

A detailed illustration of a white lion with striking blue eyes, looking slightly to the right. The lion is surrounded by tall, golden-brown grass and some darker foliage. The background is a warm, golden glow, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall style is painterly and dramatic.

Ndabezitha Presents

NGONYAMA

Two Kingdoms Collide

Author

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~Ngonyama

~Insert 01

~Three Years Later

~Aviwe

Knowing my father

I know him very well

To know when shit is about to
hit the fan

And that's what's happening
right now

I can smell of far away

Before he even says anything

We all sit down

He call called us

I look at him

And his eyes are directed at me

I know this is no normal
meeting

Its actually far from that

He looks at us

He called us all his children

With our wives

And he takes a deep breath ,
like he is deep in thought

The pain on his face cannot be
missed

My brother's cannot even look
at him in the eye

We know our deeds

Well mine

And how they always find
themselves entangled

And how quickly things have
escalated

Not even being able to defend
ourselves

More like I defend myself

I know this is about me

And they're about to catch heat

Over things I did

And things that have nothing to
do with them

I have been running around

Like a headless chicken

And just doing whatever my
own way

Which isn't always the best

Dad : I gathered all you here ,
because I am tired . And I feel I
am ready , to leave this world

We look at him

In shock

What is he talking about ?

Leaving this world ?

Does he mean as in dying or
what ?

Ayabonga : but father , you
don't seem sick

My father is not sick

I know that

If he was sick

Or he was dying

I would have been the first to
know such

Aphiwe : why would you speak
like that ?

He clears his throat

Dad : for as long as I can
remember , I was an outcast

What is this about ?

I ask myself

Feeling like he is somehow
about to take us down memory
lane

This cannot be good at all

Dad : I didn't know my family , I didn't belong . And I longed and yearned , for this land . Even to just touch grounds , and know my roots

Whatever this is

It is weighing hard on him , even in his tone

I can tell , that he is heavy

Dad : It was hard , carrying an ancestor , to people I didn't know . People who didn't even know , I existed . I felt like a dirty secret of some sort , a shame that was meant to be kept away

He takes a deep breath

And looks at me

I swallow hard

Taking my gaze away from him

I may be king and all

But to this man

I am still his son

And I respect him

Dad : but if there was one good thing my father did , was to tell me about this place . To tell me about my people , and where home is

I look at Majesty

She is looking down

And so is everyone else

Somehow I know I caused this

Dad : and for years and years , I
searched for this land . Until I
found it

He drops his eyes

I can tell his heart is heavy

Recalling everything that he
went through

And what befell him

Slowly he lifts his eyes

Dad : and when I got here , I
came to meet the only direct
bloodline to Lubanzi . But she
was not in good health , and she

was no longer queen to this
throne

He looks at the throne chair

I am not sitting on the throne

I am just on the chairs

Like everyone else , and so is
Majesty

Our throne chairs are empty

Dad : And my arrival to this land
, was her departure

His voice is carrying so much
pain

That I feel it

Every single time he utters a
word

Dad : but i had to step up , and
fight people who took what was
ours . I had to be a man , and
take over a duty I did not come
looking for

Its in the way , he says that with
pride

That I know how much this
kingdom means to him

Dad : This place was rags , and I fought hard to make it what it was . I gathered kings from other kingdoms , and I sought their aid . To uplift my own kingdom , I bowed down . And I did what I had to do , so Isilo can regain his glory

I think we all know , what our father did

Dad : When I was blessed with son's , I felt the God's were with me . And that my grandfather's legacy , would continue to live and be great . But was I wrong ?

We all look down

Somehow that was piercing pain

And just disappointment

Coming from him directed to us

Or maybe just me

Dad : look at us now , what are we ? We were handed and given an Alpha , that came and destroyed

He gazes his yes on me

I swallow hard

Knowing my hunch was correct

This is about me

Dad : my son , you chaos
wherever you step foot . You
have single headedly ,
succeeded into bringing this
kingdom down

Fuck !

Majesty looks at me

And from her gaze

I know exactly what she is
thinking

Dad : And I am also to blame ,
because I let you do as you
please . Thinking you will learn ,

and you will do great as you are
destined . But now I see just
how wrong I was , I opened you
to destruction

I look at him

Not even knowing what to say

Because I don't think I am
allowed to say anything

Dad : you boys have
disappointed me beyond the
words

Aphiwe : father

Isilo : you shall not say anything

Aphiwe looks at me

And he looks down

Dad : when I got here Isilo was nothing , but I rebuilt what was destroyed . I became the hope of this land , only for my lineage to destroy a legacy of decades

Shit !

I said it

This is definitely no fucking meeting

Dad : Do you boys have any of the slightest clue , about the history of this kingdom ?

We all keep quite

Dad : let me tell you about Lubanzi , my own grandfather

He is said to have been a man amongst men

Thee Isilo that graced this land
and made great things

Dad : He was a man of many
things , but he stood for honour
. A man who fought for a
woman he loved , and married
her against his father's wishes .
A man who fought for this
kingdom , and made Isilo what
he is

Now , this is a problem man

Talking about great men who
came before him

It makes me wonder what kind
of a legacy , I will leave behind

Will people speak my name

And only great things will be
said ?

Dad : And from him came a generation , that didn't have what it takes . But even they were better , so much better

Better than me ?

I swear these words feel very much directed at me

And I can feel them

Dad : My uncle Lumkile ,
became defiant to Isilo . But
even he was defiant , in the
name of a woman he loved .
And that goes for something ,
because he was bold and brave
enough

I lift my eyes looking at him

Dad : he messed up big time

He stares into my eyes

Dad : but , he still made amends
. Even when Isilo stripped him
of his mark , and this throne .
He was still worthy enough , to
await his little sister to grow up
and take this throne

He takes a deep breath , with a
heavy sigh

Dad : and as much as that generation failed , but Isilo was still kind enough to make way for them . Nomhle was given a husband , so she can be able to preserve this land . And keep the legacy going , and even she did her best . Until her own people turned on her , but still she wanted what was best for this kingdom always . And she did what she could

He gets up

And I am asking myself if this
whole talk or done or what ?

But he goes on to sit on the
throne chair

I look at him in silence

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 02

~Aviwe

Its not like I can tell him to get
up

Well , I can

But I won't

He is my father after all

This throne was his

Before it was mine

Dad : I remember how your grandparents , were against your mother having you all

He looks at us

Dad : but she stood by me , and she took heart . She made sure , you all live . She gave up , her own life so you four can live . And this is what she gave her

life up for , I am sure she is
turning in her grave

He shifts his eyes to me

Dad : as weak as she was , I
remember her asking for you
specifically . And she begged us
, to take good care of you . And
her last words , were “my little
Alpha” . Words directed to you
Aviwe

I swallow hard taking a deep
breath

If I could walk out of here

I would

Dad : you're the only one out of
the four , that she held in her
hands

For some reason , hearing all of
this

Its like a picture is placed in
front of my eyes

And I revisit that moment

As in like I was aware

Of how it occurred

Dad : you have failed me , you have failed your mother . And most importantly , you have failed Isilo and yourself

Me : I ...

Dad : I did not ask you to say anything

I keep quite

Dad : you have destroyed
everything Lubanzi worked so
hard for , and you show no
remorse

I look down

Dad : you have gone and
created wars with kingdoms ,
we tried so hard to build
relations with . Because you're
power hungry

Right now I don't feel like being
quite

I am just holding myself inside

But I want to speak

Dad : a word of advice to you ,
Lubanzi was of Isilo and
Ngonyama . So tread carefully ,
and be careful of who you make

your enemies . Because I can tell you this freely right now , what you're doing won't end so well . As for me , I am tired and I just want to rest . I want to go be with my ancestors , I don't want to be here when you drop the final nail to the destruction of Isilo . I can't fight you now , because you're my son and I love you . I have failed as a father , but I will surely not fail as an ancestor

He gets up

Dad : don't ever say , I never reprimanded you as a father . As much as I may have been too late , but I need you to know I do not agree of the way you're conducting things . And I will never agree to your way of doing things

He walks out

We remain back in silence

After a while I get up and walk
out

I don't see him anywhere in
sight , I walk over to my
chmaber

.

.

~Majesty

The silence that's in this room

One can hear their own
thoughts

And their own heart beats

I look at Aphiwe

He has his head bowed down

That was a mouthful

And as much as Aviwe is to
blame for everything

So are his brothers

Because they stand with him in
everything that he does

Good or bad

I doubt they reprimand him

They just follow suit

To whatever Aviwe does

He listens to no one

Not even me

I swear , this ancestor chose a
wrong person

Don't get me wrong

I love my husband

And I respect him as king

But the road he is on

Is not that of a king

Or a man deemed an Alpha

Ancestors also make mistakes

And I think this is one of those

Same as someone who is
spiritually inclined

You can accept a useless
ancestor

Or one who is dark

And you'll become exactly that

What they were

You will be that

Aviwe is absolutely nothing

Like the great Alpha that's said
to have come over him

There's no way , he can be this reckless

And yet he is the one who has the upper power

Benathi : well , I knew this would never end well

I look at her

Benathi : I always knew

Everyone now is looking at her

And she is smirking

I don't like her one bit

And I also know she doesn't like
me

Benathi : don't you all look at
me like that

Me : if you have something to say , just spit it out

Benathi : your other husband has done it sis , and you as queen what have you done to get him to toe the line ?

Aphiwe : do not speak to my wife like that , say whatever you want to say . But don't say shit

to my wife , watch your tone . I
am being nice with you

Benathi : come on Aphiwe , we
all know here as queen she
should lead Aphiwe . But no , it's
like she doesn't know her duty .
But who can blame her ? She
came here already with troubles
, marrying brothers and thinking

I don't know when or how
Aphiwe got up

But I am startled by a loud slap
landing on Benathi

And her husband gets up
pushing Aphiwe

Who goes for a punch to his
brother

And he punches back

Aphiwe doesn't back down

As a fight breaks out between
them

Until her husband is beneath
Aphiwe

Who is throwing punch after
punch to his brother

Benathi screams

I walk over and pull Aphiwe

Me : don't do this , it's not worth it

He gets up

Aphiwe : this goes for all of you , if you want to say shit about anyone do so . But leave my wife's name out of your mouths

He takes my hand

And we walk out

I look at him

Me : thank you for protecting
my honour , your father will not
be happy about this . Let's stay
clear of their way

Aphiwe : I am sorry you had to
see that

I place a kiss on his cheek

He smiles

Me : I love you

Aphiwe : I love you more

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 03

~Isilo

Thongalethu walks in

He looks at me

And takes a seat

Thonga : my king

I chuckle

Me : don't do that

He laughs

Thonga : I do not like this path
you're on , you still have long
days ahead of you

Me : and I am tired

Thonga : you will die of a broken
heart

Me : better that , than stay
around here and see everything
that is happening

Thonga : this kingdom is yet to
weep my king , I see blood

I take a deep breath

Me : it's the only way

Thonga : can't you ...

Me : no , I am tired . And Aviwe listens to no one , he can do what he likes . And he will pay for his consequences

Thonga : we can talk to King Mpande

Me : how many times , has he tried to talk to me ? And it seems like I am allowing what

Aviwe is doing , like I am
condoning it

Thonga : I don't think I can bare
all this

Me : me and you

Thonga : the ancestors are
turning against us , how will be
conqueror our enemies ?

Me : we won't , I fear the worst
is yet to come . I only have sons
, and now they have an opening
. Things are get to get worse
eyes of the Gods

He takes a deep breath

Me : I have made peace with all
, and if they care to redeem us
one last time . Then they will , if
not then let it be our end

Thonga : my king

The door opens

Aphiwe walks in

I gaze into his eyes

And fear strikes me ,
Thongalethu falls down

And grunts chanting

Aphiwe walks over , he kneels
down before me

I close my eyes taking a deep
breath

I hope my ancestors do not
forsake us

.

.

~Majesty

Aviwe : where is he ?

He asks walking in my chamber

I look at him

Aviwe : why would he fight with
his brother , in my throne room
like that ?

I shake my head

Me : please sit down

Aviwe : where is your husband ?

Me : you're also my husband ,
and I am asking you to sit down

He walks over and sits down on
the bed

Me : what happened to you ?

He looks at me

Me : is this the kind of a king
you want to be remembered as
?

Aviwe : I do not understand
what is wrong , that I am doing
or have done . I have been
breaking my back for this
kingdom , fighting to keep us on
top . But you don't see that ,
you're always looking down on

me . I have never done anything
, and have you applaud me

I smile

Me : the man I fell in love with ,
died the day this alpha came
over you and you became king .I
barely even recognise you ,
you're a king that's nothing but
just a thug

He clenches his jaws

Me : I cannot stand with you ,
because I cannot agree with
what you're doing

Aviwe : you're queen because of
me

Me : and I never asked to be
one , I never wanted to be
queen because I wasn't born

one . I accepted it , because I
love you . And I wanted to be by
your side , but I still hold my
own values

Aviwe : your loyalty , should lie
with your husband

Me : as it should , but I will not .
This is where I toe the line ,
you're power hungry and you
think you're a God

I look at him

Me : you want everyone to
worship the ground you walk on
, and bow down to you . And
that is not , what being a king is
. I may not have been born into
royalty , but I believe I know
kings . You're ruling this
kingdom , like it's in the days of
oDingiswayo . And well , times
have changed

He takes a deep breath

Me : I love you ,and I will always
love you . You gave me a status
of power , but I am powerless.
Because you hold all the power
to yourself

Aviwe : mama

I shake my head

Dismissing him

Me : I have been talking to you ,
and you hear nothing I have
been saying . Right now , even
your own father has washed his
hands on you . We expected too
much from you , and maybe
that's why you have let us all
down . Maybe we are all to
blame , for how you turned out

I get up

Me : when great power is given
to fools , they misuse it .

Because they love the taste of
power , yet they don't know
what to do with it .

I walk out of the chamber

And see three guards running to
the throne room

My heart pounds hard

Hoping it's not Isilo

I run over to Aphiwe's chamber

And it's empty , there's no one
inside

His bed is a bit messy

Like he jumped off on it

Or maybe he was dragged

Or did he drag himself

But why ?

Or his brother came to finish
what they started

Me : no

What if his father already heard
about the fight ?

I run to the throne

And get inside

To find Aphiwe groaning on the
floor

He is rolling

It seems like he is in so much
pain

And Thongalethu is chanting

Also on the floor

Isilo is next to Aphiwe

I rush to him

Me : what's going on ?

Isilo looks at me

Isilo : you need to be strong ,
and brace yourself for what's
about to happen

Me : what ...what happened to
him . He was fine all along ,
what happened ?

I hold his hand

Me : Aphiwe ...

I call out his name shaking him

Me : baby you cannot leave me ,
you can't ...

He opens his eyes

I move back screaming

Thinking I saw a glaze of fire in
his eyes

Tears stream down my face

But I am startled when I hear his
bones cracking

Me : nobaba please do
something

Isilo : I can't ...

I look at him

He looks so defeated

I look at Aphiwe

And let out a wail , crying my
lungs out

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 04

~Jabari





I look at her

Its been almost 15 minutes

Of he opening her mouth

Screaming at the top of her
lungs

I am pissed off right now

And just annoyed

Carol : I am talking to you

Me : you're not talking , you're screaming

Carol : because you're not listening to me , you are not hearing me . I am justified to scream

Me : what's there to listen ? Tell me that you're done , so I can leave

Carol : leave ?

