn't  
taken his eyes off of her

Now I know , if he's ever in my  
house and I'm not around

He will definitely fuck her

She sits down

And she doesn't even bother  
eating

When I'm done eating I get up

Zara : can we please talk ?

Her voice is so hoarse

I look at her

Zara : what .....

She looks at Ace , and he  
doesn't move a muscle

She swallows hard

Zara : what changed ?

Me : what are you wearing ?

Her eyes glisten

Me : you're parading yourself  
like a whore right now

She looks down

Me : the second you saw I  
wasn't alone , you should have

turned up and changed the dress . You wanted him to see you like this ? What .... Do you want to fuck him ?

Zara : Trevor please .....what you're saying is hurting me . Please stop , you've never had a problem with how I dress

She sobs

Me : just tell me if you want him  
to fuck you , I can make it  
happen

Ace gets up and walks out as  
fast as he can

Bloody fool !

Zara : whatever I did , we can  
talk and I'll apologize we can fix  
things . This doesn't have to be

this way , you're hurting me

Trevor

Me : don't ever walk around my house dressed like this , I don't keep whores I sell them and make money . If that's what you want , it can happen

I grab my car keys off the table

And turn looking at her



Me : eat , don't be wasting my food . You don't buy it , and if Tia dare tells me you didn't eat . We'll have serious problems

She places her hands to her face wailing

I walk over and head out

I find Ace leaning by the wall

Me : dare touch her , I will bury  
you alive

He swallows

I head over to the car . And he  
comes after making sure the  
door is locked

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**\*Zara\***

Has God forsaken me ?

Like what kind of a life is this ?

Is this how a human being is  
supposed to live like ?

Like I'm meant to live this life  
and be okay with it ?

Be okay with this misery

Since he left with that guy with  
an ugly scar on his face earlier  
on

And he hasn't come back

The whole day I haven't had  
anything to eat

This Tia woman told me she was  
told not to give me any food

So I can be able to appreciate  
what I am given

Without a doubt , I am sure that  
was about the breakfast . I  
didn't eat at all

I am hungry

I won't even lie

My stomach is grumbling like  
nobody's business

And I'm in pain

I haven't stopped crying

Like when I think about my life

Just since from yesterday , I just  
can't help but cry

In a space of two days , already  
it feels like I won't survive at all

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\*INSERT 08\*



\*Musawenkosi\*

Musa : when did you get back ?

She places a kiss on my cheek

I chuckle

Me : a few days ago

She pouts

Musa : and you didn't tell me ?

Me : Princess come on , I was  
busy

She sighs

Now I have a lot of begging and  
begging to do

It's not easy being born with  
someone else

Like , we're the oldest but no .  
Not her

It's like she's the last born baby

And I'm all alone being the first  
born

She doesn't play like that

Me : let's go out , tomorrow

She smiles

Just bribe her , with anything  
that has to do with spending  
money

Just as long as it's not hers , it's fine

I blame the dad's for this

Mom always said , my father was very jealous

Because Musa turned out to be a Phakade

And my dad got me

When we were three , she was  
expecting again

And she knew it was Phakade  
who had scored , and not my  
father

So my father said , she better  
give Phakade a boy

So they can be able to share  
Musa equally

And well , Cele's dreams came  
true

The one after us , is a boy

Then came the twins , both girls

But Musa is just a special case  
of the family



Being the first born girl

Also being a fraternal twin

And we're not even identical

So she can basically get away  
with murder

We would all just take it for her

Musa : great ! I saw dad coming  
in

It's crazy

Cele is dad

And Phakade is daddy

That's how we've always called  
them growing up

And it just stuck

At least it doesn't make us  
confused at all

Me : mhm , he came for the  
council meeting

It hasn't been easy being king

Especially taking over from my  
uncle

Who only has girls , he wasn't  
happy

But there was no one in his  
lineage to continue with the  
throne

But I have my parents support  
more than anything

Musa : oh !

I look at her with a smile

She has a frown

My sister is cute

I don't even want to lie

She took mom's complexion

And she has freckles

They just make her look like the  
cutest thing ever

Me : you sound disappointed

She laughs

Musa : I thought he was here to  
talk about a wife

I chuckle

Me : your father must not start  
with me

That's one topic I never want to  
talk about

I'm not afraid of marriage

But I'm also not there yet

And well , I am not rushing  
anything

Musa : what if he organises one  
for you ?

Me : he will marry her

Musa : let mommy hear you say  
that

We laugh



She would skin me alive

That woman is very greedy ,  
and territorial

She's okay with her husband's  
sharing her

But she doesn't want to share  
to share them with anyone

But that has been working for her

I am okay right now , without a wife or a girlfriend . Like I am fine , I haven't committed myself to anyone

Just fucks here and there

I was bummed when I was in Joburg

To hear that Zenkosi moved  
away

But marriage is not something  
I'm rushing for

Even though the council and  
elders have been on my case  
about that

They want a king with a queen

But I won't do shit just to please  
them

When I get there , I will gladly  
take a wife

Just not now

Because I am so not there

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\*Zenkosi\*

Doc : see , this is the feet . We  
have all ten toes , and this .....ah  
the hands . All ten fingers there

I smile with a slight chuckle

Kenan : it's a girl

He says with such a huge smile

Me : wait .....the doctor did not tell you that

He laughs

We hadn't asked for the gender

Today , we just felt like we want to know

So we can start preparing

The buying of clothes , and  
décor for the nursery

And everything else , that this  
person is going to need

Kenan : my love , this is 3D . I  
can see that

Me : I saw nothing



Kenan : she's lazy , she doesn't  
move the legs too much

We laugh

Doc : true she is very lazy and  
doesn't play much , but you're  
right . You're having a little  
Black princess

Kenan : see ? I told you

Me : fine , I guess I missed that .  
I was caught up on this huge  
ugly face

He laughs

Kenan : that's your face

Me : wow , thank you very  
much . At least now I know how  
you see me

He smiles placing a peck on my  
cheek

Kenan : no lies , she took after  
you . I'm sure there are my  
features , but not that strong

That's pleasing to know

I am not carrying someone who  
will come out as a traitor

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\*Kenan\*

Me : thank you for that  
appointment

I've always wanted to give her a  
3D scan

And when she said we have an  
appointment today

I just took that opportunity

And I'm thankful

Because after seeing my baby  
girl

I feel so much better , I won't  
even lie

I am happy

Like , my mood has been lifted  
up

For now , I don't give a shit  
about Trevor or Cero and their  
nonsense

Or any of the clients

Zenkosi : are you happy we're  
having a girl ?

Me : my own flesh and blood ,  
girl or boy . It doesn't matter , I  
am more than happy

She smiles

I lean over giving her a kiss

Me : I love you

Zenkosi : I love you



Moving here , just might be the best decision ever

We really are in a better and happy space

Without having to worry about cops

Making an arrest every two weeks

Yet I still walked

This is so much better than  
what we had back there

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\*INSERT 09\*

\*Zara\*

Tia walks in , with a tray of food

I slept with an empty stomach

I tossed and turned , and cried  
like someone was beating me  
up

Just because of hunger , that  
was just painful

I have never gone to bed  
without food , ever in my entire  
life

Especially after starving the  
whole day

It was just painful

Even when I tried to sleep

I just couldn't

Because my stomach would just  
rumble

Tai : please , don't eat or touch anything before Mr Nyathi gets here

Wow !

What kind of a woman is this ?

Has she no mercy upon me ?

Like , she's not blind

She can see what's happening  
in here

Me : please help me ...

She gives me an evil ugly eye

Me : your Mr Nyathi , is keeping  
me here against my will ..  
please



She turns and walks to the  
kitchen

I sigh looking down , I feel tears  
burning my eyes

My stomach grumbles

And the way the food is  
smelling , it's just so hard to  
ignore

I keep looking up if he will show  
up

But he doesn't

I heave a sigh , and grab a plate  
dishing up for myself

I am not starving while there's  
food in front of me

I eat

And if only I could eat enough ,  
and be full for days on end

I would do it

After a while , I hear laughter

And my insides just go cold

I push the plate away from me ,  
and put my hands down

The door opens , he's definitely  
not alone

But with that scar guy

They walk to the table

Trevor looks at me , and it's like  
he wasn't laughing not so long  
ago

They both sit down

He looks at the plate

Trevor : Tia

With such a stern voice he calls  
out

And within a second she's here

Tia : sir ?

Trevor : what did I say to you ?

She looks down , and looks at  
me

Tia : I told her not to eat , until  
you get here

I am screwed

Trevor : I see , you can leave

So quickly she walks away

Trevor : enjoy the food  
sweetheart , because you're  
going to pay for that

I go cold instantly

Just dreading to even think  
what that payment would be

They dish up and just start  
eating

Right now , I don't even want  
the food anymore

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\*Cero\*



Me : we should just start  
looking for another supplier

Bones : won't Black feel  
betrayed ?

Me : he got Trevor in charge of  
his business , he's nothing but a  
fuck up . I cannot always be  
looking over his head

I shake my head slowly

Me : Trevor is very inconsistent

Bones : maybe Black can talk to him

Me : mhm , maybe . But I think I want Trevor out

Kenan will just have to understand

I pay them a lot of money for these girls

Only for me to kill them when  
they get here

Because they're not what I  
specifically asked for

I'm not a ritualist

I really don't need to be killing  
so many girls

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\*Zara\*

He slams me so hard against the  
wall

I scream out in pain

He lands three slaps on my  
cheeks

Just turning my head

Roughly , he just pulls me down

Taking out his dick

I cannot believe what's  
happening right now

Trevor is about to rape me , this  
feels like a dream . A whole  
nightmare with monsters

This is what I have been  
subjected to

He grabs the back of my head

Making me look at him

Trevor : if your teeth dare come  
anywhere near my dick , I will  
fuck you up so bad



Just then , he roughly slides in  
dick through my mouth

He deep grunts as he fucks my  
mouth so hard

Without mercy

I gag , and feel like throwing up

I try to push him off , but he  
doesn't budge

Instead he lands a slap on my  
cheek

Tears just stream down my face  
, I am feeling so much pain

I'm sure I look like a mess right  
now

But he doesn't care

He goes in deeper , standing still

I feel the vomit coming

Trevor : fuck .....

He moves back annoyed as I splash all over his pants and the floor

I cough like hell , curling up

Trevor : this is not done

He clicks his tongue , taking his clothes off

And he throws then down on the floor

Walking out naked as he is

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\*Trevor\*

Me : we can just secure this place

He looks at me

Me : we don't need to move anywhere

Ace : is it not risky having her here ?

Me : no one gives a fuck about her being here

He sighs

Ace : if her family says something , you know cops will be on you . They will come to you first

They wouldn't dare

Right now , they should just be focusing on spending my money

Me : we will deal with that

Ace : you're taking a risk , if we move away no one will ever know what happened



Me : and what about business ?  
We cannot move into other  
people's territories , and start  
kidnapping girls to be trafficked  
. That's just trouble

Ace : I just feel like being here ,  
and having that woman here is  
just a liability

He opens the door and walks  
out

I heave a loud sigh

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\*INSERT 10\*

\*Trevor\*

Ace : see what I was talking  
about ?

I give him a death stare

We walk closer to my gate

Where the two cops are

A male and female

I gather myself , as we get to  
them

Being calm as possible

Me : can I help you ?

They both turn

Him : we just have a few  
questions for you Mr Nyathi

I clear my throat

Me : what questions ?

Him : uhm .....we have received  
a report of a missing woman ,  
Zara Zondi

Ace is like , I told you so

Who the fuck is so stupid to go  
report a supposedly married  
woman missing ?

Me : who is that ?

Her : your wife we believe ?

What the hell ?

Me : my what ?

Him : it is believed that you and  
Ms Zondi got married ...

I chuckle

And shake my head



Me : where did you hear that ?  
Do I look like I'm married to you  
?

They look at each other , the  
female moves her eyes around

Me : I don't know this woman  
you're talking about , and  
clearly you have the wrong  
information about me being  
married to her

Her : her friend reported this ,  
after she missed work . And her  
phone wasn't going through ,  
also her car slightly parked  
away from her apartment

Me : mhm

Him : we had to ask her family ,  
of course they also confirmed  
that you're married to her

Those bloody idiots

Me : you can check records ,  
and see if I'm married anywhere  
. But right now , if you think I'm  
harbouring her in my house  
then you can just come through  
. Check for yourself , but if you  
don't find that woman in here .  
I swear , I'm going to sue all of  
you . The friend , the family and  
you two

Him : we ....

Me : I don't want to hear it ,  
move away so I can open my  
gate

Her : we will be on our way ,  
thank you for your cooperation  
and answering out questions

I shake my head slowly

They turn and walk to their van

Ace : see what I was talking  
about ?

I heave a sigh

Ace : we have a boat going out  
tonight , we can just get on in  
and ship out

Today might have been easy

But next time it won't

Me : let's go

I open the gate , and we walk in

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\*Zara\*

I don't think I've ever been in  
such pain

I'm just sitting down on the  
floor by the window

Just looking outside

Barely even seeing anything



The high walls have everything  
outside of this place hidden

I'm startled by the door opening

And from the window reflection  
, I can see it's him

Trevor : get up we have to go

Where are we going ?

I want to jump and ask him that

But I don't want to be in trouble

I get up , and turn looking at  
him

I wipe my tears off

Trevor : let's go

He opens the door wider

I walk past him

He leads the way downstairs

It doesn't look like a move

I mean , everything is just as it

And only this scar guy and Tia  
are here

Trevor : we're forgetting  
everything about this place , no  
one is taking anything . Even  
identity documents

What ?

I look at him as it registers

We're leaving Joburg

But where are we going ?

Right now , even if people were  
to try and find me if they cared  
enough

Then they wouldn't even know  
where to begin

Me : Trevor please just take me  
back home , I am not your  
possession . You cannot .....

Within a split second , he has  
my face banged down on the  
table

I bite my lip so hard , that it  
bleeds . And my nose is already  
aching bleeding

Trevor : give me that

My vision is just so blurry

But I see him taking something  
from the scar guy

He grabs my arm so painfully

And now I see it's a syringe

Me : please .....

I shake my head , I feel the cold  
metal poking me

And slowly my vision just gets  
worse blurry

My eyes are too heavy to be  
opened

They just close , and everything  
just goes blank

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\*Trevor\*

I look at my wrist watch

Ace : we will leave soon

Me : make sure that crate is secured , and she won't escape

Ace : she's chained in there ,  
both hands and arms . She  
won't do anything

I sigh

Ace : relax

I wish I could

But I don't want to even stand a  
chance for her to see an escape

I didn't even tell Kenan about  
this

I know he will be on my case

I really just need a breather  
away from him and his  
annoying lectures

It sucks working for another  
man

It's not like I'm incapable of  
doing this on my own

But he has more Intel than me

And he knows the business and  
market better

His men would never betray  
him

So it would be very hard to find  
buyers

Hence I'm just stuck , working  
for him

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\*Zara\*

Without a doubt , we're in  
water

It's the nausea I am feeling right  
now

I cannot stomach the sea

I can't move anything

My hands are chained , my  
hands are chained

And my mouth is covered with a  
duck tape

Really there's no escaping this ,  
we're leaving South Africa and  
I'm definitely being shipped



Just thinking of this , brings me  
to tears

I thought he loved me ....he said  
he loved me

Today I find myself chained

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\*INSERT 11\*



\*TWO WEEKS LATER\*

\*Zara\*

He leads me into the room

And it looks as shallow as ever

Nothing I've ever seen

More like a room for a slave

With a single bed by the corner

A wardrobe

And that's it

There's nothing else in here

Not even a bathroom

Trevor : you have familiarised  
yourself with the house , but it's  
not for you . This will be your

room from now on , the space  
that's yours

I look at this room

It doesn't even have a window

Nor a light

It looks so dark , and just scary .  
It looks like a cage for real

I might as well just be placed in  
the basement

There's chains on the bed

Trevor : you will stop wandering  
around the house , unless I tell  
you to . You won't eat anything  
, unless I order you to eat . And  
you won't go anywhere outside  
this room , unless I tell you to



It's official now

He has moved me oceans away  
from home

From everything and everyone I  
know

There's no escape from this

Trevor : and to keep you intact ,  
you'll be chained on that bed

Why even bother ?

It's not like I will run away

Where will I even go ?

I don't even know where we are

Even if I were to run away at a  
chance

I would just wander around

With nowhere to run to

Me : I curse the day I met you ,  
and I let you into my life . I  
curse the day , that I allowed  
myself to love you

He laughs

And it's so painful

Because he doesn't even care  
one bit

Now it's clear he never loved  
me to even begin with

He lied and deceived me

Lured me in , so I can let him in  
and open myself to him . So he  
can turn me into this

Trevor : I will shape and mould  
you , until you understand that  
this is your reality now

He walks out with a conniving  
smile

I sink down on the floor ,  
bringing my knees up

Just letting the tears flow

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\*Kenan\*

Me : what the hell is wrong with you ?

He sighs

The attitude he has fucking grown

It's too much

Me : you moved

Trevor : since you're saying it  
means you know

I am starting to hate this back  
and forth with him

It's like we're just women



Me : I hope you know what  
you're doing , and this whole  
business of yours ends up  
fucking in my face . Locust will  
feed on you

I drop the call

Just then Cero calls

The last thing I need , is this one  
calling me

Me : Ferrari

Cero : where the fuck is Trevor  
?

I close my eyes briefly

Me : Right there in Italy

Cero : what ?

Me : Trevor is a fuck up , I can admit that

Cero : he's your fucking fuck up

Me : I get that

Cero : cut Trevor off , if you still want my business

Great

I drop the call

Honestly Trevor is not worth all  
this shit

He is gone

As much as I hate it , but I don't  
have a choice right now

He will see what to do with  
himself

Clearly he thinks that he has got it

So he can go right ahead and figure himself out without me

Before I do away with him

He's just a liability right now , one that has become a problem to me

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\*Zara\*

It's middle of the night

And I am just covered with just  
a fleece

It's even hard to sleep

Because I'm scared being in this  
room

I feel the door cracking open

It's when he grabs my legs

I open my eyes looking at him

Me : Trevor.....

Fear just strikes me



Me : no ....no please ....don't  
....no

He says nothing , but just tears  
the silk nightdress I am wearing

And parts my legs

He has never done this , nor  
even tried it

It was just that mouth  
penetration that time

But he didn't try anything after  
that

Today , he's walked in here  
naked

And his intentions are very  
much clear

I scream as he slides his dick  
through

And he's not being gentle at all ,  
he doesn't even care

I am not even wet , I'm dry as  
the Kalahari desert

He just pounds in , without  
giving me a break

Not caring or giving a damn  
about my cries , he's just  
oblivious to them

I can't even move much  
because I am chained on this  
bed

It's even pointless to try and  
fight him off

I can't

I just lay on the bed , as he gets  
to have his way with me  
however he wants to

It feels like forever , when he  
finally deep grunts

And his cum lands on my  
tummy

I feel so disgusted

Without saying anything , he  
just turns and walks out closing  
the door

I let out a heart wrenching sob

My heart is aching

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\*Trevor\*

A whole family man , calling me  
like this

I click my tongue , declining the  
call

Kenan is a lot

Worse he has that Cero behind  
him

Now he wants to be behind me



I still need to find a way of how  
to get under him and get out

I can't keep being dictated to  
like this , I am not a child

I walk into the shower , and  
taking a quick shower

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\*INSERT 12\*

\*Zara\*

I sit down

Since I've been called out of  
that room to come eat

He's alone today

No scar face , and the rude  
mean maid

I am not even hungry

Okay , I am hungry

But I don't have that appetite

I don't want to eat

I don't think I can stomach  
anything right now

I just don't see how he rapes  
me

And then today , I have to sit on  
this table and have a meal with  
him

It doesn't make sense to me

I just watch him as he eats

Until he's done

And he gets up , walks away  
without even saying anything

After a few minutes , I get up  
and walk back to the dungeon  
room

I sit down on the floor

I even bled last night

I can't bring myself to be on  
that bed

If only I knew better

If only I knew what kind of a  
man Trevor is

He's not even a man



He's just a whole monster

I would have stayed away from  
him

I never wanted this marriage to  
even begin with

Look where I am right now ?

I hope my father is happy where  
he is

And enjoying the money he got  
, selling me off

He shouldn't have agreed to  
this

He should have listened to me ,  
and understood what I was  
telling him

He should have heard my pleas ,  
and understood when I said it's  
too soon

Maybe by the time I figured out  
, that I would be ready for  
marriage

Trevor would have long left me  
alone

And gone to trap another  
woman

I feel like my father sold me off

Like he deserted me as a father

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\*Kenan\*

She looks at me and I smile

Zenkosi : what's up ?

I chuckle

Me : why ?

Zenkosi : you have been staring at me this whole time , without uttering a word

Me : I'm just enjoying watching you eat , that's all

Zenkosi : baby , talk

I sigh

I don't know how she'll feel  
about this

Me : I have to travel to Italy

Zenkosi : when ?

