

The sound of the computer clicking was all I could hear as I sat behind my desk that was filled with a stack of paperwork. I could only sigh as I looked at the pile .

I could not even remember the last time I had a proper rest or food . Ever since I took over my father's company I've not had time to myself. It does not help that I'm being stalked by the media as apparently I'm the most handsome CEO they have ever encountered .

I mean what the hell. I seriously need rest I even think my health is declining little by little. Anyway enough with all that rambling , my name is Ajax Tailor, I'm 22years old, tall about 6,0, brown short hair , blue eyes and I'm super pale in a healthy way though.

Still in my office I worked for a couple of hours till I passed out. I woke up to the sound of a throat clearing. I came face to face with my father Alex Tailor.

The man had a stern glare plastered on his face. "Greetings father" I greeted formally .

I've never really been comfortable with my parents because they were strict parents who went by the book. Everything with them had to be perfect that is why I grew up to be pretty stiff . A dull person like a doll and does not know how to have fun.

I've never really had a friend or a steady relationship . People always say I'm trying too hard or I'm too stiff for their liking. I sighed as I thought of my slightly tragic life.

"Ajax stop lazing around go take a shower and get back to work your not going to ruin my hard earned reputation". I looked at my father without a word , I wanted to just speak my mind and get it over with but the thought of being alone if my parents disowned me tore me apart.

"Yes father "I said with a slight nod showing how timid I was . My father looked slightly angry at my response like always.

Nothing I ever did was good enough for my parents. I could see the rejection in their eyes everytime they looked at me. I knew they wished they had a better son than me . Not a timid weakling like me . I stepped out of my office after telling my father goodbye.

Later in the afternoon while back to working in the office my parents sent me a text that I should come to their house for dinner. I found it strange since they've never really invited me to dinner before, I knew something was amiss.

I went to their house in low spirits like always , in the car I sang softly to myself, since I was a child I've had a dream to become singer but my parents crushed that little dream before it can blossom into something beautiful. I sighed once again as I parked into their yard.

"Welcome young master", greeted, Patrick my parents' very old Buttler." Thank you Patrick" I said as I continued on into the mansion. I was greeted by a couple of maids as I made my way to the kitchen were I knew we were having dinner.

I entered the room full of laughter and suddenly it went quiet. "Greetings mother , father and young miss" . The woman with my parents I knew very well she was my so called girlfriend when I was in highschool. She

cheated on me then dumped me but apparently she was back again.

" Don't call me so formally dear future husband". My eyes widened at that , "what?" I asked them skeptically." You and Jennifer are going to get married , it's time to give us an heir son". My father said, leaving no room for objections. I looked at my parents and I knew I needed a vacation I would deal with this issue when I come back.

*****!!!!!!*****

Hey guys I'm back so this is my new book ..I hope you guys will like very much ..I'll keep on updating my story ...I dont have a schedule . Please guys support my book and THANKS!!□□□

I sat all night in my apartment and looked over places I could visit for a month I needed a long break. A break from everything, I saw a couple of places I found interesting . After some time I found the perfect place .

It looked like I was visiting south Africa. I could not wait to leave . I spent the whole week packing and booking a flight I even made a visa .

Everything was ready after a week, finally I could escape my troublesome life for a while. I sent my father an email when the flight was high up in the sky.

He sent some pretty angry messages but I did not care no one was going to stop me from having my peace after so many years. After a few hours in the flight we finally arrived.

I took my large suitcases and looked around the airport. Finally I saw a dark skinned woman holding a board with my name on it .

She truly was a beautiful woman with braids tied neatly in a ponytail.

" Hello miss I'm Ajax Tailor", " Mr Tailor it's very nice to meet you and welcome to South Africa. We've hired a car for you that will take you to your hotel. I hope your stay here in South Africa will be enjoyable.

My name is Patricia by the way and I'll be your escort for a week then I'll go back to my work". "Thank you miss Patricia".

We got into the car and boy it was a long ride to the hotel. Finally we arrived and it was the middle of the night. I could not believe the ride lasted for so long . I yawned as the hotel staff took my stuff into the hotel. I followed Patricia, to the reception area. I got the key to my room when I got there I immediately fell asleep.

The next morning I woke up confused about where I was, then finally remembered so I felt a slight tug at my lips as if they wanted to form a smile. That would have looked kind of odd . I never smiled so I didn't know how I looked when I did. I took a relaxing shower then ate a fulfilling breakfast before I followed Patricia, around as she showed me around the place.

I had to admit KwaZulu Natal was a beautiful place , the green that adorned the vast of it , the clean flowing rivers , the beautiful huts . It was like a traditional place from my dreams . I've always loved nature so felt really connected with mother nature in that place.

A week past and Patricia, left . I decided to explore on my own. I passed many people on the road wearing their traditional clothing, it looked really amazing.

I went toward the river hoping to have a little swim. I walked slowly , taking in the scenery around me." **LOOK OUT PALE BOY!!**" a booming voice shouted and I was startled yet I did as I was told and fell to the side.

My eyes widened at what they were chasing a wild bore I was so scared it would stomp me but luckily it just past me at an unbelievable speed . I was still frozen on my spot on the ground when I noticed a shadow blocking my sunlight.

I looked up cautiously, there stood a tall , dark and handsome man . His cheek bones looked to have been

curved by God himself , his light brown eyes were cold and calm . His muscles were lean and glittered when the sun hit on it perfectly.