I just stare at her

Carol : no one is leaving , we're talking . And you don't get to just leave

Me : you keep screaming , and I am gone

I grab my car keys

And walk out

She runs after me

And grabs my arm

I yank it off

And I push her off , she creams
almost falling down

Carol : you want to beat me ?

I click my tongue

And hurry to my car

I get in my car and drive out

My phone rings

I look at the caller

And decline the call

Me : fucking crazy woman !

I block her number

Knowing it's useless anyways

Because she will do her
nonsense either way

And still try to call me

She's full on nonsense

I wonder how I kept up with her

All this time

My phone rings again

It can't be her

Not this quick

I answer the call

Me : yeah

Dad : is this how you talk to
people ?

I chuckle

Me : I wasn't aware that it's you

Dad : you're rude , this is not
how I raised you

Me : I am sorry , ndinga
kwenzela nton Dlangamandla ?
(what can I do for you)

Dad : I have to call you , because
unless I do so you don't see the
need to ever call me

Me : ncese (sorry)

Dad : khayeke ngoba sorry (stop
being) , tell me when you'll
come home

Me : I will come soon

Dad : that's not an answer

Me : I know

Dad : then give me an answer
Jabari

Me : next week

He laughs

He knows I am fucking with him

Dad : I swear , the next time you
come here I will be dead

Me : hey , why are we getting
emotional ? I said next week ,
didn't I ?

Dad : telling me lies ?

Me : hayhii (no)

Dad : I won't bother you again

Me : wait ...

He drops the call on me

I take a deep breath

I know my father

He is just acting up right now

And he will be fine , as soon as
he calms down

I know we will be cool

That's not something I can say
for Carol

I need to be as far away as I can
from her

What kind of a woman , fights
for a break up ?

She needs to get it through her
head

When it's over it's over

There's nothing else to even try
and hold onto anymore

.

.

~Ngomane

Ngomane





I look at my parents

Dad : can we just think about this first , before we create war

Me : that Xaluva boy is asking for war

Mom : they're family

Me : your family , and they're full of shit

Dad : watch your language !

I look down

Zipho : I only have one question

I look at her

Between us she is the calm one
, and can reason better

Zipho : if you start war with Isilo
, who will be leading that war ?

Because I do not want to taint myself , can you see my situation ? I am already dealing with a lot , we are busy dealing with the Butho people . That's another war , that we're in right now . Can you stand against a whole Jaguar ?

I chuckle

Me : Aviwe is a man , he is a man like me

Dad : and he is also an animal ,
that you are not

Me : yeah , I am not . But I will
not let those people walk all
over us , never ! And they're
working with the Butho people ,
knowing they're our enemies .
Look at what they did to our
princess

My mother looks down

Me : do we just let them be ?
After everything

Dad : if you start this war , you'll
go at it with your regime

He gets up

Dad : and that's where I stand

He walks out

Mom : understand where he comes from , your sister is pregnant . And those Butho people shamed us and our village

Me : with the help of Aviwe , I know for a fact that fucker worked with them

Mom : be that as it may be , we
can only deal with one thing at
a time

Me : then let me take care of
him , I will do it all by myself

Mom : I cannot lose you
Ngomane , I have lost so much
over the years . I do not want to
lose my children

Me : you will not lose me my
queen

I get up and walk over to her

I kneel down in front of her

Me : please , just give me your
blessings . I will not even take
the regime with me , I don't fear
that boy

I hear her exhaling hard

Mom : you have my blessings
my prince , but please come
back to me

Me : thank you my queen

She places her hands on my
shoulder

I look at her

Mom : be safe

I nod

Zipho : take heart brother

I look at my sister

And my heart breaks

Me : they will pay for what they
did to you

A tear drops down her cheek

Me : I will make them pay

She nods , I get up and walk out
of the throne room

.

.

~Zipho

Zipho



I look at my father

As much as he left

And he is against Ngomane

He is worried as a father

That's one thing I love about
him

He can be a father

And not be a king

Especially when it comes to his
children

Me : I will pray to Ngonyama ,
and I will plead to Ziphozendalo
. They will never abounded one
of their own , Ngomane will be
back safe . Jaguar or no jaguar ,
we're the king's of the jungle .
And we will protect our territory
, when push comes to shove

He smiles

Dad : how I wish your brother
was like you

I laugh

Me : he is protecting our
honour , Aviwe is out of control
and he feels like some power of
a God . He thinks he can

trample over our kingdoms ,
because we refuse to pledge
loyalty to his kingdom .

oNgonyama are not servants to
anyone , not even Isilo . Lubanzi
is an ashamed ancestor where
he is , he built his ancestors
legacy only for the next
generation to ruin it . Well , he
was one of us . And he had the
blood of Ngonyama running
through his veins , and he knew
how dealt with those against

him . Right now , Aviwe is
against us . And Isilo shall feel
our wrath , Mabutho was seen
as shame and you thee great
Mpande you redeemed our
ancestor . We will not fail him

He nods slowly

Me : we tried to reason

Dad : I know , we did the best we could . Even Isilo is letting his son run free , just because he is king

Me : and that's exactly Ngomane's point

Dad : you're always here to make me see reason , now I see why Ngonyama chose you

I smile

Dad : you're very wise my
princess

I take a deep breath

Me : how I wish I had been
wiser , when it came to the
marriage with the Butho
people. I wouldn't be here

Dad : hey ... do not despair .
You're not just anyone , and I
need you to keep that in here ..

He pats to my heart

Me : I am the daughter of
Mpande and Imani , the great
granddaughter to Ziphozendalo
. And the vessel of the great
Ngonyama

Dad : that's exactly who you are
, and those Butho people will
get what's coming to them

I lean over to him , placing my
head on his chest

I am blessed to have this family
that I have

I appreciate them

For always having my back

And being with me at this tough
time

I am going through right now

But it makes everything better ,
knowing they're with me

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 05

~Jabari

I open the door to my
penthouse

And walk inside

I head over to my study

My phone rings

I pick up the call

Me : yeah

Teko : where are you ?

Me : what do you want TK ?

Teko : those guys are coming ,
and we need you here

Me : I am busy , handle it .

Teko : but they ...

Me : if you can't , just tell me .
And I'll get AJ on it

Teko : there's no need for that

Me : then just do what I pay you
to do

Teko : alright , I'll talk to them

Me : wire the money when
you're done

Teko : sure

I drop the call

And grab a bottle of water

I pull the chair and sit down

My phone beeps , indicating a
text message

I open the message

And seeing who it's from

I know it's a matter of urgency

He wouldn't text for no reason

And he knows better than to call
me

And risk a link with me

With a text , I am able to control things

And it can easily be erased , and leave no trail . When done perfect

I quickly make a phone call

Ngomane : I need your help

Me : when ?

Ngomane : as in now

Me : I'll be there tomorrow

Ngomane : sure

I cut the call

.

.

~ Majesty

Its been a long two days

They feel like two years

Something is off here

Aviwe has run off to the dark
woods

Aphiwe is still in the same
condition he was

I don't know when Aviwe left

Because I spent the whole night
in the throne room

Watching over Aphiwe

Along with his father and Rain

Thongalethu only got better this
morning

Yet he still can't say anything

I don't understand what's
happening with Aphiwe

His father can't say anything
either

I feel like I am loosing my mind

I cannot lose a husband

I am way too young for that

I tried reaching to my guides

But they're quite and not saying
anything

I am in the dark

I just want to see Aphiwe
getting back to his sense

I am angry at Aviwe

For the fact that he just left

Without telling anyone anything

He ran away

And for what ?

I don't know

Rain : you need to rest

I look at her

Me : I can't

Rain : you haven't slept in two
days

Me : I can't

She takes my hand into hers

Me : can't you communicate
with the ancestors ?

Rain : they won't show me
anything

I shake my head

As a tear drops down my cheek

Me : I can't see anything either

Rain : my husband was in trance
for almost two days , if anyone
knows what's going on its him .
But he hasn't been able to
speak , we need to give him
time . And hear what the
ancestors have told him

I look at her , with tears
streaming down my face

Me : I cannot lose my husband
Rain

She brings me closer to her

Comforting me

Rain : you won't lose him , you
won't

.

.

~Zipho

Ngomane walks in

And sits down

I look at him

Me : I don't know how you plan
, to go attack Isilo . Especially
without your regime

Ngomane : I will be fine

Me : I believe in you , but I am
also worried

Ngomane : I don't want to risk
with the lives of my men

Me : so you are aware that
there are risks ?

Ngomane : of course

Me : then ...

I shake my head

Me : how will you do this ? You
can't march into a kingdom
alone

Ngomane : I have eyes and ears
in that palace

Me : Ngomane ...

Ngomane : don't worry

Me : if you die out there
...mother will never forgive
herself , and nor will I . Because
I was able to convince father
that you can handle this

Ngomane : I don't want you
stressing , just know I will not be
alone . And I will come back
home alive

I nod

I am worried

As much as I believe in my
brother

I am worried for his life

And I am in no condition

To go with him

And be his protection

Ngomane : don't look so
worried , when I come back . I
am taking you to Mauritius

I laugh

Me : don't kid me like that

Ngomane : I am telling you , you
need this break

I sure do

After everything that has
happened

Going away for a while

Is definitely what I need

And it'll do me good

Ngomane : I love you okay ?

Me : I love you

He walks over and gives me a
hug

I hug him back

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 06

~Zipho

I page through the album of
pictures

It feels just like yesterday

When I was in love

And feeling on top of the world

Everything was going great

It was nice

To the extent that I didn't see
any red flags

And now that I think about it

The way I see how many were
there

The cheating , and enduring
thinking it's what men do and
it's a norm

At the end of the day

He knows where home is

He is a prince

So he will have concubines

And he will take a few more
wives after me

I was okay with all that

And I thought that was love

Because he was acting out

It didn't mean that he didn't
love me

I was crazy in love

And just dumb

Spha used me to gain power

And to raise his kingdom

Then he goes on to ditch me on
the alter

And he marries another
princess

Just hours after ditching me

She always clearly always there

And his family knew

They played me for a fool

And I fell for it

To make matter worse , they
questioned the paternity of his
own child

I was dumb

And believe me when I say that

Because I slept with him ,
because he had paid bride price

And as we know it , that meant I
am his wife traditionally

That's how it is

So I felt obliged to sleep with
him

Not knowing what I was getting
myself into

Now he is living his life

With his wife and family

After the shame

They brought me

And my family

Not to mention to my people
and my kingdom

Now I am left pregnant

The bride ditched on the alter at
that

Right now , I may be over it

But I haven't forgotten

To make matter worse

They reeled in a descendant of
Lubanzi into this

Someone who's great
grandfather

Shared the blood of Ngonyama

They betrayed us

And tried to ruin our kingdom

Attacked my people

So we can pledge loyalty to Isilo
, which is something that will
never happen

Not even in a million years

They thought they knew best

But they don't have the slightest
idea

Of what they have just
unleashed in Ngonyama

They have no idea

They will get what's coming to
them

I get up

And take the rubbish removal
plastic

Throwing the album inside

And I walk outside

I throw everything in the trash
can

And set it alight on fire

Everything burns to ashes

And that's what the love I had
for Spha has become

.

.

~Jabari

I park my car and walk to him

He walks over

We meet halfway

Ngomane : hey man

We shake hands

And bump shoulders

Me : hey

Ngomane : thanks for coming

Me : what do you need ?

Ngomane : I have a thorn , I
need removed

Me : who ?

Ngomane : Aviwe Xaluva and
Spha Butho

I raise my brow

Ngomane : Spha dealt my sister
very bad , and he has to pay for
that . I cannot let him , get away
with disrespecting our princess
like that

This is fucked up

I know how much Ngomane
loves his little sister

I don't keep up much

With things that happen around
here

But I know princess Zipho is
adored , throughout the whole
of Ngonyama kingdom

Not just by her family

But by her people as well

Here an injury to one

Is an injury to all

You hurt one of their own , and
they retaliate back

Ngomane : and Xaluva thought he can come to our kingdom , attack our people so we pledge loyalty to him . And that will never happen , we don't bow to anyone . Not even him

Me : the Isilo king ? The jaguar?

He nods

Ngomane : he is still a man

Me : damn right he is

He chuckles

Me : what do you need from me
?

Ngomane : I cannot take the
regime to attack , I don't want
to lose men in a battle
especially one like this

Me : mhm , I understand . But
we don't need man power , it's
two men against us two men

Ngomane : I do not want to risk
with your life

Me : you called me here

Ngomane : that maybe you can
...

Me : I will never let anyone go to war with you , if it's not me then it's no one . I fight where you fight

Ngomane : I may not be king , but I will never allow anyone to dance on our kingdom

Me : Ngonyama is home to me as well

Ngomane : thanks man

I nod

Me : let's go

We walk over to my car

Me : I hope this is an kill what
you see in front of your eyes
mission

He laughs

Ngomane : good for you ,
because I am in the mood for
blood

I chuckle

Me : and blood , it shall be
served

I drive

Heading to the airport

I have an aircraft there

It will get us to Isilo

Me : I look forward to this

Ngomane : I want that Xaluva
boy to myself

Me : you shall have him , I will
take the scrapes

I don't care who I kill

Just as long as I kill someone

It doesn't matter who it is , and I
don't care either

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 07

~Majesty

I take a deep breath

And my whole body starts
shaking

My eyes rolling back

I feel hands grabbing me

And distant voices

I close my eyes

And I see nothing but blood

I gasp opening my eyes

Panting hard

Rain : what

Me : igazi , ngibona igazi (blood
, I see blood)

Isilo looks at me

I shake my head slowly

Tears streaming down my face

Me : tonight , please bring my
kids to me and lock me up in
here with my husband

Rain : what ?

Me : my kids please

Isilo : why ...why do you want to sleep in here ?

Me : I am not leaving my husband , and if I am to die I want to die next to him

Rain : die ? What was shown to you ?

Me : blood

Rain : but what does it mean ?
Was it clear , that blood will be
spilled here or what ?

Me : I need my kids

Isilo : you cannot sleep with kids
in here , where would they even
sleep ? If it makes you feel
better , then you'll sleep in the

main house . At least , you
won't be alone in your chamber

Me : with all due respect , I am
staying here with my husband

I don't understand why he's not
waking up either

Today he is shivering

And it's like he is cold

But his body temperature is
extremely high

Aviwe left to God knows where

I am not leaving Aphiwe's side ,
because we cannot move him

I will stay in here

I don't care

I am not going anywhere

Even if it means I sleep on the
floor

Or I lay awake all night long

I am not leaving this room

Unless they want to drag me
out

But they can try

I don't even know what's going
on with my husband

I don't know where the other
one is

There's no way , I am leaving his
sight

I want to be here

To see everything for myself

Incase something happens

I don't wanna be told

I want to see everything for
myself

.

.

~Isilo

I am so tired

Who knew coming here

Would drain me this much ?