Me : as soon as possible

Trevor just needs to fuck out

He's being a lot right now

And I just can't deal with him

Even the sly move to Italy ,  
without even telling me

I don't know if he thought I  
wouldn't know



Zenkosi : business ?

Me : yeah , but not a big deal .  
Just a day

Zenkosi : okay , that's not bad

She's taking this better than I  
thought she would

Me : I thought you will be angry

She laughs

Zenkosi : for what ?

Me : maybe you would like to  
come with

I don't want her coming

Right now I am just trying not to  
be suspicious

I am still trying to keep her  
away from this illegal business  
as far as I can

Me : that I am leaving

Zenkosi : baby , you said it  
yourself . It's just a day , we  
won't die

Me : I am going to miss you

Zenkosi : we will miss you too

I walk over and sit down next to her

Me : I love you

Zenkosi : and I love you

I lean over pecking her lips

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\*Zenkosi\*

I just got back from dropping  
Kenan at the airport

And the house is really lonely  
without him

But I guess it's not that bad

Cause he will be back tomorrow  
evening

I answer the call from Thuto

Me : hey mommy

She laughs

Thuto : not you

Me : girl I'm sorry , I was driving

Thuto : okay , I'm just checking  
in on you

I laugh sitting down

Me : I couldn't be better

Thuto : that's good

Me : I miss home



We laugh

Thuto : you should visit once  
baby is born , Wenkosi doesn't  
believe you're pregnant and  
gone

Just hearing his name , I  
involuntary smile

Me : where is he ?

Thuto : back at his Kingdom ,  
but you know him and coming  
this side

Me : still not married ?

She laughs

I don't even know why I am  
asking about his marital status

That's suspicious

Thuto : I don't see that  
happening

Poor man

Thuto : you should have his  
number and call him sometimes

Call him for what ?

Thuto is too forward

And what do you know ?

She sends the number through

Me : what do I need his number  
for ?

Thuto : call him sometime , and  
just talk

She's crazy

Me : about what ? It's not like  
we're friends and all

We laugh

Thuto : I don't know , just have  
it . You might need it one day

This is crazy

Don't ask me nothing

And I'll tell no lie

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\*Zara\*

He walks in

I'm still sitting on the floor

I didn't even bother getting up

Hours back , I even fell asleep  
right on this cold floor

Trevor : I served you , and you  
didn't eat

He doesn't sound happy

But when has her ever sounded  
happy ?



Ever since we so called got  
married

It's like I've met the devil in the  
flesh

Me : I wasn't hungry

He walks closer

With his sour expression

Trevor : when I give you food ,  
you eat . You don't get to waste  
food that you don't buy

I look at him

Me : I .....

Trevor : this fucking damn loud  
mouth of yours

He kicks me to the side , I lay on  
the floor holding my ribs

As I look at him , he puts his  
boot on my neck

I feel like I am dying right now

Tears are streaming down to  
the side of my face going into  
my ears

I try grabbing his foot off of me

But it's useless

I pass out with his foot on my  
throat

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\*INSERT 13\*

\*Kenan\*

I push Ace opening the door

Ace : uhm ....Sir

Me : where is he ?

He says nothing , and just then  
Trevor walks down the stairs

He has one annoyed look

Me : lose it

He chuckles shaking his head

Trevor : you should just retire ,  
and give me the operation . I  
am tired of being dictated to by  
you and that fool Cero

I chuckle

Me : you have grown some balls

Trevor : don't look down on me  
like that Kenan



I dart my eyes up the stairs , as  
this petite woman walks down

Trevor moves his eyes around

And now I get it

He has kept himself a toy

That's why he's being this  
unruly

He wants to prove so badly that  
he's a man

I look at her , until she gets  
down

And I notice all the bruises on  
her face and arms

The one on her neck looks fresh  
and fresh

It's a last night thing surely , it's just hard to miss it

Me : where did you get this woman ?

Trevor : she's none of your business , don't get involved .  
Like stay out of it

I chuckle , there's something here

She's more than just a toy

Judging by his tone , and the  
way he was just so quick to  
stand in

Me : this is why you ran away  
from South Africa , it's because  
of her . You fucked up as always

He scoffs

And she eyes begging eyes

Like I can just be her saving  
grace from this hell hole

Me : I am taking my operation  
back , so go fuck yourself

Trevor : you can't do that , I said  
give it to me . You can't just cast  
me out , not after everything I

have done for you . I worked my  
ass off , and made you millions  
of money

Me : go fuck yourself , I don't  
give a shit

Trevor : I will challenge you  
Kenan , I won't just give up

Me : good luck

I turn , facing the door

And the woman screams

Her : please help me .....he  
kidnapped me sir please ....

Trevor turns to her , with a slap

I walk out the door

I get into the rented car and  
drive out

Making a call

Cero : Black

Me : he's out , I'll take care of  
whatever you need

Cero : about damn time



I sigh

Me : he might be a problem , do  
away with him if needs be

Cero : gladly

Me : he has a price possession  
in his house , you might wanna  
repay yourself

I drop the call

And drive out heading to the  
airport

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\*Cero\*

Bones : anything good ?

I put my phone down and  
chuckle

Me : that was Black

Bones : mhm , he finally got his lapdog into check ?

Me : even better , he's back .  
And seems like Trevor kept a little dime for himself in his house

Bones : is it now ?

Me : I am very much tempted to see how this will unfold , and see if she means anything to him

He smiles

Bones : hah ! And if she is , then we will definitely hit him where it hurts the most

I chuckle

Me : exactly

Bones : now that I like , it's even better than killing him

Me : send Black something , as gratitude . He's a good man that one

He gets up

Bones : I'll get on with it

He walks out

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\*Zara\*

After that slap , more came

And when I was down on the  
floor



The kicks kept coming

Like someone was busy pushing  
his leg

I'm bleeding on the floor

As Ace walks up to me

Me : please .....please don't  
.....don't hit me

I so regret pulling that stunt  
with that white man

But I guess he's one of them

But on the other hand , I don't  
regret what I did

If I die in the hands of this  
monster , then I better not die  
having given up

I flinch as he helps me up

Ace : stop provoking him , he will stop beating you . These marks will stay forever in your body , you're ruining yourself . Just let him be , and let him feel like he's in control . Just do what he wants , don't come out unless you're told . If he offers you food , make sure you eat and finish . We can't avoid that you're here , and he's got you

captured . This is not life , but  
rather avoid getting the beating

I cough , and it's just blood

Ace : sorry , let me help you to  
your room . Clean up , and get  
some sleep before he's back

I want to ask why he's helping  
me

But I don't want to offend him

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\*Zenkosi\*

I turn as I feel him sinking down  
, getting in bed

Me : you're back

I ask with a sleepy voice

He places a kiss on my forehead  
, rubbing his hand on my  
tummy

Kenan : I told you I needed just  
a day

Me : hold me so I can sleep

He chuckles

Kena : I love you

I smile , as he holds me into his arms

Kenan : you must never forget that

Me : you're not dying are you ?

He laughs



Kenan : I am very far from death

Me : so Mr Black , what's with the sentiments ?

He deep chuckles

Kenan : I just want you to know that

Me : I know , and you show me that everyday

Kenan : you deserve all the love  
that there is there

I laugh

Me : can we just sleep ?

Kenan : you didn't miss me ?

I missed him for that simple one  
day

Not even a day , just those  
hours

Kenan : I know I missed you

Me : I missed you more

Kenan : we can sleep now

I laugh , snuggling to him

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\*INSERT 14\*

\*Zara\*

My face is a mess , I am even  
swollen on one side

One eye is shut completely

The kicks marks on my ribs , just  
make everything worse

My lip is busted

Yesterday , I sure got a beating  
of my life

One beating , I don't think I will  
ever forget

I thought he would come at  
night and just rape me

But he didn't

I don't know if I should even be  
grateful for that

I am so hungry right now

I could eat for 5 people

But I'm taking Ace's words that  
he said



I won't go out of this room  
unless I'm told

It's evident , these beatings are  
what will kill me

That day he placed his boot on  
my neck , I passed out

And came to , when I was  
thrown by ice water

I really don't know what kind of  
life is this

What kind of abuse is this ?

And how much more can a  
person take

I know I am not strong enough  
for this

I will not survive this much pain

I blamed my father for this

But as he was beating me  
yesterday

And he left me bleeding on cold  
tiles like I'm a dog

I just grew some hate for my  
father

Such hate I never even thought  
I have within me

He sure is enjoying his money  
now

Money he got selling me off

I am sure he doesn't even care

He's not even bothered to look  
for me

And that's what kills me even  
more

Because I know , no one will  
ever come knocking looking for  
me

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\*Cero\*

Bones : what's on your mind ?

Me : with Black back , Trevor is  
left exposed and very much  
vulnerable

He sits down

Me : this can give us an  
advantage

Bones : I am listening

Me : I want you to find a way to infiltrate him

Bones : be one of his ?

Me : yeah , find out what you can . Be on the inside , and see what you can get out of that woman . I will strike him when he least expects it

Bones : I will see what to do



Me : do it Bones , you must get into his territory

He nods

Me : a lesson , he must be taught . And if that woman means nothing to him , then most definitely he will get rid of her . In that case , we can leave him alone

Bones : understood

He takes out his phone making  
a call , putting it on loud  
speaker

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\*Trevor\*

Me : yeah

Bones : can you talk ?

Me : what do you want ?

He sighs

Me : if Cero sent you , I am not  
in his moods and he can fucking  
go fuck himself

Bones : I couldn't agree more  
with you

I frown

Me : what ?

Bones : Black told Ferrari that  
he's back

I click my tongue

Bones : I want in , I believe  
you're certain that whatever

operation you're going to start  
without Black backing you up  
will work

Me : who said I am interested ?

Bonus : this is all that you know  
, nothing else . You need the  
money

This must be a prank of some  
sort

There's no way that Bones will betray Cero

Bones : as much as you're tired of Black , I've had my fair share with Ferrari . I am not like you , I can't venture on my own . But we can join forces

I am not trusting this

They could be setting me up

Bones : you can think about it ,  
but don't take too long . Cause  
if you want me , I need to  
gather all the information I can .  
Something we can use to get us  
started

He drops the call

Me : what the fuck ?



No ways !

Bones cannot leave Cero after  
so many years of working  
together

But what if he's being for real

And I refuse , then I lose out on  
making it on my own ?

Because I know it's going to be  
struggle to secure clients alone

Also most of these people being  
Kenan

If Bones can be on my side ,  
then maybe just maybe he can  
get me enough info to take  
some of the clients

They're most connected to Cero

But what if he's fucking me up ?

I could be signing my death  
warrant

Men don't just switch like that

In our line of work , loyalty is  
everything

With me Black had it coming

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\*Kenan\*

Me : Ace

Ace : sir , please spare me a minute

I look over at Zenkosi , and she seems occupied

Me : talk

Ace : I don't know what's happening , but I just heard Trevor and Bones on the phone right now . And it seems I might just get replaced by the Tuscan , we were who we were because you had us . Without you on his operation , I need a job

Bloody Cero

And clearly Trevor is not  
catching in

That Cero is just sending a mole  
in his operation

I am so disappointed in myself

Clearly I taught him nothing

He's so stupid !

Me : don't get out of there dead

Ace : I'll report at the base  
tomorrow

I drop the call shaking my head

Trevor is really stupid more  
than I thought he was



And all these years , I had him  
as my right hand

He clearly learnt nothing

But I don't give a fuck what  
Cero does to him

It will be on him

If he was smart , he wouldn't let  
Bones anywhere near him

But he probably will think it's  
his way of making it without me

I just need to find out who is  
that woman

And why he's keeping her like  
that

If Cero was to keep her , I would  
understand

He would keep her as a  
possession he took from the  
enemy

But with Trevor , it doesn't  
make sense

And I am never wrong

There's more to that woman ,  
and I will find out

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\*Zara\*

Me : is he back ?

I'm on my feet as he walks in

He has a sad expression , one I  
cannot make out

I look at him

Me : I am hungry , I haven't  
eaten anything in three days

He sighs

Me : please tell me he's back

He shakes his head

Gosh !

I am going to die of hunger in  
here

I haven't left this room in three  
days

This is the fourth day

I haven't had water or food

Ace : I just came to let you  
know that I am leaving

Me : what ?

Ace : you won't see me again

Me : he didn't fire you because  
you helped me the other day ?

Ace : no

Me : then please take me with  
you



He drops his eyes

Ace : I can't do that

Me : please Ace ....

He sighs

Ace : I am going to a man that's  
ten times worse than Trevor ,  
he will sell you to ruthless men .

Men who will put you through worse things , things you cannot even begin to imagine . Right now you just have Trevor , with him you will have more than ten men just pleasing themselves with you . He will make you do despicable things , trust me . I am sparing you . Trevor is just rookie with a big head , who doesn't even know what he's doing

No !

Even God has turned his back  
from me

Ace : remember what I said ?

I nod with tears streaming  
down my face

Ace : I am so sorry

He turns and walks out

Right now

I just have an urge to run out of  
this room

Grab a knife and hurt myself in  
the worst possible way that I  
will not survive

Death is even better than this

Death by my own hand is better  
than having Trevor one day  
decide to finish me

But I know that Tia is probably  
in there

Ace was starting to be nice to  
me

Something Tia will never do

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\*INSERT 15\*

\*A YEAR AND FEW MONTHS  
LATER\*

\*Zara\*



I knock in his room

It's quite for a while

Until he opens the door

He's shirtless

Me : I'm sorry

Trevor : for what ?

Me : what happened last night

I didn't sleep a wink

And I thought he was going to  
come in

And just beat me about what  
happened in the dinner

Trevor : you just never learn

Me : I am sorry , it won't  
happen again

He just stares at me

Now I feel like just turning and leaving

I slowly move back from his door

But he just pulls me in ,  
grabbing tight on my arm

Trevor : don't do it again ?

I nod rapidly

Me : I promise I won't

He lets go

Bones appears

Trevor : leave us

I nod and turn walking away

As much as it was hard , not  
seeing Ace because he was  
starting to be nice to ne

Bones never hurts me

He doesn't even talk much

So him being a replacement  
didn't matter

It's just sad how two years has  
gone by

And this is my life

Still chained by this man I so  
called my husband

And over time , he actually told  
me how the marriage was just a  
show for my parents

He said no one would ever find  
a trail of us getting married

So basically , I just went off the  
face of the earth

And I'm sure my family never  
cared

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\*Zenkosi\*

I look at him

I am actually just boiling inside

Honestly this marriage is  
draining now

There's always things that are  
just happening and I do not  
understand

Every time I ask him , he lies

And one thing I've learnt about  
Kenan is that he's a liar , like a  
liar

He lies through his teeth

Sadly , he lies so much that you  
see him believing his own lies

You can't help but believe him  
too

But I am not stupid

I can see something wrong is  
happening here

He has changed so much

I barely even recognise the man  
I married

I cannot fault him on being a  
father though

Because he is the best

Me : what's this ?

I am holding his white shirt

Just last week , he came with a  
t-shirt that had blood stains

They were so small , it really  
wouldn't have been easy to  
spot

But I don't really rely on the  
maid

I clean and do our laundry

And I even cook

Because I understand that I'm a  
wife and a mother , a whole  
married woman . I do my duties

Now here I am , with a white  
shirt

Smudged with lipstick

I know my husband is not a  
cheater

That one I am very much certain  
about

Me : tell me some woman  
bumped into you , and her  
lipstick graced your t-shirt

Kenan : I did not cheat on you

Me : I did not even start to  
accuse you



Kenan : I don't know how that  
got there

Me : just like the blood

He keeps quite

Me : it's fine , it wasn't a  
question anyways

I turn walking to the laundry  
room

Whatever Kenan has been  
doing for the past year and  
eight months is big

It's no little thing

But I am tired now

I feel like I am living and  
married to a stranger

But that will come to an end

I will find out exactly what shit  
he's doing

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\*Cero\*

Me : so ?

Bones : their relationship is very different , however she's more of a chained price more than anything

Me : it's been almost two years  
Bones

Bones : I am telling you , he holds her dear . Otherwise , she would have long been sold or dead

Me : perfect

Bones : when can I expect you ?

Me : soon

I drop the call

It's been a long time , and it's  
time now that I collect

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\*Kenan\*

Fuck !

Ever since I've taken things back

It's been a bumpy ride , and just  
been too much

Things haven't been easy



Because now I am more hands  
on

And that means less time at  
home

Even though I try so much

But I can feel it , and I can tell

Things are not the same with  
my wife

She also can see just how  
fucked up I am right now

It's these small mishaps that  
keep happening

And she doesn't miss on them

I lean by the door frame

Me : my love

Zenkosi : Kenan , I am not in the mood for your lies

I sigh walking in

I hug her from behind

Me : I am not going to lie , I just want to say I am so sorry about everything

Zenkosi : I don't know what's  
everything

I sigh

Me : I so wish I can tell you

Zenkosi is not a naïve woman

One thing I know is that if she  
ever finds out the truth

We're done

And I cannot have that

I love my wife so much

And it pains me , that I'm the  
one who's going to drive her  
away

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\*INSERT 16\*

\*Trevor\*

The shock opening the door

Me : what do you want here ?

Cero : are you going to let me in  
or what ?

Me : you haven't answered me

After that betrayal from Ace



Leaving me going to join Kenan

I wasn't so sure about Bones  
anymore

But he's been around and very  
loyal

Even though things have been  
tough

Because I don't have as many  
clients as Kenan used to bring

Cero never came here

He never wanted Bones back

Even after taking three of his  
clients

He stayed still

So why now ?

Cero : be nice to your guests

And he invites himself in

I sigh turning back closing the  
door

To the surprise of my life

Bones has Zara chained

She's a crying mess , but her  
cries are muffled by the tape on  
her mouth

He has a gun pointed at her

Me : what the fuck is this ?

Cero chuckles

Cero : I am just here for her

I laugh

Me : like hell you are , she's mine and I'll drop dead before you take her . She's not going anywhere , tell your lapdog to leave her

I should have known , I should have just damn known that this was too good to be true

Bones leaving was all just a plan

Kenan always said , a right hand  
will never betray his own

Unless he's gotten big for his  
own boots

I had grown big for mine , and  
Bones just wanted to lean  
against me

I should have known

Fuck !

I have been stupid

Me : it will rain blood

Cero : that can be arranged ,  
and you're not even worth the  
energy of a brutal one

He draws his gun as I draw mine

And pain stings me as I hold my  
arm

Seeing that he has shot me

Cero : you think this is a joke ?

Me : it will be a blood path  
Ferrari



Bones walks closer with Zara

Sure I never loved her

But I got to relieve that pain and  
hurt I've been through

And all because of a woman

She doesn't know this

I never told her

And I'm sure that woman thinks  
I am dead

But she had me when she was  
14

And she decided to throw me in  
a fucking dustbin

But she went on to have kids

And I know just how much she  
loved Zara

I didn't care that she's my half  
sister

I just wanted to relive that pain  
of her mother on her

It wasn't nothing personal

But she was just paying for her  
mothers sins

Now this one thinks he can walk  
in here

Make demands and take what  
belongs to me

He's fucking out of his mind

We will rather all die in here

Cero : I said .....

I take a shot as Bones turns

I just see blood gushing

And I know it went to her

I would rather she was dead , so  
we both loose her

Because then I wouldn't have  
had her

And nor will Cero

I dart my eyes as another gun  
shots loudly goes off

I pop my eyes

Slowly loosing consciousness

I look to my chest , and he  
fucking didn't miss

I hit the floor so hard my head  
pounds

Blood gushing out of my mouth

Cero : really was a blood stain

The last words that I make out

As I take my last breath

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\*Zara\*



Is this my saving grace ?

Am I out of that misery ?

Like was Bones sent here so he  
can save me ?

But if he was , then why did he  
take so long ?

It didn't even take them 5  
minutes to kill Trevor

So why take a whole year and  
months ?

I can't even look at this man

He looks so cute , but seeing  
him kill Trevor like that

I can tell , he's not to be messed  
with

I can't stop my tears

They still have the chains on my  
hands and feet

My mouth is taped

I just hope , I didn't get away  
from the hands of a monster

Only to fall in the hands of  
another

But it seems like that

The car window are tinted

I really don't even see much

Even now , I still can't tell where  
we are

The truth is , I wasn't saved

I'm still going to be chained if  
not worse

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\*Kenan\*

Ace : the shipment has arrived

Me : where are you ?