"You look dazed" , a calm but deep voice spoke. I shook my head to bring myself back to reality . "I'm sorry" I said with my head down showing my timid nature. "You don't have to be sorry Dali".

He then held out his hand to me , I took it hesitantly . His grip was firm yet gentle when he held my hand. I looked up at him , and gasped he was really tall compared to me.

"You don't have to look so scared I won't hurt you". I just looked at him and finally spoke , " I'm Ajax Tailor ,you are?" he smirked somehow and looked at me up and down. " **Sthembiso Khaya**".

"You can call me Sthe, for short". I blinked then nodded , I attempted to pull my hand from his grip but it only tightened.

"Uh..Sthe, please let go of my hand". "No , let's go for a stroll Dali", my cheeks turned pink as I thought of people seeing me holding Sthe's hand. "Please let me go". "Dali, be obedient and let's walk I'll show you around" , he started to walk so I was automatically dragged behind him.

His back muscles rippled as he moved and I wondered why I did not look like that. I had a fit body of cause, like a swimmers body. "Where are you taking me ?",I asked Sthe , "nowhere really we're just walking around.

I've been having a little bad luck hunting these days , but now that I came face to face with a pale goddess then I'm positive my luck will turn around", he said then looked at me.

I wondered if I had heard him correctly, did he really just call me a pale goddess?. "Why a goddess though? I'm a man". "I'm aware of that but you smell sweet and look fragile , not like a man at all".

I frowned at that , "I'm a man I can prove it I've got the same man parts as you trust me". "Well I suggest you don't show me your body you might end up round with my offspring". What was even wrong with this man ? I thought to myself. He was acting really oddly , who even says that to another man.

Me and Sthe, walked down the village without speaking much. The silence was really calming . He still refused to let go of my hand that I finally gave up. "I want to go to the river", I declared feeling a bit hot.

He did not say anything but still pulled me the direction of the river. There we met a couple of women fetching water, the women were speaking cheerfully but became quiet when they noticed us.

"Leave" , he ordered . The women gulped yet one of them looked at me with concern and I wondered why. She was also stunning like the rest of the women I had met so far. Contrary to the look she gave me her friend glared at me as she looked at me and Sthe's interlinked hands.

I once again tried to pull my hand away to no avail. The women non the less left leaving just me and Sthe . "What did you want to do?" he asked now looking down at me , "I wanted to swim but I don't think that's a good idea now".

"Why is that?" to tell the truth even I had no answer to that question. Something just told me not to get naked in that man's presence . I felt somewhat self conscious near him.

"What a wise decision you made", he said and we sat down and he told me more about their culture. "Are you married Sthe?", I just had to ask because it seemed odd that a man like him would be single.

"No", was his reply, "how come?your very handsome" , I blunted out without noticing and by the time I did my cheeks were flaming from embarrassment. That's when I heard his chuckle and it actually send chills down my spine and goosebumps rose on my skin.

"Don't laugh at me" I said a little upset with him now . For the first time in years I felt like throwing a childish tantrum. "My Dali, don't be angry though you do look quite beautiful with that expression too".

My eyes widened as I looked at the strange friend I had made . He called me beautiful , I've been called many attractive names but never beautiful. He sounded so genuine too.

"We should get back I'll take you to your hotel room since the sun has set and there is danger lurking around at this time of the night".

I nodded since I somewhat felt safe with the man. He sent me back and went home . That night I found myself strangely thinking about Sthe. I sighed before my eyes completely shut and I fell into a deep sleep.

The next morning I woke up and did my usual routine before I stepped out of the hotel to take another stroll around the village I did not see much the other day because i had that guy following me around.

Just as I was a little further from the hotel I was stopped by a young woman. I recognised her as that woman who gave me a concerned look.

"Hello", she greeted , her voice a bit deep because she was speaking a different language than she's used to . Her voice was strangely calming. "My name is Thandi" , "hello Thandi , "my name is Ajax" . "Well Ajax, we need to talk so let's walk".

I nodded and took a stroll with her. "Stay away from the prince" I was startled by her words , who was the prince again? , "Who is the prince?". "Prince Sthembiso", my eyes widened , "his a prince?", "Yes I'm afraid so .

I'm not telling you this because I think your social statuses don't match . It's quite the opposite really. The thing is , prince Sthembiso, is a dangerous man with no once of mercy on his bone. I've never really seen him laugh or smile , his always so cold . Do you know his never been interested in anyone in the village whether male or female".

"Does that mean his a virgin?", I asked skeptically, "oh hell no his definitely not a virgin. What man is still a virgin in this day and age". I had no words to refute that since I was one of those man who where still virgins .

Oh well she did not have to know that. "Anyway take my warning seriously. Now come with me , the girls and I are practicing our maiden dance steps. A ceremony will be held soon maybe I might be lucky to find a suitor".

"Your very pretty I'm sure you'll get your dream man". "My, what a sweet tangué you have". I giggled at that but caught myself because it sounded so ...unmanly .

"Your cute", she said laughing. Walking with Thandi, was not so bad I knew I might have made another friend. We got to where the young women were dancing and I was farcinated by how they moved .

I felt a stare on my being so I looked to where it came from ,only to come face to face with the young woman who had glared at me the other day at the river. I decided to ignore her and greeted the rest.

They were very welcoming if I could say so myself. They were also fun to be with. "Hey pale boy , wanna join us?", asked one. I saw no point in refusing so I nodded.