Taking over these
responsibilities of being king

And trying to be a father

Serving everyone else

Putting other people before
yourself

If I knew

I swear , I would have never
looked for Isilo

As old as I am

I shouldn't be drained already

I shouldn't be considering death

Seeing that as an only option

An option to leave everything
behind

I am so tired

And I have to be a father

To grown men

Who still behave like kids

I cannot keep protecting them

I have reached my point as well

Its not like I am untouchable

Just because I am not fully
human

I look at Thongalethu

Me : I am worried about the
queen

Thonga : me too , her vision is
not giving me peace

Me : I know , whatever is
coming I don't have the
strength

He nods

Thonga : I wish my ancestors
could reveal something for me

Me : I don't know what to make
of everything , that's happening
here

Thonga : we need to brace
ourselves for anything

I exhale deeply

Me : be honest with me

He looks down

Like he read my mind

Me : we both can see what's
happening with Aphiwe

Thonga : mhm

Me : tell me , is my son ever
going to come back ?

His silence says a lot

Me : alright

I get up walking outside

He comes after me

Thonga : there's no easy way to say

He says behind me

I keep quite

Me : mhm

Thonga : now we just have to pray , and hope for the best

That's giving me absolutely
nothing

But then , I can see

There's things I have to make
peace with

And just accept

That I cannot control all

I turn and look at Thongalethu

Thonga : I wish there was
something better I can tell you

Me : whoever comes in a body
gab , I will bury them

His jaw drops

Thonga : don't say that

Me : where is he ?

Thonga : my best bet is the dark
woods

I take a deep breath

With what's happening with
Aphiwe

I don't know what to think

Maybe he is in a weak state
where he is

And if anything comes

He won't even be able to
defend himself

I should go look for him

.

.

~Jabari

Me : it won't be a problem to
get in here

He looks at me

Ngomane : you're certain m

Me : yeah , and I have intel
inside there

Ngomane : your trust your Intel
?

Me : yeah , Aviwe is not at the palace . He hasn't been seen for a few days

Ngomane : then who is there ?

Me : his brother's , wife and kids along with Isilo

Ngomane : I don't feel very merciful

I chuckle

Me : I am following your lead

Ngomane : I know where I will
find Aviwe

Me : then let's go

He looks at me

Me : what ?

He shakes with head with a
chuckle

Me : I don't like that

Ngomane : let's go

Me : wait ... what has you
amused ?

Ngomane : nothing , I am a prince .I don't know if I can handle the dark woods , but you're Dlangamandla's son . I am certain you have been strengthened

I chuckle

Me : enough with nonsense , I am sure we can find him . We can't get defeated by something that cannot speak . Its just a

forest , and it's dark . Hence the
name , the dark woods

He laughs

Me : let's go

We ditch the car by the veld ,
walking to the dark woods on
foot

.

.

~Aviwe

Every time I open my eyes

I scream in agony

As it feels like my bones are
breaking

I can literally feel life being
drained out of me

I know this pain

I remember it vaguely

When I started changing forms

But right now I am confused

As to why it's happening again

And right now

At this crucial time

I feel like there's a force against
me

I can't even change my form

So I can head back home

I am literally rolling myself on
the floor

Trying to gain my strength

And it's seeming to be
impossible

I don't know what I was thinking

When I left and I came here

The dark woods are not a place
to be in

Especially in a weak state

There's things roaming these
woods

And I am vulnerable here

All alone

This is the best place nor
position to be in

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 08

~Ngomane

I look at Jabari

These woods are fucking crazy

But we're already in

And we have been roaming
around

Turning back at this point is no
use

We might as well find him

And finish what we came here
for

If we did , then let it be

This is not our territory

We don't know what to expect

Or what awaits us

Jabari : do you hear that ?

I look at him

Nodding my head

Jabari : it's him

We run heading to where the
groans are coming from

And what do you know ?

There he is

In human form groaning and
grunting from the floor

We get to him

Jabari : what happened ?

Me : I don't care

I lean down to him

He opens his eyes and looks at
me

Aviwe : aren't ...you one lucky
bastard . You come for me , and
you find me this way

Me : good , I may be a coward
but I am glad

I drag my dagger out

Me : I am going to finish you ,
and head over to do the same
for your friend

Aviwe : I was just an accomplice

Me : at the expense of my sister
? And threatening my people

Aviwe : that last one ...guilty as charged

Me : well , great Lubanzi on the other side for me

He smirks

I stab him on the stomach

He screams in pain

I draw the dagger out

Aviwe : I

I stab him again deeper this
time

Aviwe : youcame here ..to kill
me ? I sure ...must have rubbed
you ...off , surely we could
...have just talked it out

Me : mhm , I am a man . And I
couldn't face a jaguar , but still
look at how the universe
aligned

Aviwe : I seewell , send my
greetings to your sister ...

Jabari : this fool , is fucking
boastful as fuck

He rips his shirt off

Jabari : and it's because he
knows he's no fucking man ,
once he regains his strength he
will annoy us

He drags the dagger from me

Jabari : I will do a whole lot of
people a big favour

He stands the dagger

Through his heart

What comes next , I did not
anticipate

He cuts him open on his chest

As Aviwe screams in pain

Blood splattering on us even

And Jabari takes his heart out

I pop my eyes

As he drops it to the floor next
to Aviwe

And he drags his side sword

And slides it through his head

Cutting his head

I look at him in shock

I know he is bad

But I didn't think to this extent

Jabari : when you kill a dog ,
don't give him an upper hand to
even torment you with words .
And don't give him a chance to
regain power

He stands up

Jabari : given a chance , he
could have still healed and lived
. Now there's no chance

Me : let's get the hell out of
here

We pick up the dagger and the
sword

As growls of wild animals
echoes around us

Me : fuck

We run heading down hill

And a jaguar stands in our way

This is definitely Isilo

Jabari : we can take him ...

I look at him

Me : I came here for your son ,
not you . But if it goes both
ways , I can take my chance .

Men to animal , whatever that
slight chance might be

I know he can hear me , and he
understands me well

Just because he is in form

Doesn't mean he can't speak

Or that he can't hear me

He can

And he knows what we have
done

Maybe he came to fight us

To defend his son

He is still a father first and
foremost

And surely he loves his son

No matter how much of a dick
he was

He was still his child

He runs past us , heading to the
hill where we come from

Me : shit , let's go . I got who I
wanted

We head to the veld where we
left the car

.

.

~Isilo

I could have fought them if I
wanted

And they would have never
stood a chance

But I knew , someday

This path my son was on

Would come to this

Or worse

Where my people would suffer
for his deeds

They got what they wanted

And I just want peace

A war with the kingdom's , is
something I never wanted to
begin with

Much more with Ngonyama

Knowing the history between
our families

They're family after all

Aviwe being Aviwe overlooked
all of that

Like he didn't know

I don't want to start a war

Hence my leaving them

I carry his ripped body into my
arms

Along with his head and heart

My heart sinks

And I don't think I ever want to
go through something like this
ever again

Having to bury one of my son's

Over mere things that could
have been avoided

Without even having to say , we
have to resolve things

I know he brought this on
himself

Even if he was in strength

He would've never stood a
chance against that
Dlangamandla boy

Aviwe had so much power

That he misused

He didn't know just how
powerful he was

He did not even have the
slightest idea

More powerful than all of us ,
who ever walked with this
ancestor

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 09

~Jabari

My burner phone rings

I answer

Me : yeah

Benathi : so is it done ?

Me : what do you want woman
?

Benathi : yes or no

Me : I don't answer to you

Benathi : I helped you get in here

Me : look , you can tell your nonsense father he came come and do his worst . Don't ever call me , ever

I drop the call

Ngomane looks at me

Ngomane : And that ?

Me : my contact

Ngomane : I thought you said
it's a he

I chuckle

Me : hey ...I can't reveal them to you

Ngomane : I saw you rip a man's heart out , and cut his head off

Me : so he doesn't live

Ngomane : I think I should be scared of you

We laugh

Me : don't speak nonsense , if
you have been through war like
I have . That's are certain things
about yourself , that you lose .
And you never get them back ,
sympathy is one of those

Ngomane : but , I really
appreciate it

Me : anytime

Ngomane : I hope Isilo won't
come for us

Me : he can try , but we won't
just give up. We'll lose a fight ,
that we tried to fight . We don't
back down

He chuckles

.

.

~Benathi

I have my bags ready and
packed

These people annoy me

And I have not forgotten what
they did to my family

They will pay

Its sad , that my husband is in
the midst of this all

But I am choosing my people
over them

My brother will make sure to
get my son

And I will be out of here

In the midst of everything

While they run around

I have already sent my father a
signal

So they can charger and come
in

Just then , Isilo walks in

He is with guards

Carrying what looks like a body

They walk to the throne room

Bows and arrows follow them

I know it's my father

They have arrived

People run around screaming ,
ahead at the village smoke
emerges

I smile running back to our
chamber

I grab my bag

Voice : where are you going ?

Shit !

I turn and look at him

Me : your brother made us
enemies , and now that he is
dead we have come to take
back what's ours

I drag my bag and run past him

One of my father's men meet
me halfway

And he shields me from the
bows

We run out , I breath out as I
get into a car

Me : where is Lwethu with my
son ?

Driver : they're coming

He starts the car

I turn back

And seeing a jaguar I have never
seen before in his palace

Me : wait

I see Lwethu running towards us

And he has my son

But as he approaches the car

The jaguar jumps on his back

And rips him apart

Me : no

I scream my lungs out

Looking at my brother fall down

And my son covered in blood

The driver drives away

Me : wait

He steps on the car

Speeding away

Me : nononot my baby no
...my baby

I cry wailing in pain

It feels like my heart has been
ripped out of my chest

Not my baby

They killed my baby , my one
and only baby . They killed him ,
these people are evil

.

.

~Majesty

I am holding tight to my kids

And they don't even look scared

I look scared at for them

The rumble that's going outside

Has me weak

I haven't even processed that
Awiwe is dead

Seeing his body in that manner

That's just trauma

I am asking myself what
happened to him ?

Who or what killed him like that
?

But now I am stressed

About what's going on out there

The bodies of the servants I saw
laying all around the palace

With bows on their chests

I had to leave the throne room

And be with my kids

I hope my initiates are safe

They were in their hut

Mixing herbs

I hope they stayed in there

I don't want the misfortune of
having initiates die at my hands

I don't want that

I don't even want to think of it

What worries me the most

Is that when I got to the
chamber

I swear I saw someone like
Aphiwe out there

Bests me how

Because when I left the throne
room

He was still on the floor

Shivering like hell

If I would have been able to
have the strength

I would have carried him out

Beats me how I saw someone
like him outside

When I left him in that state

I look at my babies

And they're just playing

Like there's no commotion
outside

I know they're far from being
normal kids

The twins are very good at
sensing things

Something in me says they're
aware of what's happening ,
even if they're just babies

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 10

~Ngomane

We get to Butho kingdom

I thought we would head back
to Ngonyama first

But Jabari said we gotta do this

And I am all for it

Spha disgraced my sister

Our princess

That's something we would
never let him get away with

From the palace gate

No questions asked

And nothing said

Jabari starts shooting

The guards fall down

I pull the gate

And we run inside

And as more guards appear

He just opens fire

And shoots everything in our
way

My eyes spot Spha running to a
car

Jabari shoots fire

And he falls down

We run to him

As he groans

And tries to get in the car

I throw a punch on him

He falls down

I land a few kicks to him

He coughs blood

Jabari drags him

And we head out the palace

Jabari throws him in the boot

And slaps him hard with the
back of the gun

He falls unconscious, we close
the boot

And get in the car

I drive away from the palace in
high speed

Jabari : did we leave anyone out
?

I chuckle

Thus far , we are done

.

.

~Majesty

Its been a while now

The commotion has died down

Its nearing dawn

I haven't seen Aphiwe

I have gone go see my initiates

And I let them go to my father's
house

Knowing they'll be safer there

And they long called that they
have arrived

So I am at ease

My kids are asleep

I just couldn't bring myself to
sleep

I just can't

I am so worried

Not knowing where Aphiwe is at

And I can't go out there to look
for him

Leaving my kids alone

What happened here

Is something I have never seen

Such death

In one place

Bodies just laying around royal
grounds

It was insane

To think now there'll be funerals
to plan

It's a loss that we all have
suffered

I am just thankful

That my father and my kids are
still alive

And my initiates

The possibility of loosing them

Or even one of them

Scared the hell out of me

I am startled out of my thoughts

When the door opens

And Aphiwe walks in

He looks drained

Like he was in a battle

And I spot blood on his shirt

He looks at me

I get up and rush to him

He engulfs me into a tight hug

I weep like a little child

While he holds me

And I calm down

He wipes my tears

Me : please don't ever do something like that to me ever again

Aphiwe : I won't , thank you for staying with me day and night . Having you with me , gave me strength to fight what was coming over me . I know had to be strong , and not given in . And live for you and our kids

Me : what happened ?

Aphiwe : I believe Alpha came
upon me

Me : what ?

I pop my eyes

Me : but ...how ? You didn't
have the mark

Aphiwe : UhmAwiwe is no more

His heart sinks as he says that

Me : I ...I ..know

Aphiwe : I am so sorry

Me : so am I , it's our loss

He hugs me

Aphiwe : we will get through
this together

I nod slowly against his chest

Me : we will

I don't even know how do we
begin to do that

It's all just a mess

But this was bound to happen

Aviwe was just out of control

Power got into his head

And he didn't know how to use
it right

He was always just messing up

And not wanting to be told by
anyone

He didn't want to hear anything
from anyone

And he didn't listen to anything
anyone said to him

Especially if they were going
against what he was doing , or
what he was saying

I look at Aphiwe

Me : what your brother put me through , I don't want to go through such again

Aphiwe : you won't

Me : promise me that

Aphiwe : I promise

Everything that's just happened
here

It's a lot to deal with

Not just for us

But for the whole kingdom , we
didn't see this coming

.

.

~Aphiwe

I feel so different

I look so different

The features that are imprinted
on my body

I don't even feel like myself

As much as I know I am me still

But it's not the same

It was hard going through this transformation

I wonder how Aviwe went through it

Like it was nothing

Yet I am still battling with it now

It's a lot

And I don't know if I am even
worthy

To be awarded of this much
power

How do I handle it ?

And make the right decisions

And choices

Lead us better

And not in the direction my
brother was headed

My mind is filled with so much

I haven't even had time to
process

That he is gone

I've lost him

And I'll never gain him again

It sure feels like a part of me has
been right apart

I want to grieve

And let it all out

But I also don't want to be
controlled by rage

Because allowing my emotions
to get the better of me

Will only cause me to react

And it won't be good

Voice : does it hurt ?

I quickly turn and look at her

I clear my throat

Me : no

I grab my t-shirt and put it on

Majesty : babe

I turn and look at her

Majesty : I know you're hurting ,
so am I . And so is the rest of
this kingdom , despite
everything . They loved Aviwe ,
and I loved him . I don't even
want to pretend to know , how
you're feeling right now . You
shared a womb with him , and
he was your twin . Only you
know your pain , but you're not
hurting alone

I look down

Majesty : I don't know what was happening with you , and I won't even lie about it . Things may have changed , but please don't shut me down . Let me in , if you want to break down then let me be here to hold you .