Ace : at the Base

I sigh

Me : okay , I will be there just  
now

I drop the call

It's fucking middle of the night

But I have to leave

I don't have much of a choice

I didn't select the girls myself  
this time



I wasn't there

I just couldn't leave

Not with the suspicions that my  
wife already has

I walk in the bedroom and she's  
in bed

I know she's asleep

I put on a jacket , and place a  
kiss on her forehead

I walk out , and check Royal in  
her room

She's also sleeping

I place a kiss on her cheek

And walk out

Grabbing my car keys , I walk  
out heading to my car

I get in and drive out heading to  
the base

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\*Zenkosi\*

Sneaky bastard of a man

He awaits us to be asleep

And decides to sneak out

Only to come back with lipstick

And blood stains

Well , not today

They clearly didn't guide him  
well

If he has ancestors

I put on my boots and a jacket

I grab my car keys and rush  
downstairs

Evenly walks in

Me : thank you , I'll be back  
soon

Evenly : madam please be safe

Me : I will

I had already told her , to stay  
on the look out

And that if she hears my  
husband leave

She must come in here and  
watch Royal

I rush out to my car , and drive  
out

Tracking his car

Hopefully he doesn't catch on  
that my tracker is live



Before I get to him , and see  
exactly what the hell he's up to

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\*INSERT 17\*

\*Zenkosi\*

Exactly what is Kenan doing in  
such a shady place ?

And I can't even say I'm lost

Or maybe mistaken

Because this is his car

I'm looking inside , and there's  
no one

I move back slowly

And almost let out a scream ,  
when I bump into a metal on  
my back

Without a doubt

I have a gun pointed on my back  
right now

Me : don't you dare touch me

Whoever it is , just roughly  
grabs my back

And I lean down biting his arm  
with my all

He groans

And places the gun on the side  
of my forehead

Him : pull that shitty stunt again  
, and I will kill you

My heart is beating up so fast

I am so scared

There's no body part in the  
whole of me that's not shaking  
right now

He drags me as we walk  
towards the door

And he just kicks it open

My eyes land first on my  
husband

Anger just graces his face , he  
turns pink same time

Kenan : what the fuck ?

He walks towards us

The one holding me , doesn't  
even move an inch

Him : I found her snooping  
around in your car



Kenan : boy who the hell do you  
think you are handling my wife  
?

Just then , a gun shot goes off

I close my eyes for a brief  
moment

And open them as I feel his  
touch

I turn back , and the guy who  
was holding me is on the floor

With a bullet between his eyes

He turns his gaze to me

And now I am looking at these  
girls in here

I am in shock

So young , they could all be  
under 16

But what is Kenan doing human  
trafficking girls ?

It all comes back

All the pettiness , from the cops  
back in South Africa

The arrests , and the  
accusations

He's such a good liar , I never  
even doubted him

Not even once

Kenan : I am so sorry you had to  
see this

Is he for real ?

I slap him so hard , but he  
doesn't even move an inch

Me : let these girls go

My hand hurts , and now I feel  
like crying

This is who I am married to

Me : let them go !

I raise my voice

Kenan : no

Me : what ....what ?

He says nothing

Me : we .....we have a daughter  
, have you no shame ?

Kenan : and my daughter is  
protected

Me : don't tell me that  
nonsense , these are other  
people's kids and you're selling  
them Kenan

Now I'm a crying mess

My heart is aching for them

Me : let these girls go

Kenan : I said no

What's really angering me here

Is the fact that I just caught him

I am crying

And I am hurt by his doings



But he's so calm

He's so calm like this is a  
cartoon show argument , he is  
not bothered at all

Kenan : go home we will talk

Go home ?

Go home we will talk

Me : I hate you , I hate you so much . You deserve to rot in jail for this ....

Kenan : you're not going to go and report me , trust me I'll go down with you . And our daughter will be left with no parents , and that's when she will be like them . Left without anyone to watch over her , no cops are being called here

Gosh !

My heart breaks

How can he be so heartless ?.

Me : I want a divorce

Kenan : you're angry right now ,  
you're not thinking straight ....

Me : I said .....I want a divorce , I don't want you anymore in my life . You can go on to be this monster that you are , but I will not be a part of this . I want a divorce , I wasn't asking you . I am telling you

I turn , thinking he'll stop me

But he doesn't

I walk out , with tears streaming  
down my face

I get into my car and let out a  
scream

This is beyond me

One thing I know is that this is a  
syndicate

I'm only me

In a foreign country

My daughter is my priority right  
now

And getting away from this  
country

Nothing else matters , than her  
right now

I will not put my life or her's in  
danger , just to play hero and  
save those girls

I am going to be selfish right  
now

And choose my daughter ,  
that's the person who needs my  
protection

I will not poke dangerous men

I am sure Kenan and his associates , they have cops in their pockets

It would really be useless to try and report it

I know

There's no way that a single man can hold such an operation



Even back in South Africa , he  
never spent more than a day in  
a jail cell

Reporting him here , will just be  
a disaster for me

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\*Kenan\*



I am fucking screwed

Me : go to my house , get my daughter . And take her to the penthouse

Ace : now ?

Me : yesterday Ace , and get your ass here

I drop the call

I am fucking screwed

I feared this day would come

And it has come

I know Zenkosi wasn't kidding

She's leaving me , and she  
won't even think twice

And there won't be any  
convincing her anyhow , she's  
made up her mind

I know right now the first place  
she will run to is home

And she will take Royal and I  
might never see them again

And I can't have that happen

I hope Ace is smart enough to  
get there before she does

I'm holding my breath

I don't want her running away  
and doing something stupid

Something that will get both of  
us in deep shit

I'll rather I see her and we talk

Even though I know that this marriage is done

Exposing me , means risking my clients

And the likes of Cero will not hesitate to do away with her

If they feel that there's a threat , they will protect themselves

Her being alive , is more  
important than saving this  
marriage

I'll rather she walks away , and  
lives

Than to fight for her , and only  
she betrays me and exposes us

I love that woman



And i don't want her dead

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\*INSERT 18\*

\*Zenkosi\*

I feel like I am loosing my mind

It's clear he got ahead of me.

I didn't even think to call Evelyn  
and tell her to take Royal and  
run away

There was no blood at home

Nothing that suggests violence

So I am certain it's him

He took them

I've been calling Evenly , and  
her phone is not going through

I have been driving around like  
a mad woman

The whole night

I am drained and tired right now

But I want my child

I don't care about everything  
else right now

I just want my child

I call him , and first ring he  
answers

Me : I know you have .....

A lump gets stuck on my throat

Me : I know you have her ,  
please bring me my child . I  
won't report this , I am not an  
idiot

His silence is just saying a lot

I break down

Because the thought of losing  
my child is something I cannot  
even begin to imagine

No !

I don't want to go through that

I may hate Kenan right now

Not want anything with him

But my child , is my child . I  
don't hate her because of him



She may be his daughter , but I  
love her so much

That baby was made out of love

Me : please ....

I take a sharp curve , as I see a  
black SUV behind me

Me : you have your goons  
following me !

I raise my voice , just anger  
building up

With tears still , eyes all blurry

I step on the accelerator

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\*Zara\*

I open my eyes

And this feels like a dream

I am in a room that's just white

And it looks so fancy and very  
much clean

I move my eyes around

The pain on my arm , hitting me

I remember events of the day  
before yesterday

Was it ?

I mean , I don't know what day  
it is today

I am so confused

I get off the bed , but the door  
opens

And I am just stuck on my feet

It's Bones

Bones : I am sorry I scared you ,  
glad you're awake . There's  
food on the table , eat and take  
your pain medication

I look at him , just out of words

Bones : this medication is too strong , and you cannot take it without eating

Me : what ....where am I ?

Bones : go eat

His tone gets stern

And it actually scares me

Did I escape , or I just landed in  
the fire of another ?

I heave a sigh turning

And I see the table

It's a proper Italian full  
breakfast

I sit down and eat



He places the pills on the table  
next to a glass of water

And he walks out

Whatever is happening here is  
so wrong ?

Trevor started being this nice to  
me

With a fake love relationship

And only turned out to be a  
monster

I put the fork down , just getting  
lost in thought

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\*Kenan\*



I am pissed , just laying my eyes  
on her

And seeing the slight bruise on  
her

Ace just annoys the hell out of  
me

Just failing to answer a simple  
question

I told them I don't want my wife  
with a single scratch

He goes on , and brings her the  
opposite of that

Ace : she was being difficult .....

I draw my gun , and put a bullet  
through his skull

He falls down right next to her

Me : clean this mess

I place my gun back , and head  
over to the door

Me : let's go

She just stares at me

Me : now !

She frowns but goes out  
anyways

I walk next to her as we head  
into the elevator going to the  
penthouse

Zenkosi : I saw you kill two men  
, in what ? Just a few hours

I side eye her

I've never seen her like this

Zenkosi : are you going to kill  
me too ?

I heave a sigh

Me : you're my wife , the  
mother of my child . I will never  
kill you , for what reason would  
I have to kill you ? You're driving  
me crazy right now , but that's



no reason . My child needs her  
mother

She chuckles annoyed and clicks  
her tongue

I use my access card , and walk  
inside

Evenly is nowhere in sight with  
Royal

Zenkosi : Kenan where is my child ?

Me : you really want a divorce ?

Zenkosi : don't you even dare ,  
think you can play games with  
me

Me : mine , that was just a  
really simple question

She chuckles

Zenkosi : try me , and things will get messy . I am leaving you with your business's and all , go on and continue trafficking girls . Give me a divorce , and sole custody of Royal . I want my child , and I want you away from her

My heart sinks

I didn't think she would want  
sole custody

Zenkosi : I am not playing with  
you , we're done

I walk over to the drawer taking  
out the papers

I pulled in favours middle of the  
night

To someone else , this might  
look like in just too quick to give  
up

I am not even fighting

As much as I want to , I love my  
wife with our child so much

To a point that I will let them go  
, just to keep them safe

There's no way I can protect  
them against everyone who's  
an enemy to me

And she's a threat , to me and  
everyone else I'm associated  
with

She could create problem for us

I hand her the papers

Zenkosi : you think I am an idiot  
?

Me : no , you might not trust  
them I know . My love , I don't  
want to fight you . I know  
there's no going back from here  
, which is why I'm letting you go  
. You don't have to sign them ,  
until you can verify them with a  
lawyer of your choice . But I  
have already signed

She looks at the papers , as  
tears stream down her face

Zenkosi : I don't want your  
money , nor your assets and ....

Me : it's not for you , but it's for  
Royal

She sighs



I've signed everything to her

The house , the two companies

And the three cars that are on  
my name

As well as all the money that I  
have , and she's aware of

Zenkosi : you will never see  
Royal again , I will sell

everything and keep the money  
. I don't even want to your filthy  
money ....

Me : I said ....

Zenkosi : so she must go and  
enjoy riches made off other  
people's misery ?

Me : stop being difficult for no  
reason , what you wanted was a

divorce . And I've given it to you  
, keep her money . When she's  
older tell her , tell her truth  
even about me . And she will  
make her own decision

I walk to the bedroom

And Evenly is sitting on the  
edge of the bed

Me : come

She gets up , looking so scared .  
I don't even know about what

Me : with Royal

She picks a sleeping Royal off  
the bed , and we walk back to  
the living room

It's an open plan

As soon as Zenkosi lays her eyes on Royal , she tears up

Me : I am sorry

I know she was going to be very worried

Me : I wanted us to talk first , I knew you were going to take her and leave

Zenkosi : this changes nothing ,  
and I swear if you think you'll  
put your goons on me . I will  
open my mouth to anyone who  
is willing to listen , then you and  
your gang can kill me

I sigh shaking my head

Zenkosi : don't follow me Kenan

Me : can I say goodbye to her ?

Zenkosi : no

She says opening the door

And Evenly walks out with her  
and Royal

As soon as that door closes

I pour myself a glass of whiskey

But it doesn't even go down , I  
end up just throwing it against  
the wall

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\*INSERT 19\*



\*Zenkosi\*

I am shaking

I don't even think my mind is  
functioning well right now

I am scared

I am angry and hurt

Like it's all sorts of emotions

I don't know

I just feel like I am going to  
burst and explode

I didn't think he will give in just  
like that

I haven't signed the papers

He's a liar

So these papers could be fake

I'm at the airport

I don't even want to spend  
another day being here

I was so close to breaking down  
in front of Evenly

I asked to excuse myself

And I've been crying non stop in  
the toilet

I fiddle with my phone in hand

And as I'm going through my  
contact list

I see "king"

That's how I saved his number ,  
almost two years ago

When Thuto gave them to me.

And I didn't even call him , not  
even once

Maybe this number doesn't  
even work anymore

I just find myself dialling him

And after a few rings , he finally  
answers

Wenkosi : hello

Oh my gosh

It's like it's been forever since I  
last heard his voice

I just tear up

Just not being able to hold  
myself



Wenkosi : Zenkosi ?

His voice is so down , like he's  
do calm

Me : you remember me ?.

I ask with a chuckle , trying to  
gather myself

Wenkosi : there's no forgetting  
you , why are you crying ?

Me : I'm so sorry , it's just .....it's  
a mess . And now I don't even  
know where to go , I'm just  
.....it's a mess

Wenkosi : where are you ?

I am so far away

It's even pointless to him

Me : at the airport in Greece  
.....Kenan traffics young girls ....I  
asked for a divorce , I want to  
take my daughter and leave .  
It's a lot I just can't .....I can't !

I let out a sob , placing my hand  
on my mouth

Wenkosi : get on a plane come  
back home

Me : Wenkosi , I don't want my mother to see me like this

Wenkosi : she won't , trust me .  
Just get on a plane home , keep your phone on . And be sure to give me your flight tickets details

A knock comes on the door

I wipe my tears off

Evenly : Madam , your flight has been called . It's leaving in 15 minutes

We have already checked in , we can't miss the flight

Me : the flight is leaving in 15 minutes , I will text you when we get on air

I drop the call , and grab a  
tissue

I know I look like a mess right  
now , my face is all red and  
puffy red eyes

I walk out

Me : thank you so much , I wish  
we could take you with

Evenly : don't worry about me ,  
I will move back home to the  
United states

I take Royal from her

And fiddle with my phone , I  
send her 1 million Us dollars

Me : thank you so much

She looks at her phone shocked

She tears up , and looks at me

I turn and rush out with Royal in  
my hands

I cannot miss the flight

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\*Musawenkosi\*



Zwe : whoa ! What's with the  
rush ?

I hold the door

Me : mhm , I am going out

Zwe : brother I see that , but  
where are you rushing to ?

Me : I have a flight to catch to  
Joburg

He looks at his wrist watch

And I don't have the time for this

Zwe : what's going on ?

Me : I have to go Zwe

He sighs

Zwe : I see , but you have a royal council meeting

Honestly !

That's the last night on my mind  
right now

After not speaking for almost  
two years

She calls me

She could have called Thuto or  
Siya

Her cousins maybe

Like even her sister , just  
sparing her mother

But no , she called me

And I am not going to  
disappoint her at all

Not right now

The royal council meeting can wait

If not , they can go ahead without me

Me : I will miss my flight if I stand here going back and forth with you , dad is here . He will stand in for me , or just cancel the meeting

I walk past him , as he just  
watches me shaking his head

I get into my car and drive out  
heading to the airport

I managed to get a seat , on a  
last minute cancellation

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**\*Zara\***



Bones : you're living  
comfortable here , just be  
happy about that

Is he crazy ?

Like he came in here with food

And the medication again

I just had to question him

And this is what he's telling me

Bones : Ferrari is nothing like your fake husband Trevor , don't try him . If you think you have been saved , you have another thing coming . You belong to him now , and this is your new home . It's better than what you had , actually it's ten times better than that . You have the biggest room in this

whole house , appreciate that .  
You're fed well , and taken care  
of . We really shouldn't care ,  
but mhm . Anyways , make  
yourself at home . Forget the  
outside world , forget  
everything you think you know .  
This is your reality now

He takes the pills container and  
walks out

Lord knows I will be damned

If I let another man do what  
Trevor did to me

That is not going to happen

I swear , he will have to kill me

I am done

I will not be subjected to pain  
and abuse again

Like who gave these men so  
much power over me ?

I am also human , and not just a  
tool to be used by men

For their sexual desires

Or turning me into a punching  
bag

I am not having that again

I grab the steak knife , and  
move over placing it under the  
pillow

He must just come and dare me

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\*INSERT 20\*

\*Zara\*





No one came back last night

Not Bones or the other guy he  
called Ferrari

I'm sure that's not a name but a  
surname

I still don't know his name

In fact , I haven't seen him

I don't know if it's okay to say ,  
I've been upgraded as a  
prisoner

Like , from what Trevor had me  
living in

And this room , where I'm given  
more than three meals a day

With snacks in between

There's a stack of books , by the  
shelf

I took a few and read

I've always been a book worm ,  
it's taking my mind off things

But after years , things changed  
and I wasn't there anymore

I think now , this is how I'll keep  
my sanity

Until someone tries to get it on  
with me

I don't know if Bones didn't see  
that the steak knife wasn't  
there

Or he just turned a blind eye  
into it

But I will not expose myself at  
all

I turn my head as the door  
opens

And I can tell it's not Bones

He walks in , you cannot miss  
how he's just taken a shave

His eyes are too intense

I just stand still , not knowing  
what to do

Maybe the knife should always  
be with me

And not under the pillow

Him : what's your name ?

A lump is stuck on my throat

He side smiles

Him : I'm Cero , and I'll just call  
you my little flower

Crazy

But I finally get to know his  
name

He walks in closer , his hands in his pockets

Right now , I have a good mind to run for that knife

Cero : I saw you've been looking over there for a while

Oh shit !

Is he spying on me ?



Right now I am scared , I don't  
know him

What if I question him , and he  
looses it

Cero : you can talk to me , you  
know ? We don't always have to  
have silence in here

I take a deep breath

Me : a vineyard

I say turning my eyes back  
outside the window

Me : that's a vineyard right ?

Cero : yes

It looks so enticing

Me : I love grapes

Cero : there's grapes in the  
kitchen

I smile

Me : I would like fresh ones

He chuckles , and stands  
besides me

Cero : there's no running , the  
whole vineyard is at my estate .  
And before dusk , we would  
have found you

Well , that one is clear

Me : you can come with me

I say , hearing his words . And  
without even thinking

It's like he doesn't mind me  
going out there in the vineyard  
to pick the grapes

Cero : you want me to go in  
there ?

His expression is just funny

Me : are you scared ?

Cero : of what snakes ?

Me : please

I plead with him

He sighs

Cero : you'll find me down

I guess that's an yes

Me : where ..... where are we ?

Me and my mouth

He smiles

Cero : Italy in Tuscan

What the hell ?

So like is this where Trevor had  
been keeping me all along ?

I mean , it didn't take days  
driving from his place to here

Me : okay

He says nothing and walks out

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\*Musawenkosi\*





Dad : are you going to tell me  
what's going on or what ?

Me : thank you for holding the  
meeting on my behalf

He sighs

Dad : you're saying nothing  
right now

Me : I have to go somewhere fast , maybe when I get back I'll call you

Dad : maybe ?

Me : Magaye , I have a situation here . So please , allow me to deal with it

Dad : fine

He drops the call

I chuckle shaking my head

He's making a big deal out of  
this

I am tired

My eyes are just heavy

I didn't sleep much

I called Zenkosi , and we spoke  
almost every hour

So in between , there was no  
getting enough sleep

I just wanted to make sure that  
she's okay

Her flight is arriving in an hour

I slept at my house , now I'm  
going to head over to the  
airport to fetch them

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\*Cero\*

He laughs

Me : I will send you in there to  
pick those grapes for me

Bones : she wants to feel the  
vineyard , don't deny her of that

I click my tongue annoyed

He's just too happy for  
nonsense

She finally walks down

In one of the floral dresses



Zara : I am sorry if I overstepped  
, I have been using the clothes  
in the closet

Bones : they're yours

Shock covers her face , but she  
quickly covers it

Zara : can we go ?

I clear my throat

Me : Bones will go pick the  
grapes for you

It's like I feel her heart sinking

She looks down

Bones gives me an ugly look

Me : I am not your friend

Bones : she's sad

He whispers out

I heave a sigh , looking at her  
with her head dropped

Me : let's go

She lifts her eyes

Me : I don't have all day

She walks over , I take her hand  
into mine

Zara : I won't run away , you  
don't have to

Is it just me , or she has a loud  
mouth ?

I say nothing , but we walk out  
heading to the vineyard

The grin on her face

It's like she's a 5 year old seeing  
candy

I mean , I don't know what  
makes kids happy these days

She looks at me

Zara : can I have one ?