I was very stiff so they would laugh when I danced I did not care nor give up. We practiced for quite awhile then finally stopped as the young man of the village got back from their hunt.

"The man are finally back!" , exclaimed one . There's prince Sthembiso , oh my god his so handsome" , she said with a love struck sigh.

I raised my brow at her then shrugged , I guessed he had many admires after all he was a prince and a fine man. Really I kind of envied him , I'm only followed by sluts , even one wants to marry me.

The girl who was glaring at me spoke , "now that's a real man , not like someone who just sits and dances

with women". I had a feeling she was referring to me so it kind of stung.

"Nina, don't be rude" reprimanded Thandi, "why are you defending the white boy? he knows his nothing but a girl wearing man skin. A real man hunts and protects his family. A real man can build a house with his bare hands. Tell me white boy, which of those can you do?".

I could not say a word against what she said because I knew she had me in a Conner. I hung my head low then walked away from the group as they began to argue in their native tongue.

I felt like crying but I would not , i never wanted to show an enemy they got to me. Just as I was walking I felt strong arms wrap around me . I turned and Sthe, was looking at me with a look I could not read. "Tell me Dali, what were you all talking about?".

I sighed but did not answer him , what could he do anyway. It was not like he could make me a man among man.

"I don't like you looking so sad, if you don't tell me what happened I'll punish all the young women who were with you".

My eyes widened at that and I made a move to get out of his arms but like the other day he did not bulge so I gave up. "Do you think I'm not a real man?" I asked because the words that woman said were eating me up.

It never bothered me before to be the way I was but now it seemed men were supposed to be some strong heroes . I was just plain old me who liked to sit, read and sing.

How could I know how to hunt? I was a business man for crying out loud , all I ever did was deal with presentations and a lot of paperwork. "Who told you that you are not a real man?", His voice sounded upset for some reason.

"No one don't worry about it I'm just being silly", "I'll ask for myself then", he said letting go of me , I would have been happy to be let go but the way he spoke about finding out who told me those words. I knew it meant trouble.

I grabbed his hand before he walked away from me, "please don't confront anyone. Please", I said looking at him in the eyes, "fine" . "Can you take me hunting with you guys next time you go out to hunt?". "No", was his quick reply, "please Sthe", I begged . "Take me with you please", I moistened my eyes and hoped to garner some pity by looking vulnerable.

He sighed , "I can't say no to you Dali, fine then but you'll have to stay close to me at all times". My smile at that moment could make the sun jealous. I hugged him until I realised what I did and made a move to step back.

He did not let me, he held me in place that my cheeks turned crimson because I really was not used to being shown so much affection. "Have you eaten lunch yet?", He asked , "no" , "I was with the women the whole day practicing how to dance, I forgot the time".

"No problem come with me I'm sure my mother and my brothers' wives have cooked". "No need to trouble yourself with me I'll just get food at the hotel". "Dali? ", "HM..", I replied , "have I asked you if you want to come eat lunch with me?", "No". "Then why are you making so many excuses? Look I was not asking you , I was telling you your having lunch with me and my family".

I sighed knowing I was never going to win , arguing with that man was impossible. He took my hand and we walked to his home. His home was actually very beautiful, huts were everywhere but there was also a modern looking house in the middle .

I just walked with him towards the modern looking house. Many people bowed as he passed , he did nothing just continued to be stiff faced. I greeted everyone as I entered the house behind Sthe . An older looking woman came towards us with stern steps.

"Son your just in time for lunch, come join us at the table". I looked at her and guessed she was the queen. "Greetings" , I bowed, that is when she turned her attention to me. "Who are you?", Her voice was actually

really cold making me wince. "My name is Ajax, I'm from America".

She just nodded then turned her attention back to her son. "Follow me", she said and we did. Some people were already there. I still walked behind Sthe, all of them looked so intimidating. Sthe, sat me beside him, everyone stared at me curiously. "Who is this?" The man who I figured was the king asked.

"My name is Ajax, sir". I bowed a little feeling like a rabbit trapped with a pride of lions. "I'm sorry to intrude on your meal". "Let's eat", the man said, and everyone began to dig in. I did not know what to do. Then a plate was sat before me, I looked up and Sthe, spoke. "Eat".

I ate trying to be as quiet as possible . They were also really silent. I looked at Sthe, who was eating his food quietly.

A throat finally cleared , "so pale boy what brings you to south Africa?" . The king asked. "I'm here on vication", "is that so,why this place though?", He continued to ask, "I find this place to be interesting so I thought I should visit" .

"I see your good friends with my son", I nodded , "Sthe, is really nice", I said still not looking at the king. "I would never associate my son with the word 'nice' so you really must be special to see his nice side".

My heart quickened at that which was strange. So he was only nice to me . It was so odd to think about that fact. "Is that so" , I finally replied , "yes I'm afraid so, my son has never been one to smile or laugh it's really something that he was born with.

The blood of warriors runs through his veins , some even thought he was Shaka Zulu's son when he showed his amazing fighting skills at the age of 10".

I looked at the king now interested. I loved African tales . My blue eyes widened with anticipation, I looked at the king to tell me more. "You look interested", the king chuckled that's when I knew the king looked intimidating but he was quite nice.

"You can visit another time and I'll tell you more tales about my ice cold son. He is one of a kind you know". "Father you like praising Sthembiso, a lot" ,one of the woman at the table had complained, "I've never heard stories about my husband Sizwe, and his the eldest".