Don't shut me out , you're my husband as much as Aviwe was my husband . And I will support you , as much as I have been

supporting him . I may have lost
a husband , but I still have
another . You lost a brother ,
and a brother husband . But you
still have a wife , so don't shut
me out

I look at her

Me : I am sorry

Majesty : I am here for you

I sit down on the bed

Me : please hold me

She walks over to me

And lays down on the bed ,
bringing me to her . She places
my head on her chest

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 11

~Jabari

We arrive at the kingdom

And we have Spha locked up

For some twisted reason

Ngomane wants Zipho to see
that shit hole

If it was me , I would have long
ripped him apart

So I can sell his organs

Honestly , that's just how I deal
with fools like him

I will let Ngomane deal with this
one

However best he deems

I need to go see my father

He would be very angry

If he hears I was here

And I didn't go home to see him

I mean , that would be crazy

Even for me

We went to the veld

And got cleansed

I mean , being the son of the
great Dlangamandla

I know that cleansing is the first
thing to do

After you spill blood

Worse for us ...more like me

I killed a whole royal king

I really didn't want to risk

Having Aviwe's soul haunting
me

Now I just wanna head home

And see my father

I have missed my old man

No matter how much I pretend

I do miss him and home

Just that I have created a life for
myself

Outside of Ngonyama

And I am happy with that life

The door opens

And Ngomane walks in

Ngomane : are you done ?

Me : yeah

I was changing into clean
clothes

Ngomane : let's go see my sister

I take a deep breath

The last time I saw Zipho

She was about 17 or so

And ...yeah

I shake my head , wiping those
thoughts out of my mind

We walk out of his chamber

And head over to her hut

He knocks , she answers from
inside

And we walk in

As soon as I lay my eyes on her

My whole body shivers

She hasn't changed one bit

Her beauty still none other like
beauty I have ever seen before

There's women out there

Different kids

Shapes and sizes

And then there's princess Zipho
Ngonyama

A whole different breed

Her beauty that cannot be
described

We bow our heads

And she welcomes us

We lock eyes

And she stares deep into my
eyes

I gaze into hears

She clears her throat

Zipho : you're back ...safe and
sound my prince

He smiles

Ngomane : I told you ,
Ngonyama will carry me
through and she did .

Umntwana uJabari
kaDlangamandla came along
with me (prince Jabari son of
Dlangamandla)

I will never understand this or
why I am addressed this way

Because I am just the son of
their healer

But this is how I am addressed
in this kingdom

Ngomane is my friend

On the streets I am just Jabari

But around these walls

He throws my name around
with power

Zipho : sibonga izinyandezulu
(we praise the ancestors)

Ngomane : and I hope you will
be pleased to know , we spared
the Butho prince

She looks at us

Ngomane : we brought him
here

Zipho : ukhona ? (He is here)

Ngomane : yes , death was too
easy for him

I cannot read her facial
expression

Is she pissed with us

Or what ?

Zipho : mhmyou did good .
Ngifuna umntwana uSpha
kaButho , azokhothama
kuNgonyama . Abantu bakhe ,
bacelele impilo yakhe (I want
prince Spha son of Butho , to
kneel to Ngonyama. His people
, to plead for his life)

We look at each other with
Ngomane

And we bow our heads

Me : nkosazana (princess)

Ngomane : when you're ready
to see him , just let us know .

And we will take you to him , he
cannot bring you any harm

She smiles

Zipho : he can try

We chuckle

Sometimes it seems like we
forget who she is

And what she is capable of

I always thought it was a myth

But when you're the son of
Dlangamandla

You tend to understand that ,
things that do not exist

In the world we call our place

In their world's it's their normal

We both turn to walk out

Zipho : Jabari kaDlangamandla

I turn and look at her

Ngomane : I'll wait for you in
the car

He walks out

I take a deep breath

Zipho : thank you

Me : there is no need to thank me

Zipho : you made sure my brother comes back to his people

Me : he is my friend , and a prince to my land . I will always

be there , to have his back . You
really don't need to thank me

Zipho : Uhm ...

She smiles and looks down

Me : and I will do anything ,
when it comes to you . Whoever
hurts you , doesn't deserve to
live . And that's my word

She lifts her eyes and looks at
me

A few moments of silence pass

Zipho : thank you

I nod

I take a deep breath and walk
out

Heading to the car

I get in and Ngomane drives out

Ngomane : she is fragile at the moment , and surely you can see her situation . To the people of Ngonyama she is their beacon of hope , but to me she is my little sister . I don't look at her and see Ngonyama , I see my baby sister . And so , I will always be ready to defend her

honour . Against anything and
everyone

I look at him

Ngomane : she has been
through a lot , I failed her once .
And I will not fail her twice

When he starts going this big
brother side of his

I tend to just let him be

I don't wanna make it seem like
I am undermining him anyhow

Because I know all comes from
a place of caring

As a big brother , to his little
sister

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 12

~Aphiwe

Things are a bit rough between
me and my brother's

Somehow I am blamed for the
death of the prince

When I was in true form

I was looking to depend the
people

And he was caught

I take the blame

And I won't dwell on it

Right now , Isilo needs to pick
up the pieces

Me : we need to make amends
with Ngonyama , it will do us
great to have an alliance .
Especially now , because most

kingdoms despite us . Not that we can blame them , we need to have someone on our side . Because the intention right now , is to make amends with the kingdom's . Right now , we lost more than we gained by being petty . Stealing and ruining , their kingdom's . That didn't help us with anything , if we don't get our act together. We might as well , let this kingdom perish . And we go our own

ways , leaving it to be as it is . I know right now we're grieving , we have lost our king . And we have lost our people , we mourn their deaths . But we can cry , while we pick up the pieces and doing the right thing . Starting with Ngonyama

Dad : do you think , they will be keen to give us an ear ?

Me : we will try

I look at the council members

Me : we cannot be the
generation that ruins what Isilo
built , let's cherish that and hold
it dear

Dad : I will send word , to see if
Ngonyama will be keen to hear
us

Me : no , I will take men and we will go there . If they chase us , we will beg if we have to . If we send word , and they say no. Then we will not bother ourselves to go there

Dad : do what you see best

Me : I need to know that you support me Isilo , as much as we have disappointed you . I am trying to make things right ,

Aviwe had his time and did things his way . Now it's my time , and I will do things my way . Please don't condemn me , for the deeds of my brother's

Dad : I support you

I heave a sigh

Something tells me he is just saying

I don't have his support as such

But it's fine

I will do what I have to do

If he ever has a change of heart

Then he will show it and
support me as his son as well

I know right now he is hurt

And disappointed

Maybe he doesn't even believe

That I will do things differently

But I was here

And I saw how my brother
changed

That even I couldn't recognise
him

How power got to him

And he thought he was invisible

Yet he didn't know how to use
what he had

It was too much

I will not make the same
mistake

I saw first hand

And I intend to be different
from that

Majesty takes my hand

I look at her

At least I know without a doubt

That I have her support

Not only as my wife

But as the queen as well , I draw
my strength from her . I know
one can rule fairly

.

.

~Zipho

I barely slept a wink

Thinking about Jabari

Its been a while since I last saw
him

And now he has groomed into a
man

A very handsome man at that

I take a deep breath

Knocking at the door

And take a step back

The door opens

And he is in just his shorts

Me : Uhm hi ...

Jabari : nkosazana (princess)

Me : Uhmdid I catch you at a bad time ?

Jabari : no ...no , come in

He makes way for me

I walk in

Jabari : take a seat , let me go
grab a shirt

I nod

Sitting down

I take a deep breath

Now that I am here

I wonder if I thought this well

He walks back

And sits down

Jabari : to what do I owe the
pleasure ? Or you came to visit
the old man

I smile

Me : no , I came to see you

Jabari : oh okay

Me : is he home though ?

Jabari : no , he went to the
mountain last night

Me : ah , that's Dlangamandla

Jabari : he has lived beyond his
years

We laugh

That man is old

Like really old

He is a hundred and something
years

Yet he still lives

Sometimes I think that man is
not human

Jabari : let me get you a drink

He gets up

Me : I am not staying

Jabari : come on

I smile

He disappears into the kitchen

I guess I have visited now

Honestly I don't even know why
I came here

Well , just seeing him yesterday

Something evoked

And I guess that's why I just had
to see him again

But I don't know for what

I'll just make something up

He walks back

Me : thank you

Jabari : it's good to see you

Me : likewise

Jabari : the last time I saw you ,
you were just

Me : hey ...I am a whole frown
woman now

We laugh

Jabari : that you are

I smile

Jabari : and very beautiful

I look at him

As he looks at me

And we stare into each other's
eyes

Jabari : I fucked up big time

I swallow hard

Jabari : is it maybe too late now
?

I take a deep breath

Me : I ...you can see how I am ,
things are ...

Jabari : I don't care about all of that , do I look like I care ?

He moves over next to me

I take a deep breath as he takes my hand into his

I look at his eyes , trailing down to his lips

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 13

~Jabari

She takes a deep breath

My face inches away from hers

Me : tell me now , to walk away

She looks into my eyes

A tear drops down her cheek

I wipe it off with my thumb

Zipho : I ...

She shakes her head slowly

Me : I am not going to lose on
you again , I am not going to
walk away from you . You're not
17 anymore , you're a woman .
And you're within your rights ,
to be with me if you want

Zipho : what about this ? I don't want to involve you in drama

Me : I am here , there's nothing you come with I will not be able to handle

Zipho : Jabari ...

Me : heyI am here , don't push me away if there's even a slight chance

Zipho : Jabari ...I was promised marriage , and that man left me at the alter and married someone else on the same day . I have been made a fool , and I lost myself . He left me , a mockery . And created a life , with someone else . I am carrying this seed in me , and I have to live with that for the rest of my life . I don't want to go through the same again , not

now not ever . You're a city man
, and you're barely here . You
have your life there , and I am
sure you have someone in your
life . I don't want to wreck
anyone's home , because I know
how that feels like . I don't want
to be the reason , that another
woman goes to bed in tears

Me : I will be honest with you ,
you might not like this . But
there was someone , a bit of a

nut case . But I have called that
off , right now there's no one .
But I know her , she might cause
drama because that's just how
she is . And she simply can't
take a no , but it's nothing I
cannot handle . And I could
never bring you such shame , I
accept you as you and with the
baby you come with . This baby
is a part of you , and I cannot
say I love you yet I hate this
baby

Zipho : are you sure about this ?
And this lady , you say you will
handle it ? Because I

Me : you won't ever have to
deal with her , I am not perfect .
Yes , I know that . But I will
never hurt you intentionally

I tilt her chin

Me : think about it if you need ,
but just know I have always
loved you . And that hasn't
changed , and it never will

Zipho : don't hurt me

Me : I don't want to make
promises I cannot keep , you
will always be first priority. And I
vow , to always do my best to
make you happy

She looks at me and smiles

She leans over

Her soft lips gracing mine

I welcome her lips , kissing her
back

Softly invading her mouth

I feel my dick reacting

I let out a deep groan

And move back

Pulling out of the kiss

Zipho : sorry ...

Me : nothing a cold shower
can't handle

I get up

And place my hands inside my
pockets

Trying to hide my bulge

Me : are you coming ?

Zipho : I can't have your father
find me sitting in his lounge

I chuckle

We walk upstairs to my room

Me : make yourself comfortable

She smiles

Taking off her sneakers , and she
sits by the bed

Me : I'll be quick

I turn and rub my head

She laughs

I chuckle heading to the
bathroom

Fuck this ...

I turn and look at her

Zipho : let me help you , don't
be shy

Me : your brother is gonna kill
me

Zipho : then he'll get me
another you

I chuckle

And walk over to her

Zipho : on the bed

She pats next to her

I sit down

And she gets down

And gets between my legs

On her knees

She unbuckles my pants

And slides my dick out

She leans in

And looks into my eyes

I tuck her hair behind her ear

And she leans down on my dick

Licking the head with his tongue

She circles it in circular motion

Me : fuck

She trails her hand to my balls

And she plays with my balls

While her tongue works magic
on my dick

Me : fuck ...baby

She leans down taking more of
my length inside her

And she gags

I place my hands on her head

And move her down my length

Me : shit

I deep groan

Feeling my dick thicken inside
her warmth mouth

She lifts her eyes

Staring into mine

Me : damn ...what are you
fucking doing to me ?

She deep throats and gags

I shoot up my cum inside of her

She moves back

And grabs my t-shirt

Spitting on it

I lean down and take her lips
into mine

After a while we pull out of the
kiss

I take her hands into mine

Helping her up

She sits down next to me

She shyly looks away from my
gaze

I tilt her face

And look at her

Me : what was that ?

She giggles

I place a kiss on her forehead

Me : I love you

Zipho : I love you too

She says with a smile

I lay down

And pull her closer to me

She lays next to me , and I
cuddle her into my arms

I better not fuck this up , not
with her

.

.

~Majesty

I look at him

And he looks like he has had a
rough day

Me : hey

He forces a smile

Me : I have ran you a bath

Aphiwe : thanks

I walk over to him

And take his hand

Me : you got this

He sighs

Me : it doesn't matter who say
what , or who believes what .
What matters is what you

believe , or what you say . Alpha did not make a mistake with you , he knew what he was doing . Don't let him down , and most importantly don't let yourself down . The first rule to leading , is to always believe in yourself . Even when no one else does , know yourself . And have no one tell you who you are , because only you know yourself best . Don't let anything get to you

He smiles

With a little shadow of sadness
in his eyes

Me : I believe in you , and I trust
in you . I know you can do this ,
and you don't need anyone's
approval or validation . Trust in
yourself , believe in yourself and
you will go far

Aphiwe : I am so grateful to
have you

Me : and so am I to have you

Aphiwe : I wish my father was as
supportive

Me : let him be , he has been let
down . And he doesn't know
what to believe , or trust

anymore . And don't do this for him , or say you want to prove him wrong . Do this because you know who you are , and you know the right thing to do

He chuckles

Me : what ? And I talking a lot ?

Aphiwe : no ...I wonder how my brother fucked all this up

I take a deep breath

Aphiwe : when he had such a
wise and amazing queen by his
side

I let out a slight laugh

Me : don't flatter me

Aphiwe : I am being honest

Me : there's a difference
between you two , you listen
and you hear when someone's
talks to you . He didn't , it was
either his way or the high way

I heave a sigh

Me : I stood by him regardless ,
because I believed in him that
he will do right one day

Aphiwe : I will not let you down

I pat his shoulder

Me : don't let yourself down

Aphiwe : come with me to
Ngonyama

I look at him shocked

I did not expect this

Why would he want to take me
with ?

Aphiwe : you're queen , with or
without me . And whatever
bothers this kingdom , is your
problem just as much

I frown

I sometimes even forget that I
am a queen

Aviwe made it easy for me to

Because he never needed my
say or input on anything
important

Whatever I did , I did on my own

Not by his word or support

Aphiwe : and besides , you're
my sane voice of reason

I let out a smile

Me : I'll come with you

He doesn't need to say more ,
because he is right either way

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 14

~A Week Later

~Zipho

We walk in the room they kept
him

And it stinks as hell

He has peed on himself

And definitely he has pooped

There's no way

He can smell this bad

Its funny how the mighty have
fallen

It feels like just yesterday

When he was laughing in my
face

Because I was crying and
begging him

That he takes me

And marries me

So I don't become a shame

And bring my family disgrace

That I will accept his wife

And he spat on me

That's how degrading he took it

I still have nightmares about
that day

I don't even want to lie and say I
have healed

Because I haven't

My people accepted me

And to this day they still respect
me

But I haven't healed from
shame and hurt I felt

Ngomane : what do you want us
to do with him ?