Me : it's not clean , best you  
pick and have them washed in  
the house

Zara : just one , it won't hurt

Me : I don't want you getting  
sick

Zara : I won't

And she holds her other arm  
out , she picks one grape

Wipes it off on her dress , and it  
goes into her mouth

She closes her eyes as she  
chews on it

I swear , it's like she will jump  
up and down

She looks so happy , and it  
doesn't even look not seem  
forced

It's genuine happiness

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\*INSERT 21\*



\*Zenkosi\*



I am so nervous

Like my emotions are just all  
over the place

Royal is awake now

And very grumpy

I am tired

I could just use a shower , and a  
bed and just sleep

I am tired

Like I am tired of just everything

And I don't want to cry anymore

I don't want to feel this hurt  
and anger anymore

I place her on the toilet seat , as  
she takes a pee

I wait until she's done

Just almost two years , this one  
loves acting like she's an adult

She loves going to the loo ,  
rather than using disposable  
diapers

I fix her , and walk out

Looking at myself in the mirror

I just look like a mess

I tie my weave back into a  
ponytail

I open water and wash my face

I did away with my sim card

And now , I have no means to  
make calls

But it would have been stupid  
to keep it

Cause I can't use that number  
here

I walk out , heading to luggage

It's just a small bag for Royal  
things

I have nothing with me

I take her bag , and we walk to  
arrivals

It's not even that full at the  
airport

I'm thankful for that



I just move my eyes around ,  
hoping to just see a familiar  
face

Wenkosi said he was on a flight

But I didn't ask where he was  
going

He also didn't tell

But then again , I was just  
crossing fingers that he was  
coming here

Voice : don't get lost

Oh my God !

I turn and face him , I just tear  
up

And he engulfs me into a hug

I break down in his arms , I have  
never been so tired emotionally

That I even feel unstable

I slightly laugh as I feel Royal  
hugging my leg

I'm sure she's like , who's this  
man that's hugging you ? I don't  
know him

We pull out , and he wipes my  
tears

Me : sorry I look like a mess

He smiles

Wenkosi : a beautiful mess  
indeed

I let out an involuntary smile

Wenkosi : where is she ?

He asks looking behind me

And he crouches down picking  
her up

She puts no fight

Wenkosi : you look tired , let's  
go home and you get rest

I won't even ask which home

Even if he's taking me to Nkazi's  
house in Soweto I don't care

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\*Zara\*

It feels like I am being watched

Maybe it's just a feeling

But I haven't been able to brush  
it off

After the great day I had , he  
better not be in here coming to  
ruin it for me

I move slowly , not to show  
movement



I grab the knife , and hold it in  
my hand

If anyone dares come near me

I am not giving in

Not without a fight , no !

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\*Kenan\*

Me : and ?

Drew : she's in Joburg , she was picked at the airport by some guy . They went to Sandton , security seems to be very tight there . I guess he's not just some random guy

I heave a sigh

Drew : should I find out who he  
is ?

Me : no , leave them

I drop the call

It's sinking in now , and I feel  
like these walls are closing in

It's all gone

I have lost my family , and right  
now I'm all alone

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Me : she's asleep

She looks at me with a smile

Zenkosi : I don't know how you  
got her to sleep , but thank you

I nod

Me : I sang for her

She laughs

Zenkosi : with this ugly voice  
you sang ?

Me : jealousy much

Zenkosi : wow , wonders never  
cease to amaze one

Me : hey , don't be like that

She laughs

Me : anyways , now you need  
to get rest too



She sighs

Zenkosi : I am sure you have a  
lot of questions

She heaves a sigh

Zenkosi : I don't now what went  
so wrong

She shakes her head

I have never seen Zenkosi this distraught

Zenkosi : how I missed all of this  
, I don't know

Me : don't be blaming yourself

Zenkosi : he changed as soon as we moved , I should have seen that something was off

Me : stop , I can bet you . Kenan didn't start human trafficking after being married to you , he has been doing it for years and years . He's smart , and definitely a pro to not even get caught . So how were you supposed to see all of that ?

Zenkosi : how can be so cruel and so heartless ? he doesn't care that we have a daughter .

What if the same thing  
happened to her tomorrow ?

Me : don't say that , nothing is  
going to happen to her . Even  
he wouldn't allow it , not to his  
own child

She sighs

Zenkosi : I am so shuttered

Me : I know , but you're going  
to be okay . Picking up the  
pieces day by day

I get in bed

And hold her to my chest

Me : get some rest

I place a kiss on her forehead

And she snuggles closer to me

I gasp as her lips grace mine ,  
and all sorts of feelings run  
through my body . My lips just  
involuntarily move with hers ,  
and we kiss

It's so slow and not rushed

And it feels just like yesterday ,  
when we first had that kiss at

the taxi rank . And she was just  
annoying me

After a few minutes she pulls  
out , and places her hand on my  
cheek

Zenkosi : if you're married ,  
your wife will have to forgive  
me for that kiss

I chuckle

And she places her head on my  
chest . I place my hand on her  
back

Me : there's no wife

She goes quite

But her tight grip on my side ,  
tells me she heard . And that's  
fine



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\*INSERT 22\*

\*A WEEK LATER\*

\*Musawenkosi\*

Dad : when are you coming  
back ?

Me : soon

He chuckles

Dad : what's soon Wenkosi ?

I don't know

Me : it's soon

Dad : what are you doing there  
?

Me : I will tell you when I get  
back

Dad : I hope that's in a day or two , you have been gone for a whole week

Me : mhm , I'll be back

Dad : alright

I drop the call

I don't know how Zenkosi is going to feel about this

I knew I couldn't stay here  
longer

But I can't rush her for anything

I open the door

And someone is on the floor

Like why are we playing with  
dolls so early in the morning ?

Me : good morning princess

She looks at me and smiles

Royal : I'm awake

I chuckle

Me : yeah , I see that . Maria is  
coming to give you a bath ,  
we're going out



Royal : we get a doll ?

We already got three dolls in a week

Me : yeah

Royal : okay

Maria walks in , I walk out leaving them

I head to my bedroom

And someone is still sleeping

I sit down on the bed and shake  
her a bit

She slowly opens her eyes

Me : good morning

She smiles

Zenkosi : morning

Me : you need to wake up , I'm  
taking someone out

Zenkosi : leaving me ?

I chuckle

Me : she wants a doll

Zenkosi : that's a lot of dolls

Well , she doesn't know that

Me : you'll get your outing too

Zenkosi : it's okay , I am not  
jealous . I think it's time I meet  
with a lawyer , and sign those  
papers if they're legit

Me : I can set up a meeting with my lawyer

Zenkosi : thank you

Me : mhm , we need to talk when I get back

Zenkosi : about ?

Me : when I get back

She laughs

Zenkosi : wow okay

We still haven't talked about  
anything

Even the kiss that happened

I don't know what was that  
about

I lean over and peck her  
forehead

Me : let me go take a shower ,  
Maria is already taking care of  
her

Zenkosi : okay , let me get up  
too

I head over to the bathroom  
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\*Zenkosi\*



They walk in

In such happy spirits , laughter  
erupting in the house

I guess they had a great day

And I was worried for nothing

Me : hi

Royal : mommy , I drive

I look at Wenkosi confused

But he has on a frown on his  
face

Me : drive what ?

Royal : big car

Me : ah , what's a big car ?

I ask Wenkosi and he laughs

Royal : it's others

Okay , I don't know what's that

Sometimes it's just hard to  
make out what she means

Me : okay baby , that's nice .  
You're a big girl now

Royal : yea , I see Maria

Me : okay baby , bye

She walks away with a wave

I don't even know where Maria  
is at

Me : what was that ?

Wenkosi : this one can't keep secrets

I chuckle

Me : so ?

Wenkosi : we were at the taxi rank , got to do a load . And

yeah , I broke the law . And  
she's was sitting on the driver's  
seat with me , so she thinks she  
was driving

Me : her hands were on the  
steering wheel ?

I am nodding my head

Just trying to imagine this whole  
thing in my head

He nods

Me : and you were taking  
passengers to their destination ,  
driving with a toddler on your  
lap ?

Again he nods

Me : what's with you and taxi's ,  
when you're a whole king ?

He laughs

Wenkosi : on her part , I was  
stupid . Shall never happen  
again

Me : thank you , I'm glad you're  
both safe

He smiles



Me : it's not cute

Wenkosi : okay sorry , let's talk

I heave a sigh

We sit down , he holds my hand

Wenkosi : how was the meeting  
with the lawyer ?

Me : you said we have to talk

Wenkosi : I know , after this

I sigh

Me : the divorce papers are legit , I signed and he said he will have them finalized in less than a month . Told him I want to sell the house back in Greece , and the company along with his two cars . I will keep the

company here though , Siya is doing a great job . And I don't think it'll be wise to sell it

Wenkosi : that's good

Me : so what did you want to talk about ?

Wenkosi : why are you so impatient ?

Lord have mercy upon me

Wenkosi : I have to go back to  
KZN

Why is this making me sad ?

Surely I didn't expect him to  
stay here forever

Me : oh , when ?

Wenkosi : in the coming few days

Me : I see , thank you for everything . I understand you have to get back to your life , I'm just grateful that you came here for us when I needed someone . I don't know ....maybe I'll book into a hotel , just until I can find a house . I am not ready yet to go home , I don't think I'm ready to tell my

mother what happened . She  
will be so hurt , and I am not  
ready for that . I want to go  
home , when I've moved on  
from it . So I don't need  
anyone's pity

He moves closer

His face just inches away from  
me

Wenkosi : why move ? When  
you can just stay here

I smile

Me : you've done a lot , and we  
can't invade your house without  
you . Besides , it won't be the  
same without you here

He slightly laughs

Wenkosi : let's be real , you're not ready to face your mother and everyone . So let's all go to KZN

Me : we don't know anyone in KZN

Wenkosi : you know me

Me : and will you be hosting us ?



Wenkosi : woman !.

I laugh

Me : what will your family say ,  
rocking up with a strange  
woman and a toddler ?

Wenkosi : my siblings and the  
....mhm

He shakes his head

Me : what ?

Wenkosi : don't ....my mother  
has two husband's

I laugh

Just thinking he's kidding , but  
no he's not

Me : what ?

Wenkosi : yeah , uhm Phakade lives in Durban with the siblings . My father is at the kingdom , but at his house . Obviously mom is in between the two homes , I'm alone at the palace . Not like literally , because there's maidens and guards . But that's that

I just stare at him

Wenkosi : you can think about it though , then when you're ready you can come back . But hold on a bit on finding a house , you can stay here . I barely use this house

Me : why does your mother have two husband's ?

And he laughs

I thought I have heard all things  
in this world

But this one takes the cup

Isn't this done the other way  
around ?

One man and two wives , or  
even more

I've never heard of one woman  
with two men

Never !.

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\*INSERT 23\*

\*Zenkosi\*





He laughs

Me : what ?

Wenkosi : so we're leaving ?

I nod

Wenkosi : great then

I hope I don't regret this  
decision

But I think it will do us good

Well more like me

I think Royal is not okay

She was asking about her father  
today

And she sure took her time

It's like as soon as we left , she  
forgot there's daddy

But today was something else

She woke up wanting him and  
asking about him

I had to lie and say he's away on  
Business

And we will see him soon

I really don't know how she's  
going to understand anything

She's a child , there's absolutely  
nothing sane I can say to her  
and she will understand me

She doesn't look happy

And it makes me sad

Because I know she misses him

Wenkosi : I am probably going  
to overstep

Me : what ?

Wenkosi : Black is an idiot sure ,  
he fucked up yeah . But that  
man loves you , and he loves his  
daughter . I am not a father ,  
but I know I will never be okay if

I was to be separated with my child . No matter how bad my short comings , after all you do have yours I am sure . Might not be as intense as his , but who's looking at that ?

I sigh

Wenkosi : I am sorry , but I don't think you should keep them apart . Sure Kenan should stay the hell away from you ,

make that clear . But keep conversation between him and her going , she will grow up . And she can decide if she wants him or not , on her own . Don't decide for her like this , she might resent you

Me : but my child is not safe with that man

Wenkosi : she is , you think she's not because he's busy

selling off other people's kids .  
But this is his , he would never  
do that

Me : I don't know ....I don't  
want anything linking me with  
that man

Wenkosi : too bad , you already  
have someone linking you to  
him and you can't change that .  
And she's not going anywhere



I take a deep breath

Wenkosi : get her a phone , let him have that number and call her . Make it clear , this is for her . You can see already she's missing him , and she doesn't understand this he's gone away on business . I'm sure even if he was not home , you would call him just so they can talk . She won't understand not seeing

him , and also not calling him .  
She will end up just being sad  
most of the times , because she  
misses him . But if they talk , it  
will minimise that

Me : but this means he will keep  
calling , he will know where we  
are and ....

I shake my head

Wenkosi : he already knows  
where you are , I can assure you  
that

Me : so what .....he's going to  
come after me ?

Wenkosi : he would have done  
that already if he wanted to

This is just madness

Like must I attract such men ,  
who bring me nothing but  
drama

After Lizwi I thought I was done  
with Kenan

But look at us now

I think I should just be done  
with men

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\*Cero\*

This is creepy

I took her , and I haven't done  
anything to her

Not that I have anything sinister  
that I want to do

But , she can't be kept like a  
trophy of some kind in my  
house

Or maybe an antique

But going home , is definitely  
not happening

I would seriously be calling  
Kenan and his men on me

I can't have that

I heave a sigh just watching at  
her sleeping so peacefully

I wonder if really she's at peace

The scars on her body

The permanent marks that she  
has



It's clear of the kind of pain and  
abuse that Trevor put her  
through

I walk in further , and sit down  
on the bed

Making sure I don't wake her up

This is what I've been doing the  
past week

Just waiting after midnight

Coming into her room , and just  
watching her sleep

I don't know why

But yeah , it's damn fucking  
creepy

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\*Zara\*

I've been having flash backs of  
what happened

Everything that Trevor did to  
me

Being chained on that bed like a  
damn animal

The sexual and physical abuse

And I just can't seem to fall  
asleep

And the fear I have right now

I had just woken up from a very  
bad dream

When I heard the door opening

And he stood by the door for a  
while

Before he walked in

And now he's here on the bed

I am just praying that he doesn't  
hurt me

He might be a monster or  
whatever

I'm still restricted in this house

But I think he's way better than  
Trevor

He lets me watch TV , he lets  
me eat whatever I want

And I am allowed to go outside ,  
even if it's just around the  
estate

But at least , I am not chained

It was a few days ago , I said to  
myself he freed me from the  
chains of love

I thought what Trevor and I had  
was love

And only he knew his intentions



And he's dead

I will never know why he did  
what he did

Why me ?

But it doesn't matter

He's never coming back

And I am not sad that he's dead

But now I am here

What is he doing on the bed ?

I am even scared to open my  
eyes

Already , my tears are on the  
brink of falling

I am so scared

I can't go through another man  
having his way with me

I am already broken , I don't  
want to be a living corpse

That will never happen again

My heart beats so fast , as I feel  
the trail of his fingers on my  
cheek

Without even thinking twice , I  
lift my hand and strike the knife  
on him

He doesn't even groan or  
scream

It's so quite

I open my eyes , breathing  
heavily

And he has his head bowed  
down

I put the lamp on shaking

Looking at his bloody hand

Okay !

Okay , that's a lot of blood

I don't even see where I  
stabbed him

Cause I had my eyes closed

He turns and looks at me

Me : I'm ..... I'm so sorry  
...please don't hurt me

I burst into a sob

And he takes the knife from me

I am dead

Like no shit I am dead

That's if I didn't kill him

He is definitely going to kill me ,  
there's no coming back from  
this at all

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\*INSERT 24\*



\*Zara\*

I'm a crying mess

Cero : move ....so I can lie down

What ?

I just stare at him

Not even moving an inch

I'm on my feet

I know , there's no escaping this  
for me

He will kill me

If he doesn't , most definitely  
that Bones will

Me : please .....don't hurt me ,  
I'm sorry ....I was scared ....I ....

A lump gets stuck on my throat

He swiftly moves me , as he lays  
down on the bed

The fear that strikes me , as he  
slowly closes his eyes

Taking a deep breath

I even forget that I wanted to  
kill him just moments ago

I'm on the bed on top of him  
crying my eyes out

My hands cupping his face

I don't even think he's  
breathing at this point

Me : Cero .....please ....please  
wake up , don't die on me  
please ....please wake up

I bury my face on his neck just  
wailing

I am never seeing the day after  
this

Bones will kill me , and he won't  
even hesitate

Me : please wake up ....

I plead with him , but he's not  
even moving an inch

But , does he even hear me ?

Or I'm busy begging and crying  
for a corpse

I try to move , as that thought  
hits me

Honestly , I will be haunted for  
life

That's if I even get anywhere  
with that life



His arm grabs the back of my  
neck

So he's not dead , okay !

But at this point , I'm just  
waiting for him to snap me and  
it be the end

But he does the unexpected ,  
and just turns my face

Bringing his lips over mine

I am shocked !

And taken aback by this

He doesn't care , and he just  
kisses me

A mess as I am , with tears and  
all

I find myself just kissing him  
back

After a while , he pulls back

I open my eyes slowly

Thinking , I am not sane

He's looking into my eyes

Me : I .....

Words fail me

Cero : the next time you want  
to kill me , make sure you don't  
just stab a wound into me .

Force your weapon in , and aim  
for a vein

Shit !

He's so calm as ever

And there's nothing as scary as  
this

Me : no ....

I'm shaking my head

As fresh more tears stream  
down my face

Me : it won't ....happen again , I am sorry . Please .....it was a mistake ....I was just scared , thought you wa..... I'm sorry , I thought you wanted to rape . It was a mistake !

Was it really a mistake ?

No !

But what was he doing in here

Middle of the night ?

Cero : stop crying , I want to sleep

Doesn't he just cuddle me on top of him

Not minding the blood on his chest

Me : you're hurt .....you need help

Cero : shhhhhh

What is wrong with this man ?

I keep quite , and it goes all dead quite

He's really sleeping , in such a position



And with a bleeding wound on  
his chest

Like I don't know how deep I  
went

Or how bad he's bleeding

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\*Cero\*

Bones : she's ....

He sighs

Me : she's refusing to eat ?

Bones : that and more , what exactly happened ? Where did she get the knife to hurt you ?

I shake my head slowly

Me : are you saying the food is still unattended in her room ?

He sighs and nods

I don't mind her eating in her room

It's not like she's required to be on the table everyday

Me : so ?

I ask because I left her in bed ,  
with her blood stained sheets

The cut is not even that deep

It's clear she's never used a  
knife before to hurt anyone

I don't even know what to call  
what she gave me

But she cried , so hard like she  
had killed

Bones : she's locked herself in  
the bathroom

What the fuck ?

She better not drown herself in  
my house

I get up and walk upstairs

I open her bedroom door

And everything is just looking  
like a hot heated mess

I knock on the bathroom door ,  
and I just heat sniffs

Me : open this door , before I  
kick it down

It's quite

Me : I am not kidding Zara !

My voice is now stern , she  
must not do anything stupid

Zara : I didn't want to hurt you ,  
I thought .....I thought you came  
to rape me , please ....don't kill  
me ....



Her sobs are just heart  
wrenching

Me : open

I lower my voice , in a soft tone

Zara : no .....I'll rather stay in  
here , than have you kill me

I smile

Me : my little flower , your food  
is getting cold

Nothing comes out

Well except for her sniffs

Me : okay , get away from the  
door . I am going to kick it

She says nothing again

I back up a bit , and kick the door once

She cries and lets out a scream

Zara : please ..... stop

Me : open the door

She doesn't open , I kick again

Zara : wait ....

I heave a sigh

All this much work and for what  
?

I hear the key turning

She opens the door looking so  
scared

With her hands on her face

Zara : it was a mistake ....

I move closer , and she moves  
back screaming getting blocked  
by the wall

Her hands go to her face

Without a doubt , she's trying  
to shield herself from any slaps

I just pull her to me , engulfing  
her into a tight hug

The way she's shaking , it's clear  
she's really terrified

Me : I am sorry , it's okay

I hug her tight , placing a kiss on  
the side of her face . My t-shirt  
is wet from her tears in just  
seconds

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\*INSERT 25\*

\*A FEW DAYS LATER\*



\*Kenan\*

I look at the phone ringing

I see well it's a South African  
number

But I also know , Zenkosi will  
never call me

She walked out on this

And there's no coming back

I heave a sigh and answer

Me : Black

Voice : daddy hi

My heart melts

Me : baby

I get and feel all sorts of  
emotions right now

It has been hell without them

And having to stay away , hasn't  
made anything easy

Royal : I want to see

I chuckle

Me : where is mommy ?

Royal : mommy , daddy I want  
to see

I have on one huge smile

Words can't even begin to  
explain how I'm feeling right  
now

The request for the video call  
comes in

I waste no time answering

And she giggles seeing me

Me : hi baby

Royal : where you ?

I chuckle

Me : away , how are you ?