"Mariam, your husband was an obedient son, he never caused trouble at all" . "Then how about my husband Themba, father?", another of the young women had asked.

"Your husband was always a playful child and was not home most of the time". "Our husbands are truly boring" , said the young woman I had come to know was Lebo.

I continued to eat my meal as I listened to the stories the king told about his other sons . "Are you full?" A voice next to me got my attention away from the king. "Yes", I said to Sthe, with a smile , he frowned, "you should eat more, I don't want you to be too skinny".

I looked at him strangely but decided to let it go , I put more food in my plate and moaned in bliss , really African food were amazing . Samp , pap , cabbage , spinach and more were the verities of that day.

"You seem to enjoy our food very much" said Mariam , "yes I've never tasted anything this good before, makes me wish I knew how to cook it". "If your up for it I'll teach you" , she offered.

"Oh really?" I asked with hope in my eyes. "Sure , my sister will teach you the ones I can't cook". "I'll look forward to it then" I said with a big grin.

Lebo, smiled at me, "your very beautiful you know?" My eyes widened in surprise at that. "I thought I was atleast handsome" , "you are it's just you have a feminine charm to you". That made me freeze a moment , "feminine?".

"It's not a bad thing it's just that your very easily pleased and very sweet, I find it calming to talk to you

which is a really good thing" . I nodded in understanding. "If your done we can start practicing your cooking skills".

"Not today", said Sthembiso, "today he rests, tomorrow he can start, afternoon he rests" . Mariam, looked at Sthe, skeptically, "but cooking needs a lot of time". "He has time" Sthe, answered .

I looked at him, "it's fine Sthe, I can spend a couple of hours learning how to cook" . "I said no", "stop forbidding me from doing what I want please", I said looking at him. "Ajax" , he called my name and I knew he was being serious .

"It would do you good if you learnt not to do everything just to please others, the whole point of a vication is to rest. So your going to rest. My word is final Dali".

I could not refute his words for some reason so I nodded obediently. "Good, now eat up so we can go for a walk". I nodded again and continued eating.

I walked with Sthe, out of the palace . He looked at me without a word , "what is it?", I asked , Feeling a bit uncomfortable. "Let's walk it's good for digestion", I nodded agreeing with him .

"I promised Mariam, I would learn cooking from her but I also wanted to go hunting with you" . "It's okay you can just learn to cook that will be a useful skill for you in the future" , "I know how to cook Sthe, just not traditional food that's the kind of food I want to learn for now".

He nodded, "what do you wanna do then Dali?", "I want to go hunting with you and the other man please". He nodded , "like I said stay close to me at all times". "I promise I will" , "good, wanna go to the river again?".

I nodded, "I want to go for a swim" , "I told you Dali, it's not a good idea to get naked infront of me". "Why?" I asked a bit curiously . "You will find out in the future it will surely make your waist ache".

I narrowed my eyes at his words but I really wanted a swim, "how about I go alone". "Too many eyes, that will make me uneasy". "It's fine I'm a man what's there to be ashamed about?", "You are too defenceless Dali, really you should be more careful" .

I frowned , I did not understand his words, I mean what was wrong with a man taking a little swim by the river. I sighed , "then I'll lay down under the shade of that big Oak tree".

He nodded and took my hand pulling me to the tree . We both sat down , it was so cool I felt a bit sleepy, so I closed my eyes only for a moment and I was out like a light.

When I woke up it was Getting a bit darker and I realised I was sleeping on someone's shoulder . I was startled and immediately began a string of apologies. "I'm so sorry Sthe, I did not mean to fall asleep just like that" .

"It's okay just stand I'll walk you to your hotel room". I nodded and stood up. I stumbled a bit and fell into his embrace , our gazes locked and I could not look away . It was as if I was stuck looking at his brown eyes. What beautiful eyes he had.

"Come it's getting late or do you want me to carry you to your room?". "No", I said softly and moved away from his embrace albeit a bit reluctantly. I was surprised by my reluctance . My cheeks turned a shade of red and I walked a bit infront of him .

He did not say anything just followed me quietly. I looked around as we walked , truly the place was beautiful , the sunset shinning just above the mountains was mesmerising. I loved how it made the whole place so much more magical.

"Dali you need to eat some food, you need to have supper first before going to bed". "I know I'll have something to eat as soon as I get into the room , you don't need to worry yourself so much". "I'll always worry about you darling" .

"Why?" He just smiled at my question and looked far ahead . I wondered what he was thinking . For some reason it irked me that I did not know what he was thinking.

I looked at his big hand that was not holding mine and I felt it was wrong for our hands not to touch one another . So I descreatly held his hand without looking at him. He tightened our hold and I felt somewhat

contended .

We walked in sweet harmony until we reached the hotel room and separated . I sighed missing his presence already what was even wrong with me?

I sat in my hotel room lost in my own thoughts when my phone rang .I answered without thinking, "hello", "come back home!", father's voice rang out making me shake and look down .

I hated how weak I was when I heard someone shouting , all my life, all my parents have ever done is shout at me .

I hanged up as soon as he began yelling, my phone rang again , I ignored it , but it kept on ringing making me groan in annoyance. I finally answered, "I'm not coming back til my vication of one month is over" , "you will come back" .