I look at Jabari

He is by the door

And very quite

I have come to know I can rely
on this man

Me : open him up , leave him in
half . And do the women of the
world the biggest favour , cut
his balls and leave his manhood
useless . That he can never ever

use it again , and I want him to
leave and go back to his
precious princess wife

Ngomane looks at me.

His jaw on the floor

I look at Jabari

Jabari : as you wish nkosazana
(princess)

Ngomane : wewe can do that

Me : good , I will be watching

Ngomane : no ...

Me : are you defying me ?

He looks down , I walk over to
him

And hold his hand

Me : you brought him to me ,
for a reason . Do not show him
mercy , he doesn't deserve it

Jabari closes the door

And he walks over to Spha

He throws a few slaps waking
him up

He opens his eyes

And tears stream down his face

He looks at me

With eyes begging for mercy , I
chuckle

He shakes his head crying

Me : wena ukufa kungaba isipho
kuwe , esingakufanele (death
would be a gift to you , that you
don't deserve)

I move back

And stand by the door

As Jabari rips him apart

Opening his chest

Like he is not a human being

And there's no ounce of me

That even feels sorry for him

Ngomane : you cut his kidney ,
he might die ...

Jabari : I got this covered

He does it precisely

Cutting one of his kidney

And he goes on to cut half his
liver

My body shakes

I know cruelty

I have done my fair share

But Jabari seems to be enjoying
this

Cutting a man and taking his
organs

Leaving him with some so he
gets to live

He stomps on his dick with his
boot

Ngomane : shit ...

He moves back

I look at him

The more Jabari stomps on his
dick and balls

His muffled cries fill this room

Ngomane : he will die , he can't
take anymore pain

Jabari reaches in his pocket

And takes out a syringe

He injects Spha

With whatever is inside it , and
moves back

And Ngomane walks out ,
holding his mouth

Jabari : he is feeling the pain ,
that's just to keep him alive .
And to completely kill his
manhood

I look at him

And a part of me

Is asking exactly who the fuck is
Jabari

Jabari : let's get you out of here
, this is no place for a woman
carrying precious cargo

He walks over

And opens the door for me

We walk out

And find Ngomane throwing up

I shake my head

Jabari : you saw , now go home

Me : thanks

Jabari : anything for you ,you
don't thank me

I look at Ngomane

And gaze my eyes back to Jabari

He nods

I turn and get in my car

I drove out heading to the
palace

.

.

~Ngomane

Me : I thought I knew you

He looks at me

He called some guys

And they got here as fast as
they could

And they patched Spha up

Keeping him alive

They got him hooked into a machine they came with

Jabari : what are you talking about ?

Me : what ...what you did to him , and to Aviwe . I think I have no idea , just how ruthless you were . And I thought , you were just an arms dealer

He looks at me

Jabari : I have had to do things I weren't comfortable with , and I had to do things I never thought I could . But I adapted , because that's the only way we make it in the kind of lives we lead

I heave a sigh

Jabari : this is who I am
Ngomane , and maybe worse

I can't possibly imagine him
worse

Or even want to see it

As for my sister

I know she's cruel

I never thought she would want
Spha stripped of his manhood

That's the one thing every man
prides themselves in

And now he doesn't have that
anymore , all thanks to her . I
hope I never cross her ever

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 15

~Majesty

We're on our way to Ngonyama

Actually , we have arrived in
their kingdom

We're headed to the palace

I look at Aphiwe

And I am stressed for him

My palms are sweating

Because we don't know what
awaits us

They can even throw us out

We just have to be strong

And remember why we're
doing this

Aphiwe : you okay ?

I nod

He brushes my hand

Aphiwe : I won't let anything
happen to you

I know that

I am not scared , because I think
we will be harmed

I am scared that they might not
accept us

When all we need is just an ear
from them

After Aviwe messed up

Many kingdoms despise us

And we cannot blame them

How much more a kingdom has
big as Ngonyama

What he did was just disrespect

I take a deep breath

As the cars come to a halt

And I look outside the window

We're at the palace

Aphiwe : they won't let us in ,
until they know it's us

I nod

Aphiwe : maybe I should

Me : no , let them handle it

I take his hand

I know he is just as scared as me

He is trying to fix things

Something that he didn't ruin
himself

Its scary , not knowing how you
will be welcomed

.

.

~Zipho

I took a very long bath

And now I feel fresh

Like I didn't even go in that
room

Its amazing what anger and
hate

Can do to one

I looked at Spha

And I didn't feel an ounce of
sympathy towards him

I feel he deserves this

And he deserves to live

Suffering for the rest of his life

For him not to ever forget

The same shame

And disgrace that he brought to
my kingdom

A disgrace to me

Is a disgrace to my kingdom

And my people as well

I don't feel anything for him

He deserves this

What shocked me is Jabari

I am wondering who is that man

The way he held that knife

And just ripped Spha

Like he was some sort of an
animal

Now that's the image I cannot
get out of my head

Makes me wonder

What kind of a life he leads

It cannot be ordinary

And he has done such before

Even worse

There's no way , he can hurt and
open like that

And know how to keep him alive

Through that much pain

Literally his balls are useless
now

And that's some excruciating
pain

Yet it be his first time to do such

No ways

It cannot be

I don't even know how to ask
him about it

But he is with me now

I will need to know what he
does

Best the devil you know

Than the angel you don't know

A knock comes at the door

I head over and open

Its Ngomane

I don't like the look in his eyes

Ngomane : Aphiwe is here

I don't need to hear more

I walk outside

And look by the gate

As he walks out of his car

And he is not alone

But with his wife , just it's them
alone

No guards

And no security

But we cannot let our guard
down

Maybe they're somewhere in
the village

I spot Jabari walking towards
me

I look around

He gets to me and takes my
hand

Jabari : what's going on ?

I look at him

Me : it's Aphiwe , Awiwe's twin
brother

Jabari : what does he want ?

I shrug

Me : let me find out

Jabari : I am coming with you , I
cannot put your life in danger

Me : I am fine

Jabari : Zipho ...

Me : I can take care of myself ,
and everyone here . They're
alone , I need eyes in the village

Jabari : I am on it

He walks away , I take a deep
breath gathering strength

.

.

~Majesty

I am shivering with fear

As I look at that pregnant
woman

Who just turned into a white
lion

I look at Aphiwe

He takes a deep breath

As the white lion walks towards
us

I have a good feeling to run back
into town car

Aphiwe : that's Ngonyama ,
they're just like us . Just she's a
lioness ancestor

Me : maybe we should leave

Aphiwe : no

Me : then change as well

Aphiwe : it'll be like I am
challenging her

Me : if she attacks you like this ,
then we're dead

Aphiwe : she won't

This man !

Me : I have kids Aphiwe , I don't
want to die

He takes my hand as they open
the gate for her

She stares at us , and circle
around us

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 16

~Majesty

I take a deep breath closing my
eyes

I am trying so hard to gather
myself

I said I will do this

That I will come with him

And I will support him

Despite what happened with his father

Knowing that he doesn't fully support this

Because he doesn't think that , there's even a slight chance

That things will be okay

And go back to normal

I said I will stand with my
husband

And now it seems like all that is
being tested

I have to see this through

For his sake

And to keep to my word

I don't want him to feel like he is
alone

Because he is not alone

He has me

Even though he maybe feel like
he is alone

And doesn't have anyone

I know it's hard for him at the
moment

It is not easy at all

His brothers are not his fans
right now

They blame him for the death of
the prince

And they made that clear

That even he knows it

Benathi is gone

And hasn't been heard of

We don't know where she is

She is not at her kingdom

We don't know if she's still
talking to her husband

Maybe the death of their son
will bring them back together

They will mourn their son

And who knows what her and
Anathi could plan ?

After all , the war was brought
by her people

We all know that

Even Anathi is aware

Not that we blame her

Because Aviwe did wrong her
kingdom

Clearly this was their revenge

Only it did more damage and
harm

Than it did any good

War just brings hate and chaos

Nothing good ever come from it
, no matter what

I fail to understand

What is wrong with Aphiwe ?

This woman is not backing
down

And who knows what she will
do to us ?

And here he is

He doesn't want to change

For some stupid reason

I mean ...

She changed first

Meaning she is the one
declaring war

Why did she change ?

She could have just came to us

In her human form

And we wouldn't be scared as
we are right now

I look at him

And he is calm as ever

Me : we come in peace

He looks at me

And shakes his head

Me : well then , do something .
Before she devours us

Aphiwe : calm down

Nonsense

This lion stands in front of us

And she stares into our eyes

Aphiwe : Ngonyama

She moves to him

I hold his hand very tight , I am
scared for his life

I have already lost one husband

I cannot afford to lose another

I have three kids I am raising

I can't be a single mother

She changes into her human
form

I take a deep breath

In relief

Hopefully , it's not too soon

Aphiwe : your highness

Her : what do you want Isilo ?

Aphiwe : to make amends , and
to make things right . I know my
brother ruined a lot of things

Her : so ...

Aphiwe : I am just asking for a
minute of your time

Her : come through , and if I
don't like what you say . I will rip
you apart

Aphiwe : I understand

I look at him

Is he crazy ?

We should be turning back

And leaving

What if they don't accept our
apology !

They will hurt us

And we're going to stand for
this ?

Aphiwe : let's go

He takes my hand

And we follow this woman ,
with eyes on us

.

.

~Zipho

Me : they're good

Jabari said all is good at the
village

There's no guards awaiting
there

We sit down

Aphiwe and his wife greet , the
king and queen

Dad : Isilo , I do not want a fight
with you

Aphiwe : and I come in peace

Dad : what do you want ?

Aphiwe : to seek an alliance,
and right my brother's wrongs .
I have come here , to humble
myself before your people

I look at my father

Ngomane is fuming

He looks ready to kill someone

Dad : I don't know what you're
hoping you'll get from us

Aphiwe : forgiveness

He gets down from the chair

And gets on his knees

Aphiwe : I am not my brother ,
and I know his faults and wrong
doings . I am here not for him ,

but for Isilo and my people .

Worse , we are family . My great grandfather was of Ngonyama , he must be turning in his grave . Over what we have become

Me : damn right he is

Aphiwe : your highness , I am here to plead . Because I know Isilo has wronged you , and thus means my people have wronged yours . Aphiwe is no more , and

therefore he cannot answer to his faults . The least I can do , is to make right what he has ruined

Me : you're brave coming here

Aphiwe : I am willing to take whatever punishment is given to me

Dad : not only did he wrong us ,
but other kingdoms as well

Aphiwe : I know , and I will
grovel and beg to all of them .
Because I am not seeking war
with anyone , all I just want is
peace

Me : and you had to start with
us , because you want us to
fight with you if ever anyone
comes after you

Aphiwe : That would be a bonus
, and such an honour . But no ,
it's not the reason I am here . I
don't have an ulterior motive

I can tell he is sincere

And I look at his wife

Her heart is going out for him

To see a man this humbled

He has brought himself down in
our presence

I can only imagine

How that is like to her right now

The fact that she is seeing this
sight of him

I get up

I look at her

Me : come with me

She looks at Aphiwe

He nods

She gets up

I walk outside

And she follows me

I turn and look at her

Me : I have no intentions to hurt
you

She heaves a sigh

Majesty : I didn't say , you'll
hurt me

Me : no need , your face says it
all . But there's absolutely no
need to worry

Majesty : well , I just saw you
turn into a lion

I chuckle

Me : says the woman who's
married , to an Alpha

She smiles

Me : he loves you

Majesty : and I love him

Me : it takes guts , for a man like
him to come and bow here

Majesty : he really wants to fix things

Me : not everyone will accept him

Majesty : I know , but I can't let him be on his own

Me : you're brave

She smiles

Me : and a smart woman too

Majesty : I believe , I am not
with him because of
coincidence

Me : fate does exist

We walk in the main palace

We sit down

Me : I don't know how things will go , I chose to excuse myself for a reason

Majesty : what ? It seemed to me you're the respected one

Me : all because of Ngonyama , I am still a child here . My father will not go easy on your husband , and I don't want you

to see such things . Keep his
dignity with him

She nods with a heavy heart , I
can tell

Majesty : thank you

I look at her , and somehow her
aura is calming

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 17

~Majesty

We bid our goodbyes

And I cannot tell by his facial
expression

Zipho kept me safe

And away from every that was
happening

I don't know what they said

Or if maybe they did something
to him

I have no idea

We get in the car

And he drives out

I look at him

He takes a deep breath

Me : what happened ?

He sighs

Aphiwe : I hate this

I frown

I don't think I understand him
right now

I am a bit lost

I have no idea what he is talking about

Aphiwe : I hate it even more ,
that I have to go around once
again

Me : babe ...

He shakes his head

Aphiwe : all this begging , and
begging . Asking for peace and
forgiveness , it leaves me feeling
like a failure and a coward . Like
I am not man enough , but just
a weakling

My heart breaks

Hearing him speak like this

Me : no

I hold his one hand

Me : you're not weak , and
you're most definitely not a
failure or a coward . Whoever
will see you like that , is the
coward . What you're doing
takes guts , and it's called being
brave . Its knowing right from
wrong , and wanting to make
things right

He sighs

Me : I am here , I love you . I am not going anywhere , no matter what they will say . I support you , because I know you have a purpose as king . And you don't need your brother's deed , to follow you around . Taint your ruling , and make you live under his dark shadow

He smiles

Me : I love you , and I got you

Aphiwe : thank you

Me : how did it go ?

Aphiwe : Mpande was willing to hear me , so was Dlozi . Despite Ngomane and that Jabari being somehow , but they listened

Me : meaning , everything is well now ?

Aphiwe : maybe , they still need to address Ngonyama

Me : you mean the ancestor , or Zipho ?

Aphiwe : Zipho

I heave a sigh

Me : okay , but I got to talk to her . She seems like a woman with reason

Aphiwe : don't let all that fool you , that girl is ruthless

Is he kidding ?

.

.

~Jabari

I open the door

She looks at me

Me : come in

She walks in

Zipho : is your father home ?

I nod

Zipho : then ...

Me : come , let's go to my room

I take her hand

And we walk over to my room , I
open the door she walks in

Me : I am coming

Zipho : I came here to talk to
you , don't run away from me .
My parents are waiting for me ,
to brief me about the meeting.
But I opted to see you first

Me : I am not running , I am
coming

I close the door

And walk back down

I look at my father

I don't even know when he
came back

Me : Dlangamandla

Dad : I hope you have your cows
ready , because you're not
going to date Ngonyama . Have
some respect , and do things

right . I will be waiting for a letter , as soon as she leaves that room of yours . If the princess means anything to you

Shit !

Me : she means much more , but I don't think she is ready for marriage

He chuckles

Dad : if she can be with you ,
then best believe me she is
ready for marriage . There's no
dating that will happen here
Jabari

Okay !

Now I know he is serious

I grab the snacks

And walk back upstairs

I find her laying down on my
bed

Me : got you this

Zipho : but I am fine

Me : for the baby

She smiles

I place the snacks on the bed

And lay down next to her

Me : I know why you're here

Zipho : you will answer me ?