By the way she's laughing and giggling , I can tell she's okay

And she's happy

Royal : I drive now

I wouldn't be surprised if her  
mother got her a small little car  
, she's a spoilt child

I listen to this conversation that  
I am merely understanding



And we talk , until she's called  
to come eat

And we say goodbye , I'm just  
happy we talked

Me : daddy loves you so much

Royal : love you

Me : bye baby

She waves handing her mother  
the phone

I look down , just not being able  
to handle her

Wenkosi : she has been crying  
for you the past few days , and I  
figured I should keep  
communication between you  
two . She can decide on her  
own , when she's old enough to  
understand what you did . For

now , you can keep that  
number . It's her phone , use it  
to call her and only her . Don't  
think this means anything

I would be a fool to think it does

My lawyer alerted me days ago ,  
that she signed

And that the divorce is  
underway

And the sale of the company ,  
the house and the two cars is  
taking place

Like she only left the car I use  
on a daily basis

The other two , I just used to  
drive them occasionally

Me : thank you

And she drops the call

It hurts I won't lie , but I know I  
ruined what we had

Maybe if it was another woman  
, I would have told her long  
before

Or maybe I could have begged  
her now

But not Zenkosi

I knew , like I always knew if she  
were to find out my business

She would leave me , without  
even thinking twice

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\*Zenkosi\*

Wenkosi : look at her , she is happy . You did good , even though it feels somehow

I can't believe we got this phone

Me : what if now Kenan comes here ?



Wenkosi : if he wanted to , he  
would have long showed up  
here

I sit down just frustrated

Me : I don't know about this

Wenkosi : you just need to calm  
down , Black is going to keep  
talking to her . But he will stay  
put where he is

Me : what if he comes here ,  
then what ?

Wenkosi : I will kill him

I look at him with a frown

Wenkosi : oh , I am not kidding .  
If he dares step foot into my  
kingdom , he will die before he  
even reaches you . He might be

a criminal , but I don't fear him .

He doesn't know who I am

Jesus !

Is this another one ?

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\*Zara\*



Things have been tense in the house

I am keeping to myself by all means

Cero doesn't look like he's interested in hurting me

Even as a punishment for what I did

We barely talk , but he still let's  
me eat with them

And if I don't go out

Bones does bring me the food

I am scared though

I feel like he's just waiting for  
the right time to hurt me

I don't know what that kiss  
meant

But after it , we never said  
anything

And he cuddled me to sleep

Even the day I locked myself in  
the bathroom

He spent the night in my room

Well , it was only yesterday he  
didn't spend the night in my  
room

And the bed was very cold

I barely slept

And I even got nightmares



It's nearing midnight now , and  
he hasn't come in

I am scared to fall asleep

What if I sleep , and the  
nightmares come back ?

I can't , cause when I wake up it  
feels like my heart will pop out

I am always scared

Time goes by , and he's not  
coming

For some reason , tears burn  
my eyes

I get off the bed , and walk out  
of the bedroom

Heading to his bedroom

I knock at the door , without  
even thinking twice

It's so quite

I have never been inside his  
bedroom

After a while he opens the door

Shirtless , and just wearing  
briefs

Me : I can't sleep

I whisper looking down

Not being able to hold his stare

He holds his hand out , I take it

And he gently pulls me inside  
the bedroom

It's so dark , just light grey and  
dark grey

Creepy

Saying nothing , he leads me to  
bed

We get in bed , and he cuddles  
me

Me : thank you

He places a kiss on my forehead

I close my eyes as sleep catches  
up with me

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\*INSERT 26\*

\*Musawenkosi\*

Royal : who are you ?



Her mother burst out laughing

I look at her , returning her  
smile

Me : I am your king

Royal : your king ?

I chuckle

Me : yeah

Royal : okay

She walks out of the lounge  
quarter

Zenkosi : she's gonna go around  
calling you "your king"

She missed the mark , but it's  
fine

Me : come here

I hold my hand out to her

She takes it , and I make her  
straddle me

I place my hands on her waist

Me : my father will be coming  
here , and he'll be the first to

see you . I don't know how  
you're going to take that

Zenkosi : I'm scared , we have  
been here for a few days . And  
your staff is very welcoming ,  
Royal loves them so much and  
they love her back . I don't  
know about your family though  
, I'm scared

She sighs

I stare deep into her eyes , she  
stares back into mine

She ends up smiling

I pull her closer , trailing my  
hand to her neck

Bringing her down , as my lips  
grace hers

And we kiss so slowly and  
passionately

My dick twitches underneath  
her

And I know she can feel it , as  
she lets out moans inside my  
mouth

After quite a few minutes of  
kissing we slowly pull out

She cups my face

Zenkosi : what was that ?

I chuckle

Me : we never talked after that  
kiss , and I felt robbed there

She smiles

Me : I won't rush you into anything , take all the time that you need

Zenkosi : I appreciate you , and everything more

She pecks my lips , and slightly moves back

Zenkosi : let's go eat



Sh gets off me and takes my  
hand as I get off the couch

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\*Zara\*

I wake up

And realising the surroundings  
I'm in

It's not my room

Events of last night play in my  
head

It was very bravely stupid of me

To knock in here

I thought he would kick me out

But as soon as he cuddled me

I fell asleep

And seems like I overslept

Judging by the light from  
window

The sun is out

I get off the bed , and walk  
around the room

I definitely have the biggest  
room

This seems like a personal space

I'm surprised he even let me  
sleep in here

I notice the tray on the small  
round table by the balcony

I walk out

And the view to the vineyard is  
stunning

I open the tray and there's a  
white rose and a note

I pick the rose and smell it , still  
fresh

My lips curve into a smile

I place the rose down and pick up the note

“gone for a jog , take a shower and eat . I will notice if the knife or fork goes missing , don’t leave the room we have to talk “

Me : mxm

I let out a slight laugh

They should keep the knives and  
forks away from me

I pull the chair and sit down  
eating

And the food is still warm , and  
so nice

The way it's so scrumptious



I know for a fact , that Cero or  
Trevor don't cook

There's no way in hell , that  
men like them can cook

Maybe he has a helper , but I  
haven't seen her

When I'm done eating , I bask in  
the sun for a bit

After a while I get up and head  
back into the room

I make the bed , hoping I'm  
making it the right way

And head to the bathroom

I take a shower , I don't even  
mind his scent because the man  
does smell good

I use his towel to dry , and  
lotion to lotion myself

I walk to his small closet

It looks so organised ,  
everything is in place

I look around until I find his  
casual clothes

I grab a t-shirt and put it on

It's a bit big , and covers to my thighs

I take sweatpants , but they're bigger

I leave them , and grab his briefs

Walking out of his closet , he walks in sweating

And he's just in sweatpants and sneakers

His bare chest , exposed

I can't help but notice just how chiselled he is

And his V-line very much exposed

He clears his throat , I lift my  
eyes

He lets out a smile , and walks  
closer

I stand still on my feet

Cero : I like you better , when  
you smell like yourself and not  
me

He says with a chuckle and  
places a kiss on my cheek

That sends chills down my spine

Cero : be on the bed , I need to  
freshen up a bit

He walks to the bathroom

I am just left stunned

I don't move an inch

After a while he walks out of  
the bathroom

Wrapped with a towel on his  
waist

And he's still dripping water on  
his chest

He walks over



Cero : you've just been standing here ?

He holds his hand out

Cero : come let's sit down

He takes my hand walking to the bed

I am nervous

He sits down , and gets me to  
sit on his lap

He stares into my eyes , I look  
down not being able to hold his  
gaze

Cero : things have changed

He tilts my chin , and I look at  
him

He pulls me closer , brushing his  
lips over mine

And he kisses me , I find myself  
kissing him back

They way my body just reacts to  
his touch

It makes me so annoyed , but  
then I can't help it

After a while he pulls out

Cero : I want you , I want this . I know being so far away from your home wasn't your choice , you didn't want this life . I get that , unfortunately I can't change it . Give me a chance , give me a chance to be with you . I will never put you through hell , because I know I feel something for you . And I will

never hurt what's mine ,  
especially when there's feelings  
. I can make things better , only  
if we're in this together and you  
won't screw me over because  
then I would be forced to react  
and it won't be nice . You  
already have your freedom  
around this estate , you can  
have freedom outside it . And  
we build a life right here in  
Tuscan together , I won't chain  
you or hold you inside this

estate . You can go outside , and do whatever you want . That would be me putting my trust into you , the trust that you won't run to the embassy once you're out there and cause trouble for me . I can give you access back to the people you left in South Africa , but you can't go back there . This now has to be your home , but all this can happen if you're willing to give me a chance

To say I am shocked is an understatement

Did he just propose a relationship here ?

And he's willing to let me go outside this place

To have contact again with my family

No !

This feels like a dream

Cero : you can think about it ,  
and let me know your answer  
once you have it

He leans over for another kiss , I  
don't respond to it that much



Because I am still shocked by  
what he just said

He places me on the bed , and  
he heads over to his closet

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\*INSERT 27\*

\*Zenkosi\*

Me : hi ma (mom)

Mom : Zenkosi ?

She asks very shocked

I understand

Because I am calling her with a  
South African number

And she didn't know I'm back

Being back for a while now

I just thought it would be nice  
to call and talk to her

Even for her to know that I am  
back

I can't stay here forever

And just keep quite not talking  
to them

They'll get worried

Because even back in Greece I  
used to talk to them almost  
every two days

And now it's been more than  
that

I know she worried , when she  
couldn't get a hold of me

Me : it's me , please relax

Mom : where are you ?

Me : uhm ..... I'm in KZN

Mom : what ?

Me : don't worry please , I will  
come home soon . I just need to  
get some air right now , and just  
find myself

Mom : we have been trying to call you , without reach

Me : I know , but I am okay .  
And Royal is okay too , but my marriage to Kenan is over

Mom : what do you mean over ?

Me : we're divorced ma (mom)



I say with a sigh

Mom : Zenkosi what happened  
?

Me : I can't tell you , without  
putting him at risk . So I decided  
to take Royal , I'm keeping her  
away from him . But she calls  
him now , and they talk . Just  
that I don't want him in our  
lives anymore , he's not the

man that I thought he is . And I  
cannot be with such a man

I take a deep breath

Me : I will come back soon , this  
is my number now . Call me  
here , and I'll also call you guys

Mom : oh baby ! But are you  
really okay ?

Me : not yet there , but I will be my best when I get back

Mom : keep in contact

Me : I will , I'll call you later with Royal

Mom : that will be nice , I miss her

Me : I know she misses you too

Mom : please be okay my love ,  
and don't be ashamed to come  
back home . I still love you the  
same , and the end of this  
marriage doesn't make you a  
failure . If something is not  
meant to be , then it will not .  
Let's not make a big deal out of  
it

I laugh

Me : yes mom , we're not making it a big deal

Mom : I will see you soon , don't forget to call with that busy baby

Me : I will

I don't even know where she is right now

Mom : I love you

Me : I love you too

I drop the call

And get up going to look for  
Roya

My mother calls her a busy  
baby

She just can't keep still

And since we got here she's just  
the worst

I think living with so many  
people , has gotten into her  
head

She's never in one place

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\*Zara\*



I walk in the living room

And he's watching TV with  
some lookalike of him

He's a brother sure , but  
definitely a twin brother

Me : uhm ....

I want to turn right now

I didn't think he would be with anyone

Cero : you want to talk ?

I nod

He looks at the guy

Cero : this is Zara , give us space

Him : who is she ?

Cero : not your business , get  
out Leo

Him : you stole her too ?

Cero chuckles

Me : no he didn't

They both look at me

Me : can we talk ?

Cero : tell him to get out

I must tell his brother to get out  
, like really ?

Leo : he didn't steal you , so  
where did he get you ?

Me : I'm a human being , and  
not something you can grab off  
the market

He chuckles , Cero grins

Leo : you're feisty and he  
probably deserves you

He gets up and walks past me

Me : that's your twin ?

He nods

I heave a sigh

What a way to meet family

Cero : come

I walk in , and sit on the arm  
rest of the one sitter couch he's  
sitting on

He chuckles

Cero : you're squeezing me

He brings me down to his lap

Me : I will be your girlfriend

This is the best shot I have

He is handsome , and cute too

Even though I've established ,  
he's no different to the likes of  
Trevor

He's been nice to me

But I am not getting involved in  
that

I am also not an idiot



Going to the embassy or the  
police

Is that I won't get anywhere ,  
and I might just die

Because he probably has cops in  
his pockets

And he will kill me

Me : I might take time , to open up to things like sex . I am disgusted by the marks on my body , and also Trevor sometimes used to force himself on me . So I am still scared , that's why I stabbed you that day . Because I thought you wanted to do the same thing , I was scared . I just have a request , if I do something wrong or annoy you please reprimand me well . Don't hit

me or shout at me , don't  
deprive me of the freedom you  
have given me . Just talk nice to  
me , I will listen and apologize  
for me wrong doing

He pecks my lips a few times

Cero : I've heard your request ,  
and I won't put my hands on  
you . And I will wait on the sex  
part , just as long as I have you  
in my arms every night

I'll rather take a life I am offered  
, with freedom

Than to go back home and start  
afresh

With people who have probably  
forgotten about me

Me : thank you

Cero : move over to our room

I smile

He leans over , I lean down  
meeting him half way and we  
kiss

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Dad : the meeting went well

I nod

Me : please stay , the maidens  
will bring food and drinks

They all nod in  
acknowledgement

And then the smallest shadow  
ever walks in

I want to burst out laughing ,  
cause what is she doing in here  
?

As she looks around this room ,  
looking at all these men

And what about the can of beer  
in her hands

She's holding it , like it's  
something very precious



She finally spots me and smiles  
walking over to me

The braveness

I look down laughing , it's a lot

Royal : your king

I lift my eyes and look at her , as  
she stands in front of me

She tries to hold the can , and  
it's a bit of a struggle

But she's coming along fine

Me : princess

Royal : see , I come beer for you

That's my girl

Me : thank you

I lift her up , into my arms  
taking the can

The look my father is giving me.

Me : she's Zenkosi's daughter ,  
her name is Royal . I know you  
haven't met her mother , but  
you will soon

He frowns , but darts his eyes to her

And he looks very much amused

This child is something else

How did she even know I'm in here ?

She must have seen the maidens come in here

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\*INSERT 28\*

\*Musawenkosi\*

I walk in , and she's on the bed  
reading a book

I lean down , and give her a  
brief kiss

She smiles

Zenkosi : you meeting is over ?

I nod

Zenkosi : I thought you'll find  
Rosal outside and come with  
her

I laugh sitting down next to her  
on the bed



Zenkosi : what is she doing ? Did you even see her , cause I tried to look for her but it was like she's all over . I got tired looking for her

Me : she walked in the throne room with a can of beer , and said she bought it for me

She pops her eyes

Zenkosi : she did what ?

I laugh

Me : yeah

Zenkosi : like in the throne  
room with all the elders in there  
?

I nod

Me : but the meeting was over ,  
the maidens were about to  
bring food

She sighs

Zenkosi : where did she get a  
beer ? She can't reach the  
fridge

She sits up

Zenkosi : where is she ?

Me : my father took her

Her jaw drops

Zenkosi : oh my God !

Me : hey ....

I hold her hand

Me : why do you sound and  
seem so terrified ?

Maybe I should have asked for  
her permission first

Before letting him leave with  
her

My bad there

Zenkosi : you just said she walked in your meeting with a beer , and now your father took her

Me : he took her home , not to punish her or anything . My mother and sister are coming , so he left with her . We'll go for dinner , then come back with her . The old man was just smitten by her

It was actually just cute to see

I swear , my father still wants  
kids even at his old age

Zenkosi : are you sure he's not  
angry ?

I laugh , there was nothing to be  
angry about

Me : who can be angry at that cuteness ?

She heaves a sigh of relief

Me : don't worry , he said he will call if she gets anyhow

Zenkosi : but where did she get a beer ?

I chuckle



Me : there's a quarter with  
alcohol , for the Ancestral hut .  
We stock up in piles , the maids  
went in there to get drinks for  
the elders . I'm sure she got in ,  
and no one even saw her

She sighs

Me : that baby is a lot , she's all  
over . You think she's here , but

she's actually there . When you think she's with the maids , she's with the guards . When you think she's there , she's with the drivers . It's a lot , I can't keep up with her

She laughs

Zenkosi : you deal so much better with her , I gave up going around looking for her

Me : I think she's just happy  
being around so many people ,  
and she just can't keep still

She shakes her head slowly

Me : get ready so we can go

Zenkosi : okay , I hope your  
parents won't mind us going to  
their house

Me : no , my father is the one who said we should come . He stole our baby and he will make it a norm , we better get used to it . And we should go there get her back

She laughs getting up

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\*Zenkosi\*

His father welcomes us in

Mr Cele : finally a pleasure to  
put a name to the face

I smile

Mr Cele : come in

Wenkosi : where is she ?

A beautiful woman appears  
from the kitchen , I believe

She's even holding a dish cloth

Her : hi , why are you standing  
at the door ?

Wenkosi laughs he takes my  
hand and we walk in further in  
the room

Wenkosi : this is my mother and father , parents this is Zenkosi

Mrs Cele : it's nice to meet you

Me : likewise

Wenkosi : where is she ?

His mother laughs



Mrs Cele : sleeping on the lounge floor , when we try and pick her up she wakes up and stares at us and she goes back down to sleep

Jesus

What is wrong with that child ?

Royal is something else , she just goes on to fall asleep

Wenkosi : she's like that , she  
doesn't wanna be moved where  
she's sleeping

Mrs Cele : she is just cute

Well at least , her cuteness is  
just working

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\*Kenan\*

Cero : you look like shit

I sigh

Me : I am shit

Cero : looks like you haven't  
slept in days

Well , it's been hard to sleep  
without Zenkosi next to me

She used to be that shield , and  
I would sleep like a baby

Now I'm always restless when I  
try to sleep

She was my dose for that

I don't know where I'll find  
another her , only she know  
how to get me calm

Every time I close my eyes , it's  
like every single thing I've done  
just comes back to haunt me

So I barely get any peaceful  
sleep

I only knew that after I met her ,  
and she would spend a night  
next to me . Now it's just back  
to square one

Cero : you won't even fight ?

Me : no , I love her enough to  
let her go and be happy

Cero : you're a better man than  
me

Me : I know she deserves better  
, and there's no woman like her  
. A lot of woman , can be with a

murderer knowingly . They'll get  
angry at first yes , but then  
eventually they'll forgive . Just  
not that one , I always knew  
that some day she will leave .  
Too bad it was this soon

He sighs

Cero : you are scaring me

I laugh



Me : tell me ,are you crazy ?

Cero : no

Me : how do you even begin to  
fall in love with a woman who  
was kidnapped , and you  
kidnapped her ?

He laughs

Cero : it just happened , I took her because I wanted to hurt Trevor . But then again , I shot him and he died . I still kept her , and here we are

Me : that's crazy

He shakes his head

Me : you know why Trevor took her ?

Cero : never even bothered

Me : he's a product of rape , the woman was 14 then . Her parents kicked her out , she lived on the streets and gave birth on her own . She threw the baby in the dustbin

Cero : what ?

Me : she was helped by some white couple , she became their helper . And that's how she met her husband , who was their gardener . They started a life together , and had two kids . Two daughters , Trevor wanted revenge . And he pretended to love the oldest daughter , and asked for her hand in marriage . Paying 300K for her , and that's how he got that woman

He's looking at me like I've just  
told him a tale

Cero : his half sister ?

I chuckle

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\*Zenkosi\*

Mrs Cele : I have never seen my  
son in love

I look at her , we're doing dishes  
just finishing up . Dinner went  
great

Mrs Cele : I don't know the  
history , and I don't even want  
to know . But please , do not  
hurt him . You're his first love ,  
and he will love you very hard  
with his all

This is shocking now

There's been kisses here and  
there

Yes we share a bed

But there's never been talks of  
love

I don't even think I am ready for  
a relationship



Mrs Cele : you will make a great  
queen

Woman !

Are you not forward , like 20  
steps ahead

What king wants to marry a  
woman who was embarrassed  
on her wedding day like me ?

A woman who got married ,  
second chance and within two  
years got divorced

That queen status is so not for  
me

Me : I won't hurt him

I just find myself saying

And she smiles

Maybe it would have been rude  
if I said nothing

We wipe our hands walking  
back in the lounge

Someone is awake now , she  
was just a loud mouth during  
dinner

Which I don't think went bad

Musa : I swear I feel so replaced  
, but you're so cute and I also  
just can't help but love you

And they all laugh

I don't even think she  
understood half of what was  
said

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\*INSERT 29\*

\*Zara\*

I cannot believe what my ears  
heard

Maybe I misheard

As I was walking down , the  
study door wasn't completely  
closed

And I noticed the white man ,  
who once saw me in Trevor's  
house

And didn't even bother helping  
me

I was scared there for a  
moment

Until I heard them mention  
Trevor's name



And I listened in

I don't know what to believe  
now

I am blaming both my parents  
for everything he did to me

And I hope wherever they are ,  
they're enjoying his 3000K

There's no sane parent who can  
accept so much money as a  
dowry

Without any suspicions

He should have seen that  
something was wrong

But no !

He sold me

And my mother , I don't even  
know what to say

I get she was raped , she was a  
child all alone and all

But it's because of her that a  
monster like that got to live

And he took his revenge on me

She should have killed him

What good did throwing him in  
the bin do ?

It got me here today

I hate them

I hadn't called , and Cero  
offered to find me their contact  
details

So I can call

But now , I have no desire to

I hate them

And I am better off here  
without them

He walks in , I wipe my tears off

Cero : what's wrong ?