He commanded, for some reason I felt a strange sense of bravery , "no father, that will not be happening, for once you will have to listen to me. I need to let off some steam , there's too much pressure there so I'm not coming back until I feel more like a human and not a tool to be used for personal gain . By the way father don't call again , I'm going to turn off my phone if you need me then you'll have to wait one full month" .

After saying those words I hanged up the phone. For a while I did not fall asleep , finally I did in the early hours of the morning.

The next morning I overslept, I was woken up by gentle hands touching my face. They felt so warm and big, I snuggled a little closer to the warmth. Wait hands?! I woke up with a start , my eyes met brown ones, Sthe, sat there looking at me.

"Morning Dali", "g.. good morning", I sturttered flustered. "You sleep too deeply don't you think? if I did not have this impacable self control within me I would have given into temptation. The clothes your wearing are too thin ain't they? simple boxers and a long shirt. What an irresistible sight, drool worthy really".

My eyes opened wide at his words and i pulled my sheet a bit higher to cover myself up , his hungry look made me blush and fidget.

I've been looked at like that before but not this intensely, his look was deep and filled with another emotion I could only describe as a look of love , it was tender like I was the only thing that existed in the world , something very special.

The look made my heart race , I looked down and fiddled with my fingers , long ,thick fingers lifted my chin up.

"Dali, always look up , don't be so timid, your much stronger than this I can tell . Anytime you feel timid think about me , I'll always protect you, is that clear?" I nodded almost close to tears , this was the first time someone has ever spoken to me in such a manner , so tender and caring.

His eyes moved to my lips , I looked into his eyes , my gaze not weaving . Slowly he bend down but then a knock sounded from the door. "Room service", the hotel staff lady spoke.

Sthe, cursed , "why are they only coming just as I was about to taste my future?". He spoke those words with a sigh. I blushed even harder , "you look so ripe my pale beauty", he said before he opened the door .

He glared at the woman who entered the room , she bowed to him and placed the food cart in the middle of the room before she ran out like her behind was on fire.

"She is finally gone, go take a shower and fix up, it's time for hunting" . "Your really taking me with you?" I asked with shinning eyes , he chuckled a bit and nodded , "oh thank you" I said and threw myself in his arms for a hug , my face burned even more when I realised what I had done .

"I'm so sorry" , "I don't mind the more you fall into my arms the better and easier it is to keep you closer to me" . Our eyes remained locked , "come on go and take a shower" he reminded.

I nodded as he let me down from his embrace. I ran to the bathroom and took a warm shower. Soon I finished and walked out of the room my feet took me straight to my closet.

"Dali, what did I say about being naked infront of me?" Sthe, asked his gaze more preditorious than ever before . It made me whimper , I watched as he stood up and walked with a powerful stance towards me.

I gripped the towel tighter around me and gulped. Why did he look like he was going to eat me alive? "Sthe", I spoke, hoping to turn his attention from whatever he was thinking with that look in his eyes.

"You so stubborn, you never listen to a simple warning, now look your making me go insane". He conered me to a wall and I looked up at him, "I'm sorry" I apologized looking down again.

It was weird how he made me feel a little submissive to him. He lifted my chin up then bend down, his lips met mine and my eyes widened in shock. "What are...?" I tried to speak but he deepened the kiss that I finally moaned.

The sensation going through my body was so alien that I pulled back from the kiss. "Stop" I begged my hands on his wide, masculine chest.

"Don't worry I won't finish you off today, in the not so distant future it will surely happen". My heart thumbed at that and I could do nothing but stare at him. "Put on your clothes so we can get going, the guys can get a bit restless".

I nodded as he moved away from me, it was so strange how I found myself missing his warmth. I almost wanted to pull him back, after I was ready, we had breakfast then left.

The young man were indeed waiting for us, well for Sthe, as they began moving as soon as they saw his imposing figure. We walked for awhile, I felt a bit tired but kept moving, I never knew walking through a jungle could be so exhausting.

Finally we made it to the hunting grounds. All of them held their hunting pistols, looking at the dangerous weapon I felt a bit intimidated.

"Here hold one for yourself", Sthe, said, holding out a pistol to me, I hesitated for a moment then took it. It felt so heavy in my hands but I held it. Slowly the hunting began, they caught a wild bore and some dears.

Sthe, seemed especially on a roll, I was sad, I did not manage to catch a single animal. Sthe, finally came to my side, he was not alone though, he was holding a semi adult rabbit, white and grey stripes engulfed it's small body.

It looked at me pitifully, well I thought it did. I looked at Sthe, "what are going to do with it?", "Cook it of course" he replied like it was the most obvious thing ever.

"No please don't" he looked at me confused, "what should I do with it then Dali?", "Please give it to me". He raised his brow at me, "and what do I get in return for that?", "You'll be the first one to taste my cooking after Mariam, teaches me".

"Sounds like a good bargain, the food come with a kiss right?" My cheeks flamed at that question. "Why are you so shameless?" I asked with a low whine. "Hey I'll take what I can when I can. So is that a deal Dali?" I was a bit hesitant but finally nodded my head slowly.

He placed the rabbit in my arms the poor thing was shaking, it was really heartbreaking. "Oh dear, your okay, that monster won't lay a hand on you again".

Sthe, rolled his eyes at me, "of cause I'll just suggest a few rabbit dishes to Lebo, so she can cook you little

rabbit". The poor thing shook even more making me scold at Sthe.