Me : there's no need

I lay my head on her thighs

And look at her

Me : you have questions I know
, and the only thing I can tell
you is that I have done things .

And maybe I am someone else ,
maybe I do lead a certain life in
Joburg . But that's me , and I
have no excuse why . As a

matter of fact , I love and enjoy
what I do . I will not change
myself , not even for you .

Because I will fail miserably , if I
try and be your normal guy .

That's not me , I eat and breath
violence

I don't know what the silence
means

Me : say something

Zipho : youyou have done worse ?

Me : yes

Zipho : how sure am I that you won't put yourself in danger , and I lose you ?

Me : you won't be sure , but I will always make if a point to

return back to you . No matter
what , I can't make you
promises and say I will not get
hurt . Nor will I be in danger ,
because that would be a lie .
There is no safety , guaranteed
on anything that's against the
law and is illegal

Zipho : I don't want to lose you

I take her hand into mine

Me : you won't , not to anything
that's related to me and what I
do anyways

She closes her eyes

Like she is thinking

Me : you know that we cannot
date right ?

She opens her eyes slowly

Zipho : your father saw me ?

I nod

She takes a deep breath

Me : he wants a letter sent to
your family , as soon as you
leave here . Are you ready ,for
me to take that leap with you ?

Zipho : no , I am not ready .
After what happened , I am
scared . But I also know
Dlangamandla is right , I am
Ngonyama . I don't want to lose
you , so if it takes marriage then
so be it

I place a soft kiss on her tummy

And the baby kicks

I chuckle

Me : we will figure this out
together

She trails her hand on my head

I close my eyes loving the
feeling , it's soothing

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 18

~Aphiwe

I walk in the throne room

And sit down

I greet the elders

They greet back

Me : the queen and I , went to
Ngonyama . And as hard as it
was , in a way . They managed
to give me an ear

Dad : and ?

Me : they agreed to let things be , even though I don't know if Ngonyama will agree to the treat

Dad : Aviwe is no longer here

Me : yes , but we also can't deny that he ruined most our

relations with our kingdoms .
And they're within their rights ,
to feel a certain way towards us
. I will not let things be as they
were , as much as we may think
we're powerful and all . We still
need them , and we can't live
on war and fights with them

I see the elders nodding

I don't know how mu father
feels

It could be , he doesn't have
much faith

Because so much has been
ruined

And there's too much bad blood

I will give him time

To see things my way

Or maybe he is still in mourning

Me : with Ngonyama and us in peace , it will be a bit easier to approach the other kingdoms

Dad : thank you for what you're doing

I nod

Dad : I know it can't be easy on you

Me : I am doing all this for us , and the betterment of our people . Our decisions affect them , more than they do us . And what we do reflects on them than us

Dad : I know , I hope things can get back to what I had always hoped for us . And what I

wanted to become , what we
are to be

Me : it'll take time , but I hope I
can live up to your legacy . And
the legacy Isilo built for us

My phone rings

Me : excuse me

I get up

Answering the call

Me : Ngonyama

Zipho : Isilo

Me : to what do I owe the
pleasure ?

My heart is beating out of my
chest

Maybe she did not agree with
her parents

And if we don't have her on our
side

We might as well be doomed

As much as Benathi's people
came here

And they caused havoc

I also know , that Ngonyama is
responsible

For the death of Aviwe

Zipho : I had a talk with the
queen and king

I take a deep breath

I am crossing fingers here

Zipho : we will let this go , on
the peace sake that Lubanzi and
Ziphozendalo once had . But let
me tell you , cross us even
slightly and I will quickly forget
that our blood is united

I take a deep breath

Exhaling deeply

Me : your kindness will never go
unappreciated

Zipho : I hope so

Me : thank you

Zipho : fix your things , and we
can find a way to work together
. For our people , and their sake
. Because our war , will make

them suffer the most . I hope as king , you'll know better and put your people first

Me : that goes without a doubt

Zipho : we will talk

Me : thank you

I drop the call

If I could jump and scream right
now

I most definitely would

Ntsika walks over

I look at him

As he keeps on stopping on his
tracks

My body is lazy

I walk over to him

And pick him up

Me : uphi umama ? (Where is mom)

He shrugs

.

.

~Ngomane

I look at Jabari like he has lost
his mind

When did this even happen ?

That I was not aware of

He is my best friend

I would have expected him to
tell me

Jabari : I know you're angry

Me : that's my sister

Jabari : I know that , she's also
the princess of the people

Me : don't tell me nonsense

He sighs

I look at him

I feel like pinching him right now

But I also know he won't just
take it

He will definitely throw a punch
back

Me : and you're telling me that
you're fucking my sister ?

Jabari : she's pregnant , I am not stupid

Me : doesn't matter , you understand what I am saying

Jabari : look , if I had my way . I would do things quietly , and just be with her . Without everyone in our business , but we both know I cannot date with Ngonyama . Its either I marry her , or nothing

Me : you're sick , how do you even love her ?

Jabari : do you really want to know that ?

I shake my head

Me : my sister is supposed to be a sister to you , how do you even look at her and see a wife

? Like have you always looked at her that way ?

Jabari : you won't like answers to these questions , I don't want to piss you off . But I love her , and I have no intentions of hurting her

Me : bullshit , you're a fucking notorious criminal . That you've never been caught , because they don't know your face or

name . Hence they call you the handler , you're on the most wanted list . Interpol is after you , the FBI and Internal Affairs

Jabari : your sister knows , I don't make the honest living . And I will not put her life in harm's way , or risk with her life anyhow

I chuckle

Me : the mere fact that she is
with you , she's already at risk

Jabari : I will protect her

Me : if you hurt my sister , I will
do to you far worse what Spha
has been

Jabari : I know that

I shake my head

I don't believe this !

Jabari : can we just ...bury this ,
because I am not fighting with
you

Me : you shouldn't have gone
for my sister

Jabari : yeah maybe , but I have

Me : and you will get your shit together , and do things right

Jabari : for her , I will do anything . I won't hurt her , and I mean that

Me : good , because before she gets to you . You would have already gone through me first

Jabari : I would be worried if
you weren't angry

Me : because you were
supposed to see your little sister
, when you look at her

He raises his eyebrows , and
chuckles shaking his head
slightly

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 19

~Two Weeks Later

~Zipho

Its been a rollercoaster of
emotions

Last week , I told them to
release Spha

And take him back to his people

We haven't heard anything from
them

But his ordeal

Is all over social media

And newspapers

It is known now

What befell him

And I know Ngomane is
responsible for that

But I don't care

Having to adjust to everything

Today is just not my best day

I am self-conscious

And I can't help it

Having been down this road
before

And now I am here again

Scared out of my mind

What if the past repeats itself
again ?

I cannot go through the same
thing again

I sit down on the bed

And take a deep breath

The door opens

Ngomane walks in

Ngomane : hey ...

He walks over , and takes my
hand into his

Ngomane : what's wrong ?

I shake my head

Tears stream down my face

Ngomane : what happened ?

Me : I am scared

Ngomane : what ...why ?

Me : what if he does what Spha did ? I cannot go through this again Ngomane

Ngomane : you won't , as much as it pains me to say this . That fool loves you , he is besides himself . He will never do anything to hurt you

Me : but ...

Ngomane : as we speak , he is
out there . Waiting for you

I shake my head

Ngomane : trust me

Me : I can't do this , I will not be
able to handle another
humiliation

Ngomane : okay

He brings me over

Laying my head on his shoulder

Taking out his phone

I wipe my tears

.

.

~Ngomane

I don't understand what's
happening now

I mean , I get that she's anxious

And maybe scared

That what happened will
happen again

But she knows Jabari

And he would never pull that
shitty stunt

Not knowing what she's been
through

I have been checking on her

Ever since his people came here

And asked for her hand

Bride price was paid

And I have seen how she has
been

A lot of things happened

And she hasn't had time to
process this

That she's walking down this
road again

But I know Jabari

And I trust him to do right by
my sister

He answers the call

Me : get your ass here

I drop the call

I will not have my sister not be
happy on her day

Just because she is not feeling
the best

I mean , even how everything
was done

She tried her best to keep
things minimal

Not a lot of kingdoms are
invited

I know it's the fear of being
ditched again

A slight knock comes at the
door

She looks at me

And wipes her tears

Zipho : I don't want anyone to
see me like this

Me : come in

He walks in

She pops her eyes

Jabari : babe

Zipho : what are you doing here
? You can't see me

Me : I'll be waiting for you

I walk out leaving them alone

I know he will talk her out of her
fear , and she will be able to
continue with the wedding

.

.

~Zipho

Jabari : what's wrong ?

Me : I can't believe Ngomane
called you

Jabari : talk to me

Me : Iit was just nerves

Jabari : you don't want to do
this anymore ?

Me : I was just scared

Jabari : why ?

I take a deep breath

Me : what happened just came
back

Jabari : I will not do you dirty
like that

He takes my hand

Jabari : I want to marry you , I
want to spend the rest of my life
with you . I am not going
anywhere

Me : you promise ?

Jabari : yes , I assure you that

I let out a smile

Me : okay ...let me finish , just go

He chuckles

Jabari : come out , I am waiting for you out there

Me : leave

He leans over

And pecks my lips

Me : this is bad luck

He laughs

Jabari : there's no such , it's just
an old omen

Me : baby ..

Jabari : fine , I am leaving . Just
know I will be there , waiting for
you . And you will be Mrs Jabari
, by the end of the day

Me : I love you

Jabari : and I love you more

He walks out

Ngomane walks in

Me : you're such an idiot

He laughs

Ngomane : only your idiot , can
get you walk out of this
chamber

I laugh

Me : don't call him that

Ngomane : I still don't like that
he is marrying you

Me : get over it

I pick up my make up bag

Me : let me go fix my face

Ngomane : hurry up

I walk over to the bathroom

And I fix my face

I take a deep breath

And fix my dress

I walk out

He smiles

Ngomane : you are so beautiful

Me : thank you

Ngomane : are you ready ?

Me : more than ready

I let out a smile , feeling a bit
lighter

But I will be happy

Once all this is done

And I know it's done

There'll be no doubt

He takes my hand and we walk
out of the chamber

.

.

~Majesty

This is beautiful

It reminds me of my wedding
day

I look at Aphiwe

He smiles

The fact that we have been
invited to this wedding

Shows how Ngonyama has
forgiven us

And to be here , will give us a
chance to mingle with other
kingdoms

We have done our best

Going to others

But many were done bad

Its not a one day job

Aphiwe : are you okay ?

I nod with a smile

As Zipho walks in

With her mermaid dress , and
simple natural make up

She doesn't look like she is
heavily pregnant

She is beautiful

Jabari meets her halfway

And takes her hand from
Ngomane

I let out a smile

Aphiwe : what are you thinking about ?

Me : it reminds me of our day

Aphiwe : you want another wedding ?

I wouldn't mind , just a wedding for the two of us

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 20

~Jabari

Its been a long day

But she's happy

And I don't think I've ever seen
her this happy

I wasn't ready for marriage this
soon

But I am happy I married her

She has been on her feet

Most of the day

I just want to get her away from
everyone right now

I head over to her

Just as I see Rose walking in

I feel my stomach turning

I hurry over to them

Before she causes a scene

Not after this day has gone
great

And now she wants to ruin
everything

I grab her as she greets Zipho

They look at each other

I let go of Rose

Me : do not cause your shit here

She smiles

Zipho looks at me , I plead with
her with my eyes

Zipho : what's going on ?

Me : please , come with me.

Rose : will you tell this woman
who I am ?

Me : don't piss me off

She swallows hard

I take Zipho's hand

We need to get away from
these eyes

I don't want anyone to notice
what's happening

We get away from the crowd

Me : Mrs Jabari , this is Rose the
woman I told you about . I don't
know why she's here

Rose : oh good ...she knows who I am

She laughs

Rose : Mrs Jabari ? On my man , oh please . This has to be a joke , you came here to marry this ..like really ? Like what do you take me for Jabari ? You really want to see how crazy I am

Zipho : okay , babe please deal with your problem . I don't know her , she doesn't know me . So she better not , use that tone with me . I am going to bed , I am giving you 5 minutes to deal with this

Me : okay

She pecks my cheek

And walks away

Rose : I cannot believe you z
you're such a dog . How the
fuck can you do this to me ?

Me : I don't know why you're
here , or why you thought you
can come here . But this will be
the last day , you see the light of
day . You shouldn't have come

here , unfortunately I have to do
away with you right now

Rose : you will not ...

I grab her by her throat

Rose : don'tJabari please

And twist her neck with my
arms

I take a deep breath

Heaving a sigh

I drag her body , to the back of
the main palace

And pick her up

I throw her over the wall

To the veld

I heave a sigh

And turn back walking to her
chamber

I knock and walk in

She looks at me

She's out of her wedding dress

Me : you're stunning Mrs Jabari

She smiles

I walk over to her

Me : it's dealt with , I am sorry it happened

Zipho : you sir , are having a dry wedding night . Please hold me , I just want to fall asleep

I smile

And take off my clothes

I head over to the door

I lock

She opens the sheets , and we
get in bed

I pull her close , cuddling her

I plant a soft kiss on her
forehead

She places her arms around me

Zipho : thank you

Me : for what ?

Zipho : everything

Me : I love you , and I mean that
in every sense

Zipho : and I love you

She heaves a sigh

I take a deep breath closing my
eyes

Me : I killed her

The way she holds me tight

I know I need to stop showing
her this side of me

Me : I am sorry

Zipho : it's okay

Silence fills the room

The baby kicks

I let out a slight chuckle

And slide my hand down to her
tummy

I brush my hand over , soothing
the baby . She breaths high , I
know she's fallen asleep

.

.

~Ngomane

I have looked around for them

But they're nowhere to be
found

I am slightly worried about my
sister

Having seen Rose here

I know that was her

I may not know her that well

But I do know that was her

And if Zipho knows about her

I don't know how she is right
now

Because one minute , I saw
Rose walking up to her

And the next they were gone

I take a deep breath

Taking out my phone

This day went well

To have it ruined , by another
woman

Would definitely hurt my sister

I dial his number

After a few rings he answers

Jabari : Ngomane

Me : where is my sister ?

Jabari : she is sleeping man ,
what do you want ?

I heave a sigh

Me : you're certain , she's okay
and she's with you ?

Jabari : yes ...what is this ?

I heave a sigh

Me : I saw that city girl of yours

He exhales deeply

Me : Jabari if my sister

Jabari : I handled that , Rose became meat for vultures tonight . Listen , my wife is pregnant . I am not allowed some fuck , it's my wedding night . Just let me wallow in peace

He drops the call

I can't believe he just said that
shit

I don't want to think about my
sister like that

Things are not the same now ,
we don't talk about girls .
Because he is with my sister

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 21

~Aphiwe

I look at her

She's sleeping so peaceful

I owe this woman all of me

The way she has supported me

And stood by me

Through everything

Making sure I am not alone

That she supports me

And she holds my hand

I appreciate her

And I love her so much , maybe
more than words can ever
express

I take a deep breath

Maybe when we get back
home.