He crouches down in front of me.

Me : I heard what your friend said

He sighs

Cero : you were not supposed to hear that

He picks me up from the floor ,  
and sit down on the bed

Cero : I am sorry

Me : I don't want to call them  
anymore

Cero : are you sure ?

I nod

Maybe he can help me get in  
touch with my friend

Maybe she's the only one who  
was worried about me

I should just let her know I'm  
okay

And she shouldn't even bother  
telling them that I'm okay



What kind of parents do I have  
?

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\*Zenkosi\*

Wenkosi : I have been elevated  
from being called your king , to  
my king

I laugh

Me : when did that happen ?

Wenkosi : this morning during  
our walk

Me : mhm , impressive

He chuckles

Wenkosi : so we're going to  
Disney land for our second  
birthday

Me : no

Like who wants to be  
surrounded by such a mess ?

Definitely not me

Wenkosi : yes , everything is  
organised and flight tickets are  
booked

Me : you two are leaving me  
behind

Wenkosi : we love you

My jaw drops

Me : you ?

He looks at me and frowns

I laugh

Me : you love me ?

I get up and walk to him

His lips curve into a smile

Me : is that what you told your  
mother ?

Wenkosi : I told her nothing

Me : really ?

Wenkosi : yeah , but whatever  
she said . She's not blind

Me : smart like that huh ?

He grins

Wenkosi : Disney

Lord help me

Me : we not going to talk about this ?.

Wenkosi : I am not rushing you for anything , when you're ready you'll most definitely just let me in . For now pack

That was a very strange conversation concerning our feelings



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\*Kenan\*

Royal : we go Disney

I laugh

Me : that's nice baby

Royal : you come too ?

Me : no , daddy has to work .  
But I will send your birthday  
presents

Royal : oh ! I want cake

Me : you will get cake , lots and  
lots of cake honey

Royal : okay

Me : baby , can daddy please  
speak to mommy ?

Royal : me i call mommy

I chuckle

Me : I love you okay

Royal : love you

She gets up and the phone is  
left alone for a minutes

She comes up in the screen

Zenkosi : Kenan

Me : I just want to ask to come  
see her on her birthday

Zenkosi : please don't ....

Me : I am not a deadbeat father  
Zenkosi , I appreciate what I'm  
getting right now . I'm just  
asking to see her for an hour or  
two , that's all

Zenkosi : she won't even be  
here

Me : of course , she's excited  
about Disney land . She told me  
, I will fly there just for her

Zenkosi : fine ...

She drops the call

I guess I can take that as well

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\*Musawenkosi\*





Zenkosi : I'm sorry

I smile

Me : don't be silly , we won't even be home . He can come see her , I am not mad . And I don't mind that , she will be so happy to see him

She sighs

Zenkosi : I hope I don't regret  
this

Me : you won't , I just think you  
overthink a lot . He's a fuck up ,  
but not to his daughter

Zenkosi : I think you're the only  
sane voice right now

I smile and lean over giving her  
a kiss

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\*INSERT 30\*

\*A FEW DAYS LATER\*

\*Musawenkosi\*

Me : see how happy she is ?

She exhales

I chuckle side hugging her , thus  
one is tough

I am not a father yet , but I  
know no matter how much I  
fuck up

I wouldn't wanna be kept away  
from my daughter

And Kenan is doing what he can  
to maintain that

He didn't fight a divorce sprung  
on him in a day

All he's asking for , is for his  
child not to forget him

If he's going to fuck up this

Then it'll be on him

For now , we shouldn't stone  
and judge him

On things we think he might do



Right now , Royal is just a baby

Who has no idea what's  
happening

And doesn't even know  
anything about good and bad  
deeds

She shouldn't be subjected to  
her parents dealings

Zenkosi : she is happy

I'm glad she can see that

Me : this is so much better than video calling him , and telling him about Disney land . She will have these pictures , and they'll remain as memories . Even though daddy and mommy separated , he was still there . If

he chooses to move away from her , let it be his choice

Zenkosi : I hate that you're making so much sense , and you're right .

I laugh

It took a lot for her to say that , Zenkosi doesn't just spit things because you're right , but it's

when she gets that she didn't realise her short comings

Zenkosi : Thank you for making me see that she needs him still , and our divorce shouldn't get in the way of that . Because I can't take away the fact that he is a good father , and was a good husband until I found out the truth behind the riches . And it was just something I couldn't stand for

I understand that part

There's not a lot of women who can stand around , being with a man who does what he does

It'll be like you're supporting his dealings

Love sometimes , is just not enough when it's not carried by

actions . And you don't see eye  
to eye about certain things

Me : you will soon love me for it  
, I'm your sane voice of reason .  
That's why I will not just  
support you just for the sake of  
it

She goes quite , I turn and look  
at her to find her looking at me  
with a smile

I chuckle

Me : what ?

Zenkosi : maybe I am just scared  
, I've had two failed serious  
relationships now . I'm thinking  
maybe those are just not for me  
, it's been a long road . An  
almost happening marriage that  
ended up embarrassing me ,

and one that fell in just two  
years

I smile

Me : third time is always a  
charm

She laughs

I love seeing her love , and it's  
good hearing her laughter



Zenkosi : is this even a  
conversation we should be  
having ?

Me : no , we should just  
demonstrate it

Zenkosi : silly you

Royal : mommy ...

She walks over to us , holding a  
doll

The princesses we had to buy  
here

It was just a lot

Having to see Sofia and Minnie

And we had to buy them and  
many more

I move over from them to  
Kenan

I don't have anything against  
him

There's absolutely no reason for  
me to be somewhat towards  
him

That will change if he changes

Kenan : they're both happy

Me : mhm , and it's up to the  
both of us to make sure that it  
stays like that

I can't deny the fact that these  
two once loved each other

He may still love her , and her  
love for him won't just

disappear because now there's separation . It'll take time

He chuckles

Kenan : don't worry , I will not bother this at all . After all , at the end of the day your princess does need a man who will teach her the values of life . Being there , you'll do so much better than what a video call everyday with me will do

He looks over at them

Kenan : this is not defeat , it's accepting when a better man has won . And I know I blew my chances , she's a woman with morality and standards . My shit , can't be put in the same line as her values

This man is not an idiot

And he doesn't hide behind anything

Which is why I'm all for him having a relationship with his daughter

Me : mhm , just don't disappoint her . She will grow up , to make decisions of her own

She walks over to us

I pick her up

We've had a day , at Disney land

And had lots of cake , all thanks  
to Kenan with his promise

This tiny little being doesn't  
forget



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\*Zenkosi\*

I cannot believe Wenkosi had a whole dinner planned

Not just your normal dinner

But like classy dinner , and we had to dress up fancy

All for a two year old birthday  
party

Someone is worn out now , and  
asleep

She will never forget this  
birthday

It was just one of a kind

Kenan left an hour ago

And he was even on the dinner

It wasn't awkward at all

Because the miss was busy  
chatting up a storm

And we made this day all just  
about her

I get in bed , and Wenkosi is  
cuddling her

Wenkosi : you okay ?

Me : yeah

Wenkosi : come lay here , don't  
fight when you both wake up

I laugh

Me : someone might fight me

He holds his other arm out , I  
lean over and lay my head down

Me : thank you for this , you did  
something so special for her

He chuckles

Wenkosi : this little person calls  
me her king , I gotta deliver

Some people are just blessed

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\*Musawenkosi\*

We're to leave later today

And I am not happy



Because as soon as we get back  
, they have to go to Joburg

And I can't go there because I  
will be busy at the kingdom

So I don't know when I'll see  
them after this day

Zenkosi : what is that ?

She walks closer to Royal who's  
admiring her bracelet

Zenkosi : wait .....these are real  
diamonds

She looks at me with her eyes  
popped out

Royal : nice mommy

I chuckle

Zenkosi : where did you get this  
?

Royal : my king

They both look at me

Zenkosi : real diamonds ?

Me : yeah , why would she be  
wearing fake diamonds ?

Zenkosi : she's 2

Me : fake diamonds will ruin her skin

Zenkosi : how much did that cost ?

I keep quite

Zenkosi : Musawenkosi Cele !

Me : yhoh ! I feel like my mother is here

Zenkosi : aibo phendula (answer me)

Me : I have a diamond mine , so let her enjoy the spoils of that

I have never told her this

So her shock doesn't shock me

Me : princess tell mommy I am  
rich , we can afford this

Royal : mommy we rich

Zenkosi laughs

Zenkosi : what ?

Royal : we rich

Zenkosi : girl ! Why are you involving yourself in things that don't concern you ?

Me : no , I actually love her .  
Because her words are just on point . We're rich , not just me

Zenkosi : wow , I never got real diamonds until I was 24 and working and could afford them

Me : some people , have  
accompanied other people in  
this life

Zenkosi : I fall with the masses

I laugh

And she goes on to continue  
packing our bags

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\*INSERT 31\*

\*Zenkosi\*

He's in the shower , and I've  
just woken up

One of the maidens is minding  
Royal

We're going to Joburg  
tomorrow

I know he's not happy

My mother was a bit sad , that  
we had her birthday outside of  
the country

She wanted us home , so they  
could celebrate with her

So we have another celebration  
that's just waiting us when we  
get back

But I'm a bit sad we're leaving

Even though I knew we weren't  
going to stay here forever

I walk in the shower , and he's  
not even showering

He's just standing in the middle  
under water

I know he's not happy either

Me : hi

He looks at me , and let's out a  
fade smile

Me : I think we can stop  
torturing each other right now

He says nothing but just pulls  
me to him and smashes his lips  
on mine

I kiss him back , he picks me up  
into his arms

His one hand sliding to my  
coochie , I wrap my legs around  
his waist

And let's out a slight moan in  
his mouth

As he slides his tip inside

I yearn for him , as he just keeps  
on teasing me

And I grab his dick sliding it  
through

I throw my head back



He lets out a deep grunt

And doesn't waste time  
thrusting in

Only half of him is inside of me

But it feels like he's all in

Jesus !

I never knew this man is this  
gifted , and he's just hitting the  
right spots

He switches off the water

I scream a bit , as he expands  
inside of me

And his hands grabbing hard on  
my ass cheeks

I bite my lower lip , as I feel the  
wave of pleasure

He doesn't pull out , and it just  
makes the pleasure take longer

After a few thrusts , he puts me  
down , and turns me to face the  
wall

I place my hands on the wall  
balancing myself

As he takes it from the back  
thrusting deeper

With a few spanks here and  
there on my ass cheeks

I pinch my one nipple , as I feel  
that pleasure again

An orgasm reaches me

He turns me over as I'm still  
panting and trying to catch my  
breath

He captures my lips , we kiss  
going out of the shower to the  
bedroom

He lays me down on the edge

Bringing my legs over to his  
shoulder and he slides in

Me : Ohhhh.....

I close my eyes , as he pounds in

And I feel like he's just hitting  
the G-spot

Me : fuck ..... I'm gonna cum  
....I'm gonna cum ....wait ....wait

I try to push him off , but he  
doesn't budge

He holds my legs tight

And I just let go , squirting

Only he pulls out , and taps his  
dick on my coochie

Me : fuck !

He moves over and turns me on  
my stomach

Already my legs are all wobbly ,  
I can't keep them intact

I get on my knees , laying flat on  
my stomach

He gets on the bed , getting on  
his knees



I feel like he's pushing the  
whole of his monster cock  
inside of me

This shit can't fit

I bite my arm , as he thrusts in

Wenkosi : fuck .....

He shoots his cum through , as  
he deep groans

He fills me up , and continues  
thrusting in

My womb is burning

But oh gosh ! He's hitting it so  
right

I move my ass back and meets  
his thrusts

Wenkosi : fuck ...mama don't do  
that shit ....

I ignore him , and he increases  
his pace

I don't back down , as I go on  
with his pace

Wenkosi : fuck ....

He shoots up another load

Some of it even drop down to  
my thighs

He grabs on my waist going in  
deeper I close my teary eyes

As I cum

He pulls out , and I lay my legs  
flat on the bed

He comes over , and lays next to  
me

I look at him

He chuckles

Wenkosi : I fucking love you

I am smitten right now

I don't wanna lie

So this is what I missed out on  
when he said he will fuck me  
the next time he sees me , two  
years ago ?

Damn !

What a loss it was

Still worn out , he flips me over  
on top of him

Me : gosh ....you want to kill me  
?

Wenkosi : waited fucking two  
years for this

I laugh

Moving up , my coochie on his  
face and his dick on my face

I suck on him while he muffs me

I loose myself rolling my eyes  
back

As he nibbles on my clit

I go down , and ride his tongue

Deep throating on his dick



And I pull out as he cum , just  
taking bits of his cum into my  
mouth and swallowing

He doesn't allow me to move  
off of him

He holds my waist down on him  
, as he continues to eat me

Until an orgasm hits me

And he pulls on my coochie ,  
clearly sucking all of my cum

Me : Ohhhh ...ahhh fuck !

He removes his hands

And I move down , taking his  
dick inside of me

Feeling the pain and slight  
discomfort

I ride him cowgirl style , and he  
thrusts underneath me meeting  
my pace

He pulls me back , I lay my back  
on him

He rubs on my nipples

As we slow down our pace , just  
moving in sync

I turn my face , and he moves  
his face to the side

We kiss , as we both reach cum

He holds me in place , as we kiss

He moves his one hand to my  
coochie , his dick still going in  
and out of me

And that's just getting me more  
aroused

Just when I think I can just shut  
some eye

But I will need this itch  
scratched

Or I will just be moody

Me : I love you too

I mumble through the kiss

Shit !

I am dead tired

And I feel that after sex sleep  
just creeping in

I am a thourouly sexually  
satisfied woman right now

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\*INSERT 32\*

\*Zenkosi\*



Me : is everything okay ?

He nods

Me : so you're not talking to me  
?

A whole grown man is sulking , I  
have never seen this

Wenkosi : what will I say ?

Me : I don't know , that maybe I  
need to fix my dress or make up

He chuckles

Wenkosi : what do I know ?

I heave a sigh

Me : we're going to miss you

Musa took Royal this morning

We got to spend more time  
together again

But now they're back

And well , we have a flight to catch in an hour

Wenkosi : you don't get to give me such a night , and morning .  
And I'm just supposed to be okay

I smile

Me : it's not like I am breaking off anything

Wenkosi : yeah , but you're going back there to settle . I don't know what that means for us , like I don't know . Maybe you'll go back to the company you used to work for , or you'll go handle this one . I don't even know when I'm going to see you after this

I haven't even thought about work

And I won't go to Black Industries

Siya is doing a sterling job there

There's no need for my interference

Wenkosi : can I just ask one thing ?

I nod

Wenkosi : wait on the house

Right now I am going to the  
house I used to own

My mother and my sister now  
stay there , since I gave Bendalo  
the house

She didn't waste time moving

As soon as I gave her the deed  
of the house

They were out of my  
grandmother's house

And well , one of the cousins  
was just so quick to move in

Wenkosi : if you're not keen on  
staying with your family , then



please go to the house in  
Sandton and stay there

I don't know why he doesn't  
want me to get a house

But for now , I am going to  
respect that

I'll just go to Sandton , if I feel  
like I want or need my own  
space

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Phakade : fancy seeing you here

I chuckle

Me : I was dropping .....mhm

He laughs

Phakade : when are you sending us , to go ask for her hand for you ?

Ah this one !

I couldn't come to Durban and not see him

That would just be drama

But now he's the drama

Me : I .....not yet

Phakade : what's with the  
uncertainty ?

Me : it's too heavy

Phakade : hey ....if she's for you  
, then nothing can ever be too  
heavy . How many years has  
Mlilo been on your case about  
marriage ?

Me : many

Phakade : and in those years ,  
you've never even bought  
home one girl . Now you have  
brought a whole woman , and  
you're still dragging your feet ?

If only I could tell him about the divorce that's still pending

But I don't want to

Me : I hear you

Phakade : I will expect your call soon , I am very much ready and willing . While I'm still alive , and I still have the money to

pay dowry for you . Use that ,  
don't wait until I'm dead

We laugh

At least we know that's covered

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\*Cero\*



She looks so far away

And just not here with her mind

It's like she's just lost in thought

I walk in and sit down next to  
her

Me : what's wrong ?

She looks at me and slowly  
shakes her head

Me : if it's something you will tell me right ?

She heaves a sigh

Zara : what Trevor did , do you think it was fair ? He was hurt that his mother abandoned him , and he had to revenge himself on her child ?

Me : Trevor was just sick and twisted , there's nothing fair about what he did

Zara : if your parents hurt you , you won't hurt your brother ?

Mhm

Me : okay , I don't know .

Maybe I would , because at the end of the day I am no Saint .

But then again , it would depend on why would I have to revenge myself . Especially on my brother

Zara : I think you would

I chuckle

Me : hey ! I am trying to be reformed right now

She laughs

Me : I don't like Leo that much ,  
as much as he's my brother and  
twin . I don't like him , I just  
think he got treated way better  
than I did . I've always known  
from way young , that he's the  
one who's going to be a king ....

She pops her eyes

Me : keep up , yes I'm a prince .  
And Leo is a king , story of  
another day ...

Zara : wait .....where I come  
from royalty marries royalty

Me : are you hinting that I  
should wife you ?

She laughs

And it's pleasing to hear her  
laugh

Zara : that's not ....

Me : don't worry , I will make it  
happen . Definitely , sooner you  
will be Mrs Ferrari

Zara : stop , you were talking  
about your brother



Me : yeah , we're four . Our big sister Bianca , then us and the little brother . It always felt a curse being born with Leo , I always felt like he got treated differently from me . More like he got treated like the others , and I was just an outcast of some kind . So being his twin has always just been annoying for me , worse he's on the straight and narrow . He might as well be a pastor , so he's all

righteous when it comes to me  
and what I do . Which just  
makes me don't like him even  
worse

Zara : do you want to know  
what's sad about the whole  
thing you just said ?

I don't think I do

Me : what ?

Zara : is that your brother loves you , he loves you so much that you can strike a knife into his heart and he will take his last breath with a smile . I think he , more than anyone else understands you better . And he wants to rectify what you grew up with , but you're not giving him that chance

She takes my hand into hers

Zara : don't let what your parents did , and how they made you feel come between you and your brother . If we were to have kids someday , wouldn't you want them getting along ?

I smile

Me : we're going to have kids ?

Zara : I said if ....

Me : wait , we can always start practicing . Like bit by bit

She laughs , I lean over giving her a kiss

Zara : I ....am serious ..

She tries to push me

I laugh

Me : yeah , I heard you

Zara : you'll talk to him ?

Not now , but yeah

Me : yeah

She smiles and leans over with a  
kiss

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\*INSERT 33\*

\*Zenkosi\*



Being back home just feels  
strange

Having to tell the family now  
I'm divorced

No doubt they're going to make  
a circus out of me

But my mother is okay

I think staying away , made  
things better

And she's happy about the fact  
that I didn't cut Royal away  
from her father

And well , I have Wenkosi to  
thank for that

We got to talk yesterday

Even though I still didn't tell her  
the real reason why the  
marriage ended

I don't think she will understand  
why I chose to just leave Kenan

And not report him

These are people's lives they're  
ruining , and tearing up families  
. With their daughters they'll  
never get to see again

But like I said

I am sure he's not alone in this  
whole thing

Reporting him means putting my life and my child's life in danger , I will be selfish in that and choose our safety

Look how he managed to get his goons to hijack me from my car

And he got them to take Royal away from home

Just so I can face him again

I don't want to die and leave my  
child , or even have her dead

Over people who will still  
continue to kidnap and hijack  
women even after my death

I am not stupid

My heart goes out to those girls

But I'm being selfish , and  
choosing to live

He dodged cops , like he didn't  
exist

They arrested him so many  
times , and never even  
managed to make him spend a  
week in jail

Never mind making the charge  
stick to actually make it to court  
in front of a judge

That on its own said a lot

It's so not worth it

Those men are powerful and  
dangerous



And they have powerful people  
in their pockets

My child needs me

Playing wonder woman for  
other people's kids wouldn't  
work for me

She's with my mother in the  
garden

I think she misses the kingdom  
and just getting lost being all  
over

She was so happy there

She was always around with  
everyone there

And now we're back to being in  
a shell , just around two more  
people

She doesn't get to roam around  
like she used to there , and she  
hates being indoors

Bendalo : who is he ?

I look at her , as she walks in the  
kitchen

Me : who ?

Bendalo : King Musawenkosi  
Cele

I chuckle

This one is very nosey

Bendalo : you went to a whole  
king

Me : what are you talking about  
?

Bendalo : hah ! I saw those  
Disney land pictures , he was  
just everywhere there

Me : he made that trip for her

Bendalo : mhm , already  
secured a step father

We laugh

Me : don't bore me , it's too soon . Besides , who wants a second hand of a woman ?  
Ndosi is a king , he needs and deserves a queen . That's definitely not me

She frowns

Bendalo : do not call yourself that , the men who lost you was their loss . The one who will have you , will be his gain

Me : ah ! I am over being  
hopeful about that , maybe  
somewhere someone is holding  
my key to happiness with men  
and is not willing to give the key  
up

She sits down

Bendalo : he loves you

Me : who ?