He just laughed and I shook my head with a sigh. "You can be such a jerk sometimes", "I just love teasing you Dali, all your expressions are so cute". My cheeks flamed some more.

We finally joined the rest of the man and they stared at me strangely. "Why are you holding our meal so sweetly?" One asked making me hold Bonnie, tighter. I stepped back with a slight pout , Bonnie, was not a meal , he was my new friend.

"That rabbit is not for eating" said Sthe, his voice stern and filled with conviction . "If you so much as try to eat his rabbit , you'll be punished". The guys visibly shook .

They all seemed afraid of Sthe, which made me feel safer with him so I moved closer to him . He smirked, his arms wrapped around my slender waist . "Caught you little rabbit".

His words send shivers down my spine , in a good way though.

The guys began to gather the animals together in a heap and picked them up. They looked at me who was only holding a small rabbit with a frown.

"Are you not going to help pale boy?" One asked, I looked at them then the animals and moved to one it seemed a bit smaller than the others so I thought I would be able to pick it up.

I was wrong, finally after a long struggle I got it up, it was hard holding it and Bonnie, at the same time.

They seemed dissatisfied seeing me carrying just one animal, "are you carrying one?" Another asked. I began to wonder did these people think I was the rock or the hulk?.

I could not carry too many animals I was not in that good a shape. I looked down in shame, how can I be so weak and still call myself a man.

They caught the animals, I could not even catch one, now it was hard to even help them carry at least a few. I was really disappointed in myself.

"I'm sorry", I spoke in a low voice. "It's fine let's get moving before it gets dark", said Sthe. The men nodded, we began to walk to the village.

Let me tell you, I had never felt so tired before. I heaved, deep breaths to the point I thought I could not breathe anymore. We finally got to the top of the mountain.

I thought they would stop for a rest, but I was wrong, truly wrong. They kept walking down the mountain. Finally I was ready to drop, so I lost my balance, I was about to fall but Sthe, caught me and his eyes were not happy.

"Why did you not tell me you were tired Dali?" His question made me look down at my feet. "I'm sorry but I did not want to delay you guys since it's getting late and we have to be at the village soon".

"Don't be stupid tell me when you are feeling uncomfortable and I will help you out. Don't ever do this again do you hear me?, You could have gotten hurt".

I nodded in shame I always worried Sthe, it really was not a good feeling to worry someone else.

Sthe, put down the animals he was carrying and took mine as well, he tied them up together and finally looked at me, get on, he gestured to his back.

My cheeks turned red and I thought he was joking, I mean he could not be serious, what will the others think seeing me being carried like a child.

I shook my head "no", he glared at me, "do it or I'll hold you now and kiss you like crazy". That threat made my eyes go wide, I held onto Bonnie, tighter.

I got on Sthe's back and he stood up. He held the animals while he gave me a piggyback ride.

How strong was this man? I asked myself, I mean I could barely carry one deer but he was carrying me along with the animals and did not even break a sweat. I relaxed on his back, feeling comfortable.

The men looked at us strangely , some glared at me and I understood why , I was making their prince do extra work but it was not my fault he volunteered. I hid my face on the crook of his neck .

Sthe, moved without a care in the world as if carrying another man was the most normal thing in the world.

He carried me all the way to the village everyone stopped doing what they were doing and stared weirdly at us .

Thandi, looked at me with a raised brow, she also looked somewhat concerned . "Are you okay?" she mouthed the question to me . I nodded , Sthe, took me to where they place their hunted prey then he took me to the hotel .

"You can put me down now" I said really about to die from embarrassment . "Dali keep quiet" , I did as told and just lay my head on his shoulder. My eyes slowly dropped and I fell into a dreamless sleep.

I woke early in the morning and sighed remembering what happened the day before . This day was going to be hell I thought to myself.

I took a slow shower then had my breakfast before I left the hotel . The hotel staff seemed to be looking at me strangely and it made me really uncomfortable.

I looked down and walked around the village , so many people looked at me and some even talked in their native tongue .

I knew for sure I was their main topic , I wanted burry myself and die in shame , I should not have listened to Sthe . As I was walking I was stopped by a voice calling my name.

"Ajax!!" I turned and saw Mariam, running towards me. She finally reached me and smiled , "hello Ajax" , "hey Mariam", "look don't look so down they'll stop talking about it soon enough. How about we start our cooking lessons today?"

I nodded now in a much better mood than before.

I followed her to the palace , we went to an outside shed . "First you should learn how to make a fire" , I looked at her , "really?", "Yes, tie this around your head" .

She said giving me a long cloth which she helped me tie my hair up with. "You look like a wife now" , she joked , well I hoped she was joking .

She began to show me how to make a fire and I swear the smoke almost killed me . I kept coughing , this was so not good for my health , I thought.

She told me to help blow the fire and I did , by the time the fire was on , my eyes were stinging and red with tears . My throat was dry to the point I had to drink a large gallop of water.

Mariam, then showed me how to cook samp and beans . She had already left the beans and samp to moisten over night so we just had to cook it .

Then she taught me how to cook malamogodu(tribe) the word was long so I could not pronounce it . The tribe was really bad smelling that I could not take it . I ran out of the shed and went to throw up.

"This is nasty Mariam", I whined , "yes it does smell bad but it tastes good" . I pouted and got to work cleaning the tribe . I truly acted like a city maiden with long nails .

Finally the food was boiling in the pots. She taught me how to spice it up and it smelled good as it simered in the pots . A true African delicacy.