I should definitely give her the
wedding

It took me by surprise

That she is keen for one

Considering that I didn't marry
her alone

I shared her

And now she wants to give me a
chance

To be able to have her alone

Its an honour to me

And I feel like she deserves it

That's something I will definitely do

Without even thinking twice about it

Thus far , she has been by my side

Even with everything else

How my father has been like

Anathi blaming me for his son's
death

And how things have been at
the village

Trying to salvage things

And make peace with the other
kingdoms

How she stood by me , when we
came here

And she didn't back down

I caress her face

As my phone rings

I take a deep breath

And get out of bed

Making sure I don't wake her up

I grab my phone

And walk to the bathroom

Its my father

I wonder why he is calling me

When things haven't been that
great between us

Me : Xaluva

Dad : how are you ?

Me : I am good

Dad : so am I

I take a deep breath

Dad : how was the wedding ?

Me : it was great

Dad : yeah ...and when will you
be back ?

Me : Uhm ..today

Dad : okay , and is my daughter
okay ?

Me : she is

Dad : alright , come see me
when you get home

Me : is everything okay , are you
okay ?

Dad : everything is fine , I am
okay

Me : then what's going on ?

Dad : I haven't been the best
father , I have failed you . I
dreamt of your mother , and
even she's not happy with me . I
promised her , that I will take
good care of you boys . And I
haven't done ...my best as of
late . I am sorry , I want to fix all

of that and do better . You're doing your best , to fix your brother's mistakes . That I failed to guide him well , and instead of helping you and showing you support . I am just walking around , like a deadbeat father

Me : you are not a deadbeat father , you're far from that . And you have done your best with us , we're the ones who disappointed you

Dad : I am the father , I am
ought to know better

Me : it's okay , I don't hold
anything against you . I will
come see you , when we get
back today

Dad : alright , drive safely

Me : okay

He drops the call

I take a deep breath

And I am stunned

I don't believe he just said all of
that , it's a shock for me .

Considering how things were

.

.

~Majesty

I open my eyes

And find him looking at me

We spent the night here

After the wedding celebration

It was late at night

And we couldn't leave

So the queen offered that we
sleep

I was way too tired anyways

So it was the best option

And I hate for Aphiwe to drive

While I sleep

I look at him as he walks in from
the bathroom

Me : babe ...

He looks at me and smiles

He walks over

And sits down on the bed

Me : what's wrong ?

Aphiwe : that was Isilo

Me : oh ...is he okay ?

Aphiwe : yes , he says he
dreamt of my mother . And he
feels he has failed us

Me : he was apologising , that's
something else

Aphiwe : yeah , took me by surprise

Me : I can tell

Aphiwe : he says he wants to see me when we get back

Me : wow

Aphiwe : yeah ...anyways ..

He leans down

And pecks my lips

I smile

Me : what ?

Aphiwe : I ...let's do it

Me : do what ?

Aphiwe : the wedding , when
we get back . Plan our wedding

I squeal in excitement

Me : babe ...

I get up , and sit up straight

Me : you are serious?

Aphiwe : yes , you deserve it

Me : oh baby , thank you so much

We kiss briefly

Me : I can't wait

Aphiwe : but remember you have a ceremony, so don't neglect that

Me : I won't , most things have
been done

Aphiwe : okay , I love you

Me : I love you more

He leans over and hugs me

I hug him back

We pull back

Me : come back to bed

He chuckles

Me : just a quick one

He laughs taking off his briefs ,
and he gets back in bed

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 22

~A Month Later

~Jabari

I walk in the hut

And take a deep breath

Looking at her

Holding the baby

Me : he is so perfect

She looks at me and smiles

Zipho : hey

I lean down next to her

I place a kiss on her forehead

Me : I am sorry I got here late

Zipho : you're here , that's all
that matters

I heave a sigh

I shouldn't have gone to Joburg

But if it wasn't for the Rose
missing case

I wouldn't have gone there

Police have been on my case

Asking about her

Because she told her friend

That she is coming here to see
me

Now that she's disappeared

Obviously, they think I have
something to do with that

Since I am married

And we had a relationship

She came here , the day I got married

Zipho : how did it go ?

Me : they're leaving me alone

Zipho : really ?

Me : yes

Zipho : I hope this , will not
come back to bite us

Me : it won't

Zipho : where is she ? You never
told me , you said you took care
of it

Me : I did

Zipho : where is she ?

Me : I threw her over the wall

Zipho : and you're certain that ...

Me : I am certain

Zipho : okay , I hope this is the
last of it

Me : it is , I assure you

Zipho : thank you

She smiles

Zipho : you want to hold him ?

Me : please

I sit down

And she hands me the baby

Me : oh ...he is perfect baby

Zipho : I know , thank you for
being here for us . I appreciate
you so much

Me : I would rather be here ,
than anywhere else

Zipho : you're ready to change
nappies ?

We laugh

Me : you will have to help me
babe

She shakes her head , and
chuckles

.

.

~Butho Kingdom

Prince Spha walks in his
mother's chamber

The queen looks at him

And her heart breaks

She has never seen her son like
this

He is a shadow of his former
self

He has lost so much weight

He doesn't care much for
anything

Its like he has basically given up
on life

Queen : sit down

He takes a seat

And looks at his mother

Queen : it's nice to see you , out
of your chamber today

She says with a painful smile

He has tried to commit suicide
twice

Both times he lived

And his mother being the one
to always find him

As a mother , her fragile heart
has taken a toll

She doesn't understand what
happened to him

Ever since the attack

And he went missing

When he came back , he was
just never the same

Queen : how are you feeling ?

He looks at her

And tears stream down his face

He breaks down

Like a little boy

Scared , the queen gets up

And walks to him

Queen : talk to me

Spha : ma ...I just want to die , I
can't ...I can't live like this
anymore

Queen : no ...no , whatever it is .
We will get through it together ,
as a family . You don't have to
go through , any of this alone . I
am here , I love you and I still
need my son . Don't speak like
this , please I am begging you .
You have a wife , she ...

Spha : she doesn't want me
anymore

The queen looks at him in shock

Queen : what do you mean ?

Spha : you don't know what those people did to me , I am not a man anymore . They stripped me of my manhood , now my wife wants nothing to do with me . She calls me all sorts of names , and she is cheating on me . Mom , I can't do this anymore. I am tired , I

get it's my karma for what I did
to Zipho . But it's enough , and I
can't take it anymore

Queen : I am sorry , Iwho
took you ? Was it Ngonyama ?

He breaks down

Queen : Spha ...

He shakes his head

Crying hysterically

The queen brings his head over
to her shoulder

And she comforts him

Trying to imagine what her son
is going through

And how she can help him

When she doesn't even know
what really happened to him

But she knows whatever it was

It must have broke him

There's no way , he can
suddenly just be like this

She takes a deep breath

And tries to think of ways to
help him

Even though he is not talking

Maybe his wife can help shed
some light

Yes , she will definitely go talk to
her

She's a princess for goodness
sake

Why is she behaving in this
manner ?

What about her reputation?

And the reputation of this
kingdom

All this makes her angry

Just thinking of how the king
fooled this boy

And made him fool the
Ngonyama princess

Only to embarrass her at the
end

It was all the king's plan

And now it has backfired

Worse , on her son

How she wishes , he listened to
her

But she does everything the
king says

He is so desperate

That he wants to make the king
proud

Even when he is making him do
despicable things

He is so blind

Longing for a father's true love ,
something he's never known

.

.

~Majesty

I don't think I have ever been
this proud as I am at this
moment

Seeing how far we have come

How much we have rebuilt

And having Isilo back ,
supporting us

Backing up Aphiwe

He has managed to take over

From what Isilo had initially
done for this kingdom

With the help of Ngonyama

He has managed to be the king
he is destined to be

He has made amends

And not everyone forgave us

And that was expected

We still have enemies yes

But now we have more alliances

Than we ever had even with
Isilo as king

And it's all thanks to Ngonyama

For supporting us

And standing with us

It has made a lot of things
easier for us

We're progressing now

And doing better

Right now , Aphiwe has finished
building a shelter

Not necessarily to host people

But to even feed them

I am so proud of him

And I cannot wait , for the grand
opening

Like for once , everything is
going well in our lives

We have just chosen to live

Be alive

Do right by our people

And parent our babies

Like , it's been peaceful

Despite Anathi leaving home

And we don't know where he is

Ayabonga is slowly coming
along

I don't know how genuine he is
though

They may be born of the same
womb

But they were pairs , and got
along like that in pairs

So it's hard to tell really

Crossing fingers hoping for
better

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 23

~Majesty

With everything going on

And the wedding in two weeks

I am excited

I feel like , it's my first wedding

That I am getting married for
the first time

It'll be different

I just have a feeling

It won't be like the first time

I am getting married again

To just a one man

That's something , I'll get to
experience what that feels like

Now I feel like a normal woman

Who will be married to one man

Not like what befell me before

Me : it sucks not having friends

He looks at me

Aphiwe : what do you mean ?

Me : that I don't have friends

Aphiwe : I am your friend

I laugh

Aphiwe : what ? When did we
stop being friends ?

Me : we didn't , but I man
female friends

Aphiwe : I thought you and Ngonyama are friends , I mean you grew very close . You have date lunches , and go on vacations together

Me : yeah , but she's just given birth now . And I doubt she will make it for the wedding

Aphiwe : did you ask ?

Me : no , I am just using logic

Aphiwe : assumptions you mean

He chuckles

Me : I need a maid of honour at least , two of the initiates can be my bridesmaids

Aphiwe : I asked Jabari

I look at him

Me : and ?

Aphiwe : and he agreed

Me : yeah , but he's not the one
that's just given birth

Aphiwe : just ask her

I heave a sigh

Its too soon

I don't think she will agree

Also to ask her , will just make
me seem crazy

Aphiwe : don't worry , you have
done the most part for the
planning . And everything is

going well , don't go now giving
yourself stress

He is right

Everything has been great

And I have planned the wedding
of my dreams

Stressing about this won't help
me anyhow

I will hope that everything
works itself out

Aphiwe : let me go , I am taking
the kids out after the meeting

Me : okay

Aphiwe : I love you

He leans over

And pecks my lips

Me : I love you more

He grabs his car keys

And walks out

I also need to finish with my
woman empowerment proposal

I have been so busy with work

If not duties of being a queen

Also having initiates

Being a mother and a wife

Planning a wedding as well

It's a lot

Today I am planning to see my father

As soon as Aphiwe leaves with the kids

I am also leaving

I miss my dad

But I doubt he even misses me

That man doesn't even call me
as much

Unless I call and check up on
him

I do miss having some father
daughter time , just sending
time together

.

.

~Zipho

I close my laptop

After reading what's been on
the news

I haven't been paying much
attention

And clearly , I missed out on a
whole lot

Funny how things work

Today you do someone bad

Tomorrow they do worse to you

And you'll feel like you're cursed

There's nothing bad , that you
can do

And it goes unpunished

Spha is learning the hard way

I wonder how this ended up on
the news

Unless he doesn't have the
loyalty he thinks he has in his
kingdom

I don't even feel sorry for him
whatsoever

My phone rings

I pick it up

Me : Mrs Xaluva

She laughs

Majesty : for someone who just
given birth to a whole human
being , you sound very hyper

I chuckle

Me : you wouldn't believe if I
tell you that I am all good

Majesty : and here I thought ,
you'll still be adjusting

Me : not much , I don't even
feel that there's someone here .
Unless I have to feed him

Majesty : lucky you

Me : Jabari is there , he is always taking him away from me . I honestly don't feel like a new mother

She laughs

Majesty : wow ! And this is what they mean , when they talk about being blessed

Me : come on , I still need to
feel like I am a mother

Majesty : be happy , and enjoy
this time . Because they grow
you , and become very clingy

We laugh

Me : well , I can't wait

She takes a deep breath

Me : what's wrong ?

Majesty : nothing

Me : come on , talk to me

Majesty : it's the wedding

Me : I thought that's planned

Majesty : yes , it is

Me : then ?

Majesty : I need a maid of honour , and now I don't think you'll be able to make it . Seeing that you've just given birth

I smile

Me : oh wow , so you're asking me to be your maid of honour ?

Majesty : I don't have anyone else to ask , you're my only friend honestly

Me : then I will be there , still have the baby fat though . But I will definitely be there

Majesty : really ?

Me : yes

She laughs

Majesty : oh my God ! I don't
know what to say , I am
speechless

Me : just give me the brief , I
will definitely be there . I will
not miss your day , for anything

Majesty : thank you so much

Me : no need , that's what
friends are for

She came to my wedding , and
she has shown me support as a
friend . Being there for her , it's
the last I can do

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 24

~Ngomane

I walk in the throne room

And the looks on my parents

Have me worried

I take a seat , and greet

They greet back

Me : I heard you called for men

Dad : yes

Mom : we need to talk to you

Me : okay

Now I am worried

They barely call me for anything
that only requires me

Especially in the throne room

Like we're here to discuss
important business

Me : is anything the matter ?

My mother looks at my father

Me : what's wrong ?

I ask with concern

Dad : there's a matter here ,
that we need to discuss with
you . Concerning this throne ,
and the kingdom

I swallow hard

Me : okay

Dad : it has always been known ,
that Ngonyama will be queen to

this kingdom one day . But
there was a course of change ,
especially when that Butho
prince proposed marriage . And
we made arrangements ,
because she wouldn't be queen
in both kingdoms

Me : I ...I know that

Dad : and we all know , what
happened with that

I clench my jaws

To this day , I still believe that
Spha doesn't deserve to see the
light of day

Dad : but now , she is married
to umntwana uJabari
kaDlangamandla (prince Jabari
son of Dlangamandla) . Now I
think that's something none of

us thought of , or even
prepared ourselves for it .
Because had she married to
Butho , you would have taken
over as king . It is within your
rights

He looks down

I look at my mother

Dad : Jabari is not just anyone

I nod slowly

Dad : with how things are , he
will have to rule besides
Ngonyama as one

Me : you mean ...

Dad : yes

Mom : this is a lot , even for us

Me : does she know ?

Dad : I don't know

Damn !

Me : and him ?

Dad : I believe he has an idea ,
even though I haven't talked to
him about it

Me : what's happening to you ?

They both look at me

Me : I mean , you cannot just
bring this talk without a reason

Mom : the black lion , is
relieving your father's body .
And it will need a host

I nod slowly

I did not expect this

Not this soon

But then , I am not worried
much

I know Ngonyama can handle
herself well

My sister is stronger than she looks

Dad : now more than ever , we will need to be one with Isilo .
So we can be one strength

Me : collide the two kingdoms ?

Dad : yes

Wow !

I don't even know what to say
anymore

I have so many questions

But one thing I know , the God's
always know what they're
doing

And they always have a plan

I believe even with this

They know what they're doing

Me : Aphiwe is nothing like
Awiwe

Dad : he has a good head

That he does have

.

.

~Jabari

I look at my father

And even I have never seen
Dlangamandla speechless

Me : so ?

Dad : when did this start
happening ?

Me : it's been a few weeks now

Dad : and did you tell anyone about this ?

Me : no , I am even scared to tell my wife

Dad : you think she doesn't know ?

Me : she has abilities , doesn't she ?