Bendalo : the king , who else ?

I laugh

Bendalo : it's the way he just  
looks at you

Me : you have never seen him  
look at me , what are you  
talking about ?



Bendalo : pictures , and eyes  
always tell a story

Me : you have grown , and it's  
annoying

We laugh

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Siya : when were you going to say she's back ?

I laugh

Me : for what ?

Siya : you have been crying for her , for two years . And she's finally back , traveling the world with you . So when are you marrying her ?

It's too early for such a talk

Me : is she available for marriage ?

Siya : I believe so , if she wasn't why was she in Disneyland with her daughter and you ?

I chuckle

Me : maybe we just bumped  
into each other

Siya : my friend , you're the  
worst kind of a liar

Me : well .....

Her call comes through

Siya : look at that smile

Me : leave me , I'll call you back  
. I have an incoming call

He laughs dropping the call , I  
answer hers

Me : mama

She giggles

Me : inkumbulo (I miss you)

Zenkosi : I miss you too

I request a video call , and she  
laughs accepting

Me : you're so beautiful

Zenkosi : I'm going to the office

Me : mhm , how are things  
there ?

Zenkosi : mom is okay , my  
sister is just interested in me  
rubbing shoulders with royals

We laugh

Me : it's a thing now

Zenkosi : yeah , and someone  
misses roaming around maidens  
and guards



I laugh

Me : they miss her too , it's  
lonely here . Now we see and  
understand how we need a little  
person around

She smiles

Zenkosi : when are you making  
one ?

Me : I'm in the process , and I can get on the plane now . So we can practice more

She laughs

Zenkosi : why hasn't your family hooked you up with a princess ?

Me : I would literally order them to marry her , they're happy with their lives . They

wouldn't want me to ruin them  
, over stupid actions

Zenkosi : I give up on you

Me : it's too soon

Zenkosi : Going on end , I have  
to go . Call me later

Me : okay , I love you

Zenkosi : I love you too , bye

She drops the call

I lean back on my chair heaving  
a sigh

Wouldn't marriage right now be  
too soon for her ?

Like won't she get nerves , and  
think it won't work ?

I do not want to lose her , but I  
also don't want to bombard her

Especially with marriage

Something that didn't work  
twice for her

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\*INSERT 34\*

\*Zenkosi\*

Siya : how do I greet you ?

I laugh

Me : your wife is angry with me

Siya : please take a seat

I sit down



Siya : she knows you're back ,  
let me know if you've divorced  
my wife . She's expecting again ,  
hormones are just

He shakes his head

Me : wow ! And she didn't even  
tell me , shame on her

Siya : you're back , and she saw  
on Instagram

Someone please inform me ,  
why a whole king is on  
Instagram

Like Wenkosi just loves things

Me : I have a lot of making up to  
do

Siya : good luck to you

He heaves a sigh

Siya : so , I have been informed  
of all the new developments

Me : relax Siya , I will not be  
coming here . I don't want the  
job , things will stay just as they  
are . Just that I hold the  
majority share now , and  
decisions are passed through  
me and not Kenan

Siya : that's some relief , I  
thought you'll want me out .  
Because I most definitely don't  
even qualify to be CEO , Mr  
Black just did things however he  
wanted them

Me : I am well aware , but I  
know you're capable . And you  
have been doing a great job , I  
don't see why I should take that  
away from you

Siya : thank you

Me : I am not staying , I was just passing by

Siya : let me just call everyone , and let them know

Me : is that necessary ?

He laughs as we get up

Siya : very much so , they need to know where their salaries are paid

So much drama

I will be seeing Lizwi

He will probably be the first to celebrate the end of my marriage

After his saga baby mama  
drama

His father came to my mother  
to apologize

And my mother poured that  
man with boiling water

And Lizwi said a whole list of  
insults at me

So things just went from sour to  
definitely bad

Yet he still has a job in this  
company that's now mine

Lady luck is on his side

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\*Cero\*

He just stares at me

And the words are just stuck on  
my throat

Every time I try to open my  
mouth , it's like I will just choke

Leo : are you going to sit down  
?

Me : I .....

I close my eyes for a brief  
second

Me : I am sorry

That even tastes bitter

He frowns looking at me with  
confusion

Leo : sorry about what ?

Must he really ask ?

Me : for hating you , because I  
felt you were loved more than  
me . You served a purpose to be  
king , and it's like I was nothing .  
I just invaded your sack , I  
wasn't even wanted . You did  
nothing

I open the door and get out

As I get to the parking lot , he  
grabs my arm

Leo : you're my brother , I love  
you

Me : I said I'm sorry

He laughs

Leo : you're just bad at this , I  
heard you . But I'm saying , I've  
never held anything your did or  
said to me . Because we're  
basically the same person me  
and you , and I cannot hate  
myself . Even if I wanted to hate  
you , I just could never

I heave a sigh

Me : okay , I have to go now

He laughs shaking his head

Leo : I guess she's that good for you , one day at a time and you will get better with your emotions

Me : fuck you !

I get into my car and drive off

Women are just scams

What do I care really ?

A whole grown ass man like  
myself , busy doing what I just  
did

Mxm !.

And if it wasn't because of Zara  
, I wouldn't have gone there



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\*Zenkosi\*

Mr Black : she has grown

I smile with a nod

There's honestly no getting  
away from these Black people

He called me after I met up with  
Thuto

And he asked to see Royal

It took everything in me to  
agree

Not that I don't want her to  
have a relationship with him ,  
Royal loves her grandfather

I just wish I didn't have to be involved

Because I think he knows what his son is doing

Mr Black : if it makes anything better , I long told him to tell you the truth . Long before he even married you

Mhm !

I hadn't even finished  
swallowing my words about him  
knowing

And now he's just admitted

Me : it doesn't matter , there's  
no going back for us

He nods slowly , and feeds  
Royal her cake

She's happy seeing her  
grandfather

This is the only balance we have  
when it comes to her  
grandparents

My mother and Kenan's father

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**\*Zara\***

Me : hi

He looks at me

And he doesn't look okay

He left an hour ago

And he comes back looking like  
this



I have some worry

Me : is it safe to come in ?

Cero : come give me a hug

I hate coming into his study  
because it's creepy

I walk in , and he moves back  
with his chair and pats to his lap

I walk over and sit on him ,  
straddling him

I lean over and hug him , he  
hugs me back

Me : it's okay

Cero : I went to see Leo today

I smile

This is good for him

I didn't expect a miracle on just the first day

I am just glad he went and saw him

Me : you know , if you can be nice to your brother . Things will be better

I move back and cup his face

Cero : I am very nice , I am so nice that I am taking you out on our first official date

I laugh

Me : you trying to charm me ?

Cero : is it working ?

Me : mhm , let's see

I lean down pecking his lips , but  
he pulls me in for a deeper kiss

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\*INSERT 35\*

\*TWO MONTHS LATER\*

\*Zenkosi\*

I look at this one , causing us a  
stare



Like child !

In front of the people at the  
mall

We really should have left her  
at home

Like my mother wanted

But Royal is sulking these days

I don't know what's her  
problem

My mother even said maybe I'm  
pregnant

And I am scared of that

Because even the first time ,  
she wasn't kidding

I realised this morning that I'm late on my periods

I'm 5 days late

Which is why we came to the mall , I need a pregnancy test

Bendalo wanted a few jeans

That's why I came with her

This one wanted to come with

Now she's here crying

Me : can you keep it down  
please

Royal : I want

Me : no

Royal : mommy I want it

Me : no Royal , you're not  
getting it

Royal : but mommy ....

And she sits down on the floor ,  
crying

My phone rings and I roll my  
eyes seeing the caller ID

Bendalo : answer your phone  
please

Me : baby

Wenkosi : why is she crying ?

I frown

Me : are you having me  
followed ?

Wenkosi : I called you , I can  
hear her crying in the  
background

I sigh

This is too much

Wenkosi : why is she crying ?

Me : she's just being dramatic ,  
and we're at the mall

Wenkosi : you're having her  
have a fit in a mall full of people  
?

Me : she wants to throw the fit

Wenkosi : why is she crying ?

I keep quite

Wenkosi : Zenkosi ?



Yhoh !

I'm being called with my name  
now

Me : baby ?

Wenkosi : I won't ask again

Me : why are you calling me  
with my name ?

Once a Zulu man calls you  
mama you never go back

I am not happy

Wenkosi : because I'm asking  
you a question , and you're not  
answering me

Me : are we fighting ?

Wenkosi : can you just answer me ?

I heave another sigh just bored

Me : she wants pie

Wenkosi : so just buy her the pie

Me : she's going to make a mess

Wenkosi : she's a child , she's supposed to make a mess

In who's car ?

Wenkosi : that child has an allowance for a reason , she's not supposed to be crying for things like she can't afford them

I roll my eyes

Wenkosi : don't roll your eyes at me

Is he a seer now ?

Yhoh !

Wenkosi : give her the phone

Me : she's ....

Wenkosi : give her the phone

She's two years old , what does she know ?

Me : Royal keep quite please

Royal : no mommy , I want

Me : okay the king wants to talk to you

She holds her tiny hand out

I give her the phone

Traitor of a child

She wipes her tears off

Royal : my king ....yes ....I want  
...yea ....okay ...

She's even nodding

Bendalo : remind me not never  
have kids

Me : don't ever

We laugh

I shouldn't be having more kids

Right now , I am scared out of  
my mind



Royal : okay ....

She tries getting up

Royal : ah ....wait ....

She puts my phone down on  
the floor

And she gets up , like an old  
woman of some kind

She picks the phone up

Royal : yea ....love you

She hands me my phone

Me : you're dramatic

She just frowns

Wenkosi : get her the pie , I'll  
call you later

Me : at least say you love me too

He laughs

Wenkosi : ngiyak'thanda mama  
(I love you)

Me : I love you too

Wenkosi : that's not what I said

He drops the call laughing

Royal : mommy I want two

Me : sis , that's not happening

I give Bendalo my card

Me : I am coming

I leave them , and walk out  
going to the pharmacy

I buy two pregnancy tests

I find them walking out of king  
pie

And she has two freaking pies

And eating them at the same  
time

I look at Bendalo

Me : really ?

She laughs

Bendalo : I have heard enough  
crying

Me : my goodness , that man is  
going to take my car to a car

wash . For a thourouly through  
and through wash , we're so  
driving to KZN and not flying

She is not even paying me  
attention

I shake my head

Me : let's go , before she cries  
for something else

We leave going to the parking  
lot

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\*Musawenkosi\*



Dad : when are you going to Joburg ?

Me : I am supposed to be leaving on Friday

Dad : supposed ?

I chuckle

Me : I have the new clinic inspection , so I will see . I might not get to go

I have been going to Joburg the past two months

Every weekend

It's just hard staying away from  
those two

I really don't want to feel the  
distance that's between us

So I try by all means to close it

Dad : you didn't call me here to  
ask me to oversee that for you ?

I shake my head

Me : I asked you here , because  
I want to talk to you and  
Phakade . He's on his way

Dad : what's this about ?

Me : I'll tell you once he gets  
here

He gives me an inquiring look , I  
just ignore it

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\*INSERT 36\*

\*Musawenkosi\*

Phakade is finally here

And the way they're just looking  
at me

It's just very funny

Me : I would like to send a letter  
to the Nhleko , and ask for  
Zenkosi's hand in marriage

Dad : you do ?

I nod

Phakade : about damn time

I laugh



Phakade : so when can we send the cows , they've long been ready ?

I chuckle

Dad : what is wrong with you ?

Phakade : absolutely nothing , but something was starting to not be wrong about him

Aibo !

Me : what ?

Dad : you're 31 , with no wife or child . Son that's not normal

Wow !

Phakade : so when should we go there ?

I sigh

Me : I haven't told her , but you can send the letter in the meantime . And if we do get a response from her family , then we can proceed

Dad : why haven't you told her ?

Me : I'm a Zulu man , a whole king . I will not get down on one knee and ask a woman to marry me

They laugh

Besides the whole thing of maybe she might not be ready for marriage again

I would honestly never do that

No ways

I will not propose

I do things the traditional way

Phakade : you're strange

I laugh

Dad : but we're proud of you  
still , and we will gladly send  
that letter for you

Me : thank you ....

Zwelethu walks in

Zwe : sorry to disturb

Phakade : what ?

Zwe laughs

Zweli : my king , you're needed  
inside your chamber

Me : what ?

He laughs

Me : who would want me in my  
chamber ?

Zwe : I'm just passing a message  
, daddy who is going home ? I  
need a ride

Phakade : boy , I don't want you  
in my car

They all get up

And walk out just being on his  
case



And I'm just like , who is asking  
to see me ?

And in my chamber

No one is even allowed to go in  
there

Not even my own mother

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**\*Zenkosi\***

Me : take this

She looks at me

Royal : mommy what ?

I laugh

Me : child , take this . And give it  
to your king when he walks in  
here , and tell him we're having

a baby . You're going to be a big sister

She laughs

Me : don't bore me please

Royal : okay , I don't bore

Me : good girl

Royal : I'm princess

Jesus !

Me : yes princess

Royal : good princess

Mhm

This is why I am not supposed  
to be pregnant right now

Me : good princess

She smiles taking the two  
pregnancy tests

The door finally opens and he  
walks in

Royal : my king

She screams running to him ,  
and one test falls down

The shock and happiness on his  
face

Wenkosi : you're here

He picks her up

Royal : Huggie

I laugh as they hug

Royal : we come

Wenkosi : I see that , you didn't  
tell me you're coming

Royal : we here

Wenkosi : I am happy

Royal : happy too

Like really ?



Wenkosi : you dropped ....

He looks over

And he has his face down

I can't see his expression , I am  
freaking out right now

Royal : we have a baby

Only now she gives him the test  
, already when he's seen the  
one on the floor

Wenkosi : no kidding

I heave a sigh

Me : congratulations

He pops his eyes

I don't know right now if he's happy or what

Wenkosi : like we're having a baby really ?

He looks at Royal who giggles

Wenkosi : you're going to be a big sister ?

Royal : I big sister

They laugh

I guess he is happy

But right now I cannot bombard  
him

Because some people are very  
important than others

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Musa had to come and steal my  
baby

But now at least that gave me  
time to focus on these two

She's all teary now

I don't know what's wrong

I wanted us to talk

But she wasn't there

She wanted us to make love

We're cuddling in bed right now

Me : talk to me

Zenkosi : are you happy ? I  
know we never talked about  
kids , and it's been two months

Me : who is counting ?

I chuckle

Me : I am more than happy , I  
don't even know what to say .  
Like you've made me a father ,  
and I can't thank you enough



for that . It's a privilege woman ,  
there's no way I wouldn't be  
happy

She smiles

And a tear drops on her cheek

I wipe it off

Zenkosi : I wasn't ready

Me : it's okay , I am here . And  
I'm not going anywhere , and  
nor are you . Or that loud baby

She laughs

I couldn't have chosen the  
perfect time to marry her

No prince or princess is going to  
be born out of wedlock

Not doing the marriage for the  
baby

Now we have the more reason  
to

I just hope she is ready for it

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\*INSERT 37\*



\*Zenkosi\*

He sure took those news better  
than I thought he would

But I'm glad it's out of the way  
now

Even though I still have to tell  
my family

I don't know what my mother  
will say

It's not like I've introduced  
Wenkosi to her

But of course she has seen  
there's someone

And Royal is always talking  
about her king

My mother has no idea she  
really means he's a king

But maybe she thinks his name  
is king

The family is going to have me  
at their dinner tables , I will be  
their bonding talks

If only I could hide away , until  
this baby is born

But I'm only over a three weeks



We still have to go see the  
doctor

And do a scan , I'm not even  
hoping for a miracle that it's not  
true

Wenkosi said we will do that  
later today

I don't know what's wrong with  
now

Voice : a whole queen doing dishes

I look at her and laugh

Musa : what are you doing ?

Me : well

Musa : yeah but ...why are you doing dishes ?

Me : because there's dishes

Musa : there's help for that

I laugh

Me : I don't mind

Musa : this is not Sage's house ,  
it's yours . Really , you shouldn't  
be doing such things

And she takes a dishcloth and  
goes on to help me

Musa : only because I'm a nice  
person

We laugh

I can never keep up with this  
woman

The noise that comes in

And I'm asking myself when did  
they get back

Because they went to the Cele  
house

Royal : hi mommy

Me : hi Royal

She frowns and her excitement  
disappears

I laugh

Me : I'm sorry princess

Musa : you know how to ruin a  
persons mood

Yhoh !

That's not necessary , what  
does a two year old knows  
about moods ?

Me : apologies

Wenkosi : let's go

Me : go where ?

Royal : we go ride horse

Me : no

Musa laughs

Royal : mommy go

Me : I am not doing that

Wenkosi : we can always leave  
you

Me : bye



Do you think they'll beg me to go with ?

No , they pick each other and go

But it's fine

I wasn't going to go and ride any horses

Never !

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\*Kenan\*

It's a good morning

Being woken up by a call from  
this tiny person of mine

Even though she calls at crazy  
hours

I don't mind at all

Royal : I go ride house daddy

I laugh

These calls are always about  
gossip and nothing else

Me : was it nice ?

Royal : had fun

Me : that's good honey

She smiles

Me : you're a big girl now

Royal : we have a baby , I big  
sister

Whoa !

For two years we didn't make  
another baby

Maybe if we did she wouldn't  
have left

Fuck !

Who am I kidding ?

She was still going to leave

Me : really ?

Royal : yea ...daddy we see  
doctor too

Okay

This is serious , and more than  
just mere gossip

Voice : hello ...

Ah , that's Zenkosi

Zenkosi : hi ....hey , Royal why are you telling your father my business ? Business that has nothing to do with him or you for that matter

Royal : I talk daddy

And she laughs



Zenkosi : give me the phone ,  
let me talk to him

Royal : okay

She takes the phone

Me : hi

Zenkosi : don't hi me , why are  
you two gossiping about me ?

You don't have anything to talk about , except me

I chuckle

Me : you're such a bitter woman , I swear it's like you're not getting dick

Her jaw drops

I laugh

Me : congratulations on the baby

She rolls her eyes

Me : I hope it's a boy

Zenkosi : what's it to you

Me : I don't want no one replacing my daughter

She frowns

Zenkosi : you can drop this call ,  
she's no longer here she went  
out

I am not shocked

Me : tell her I said I love her

Zenkosi : bye

I drop the call laughing

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\*Zenkosi\*

Me : she told Kenan

He laughs

Wenkosi : she will probably tell  
him everything mama

Me : Royal talks a lot

Wenkosi : kids talk

Me : not all kids

Wenkosi : she does , anyways  
what did he say ?

Me : ah ! He called me a bitter  
woman

Wenkosi : what ?

Me : it was just annoying , his words were “you’re such a bitter woman , it’s like you’re not getting dick”

Doesn’t he laugh too

Me : it wasn’t funny



Wenkosi : stop being so hard on Black , he wasn't gossiping . She told him , and of course he can't ignore her . So obviously he was going to talk

Me : mhm-mhm , and he wants you to have boy

Wenkosi : I need a boy , someone who will take over from me

Wow !

Men are a lot

We went to the doctor  
yesterday , after they got back  
from their horse riding

So the pregnancy is really  
confirmed

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\*INSERT 38\*

\*Zenkosi\*

My mother's call so early in the  
morning

And I'm left alone in bed

Without a doubt

Those two are invading the  
kitchen

Me : ma (mom)

I rub my eyes , because I still  
need some more sleep

Mom : when were you going to  
tell me you're getting married  
to a king ?

Okay !

Scratch that sleep I need

Right now I am wide awake

Me : I am what ?

Mom : don't ask me Zenkosi , I  
have a letter in my hand right  
now . Delivered from the Cele

Kingdom , asking for your hand  
in marriage

Me : no ....no that's not  
happening , there must be a  
mistake there

I drop the call

Damn being here , I can't just  
walk out as I am



And I haven't even bathed to  
change

I call him , and thank goodness  
his phone doesn't ring in here

After a few rings he answers

Wenkosi : mama

Me : uphi ? (Where are you)

Wenkosi : in the kitchen

Me : please come , and alone

Wenkosi : okay

I drop the call

Just as my mother's call comes  
through

Me : ma ? (Mom)

I am breathing so high right  
now

Mom : you just dropped the call  
on me , are you okay ?

Am I okay ?

Me : no , I am not okay . I know  
nothing about this marriage  
you're talking about ....

The door opens and he walks in

Me : mom I'll call you

I drop the call

Wenkosi : what's wrong ?