"Dali", a voice called out to me , of cause I knew who it was . I got out of the shed and looked at Sthe , "have you had rest yet?" He asked walking to me , I shook my head no while wiping my hands with a dish washing cloth .

"Then we will go rest" , "no I need to finish cooking" I said now looking at Mariam, hoping she will help me out. "Brother in law we are pretty busy cooking for the family" , "his done" Sthe, simply declared .

"I'm the one who asked her to teach me you know" , "i know but your not following my instructions" . "Have I got myself a husband ?" I asked with a frown .

He smirked and walked up to me , he bend down and whispered , "yes you've gained yourself a husband Dali". I froze at those words , "your stuck with me for the rest of your life, try to run away, I will find you Dali".

My cheeks turned red , what have I gotten myself into? I lamented on my life choices. The man was serious and I knew it. Let's go for a walk he said and took my hand and gently dragged me forward .

Days passed as I was in South Africa . Soon I began to notice something strange , people in the village were in a good mood .

Woman made haste to fix up their daughters , man kept giving their sons advice . The whole village was bustling with joy.

I went to Mariam, to find out what was happening . Mariam, seemed to be happy to see me , "Ajax, welcome dear" . "Hello Mariam, you look happy this fine day".

"I'm happy in a week the maiden dance will commence". "The maiden dance?", "Yes, it is a very important tradition of our Zulu people. Initially it's called the snake(Reed) dance, where young maidens go and show off their beauty and dance moves to attract eligible bachelors. It's quite a fun event,your coming by the way" .

"I'm allowed?" I asked a bit skeptically . "Yes your allowed", "is it not sacred then?", "It is but your like a part of our village so your invited". I nodded , "what will I wear then?", "I'll borrow you some of our traditional clothes dear you don't have to worry.

Maybe you'll catch yourself a wife" she said with a smile . The thought did not make me comfortable , which maiden was willing to accept a weak man? On top of that I was white .

The maiden will surely be ridiculed , I nodded anyway and smiled . "Where is your brother in law?" I asked as I had not seen Sthe, anywhere .

"Probably in the jungle training , I swear his a descendant of Shaka Zulu the great king of the Zulu tribe . He must not be happy that the maiden dance is coming" , "why?" I asked curiously .

"He hates to attend the dance, he simply feels it's a waste of time to go, as no maiden has ever captured his attention. This time probably he'll catch himself a pretty maiden with respectful manners".

The thought of Sthe, finding someone else kind of made me feel a painful ache deep inside my chest. I smiled falsely and felt very confused , I thought I was a straight man , why was I feeling this way towards a man? .

It was simply confusing, I let out a breathy sigh . "We should cook something different today" Mariam, kept on talking while I was busy lost in my own thoughts .

"Come , come we'll cook now" ,she said pulling me by the hand leading me towards the cooking shed. "Mariam, can I ask you something?" I asked nervously .

"Ask away dear" , "is it wrong if a man begins to develop feelings for another man?" .

Mariam, looked at me then sighed , "we are all different Ajax, so we will feel differently and we will love different people. I believe love is love, no matter the gender,as long as you truly love the person.

Most people might say it's wrong but what do they know? They are entitled to their own opinions so that should not matter . Love comes naturally, when it comes Ajax , embrace it don't cornderm it" .

I nodded , "thank you Mariam" . "Your welcome now let's teach you how to cook for your future husband" , my eyes widened at her words .

"I never said I was in love with a man or that I loved men ". "You don't have to say it ,the look in your eyes says it all" . I blushed at that and bit my lip , my eyes narrowed down .

I pouted, "don't look at my eyes", "how can I not?, their such a pretty blue" . I reddened at that . "Let's go and cook and please stop teasing me" . "I'm sorry I'll stop" we spent the whole day cooking .

That was until arms held me from behind ,making me let out a startled yelp. Mariam, looked up and bowed . "Brother in law" , "hello Mariam" , Sthe, said in greeting, my body shivered hearing his deep voice.

I turned in his arms and gasped , he was shirtless making me turn tomato red . "W...why a..are y..you not wearing a shirt?" I asked my voice breaking a little.

"I just came from the river Dali, why would I be wearing a shirt?". "To cover up" ,I said scolding him now , "oh ,is there a problem if I'm shirtless?" I did not answer him and just pouted looking at the ground .

"Alright then, no need to be upset, I'll go into the house and put on a shirt then" . He coaxed , I found myself nodding like I had just won a fight over my husband. That thought greatly surprised me.

Mariam, looked at me mouth agape . I turned to her after Sthe, left and went into the house.

"Why do you look so surprised?", I asked her , "you just literally made the scariest, most stabbon man put on a shirt".

"Sthe, is quite nice" , I said looking at her weirdly, "oh my dear, only you can say such words as we've never seen him act nice" .

I was unsure of what to say next , "is the food ready?" I decided to ask instead . "Yes we'll eat in a few minutes , I need to go and inform mother".

I nodded , I did not feel comfortable with the queen mother , she had never really shown a positive attitude towards me.

I fastened the cloth on my head and sat down infront of the shed .

Mariam, soon came with the queen mother, "why are you here?", She asked looking at me hatefully . I bowed , "I helped Mariam, prepare the meals" . "Who asked you to do that? Don't you know , she cooks because she is a married woman who needs to take care of her home and husband .

Why do you cook? Don't you know what man do?, If you don't have anything to do you might as well help the man with their chores .