Dad : and you think it's a good idea , for you not to tell her .
Because it's been a few weeks ,
and I am sure Mpande is well aware of what's going on with him

I heave a sigh

Me : what do I say ?

Dad : you're a grown ass man

I chuckle

Me : honestly , I came to you so
you can help me . But clearly ,
you're not keen

Dad : there's nothing I can do
for you

I get up

Me : I need to go

Dad : tell someone at the royal house about this

I walk out

And get into my car

I drive out headed to the palace

.

.

~Zipho

I put the baby down in his crib

As he walks in

I let out a smile

Me : hey

Jabari : babe

Me : are you okay ?

Jabari : no , we need to talk

Zipho : ah ...don't scare me like that

He chuckles

Jabari : I am sorry for my choice of words

Zipho : come

I take his hand

We walk out of the bedroom

We sit down in the lounge

I had my chamber extended

To like a mini house , so it can
accommodate my family

Even though Jabari is building us
a home , outside of the palace

Me : Majesty asked me to be
her maid of honour , and I
agreed . We can always take
help , so I can just be there for
her . Just for those few minutes

Jabari : you think you'll be up to
it ? I don't want you to strain
yourself much

Me : I will be fine , like I said it's only a couple of minutes

Jabari : okay , we'll see how we do with this one

Me : so ?

He takes a deep breath

I take his hand into mine

Jabari : something very strange
is happening to me

I swallow hard , i knew this

It was just a matter of time

Before he finally realises it , and
it's happening

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 25

~Jabari

It feels like a heavy burden has
been lifted off of my shoulders

I don't know why I was so
scared to talk to her

She's the one person who's
holding me down

Knows my past

And yet doesn't judge me

This was weighing heavy on me

Me : I don't understand why
this is happening

Zipho : mhm ...

Me : I mean , why is your great
ancestor coming upon me ? I
know for a fact that I walk with
spirit animals , that's just how

my father protected me and
strengthen me . Ever since I was
young

Me : you're a prince of a great
healer , that is understandable

Me : yeah , but this ...

I shake my head

Me : I don't get it

Zipho : you're married to me ,
let it make sense

Me : but your father is the one
who carried this spirit

Me : and clearly , now it has
come upon you . For the reason
, that you're one with
Ngonyama in her true form

Me : of course ...you knew
about this ?

She smiles

Zipho : I just figured

Me : and you didn't think to tell
me ?

She laughs

Zipho : I wasn't sure , it
wouldn't have been of no use .
To tell you something , that
even I myself am not certain
about

I heave a sigh

Me : I hear you

Zipho : this brings changes to
you , but you have to accept

and not fight with him . You
have to be one , to be able to
coexist in your body

Me : I ...I know that

Zipho : then , I say you have
nothing to worry about

I chuckle shaking my head

I look at her

She smiles

Zipho : what ?

Me : nothing

She giggles

Zipho : come on , tell me . It
can't be nothing

I laugh

Me : I just love you , that's all

Zipho : really ?

Me : yeah

Zipho : oh well , how much

Me : like insanely

We laugh

Zipho : mhm , and I love you
more

I lean back , and lay down on
her thighs

She brushes her hand on my
head

Zipho : I am here with you

I lift my eyes

Looking at her

Zipho : through it all , I am not
going anywhere

Me : I am one blessed mother
fucker , I don't know what I did
to deserve you

Zipho : come on , you loved me
right . When I thought I was ...

She takes a deep breath

Zipho : you came , and loved me
right . I am the one who's
blessed , you accepted me .
With what I came with , and I
never thought any man would
ever look at me ever again .

After what happened , I was just
a shame and nothing else

She smiles caressing my cheek

Me : don't ever call my wife a
shame

She laughs , and leans down
taking my lips into hers

.

.

~Butho Kingdom

The queen's walks in the main
palace

And finds her daughter in-law
making something to eat

She looks for maids around

And they're all outside

Having their lunch

She takes a seat

Queen : can we please talk ?

Lilitha looks at her

Lilitha : about what ?

She asks with an attitude

The queen smiles bitterly

Queen : first and foremost ,
you're a wife here . And it
seems like , you're seeming to
forget your place . You came
here , because of my son . The
same son , that today you have
turned into a laughing stock .
You're seen entering hotel
rooms , with other men . What
do you call that ? Where is your
self respect ? Is that child you're
carrying even his ?

Lilitha laughs

Lilitha : no , he is not your son's . And the father of this baby , is the same man you say I am seen in and out of hotel rooms with. He is being a father , and taking care of his child . Being present and all

The queen's heart aches

This is the kind of a woman , her
son brought home to be a wife

He lost a great woman , for this

Queen : you're not even
ashamed ?

Lilitha : no , I am not . I am with
a man man , not this whimp you
call a son . Who's manhood

doesn't even work anymore ,
how do you think he will be able
to make a baby ? It doesn't get
up , all the cells down there are
basically dead . What will I do
with a whimp like that ? I am a
woman , I have needs . Clearly ,
you can see , I am still young
and I have my whole life ahead
of me . I cannot tie myself down
, to a man who is incapable . No
ways , I know my worth . And I
am way too young for such

She puts the plate down

Lilitha : don't worry , I will be
out of here like right now

She walks out of the kitchen

Leaving the queen in shock

She gets up

And hurry out

Heading to the king's chamber

She knocks and walks in

He looks at her

Queen : we need to talk about
Lilitha

The king sighs

Queen : do you see what you have done ?

King : what ?

Queen : you have ruined my son's life , with that woman

King : what are you talking about ?

Queen : she is cheating on him ,
and that baby she is carrying is
not his

King : what ?

Queen : I will never forgive you ,
you have ruined my son . And
today , he is the way he is all
because of you

King : I did

Queen : you did this , it was all you

King : Spha is not a baby , I did not hold a knife against his throat . He was well within his rights to refuse , to do anything I told him to do

Queen : you manipulated him , and don't say you ever gave him

a chance to say no to anything
you told him to do . I want you
to know , that you have ruined
my son . And for that , I will
never ever forgive you . He lost
a great woman , for a woman
who doesn't award him any
loyalty

King : what happened with
Ngonyama , she was just a
means to an end

Me : and where did that get us
? We didn't even get those
diamonds , you so desperately
wanted

She walks out fuming , tears
burn her eyes

She takes a deep breath
gathering herself

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 26

~Two Weeks Later

~Majesty

I take a deep breath

The day is finally here

And it sure feels like I am doing
this for the first time

I remember that day

It was quite the event

Everyone was here

And I think it was just to see the
spectacle

Not because they wanted to
honour the wedding

And now , this is more intimate

And it feels just amazing

Zipho walks in

And she smiles

Me : hey

Zipho : looking beautiful as
always

I laugh

Me : thank you , and so are you

Zipho : well , I have to look the
part

I fix my dress

Zipho : are you ready ?

Me : more than ready

She smiles

I take a deep breath

Zipho : alright , I'll see you out there

Me : thanks

Zipho : you're welcome

She walks out

Just as my father walks in

He smiles

Dad : my baby

Tears burn my eyes

Dad : no crying , you will ruin
your beautiful face

I laugh

Dad : hey ...

Me : you look pretty handsome

Dad : I do , I look dapper even if
I say so myself

What the fuck !!

No ways

Did he just say that ?

Me : come on , you dating is ...

Dad : stop it

I laugh

My father is dating

And that explains why he is so
scarce

And hardly even calls me

He found himself a woman

And she's a lovely woman

I like her

I met her a while back

When I went to visit him , and
she was there

I am happy for him

Though it's somehow

In his old age

That he has a girlfriend

Not even a wife

Its insane and strange

Not to say weird

Like how ...

I better stop right there

That woman is good for my
father

He has just been amazing

And I know it's because of her

Dad : let's go

I take a deep breath

He takes my hand

And we walk out

.

.

~Zipho

Marriage is something else

Just a beautiful thing

A union between two people

Who vow to share live and
happiness together

Until death does them apart

Like that's insane

A very huge vow to make to
another being

I let out a smile

As the priest announces them
husband and wife

Its celebrations and ululations

Cheering all around

Its just a beautiful sight

Jabari looks at me

He winks

I let out a slight smile

Goosebumps are all over my
body

This reminds me of my day

It feels like just yesterday

And well , it hasn't been that
long yes

A slight feeling strikes me

I turn my eyes looking around

I see nothing

But I am definitely sensing
something here

I look at Aphiwe

And he has his eyes fixated on
me

He signals for me

And he takes his wife's hand

They walk down the isle

I move over to Jabari

Jabari : what's happening ? I am
feeling somehow

I dart my eyes to the crowd ,
and there he is

.

.

~Majesty

Now I know something is going
on

The weather has changed

We were changing

And Aphiwe said I should hurry

Now he wants me to be at a
safe space

Me : I don't understand what's
happening

Aphiwe : it's

I shiver as I feel a cold breeze

I look around

Where we held the wedding

And there is Anathi

Me : what

Aphiwe : please , stay here

He walks over to him

Quickly Zipho changes into the
white lion

Jabari crouches down

And he seems to be in pain

While his body is taking a form

Its just commotion

Clearly , some people have
never seen these beings before

The shock , is seeing him
transform into a black lion

Anathi : so you have these
freaks here , to fight your
battles

Isilo : Anathi ...what is this ?

Anathi : your precious son killed
my son , he killed my son . And
he gets the throne , he gets to
be king . Make history , and be
held as the saviour for Isilo .
Right after his twin brother dies

He laughs

Anathi : it was very convenient
for you brother

Isilo : stop this

Anathi : try , try your nonsense
with me . And you will regret it ,
my son's death is not in vain.
His blood screams from the Isilo

soil, where you took his soul .
And went on with your life , like
nothing happened

I look at Aphiwe

I have never seen Anathi like
this

He looks like a demon
possessed

I swear he is mad

And given a chance

He will kill Aphiwe

I already lost a husband

I am not losing another

I don't even care about this day

Its my wedding day

The day that's supposed to be
the most special day

And yet , drama has occurred

I just want him safe

He shouldn't even be there

His brother is angry

And right now , he doesn't care
that they're brothers

I take a deep breath

At least the babies are safe

And they're with Zipho's child

Ngomane is with them

I know for a fact , he will give his
life for theirs

Anathi : today ...I end my misery
along with you

He rips his jacket apart

And a bomb is strapped on him

People scream

My whole body freezes

Anathi : either we make this
between us , or you risk
everyone around here . And
they all suffer , for your doings

What the fuck !

He is holding the detonator in
his hand

Held high up

Now even I am asking in my
boots

I never saw this coming

I am even scared to piss Aphiwe
off

He told me to stay off

And if I go any closer

And something happens to me.

He will definitely give me an
earful

But I feel awful

Just standing here

And watching things unfold

While I do nothing

I don't have powers like them

I am only but a traditional
healer

How can I possibly stop Anathi

Unless I hurt him

The dark bad way

And I don't want to taint my
ancestors

I do not want to go down that
route

Because I'll never go back

.

.

~Ngonyama

~Insert 27

~Majesty

Tears stream down my face

Just the thought of something
going wrong here

I would lose a whole awful of
people

Not sparing myself

This is a fucking bomb

And Anathi is not bluffing

Anathi : come at me men to
men

I see Aphiwe walking towards
him

I almost let out a scream

But hold myself

What is he doing ?

I know he is a man

He has an ego

He wants to prove a point to
Anathi

But I don't care about any of
that

I want him alive

Because what he is doing right
now

He will definitely be a man
that's a burnt corpse

Aphiwe : what happened , was a
mistake . I was trying , to stop
your wife from leaving this
kingdom with our prince . And

also stopping her , so she
doesn't get away . Because she
had to account for what she did
, but then ...

Anathi : I don't care

Aphiwe : let's not do this , I'd
hate to have to hurt you

Anathi : you have killed me , the
day you killed my son

Aphiwe : I ...

Anathi : enough !!

I close my eyes

My knees weakening

And I go down slowly , on my
knees

Tears stream down my face

I have never been so scared like
I am right now

I wipe my tears

And look at them

I don't get why Anathi is not
changing

The white lion looks at Isilo

He lowers his eyes

The black lion moves back

And within a split second , the
white lion grabs Anathi with her
teeth

The black one grabs the
detonator

And they run over , headed to
the west side of the palace

I get up

And run towards Aphiwe

He engulfs me into a tight hug

I break down crying

As he holds me tight

And we're all startled by the
loud thud

And it's like something has just
exploded

I move back

And we look at the smoke

Rising from the dark woods

Aphiwe : shit , go see the kids

And he emerges to the Alpha

And runs off , Jumping over the
palace wall

Isilo : go to safety

Me : what if it's Anathi ?

Isilo : whatever it is , just ..m

He takes a deep breath

I hope it's not him

This man has been through a lot

He has lost and suffered too
much

He cannot lose another son

He just can't

Isilo : please

I nod

And walk over to the babies
chamber

I walk in

And Ngomane looks at me

Ngomane : what's happening
out there ?

I look at the babies

And they're all asleep

Me : it's bad

Ngomane : what happened ?

Me : Anathi came here with a bomb , Jabari and Ngonyama took him . But something erupted , in the dark woods . Aphiwe just ran there

Ngomane : fuck ! That's fucking messed up , everyone is okay though ? No one is hurt , like the guests

Me : yeah ...yeah , they're fine

Ngomane : okay , we'll hear
when they get back

Me : what ifIsilo has lost so
much Ngomane . He cannot
lose another child

Ngomane : Ngonyama is there ,
she will make sure he is safe

I sit down

Ngomane : I am coming

He walks out

And comes back after a while

He hands me a glass of water , I
take it from him

Me : thank you

I take a sip from the glass

Ngomane : I am sorry , that your day has turned out this way

Me : yeah well , it is what it is

Ngomane : yeah , but don't worry they'll all come back safe . Don't worry

I hope he is right

And that Anathi is fine as well

I know things haven't been
great

But they're brothers still , and
he is family

.

.

~Zipho

Isilo : Ngonyama , thank you so much

Me : you're welcome

Isilo : I thought , today I will lose either one of my son's . But thank you

I chuckle

Me : it's okay

I turn and look at him

Me : when we vowed to collide
both kingdoms , we meant even
in trouble we will protect each
other . Anathi is family , he is
not an enemy . He will get over
this , and he will reconcile with
his brother

He smiles

Isilo : I hope , I see that day
before I join my ancestors

Me : you're still yet , to see
many more years . To see our
kingdoms , flourishing and
doing great . You're still Isilo the
great , a descendant of Lubanzi .

Isilo : trust you , to be wise and
remind us of who we are

I laugh

Me : yes , yes whatever would these people do without me .
When they just want to crumble , and fall down . I mean , we're not just anyone . And even our blood can attest to that , so we have to live up to who we are

He chuckles

Isilo : indeed

Me : I know this was meant to be a great day , and it ended somehow . But let's be grateful , everyone is safe and well . So is Anathi

Isilo : yes , we thank the God's . And we thank that , we had you in our presence

Me : I know , Alpha would have done the same for me . Or even my people

Isilo : I love what you have done , how you have come together . And now you're working together as one , as a unit . Its something I am glad to have been a part of , and to witness . You're one generation , that'll elevate both these kingdoms

I let out a smile

Isilo : I will see you around
Ngonyama

Me : like wise , Isilo

He smiles walking away

.

.

~THE END