I want to burst right now

But I cannot do that , not with him anyways

He would put me in my place before I even say three words

Me : come in so we can talk

He closes the door and walks over sitting on the bed

Wenkosi : mhm

Me : my mother just called me

Wenkosi : okay

Me : and she says she just received a letter from your family , asking for my hand in marriage

Wenkosi : okay

Me : okay ? That's all you're going to say Wenkosi

Wenkosi : what do you mean ?

Me : I mean , tell me that's a joke

Wenkosi : I go around making jokes ?

Oh lord help me

Me : like seriously , this cannot be happening . You cannot do that

Wenkosi : why not ?

Is he not understanding anything about what he's done ?

Me : I know nothing about this



Wenkosi : you knew nothing ,  
but now you know

I sigh

Me : you didn't even propose to  
me , how do you send your  
people to my family ?

Wenkosi : I am a Zulu man , this  
is how I propose to you . I will

not buy a ring and decorate  
your finger , and I not getting  
down on one knee

Someone please send help

Like serious help , and very fast .  
Because this is not on

Me : are you marrying me  
because of this child ?

Wenkosi : the day you got here ,  
I was talking to my father's  
about this . This has nothing to  
do with you being pregnant , I  
know it might be soon . But that  
soon we also made a baby ,  
what's stopping us from getting  
married ? Especially if that's  
what we want , if you're not  
there I will not push . I  
understand you have fears ,  
because of the past and all . But  
it's up to your family to accept

our letter or not , we will take  
whatever they give us back . It's  
not like I am forcing you into  
marriage

I heave a sigh

The media will have a field day  
about me

My family , the uncles and aunts

Not to mention their kids

This is just a mess

Honestly , I don't see myself  
getting married again

I just don't

Marriage doesn't seem like it's a  
thing for me

Maybe I just need to stop doing  
it , and just accept it's not for  
me

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Zenkosi : I have to go back  
home

I look at her

She sighs

Zenkosi : I hope you understand

What am I supposed to  
understand ?

Zenkosi : I need to go home ,  
and talk with my mother . You  
really caught me off guard with  
this



Me : I see

Zenkosi : please don't be upset

Me : I am not upset , what are you talking about ?

Zenkosi : this is just a lot

Me : it's okay , you didn't hear me say don't go home.

Zenkosi : I don't want to leave  
like we're fighting now

Me : you're making it seem like  
we're fighting , and I didn't  
know there was a fight here

I knew she wouldn't take this  
lightly

She sighs

Zenkosi : if I don't agree to marry you , is that the end of us ?

Me : okay , you're seriously going to tick me off . I am not Lizwi , and I'm most definitely not Black . Don't be comparing me with your past , what did I tell you yesterday ? Didn't I say I am not forcing you into marriage ....

Zenkosi : I'm ....

Me : no , we're having a child .  
What makes you think if you  
don't marry me I'm walking  
away ? Please don't subject me  
to how men dealt you , I am not  
them

I get up and walk out

I don't want to argue at all

And she seems not to be for this

Now making it seem like I am  
angry or upset

Which I am not

I knew there was a possibility  
that she might not accept

But that's no deal breaker

I go into the main house I bump  
into my mother

Mom : I was looking for you

Me : I was in my chamber , we  
can talk now

Mom : you don't sound okay

I chuckle

Me : nothing I can't get over

Mom : you're worrying me , I  
spoke to your father and he said  
they've sent the letter

Me : yeah

Mom : you don't look happy

I sigh

Me : there's nothing to be  
happy about , Zenkosi is leaving  
. Where is Royal ?

Mom : what do you mean she's  
leaving ? Did you have a fight ?

Me : I have nothing to fight with  
Zenkosi about mom

She sighs



Mom : you're worrying me

Me : don't worry , I know you have to leave for Durban . It's all fine , wether her family responds us or not . Marriage is always a choice , and not a must

Mom : did she says no ?

I laugh

Me : to what ? I didn't ask her  
to marry her , if they decline it's  
fine . They declined , we won't  
roll heads over it

The look of worry she has

But seriously , this is not a big  
deal . And I'm not going to  
make it sound like one

Zenkosi is not a child

She's entitled to her choices

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\*INSERT 39\*

\*Zenkosi\*

I call him

And it rings for a while

As I'm about to drop he  
answers

And he's quite

Me : baby ?

Wenkosi : give me a sec , I'm  
doing something here

I heave a sigh , as he's quite for  
a while

Is he avoiding speaking with me  
?

Cause it sure feels like that

After a while , I finally hear  
some shuffling

Wenkosi : sorry about that

Me : baby are you avoiding  
talking with me ?

Wenkosi : are we not talking  
now ?

Honestly I feel like he's not  
happy

I wouldn't be either



But then again , can he just  
understand this from my point  
of view ?

When you know your man you  
know your man

And when he's not himself ,  
even if he's not next to you .  
You can just tell

And we're not okay

Me : I am sorry I just left like that

And I had planned to spend more than a week there

Me : but I just had to come back to talk to my mother , her phone call threw me off . And I was just taken aback by it , and the whole marriage thing . You

didn't even hint anything about  
it to me

He sighs

Wenkosi : can we please not go  
back and forth about this , really  
I am okay . Like I said , I am not  
putting you under pressure .

The decision is yours , and  
whatever you decide I am fine  
with it . It changes nothing .....

I hear a voice on his background

Wenkosi : okay , I'll be there

I heave a sigh

Wenkosi : I have to go

Me : uhm it's fine , I love you  
baby

I hope he knows that

Wenkosi : I love you

And he drops the call

I feel like breaking down right  
now

You know what they always say  
about a woman's intuition

I'm there right now

Wenkosi is not okay , and he  
won't be until he knows where  
we stand

The door opens and my mother  
walks in

She must be thinking I'm  
avoiding her

We didn't talk yesterday

And this morning , I've just been  
in my room

Mom : are you going to tell me  
what's going on ?

I sigh

Me : I've known Wenkosi for  
over two years now , and we

met after the almost disaster wedding with Lizwi . And we didn't get along at all , until I later found out he's friends with Thuto and Siya . I think we almost tried something , but as soon as I found out he was a king I walked away . More like we both did , but Lizwi held a braai . When I was already with Kenan , and we spoke over the phone there . And that was the last time we spoke , and I got



married and just moved on .  
One time as I was talking with  
Thuto already in Greece , she  
gave me his numbers . For what  
, I don't know . But of course , I  
didn't call him . Until the  
morning I wanted to leave  
Greece , I was scrolling through  
my contacts and I stumbled  
upon his number . I called him ,  
and it was working . I got back  
here , and went to stay at his  
house in Sandton . But nothing

was happening , and nothing happened . As he was to leave for KZN , I wasn't ready to come back home yet . I wanted to be okay , so I am not bringing a burden of my hurt and pain home . So we went to KZN , nothing happened still until Royal's birthday . That's when we actually made things officially , to this day we never talked marriage . I was just taken by shock when you called

me about this , and he confirmed . I didn't know what to say , cause he didn't even propose . He spun me some , he's a Zulu man and will not get on his knees whatnot . I ....I just don't know , worse I went there because I tested positive for pregnancy . Just over three weeks , we confirmed with a doctor

She's so quite

And now I can't even bare to  
look at her

Me : I am a divorcee , I don't  
want to make a spectacle of  
myself and just have people  
talking about us .....

I shake my head slowly

I feel like tearing up right now

Me : I can't say I don't love him ,  
because I do . And I don't regret  
this baby , as much as we didn't  
plan to have one . But I'm also  
scared

Tears escape my eyes

Me : what if this ends in ruins  
again ?

Mom : how can you start on a clean slate Zenkosi , when you keep looking back and just comparing ? Yes what happened with Lizwi happened , you placed Kenan in the same box . He married you his way , and now that didn't work . You're placing this king in the same box as Kenan , you're already seeing this marriage in a divorce . Before you've even agreed to it , and you think it

will work . Look at me well , I  
don't care what people say .  
That family you're talking about  
, don't even care about us . So  
they will talk , they still talked  
with Lizwi and Kenan . And  
nothing will stop them from  
talking

I wipe my tears and look at her

Mom : whatever you decide , I  
will support you . They can even

call you a serial bride , I'm your  
mother I won't be moved by  
anything . But help me , help  
yourself and help that man . Do  
not agree to marry that man , if  
you're already seeing this  
marriage ending in a divorce

I have never heard my mothers  
voice so stern

I'm even shaking , and my heart  
is beating so fast



That sounded somehow , and  
I've never heard her speak like  
that

I watch as she gets up and walks  
out

I heave a sigh laying back on the  
bed

Oh what a way to be me

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\*Musawenkosi\*

Me : so what's happening ?

She shakes her head

Royal : I no like Ndalo doing my  
hair

I laugh

Me : then tell her not to do it

Royal : mommy says Ndalo must

Me : you have rights , you can  
say no too . Mommy shouldn't  
force you to like Ndalo , to do  
your hair

Royal : yea

Me : okay , tell her no . Give  
mommy the phone , I want to  
sleep . I am tired , and it's late  
got must sleep too

Royal : we sleep too

I laugh

Me : okay , I love you

Royal : love you

She walks with the phone , and  
hands to her mother who is  
laying on the bed

Me : why are you crying ?

She turns her head and looks at  
me , with reddish eyes

Zenkosi : they sent the response  
today

Me : why are you crying ?

She sniffs

Me : can we not do this ?

Zenkosi : I don't want to lose  
you

Me : you're going to drive  
yourself to insanity with these

thoughts of yours , mama I  
don't understand how I must or  
should explain this to you . So  
why are you doing that to  
yourself , as if I said marry me  
by force . Or if you don't I will  
dump you , that's just crazy .  
We love each other , we're  
parents . Does the outcome of a  
proposal , end what we have ?

She shakes her head



Me : you're stressing the baby ,  
stop with your tears and worry  
for nothing

Zenkosi : did you get it back ?

I chuckle

Me : did you hear what I said ?

Zenkosi : I am going to be a Cele  
wife

I give up

Now I'm being ignored , and  
she's telling me about things I  
didn't even ask about

Of course they sent a response  
back to our letter today

I know about that , but I'm  
trying to have a conversation

here . And a serious one at that  
I believe

I must just brace myself

It won't be easy being married  
or even being together with a  
woman like Zenkosi

She'll always have fears , I just  
have to try and understand her  
better

But it also doesn't mean if she  
doesn't agree to something

I turn and walk away

That would just be stupid

I love her , and I love our kids

Nothing will make me way away  
from that

Me : mama goodnight , I love you and our kids

Zenkosi : it's fine , run away . You have a diamond mine , I want the biggest wedding diamond ring ever . And I'm planning both my weddings , I don't want no wedding planner or families doing the planning for me . No , I am doing everything myself . Your part is

just that diamond , like it must  
look like a diamond rock on my  
finger

Mhm !

I laugh dropping the call

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\*INSERT 40\*



\*EIGHT MONTHS LATER\*



\*Zenkosi\*

Wenkosi : come see the baby

She walks over and he picks her  
up

And places her on the bed

Royal : mommy it's baby

She smiles

Me : yes baby , it's your baby  
brother

Royal : brother ? He's mine

Me : yes

This boy invaded my baby's  
month

Her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday is just in a week

And he just came

Me : hold him , but be careful  
okay ?

She nods

I place him on her

And she just tears up

Wenkosi : what's wrong ?

Royal : it's my baby

Oh Jesus !

Really ?

Royal : mommy , I want to tell  
daddy

No !

But the look Wenkosi gives me

I don't understand why Kenan  
has to be a part of my son's  
birth

Wenkosi : let me call him okay ?

Royal : yeah

I also don't get why she gets everything that she wants

Wenkosi : here you go

I hold the phone for her as it rings , and he accepts

Kenan : hi honey ....what's wrong ?

He's so pink with worry

This is just crazy

Royal : daddy we have a baby

He laughs

Kenan : the baby is there ?

Royal : yes , see ....mommy  
make daddy see



Oh my God !

I turn the phone to the baby

Royal : daddy you see ?

Kenan : yes baby

Royal : he's mine

Kenan : of course he's yours

Royal : oh ....my baby

Why the dramatic effects ?

My baby girl needs help

Kenan : you're a big sister now

Royal : he's a brother

Oh wow

Ever since the speech has  
gotten so better

We never get a break

And she's spilling everything  
and anything , that can get out  
of her mouth

Kenan : that's nice , what's his name ?

Royal : prince

No !

No one is calling my son prince

Hell no !

I refuse

Kenan : well princess , that's very suitable . And very nice

No , it's not happening

I am so annoyed , and Wenkosi is holding in a laugh

Kenan : and who does he look like ?

Royal : daddy he look like you

Can this end already ?

How can my son look like Kenan  
?

Okay , he's a baby . And he's  
very pink and white

But still

Kenan : well then , he's a very handsome prince

Royal : yeah ....mommy he's heavy now

Shame

I can't deny that he is big

Me : take the phone , let me take him

Wenkosi helps us , I take my  
baby back

While she continues to talk with  
her father

Wenkosi : she's happy

Me : baby , please help me . Let  
her happiness end so far away  
from my son , okay ? We're not



calling my child prince , hell no .  
He's already a prince by blood ,  
why must we name him that ?  
Next thing people will be like ,  
greetings prince Prince . No !

He laughs

Me : it's not happening

Wenkosi : okay Ndlovukazi (my  
queen) , it's not happening

Mhm-mhm

Now nothing beats being called  
like that

Who would have thought ?

Most definitely not me

Within a month after they got a  
response from my family

We were married

We did things this time around

We went the traditional route first , did everything from the dowry

The baby's damages , because we were not married when I got pregnant

And then the gifting ceremony

And the welcoming ceremony  
as a Cele bride

The bile ceremony , and being  
given a new name

And then we had the white  
wedding

The wedding that got me this  
big rock on my finger

The man listened , and he  
delivered

Wenkosi : I love you , and thank  
your for this precious gift

Me : I love you more

I am happy

Three years back , I would have  
never said I will have kids

No , not me

Today , here I am with two

And I feel so blessed to have  
them

There isn't anything I wouldn't  
do for these kids

I would lay my life down just for them

And well , I am the happiest I have ever been

After the wedding , I just went for therapy

Not because there were problems no

But I wanted that peace

And I wanted not to find Lizwi  
and Kenan in Wenkosi

It took me a whole 5 months ,  
but I regret nothing

And on some sessions Wenkosi  
also attended



And I knew right there and  
there

That this , was it for me

I shouldn't have run away from  
this man

But then I did , and here I am  
today

As queen to the Cele Kingdom

And wife to this king

A commoner as I am

Royal : mommy , send daddy a  
picture . And Ndalo too , with  
Zwe .....

I just look at her with my jaw  
dropped

No !

This one was sent to test me

Like what kind of a child do I  
have ?

The door opens , she screams  
and forgets there's a tiny  
human being in here

Musa : shhhhhh ....the baby

Royal : he's mine

Zwe : yeah , sure he's yours

He walks over to the bed , and  
looks at the baby

As the girls are stuck at the door

Zwe : he looks like me

Like really ?

A Cele baby looks like a Phakade

Of course that makes sense to  
Zwelethu

Zwe : Ndlovukazi (my queen) I  
do not like your eyes , but it's  
whatever . The boy looks like  
me

We laugh

Wenkosi : don't let mama bear  
hear you say that , she said this  
baby looks like Black

Zwe : that one needs to go for  
evaluation , let me check how  
far her food is . Before she  
remembers she asked me to  
being her food

We're all not safe

He takes his phone and fiddles  
with it

Zwe : just two minutes away ,  
okay not bad . Let me snap a  
selfie with this dude here , my  
guy I have a feeling you're going  
to get me hooked

No !

Musa : Zwelethu you're  
disgusting though

Royal : Zwe where is food ?

Mhm-mhm

Zwe : let's go get it

He takes her hand



Me : don't show my child to  
your girls please

He laughs walking out with  
Royal

Zwelethu is the middle child ,  
but he's a lot

Maybe because he's the only  
one

In between two sets of fraternal  
twins

That's why he's this insane

But one thing I'll forever be  
grateful for in this life

Is being a part of this family

With their family dynamics , and  
they accepted me with mine

They love Royal like their own

They're aunts and uncle to her

It's grandmother and  
grandfather to her

Even though she calls them dad  
and daddy like the kids

But she fits in here

And I couldn't ask for more

As young as she is , she also  
understands there's dad and  
grandfather

Her grandfather makes sure , he  
sees her every month

Mr Black is playing a role for his  
son , and he's just excelling at it

Kenan was stunned when he  
found out

That his father is so present in  
Royal's life

He said he thought I will cut off  
his family

Which meant his father didn't  
tell him anything

Overall , I am happy

Royal is just surrounded by  
loving people , who want  
nothing but the best for her

And I want nothing , but the  
same for my son

Third time , has proven to be a  
charm

The room fills as the door opens

And the whole family walks in

The mother and father's

Along with my mother and  
sister

This whole floor of the hospital  
has been booked out

So they can fill this ward , and  
just be at home

Nothing beats the love , and  
feeling of being surrounded by  
family like this

I look at Wenkosi , and he  
smiles taking my hand into his

Me : third time is a charm



He laughs startling everyone ,  
including this little prince

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\*INSERT 41\*

\*Zara\*

Me : what's this ?

Cero : open it

I wipe my hands off , and open  
the envelope

Me : Italian citizenship .....

I look at him

Cero : I know how badly you  
want to go back to work , and  
be a nurse again . I figured this  
is the only way , to give you that

fast . Getting you're a  
permanent citizenship

I heave a sigh

Cero : you're not happy ?

Me : please don't get upset

He walks closer and picks me up  
to the kitchen counter

He gets in between my legs ,  
and places his hands on my  
thighs

Cero : when am I ever upset  
with you ?

Me : this is huge , I should be  
ecstatic I know

Cero : but ?

I sigh

Me : the kind of man you are ,  
and the fact that over the past  
months I have fallen for you . I  
love you so much , that now I  
don't see me without you

He smiles

Cero : that's the best news ever  
, marry me

I laugh

Me : I am being serious

Cero : so am I

What kind of a proposal is this ?

Me : and I'm going to say yes ,  
see ....



He takes a box from his pocket

And he opens it , doesn't even  
say anything further

He slides the ring on my ring  
finger

Cero : thank you , so Mrs Ferrari  
to be . You were saying ?

Strange !

Me : something is wrong with me....

Cero : are you sick ? Should I call a doctor ?

Why is he panicking ?

Do I look like I'm sick ?

Me : no , I mean like ....

I take a deep breath , and he's just staring at me

Me : you know how I got here , and that means I know exactly the kind and type of a man you are . I made peace with the life I have now , crazy as it sounds . I fell in love , as much as it wasn't planned . All I'm saying is , even though I was kidnapped and chained also abused . You

rescued me from those chains ,  
I thought I was in because of  
love . And you did give me a  
way out , but I chose this . Thing  
is , I cannot go and work in the  
health sector . I cannot now be  
marrying a man who traffics  
other women , and lord knows  
what you do with those women  
. And then in the midst of that  
all , I go on to be a nurse . I just  
can't

Cero : you don't want to know really what I do with those girls , most I bought them and used them as drug mules and sex workers .

I sigh

Me : see what I mean ?

Cero : I hear you , but it's fine .  
You're good with numbers , you

can go ahead and run the wine company . Now that's legit all the way , I don't even clean money using it

Me : make me an offer

He smiles

Cero : mhm , little flower you love money . It's just insane , but i will do that

I will not be one of those  
women and bother myself

I won't beg him to stop what  
he's doing

Trevor knew what he was doing  
was wrong

Cero most definitely knows  
right from wrong

So asking him to stop and all of  
that , would just be a waste of  
my breath

Maybe this is how life was laid  
out for me

To be chained like that

And only to be rescued by  
another



And well , I am turning a blind  
eye

I know my persisting won't bare  
any fruits

Me : great get me down

He laughs , and places his hands  
on my lower waist

Me : don't get any thoughts ,  
France and I cook in this kitchen

I always thought there was a  
helper in here

And said I've never seen her

Well , it's always been a him

He's not a helper per se , he's  
just the chef

France , he's old . Like going on 50 , but he's still good at his job

Cero : you and France can wait

He takes my dress off

I used to be so sad and feel down because of these marks

Scared to be naked

But he embraces this body , like  
he's worshiping the body of a  
Goddess

Now I am myself and free to  
just be naked into front of him

Cero : plan our wedding already  
, I cannot wait to wife your ass  
woman

I laugh as he picks me off the  
counter into his arms

And he lays me on the table

The very same table I was going  
to lay for dinner just before he  
walked in here

He parts my legs getting in  
between them

And unbuckles his pants , taking  
his dick out

Cero : I love you so bad

He rubs himself on me , and  
slowly slides in

I let out a moan , as he fills me  
up . Stretching me apart

Me : fuck .....I love you

He holds my thighs , as he takes  
slow deep strokes

Like he's studying my body

Where to poke , and where to  
just gently tap

I lose myself as pleasure rushes  
through my body

And I orgasm with his dick  
inside of me , going in deeper  
just giving me more pleasure

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\*THE END\*