Their getting the field ready for the festival, you can go and help them out, instead of doing work meant for a woman" .

My head was bowed and I felt like crying , the woman reminded me of my father . He was the same ,he said cooking was for women , why could I not cook ? Why could I not sew clothes? .

I believed a man can do what a woman can and a woman can do what man can do . "Mother , I will not tolerate your tone while talking to him", Sthe's voice came like a song calming my heart down.

The queen mother looked at him , "son , the pale boy is a man, he needs to do what men do". "Who said that mother? If he wants to cook ,he will cook , no one can stop him , not even me. Is that clear mother ?".

His tone was stern ,that the queen mother looked out of words , she looked at me as if saying I was the one at fault.

I looked down again to avoid her eyes , my timid nature coming into play. Sthe ,walked up to me , "Dali , what did I tell you about looking down? " , "Not to" I replied automatically as if it was programmed into my system.

"Then why are you looking down?", "I can't raise my head infront of royalty", "Dali , you will not bow to anyone , not even me" .

He raised my chin with his hand , "if you do that again ,I'll punish you" , those last three words were whispered into my ears. My cheeks flamed.

He again turned to his mother , "if you are not willing to eat food cooked by him then it's okay . I'll eat all of

it no matter the taste and I'll finish it , after all I can't let Dali's food go to waste".

My heart bloomed at that , a warm feeling spread through my chest. This man is simply the best , I thought to myself. "Mariam, helped cook, ofcourse the family has to eat" .

"Let's go in Dali, they will dish up". I nodded and smiled , "Sthe ?", "Yes Dali?", "Soon I have to go back home" . Sthe, turned , "don't worry I'll find you" . I wanted to ask him how he'll do that but it seemed the topic was closed.

The king sat at the table and smiled when he saw me , I bowed in greeting only to hear an angry growl from behind me .

"Why don't you listen Dali?" Sthe, asked , voice deeper which sent shivers down my spine. "His your father Sthe", "I know" , "his the king",I said to make him understand.

"Yes he is", Sthe, acknowledged, "Ndlovu Kazi (queen) that's what you are to me" . I did not understand what he meant by that but it sounded serious. The king looked at Sthe ,

"his the one you've chosen?", Sthe nodded . "Yes father" . I just wondered , what was I chosen for.

The week past quickly and finally the day of the maiden dance came . Everyone was gathered at the field there was food , music and dancing .

men were sitting around drinking traditional beer , the women were busy with the pots others watched over the hyper active children.

I loved children and even thought of having my own one day. That was only a dream though because I could not find a good woman to marry , all of them were after something when they got with me.

I sighed as I thought of my mesireble life , I was rich , should I not be happy? .As I sat there deep in thought I felt a slight tap on my shoulder , I looked up to find Thandi.

I gave her a small smile, "hey Thandi", "hello dear, now tell me ,why do you look so sad on such a joyous occasion?".

"I just reflected on my life and it's horrible", Thandi , smiled , "life can be like that sometimes , just make the best of it when you can".

I nodded and smiled wider and then looked for Sthe , he was nowhere to be found i frowned not seeing him. "Where is Sthe?" I asked Thandi, "Sthe?", Thandi asked confused, "the prince" ,I clarified.

Her eyes widened , "you can call him with such familiarity?", She looked honestly shocked. "He asked me to call him like that , anyway I'll go and join the men" , she nodded and walked away.

I was about to go join the men ,when a voice called out to me . I turned and Lebo, was standing there , it was odd to see her and not Mariam.

"Mariam, said she needed your help in the kitchen Ajax" , "then I'll go with you now" . I followed Lebo, to the shed . Mariam, smiled seeing me , "food would not taste the same if it was not handled by you dear" Mariam ,said making me smile.

I folded the sleeves of my shirt and got to work . She borrowed me a cloth to tie on my hair and I thanked her. We Cooked for a few hours and the ceremony was already commencing.

I finally went to look and was just in time for the snake dance as they call it , the women lined up behind one another and held each other's hips .

I noticed they were not wearing anything to cover their top halves and their necks ,hand and feet had coloured beads .

I looked at Mariam , "why are they half naked?", "It's tradition to show their virgins". I nodded , "man don't need to do anything to show their virgins right?", "No dear they don't".

"Tell me though is there still a man whose a virgin in this day and age ?", "uh..", I had no reply to that . Would she laugh if I told her I was one? I hoped not but I was still not prepared to take the risk.

"come let's go and join the royal family" , I nodded and followed her. Young men were grinning widely I'm guessing already knowing which bride to pick .

I just smiled and clapped , farcinated by the way they danced .

The dance was finally over and the young men stood and began to do some poems in Zulu , I had no idea what they were saying but seeing as the young women were blushing , I just knew it was something romantic.

Damn if only someone would make a poem just for me too. Oh God ,what was I thinking, I'm not a young maiden .

The young men put beads on the young women they had chosen . Thandi, was also chosen by a handsome young man , our gazes met and I gave her a thumbs up, she grinned and nodded looking at me.

Nina , the girl who I'm pretty sure hates me was chosen , her man was slightly average but he had a good body that showed he can provide well enough for her.

Suddenly everything stopped and I looked up to see what had caught everyone's attention. I gasped as I saw Sthe, taking powerful strides towards me , the look in his eyes made my heart race.

He had such a strong ,yet gentle determination. He came over to me and stood before me , I saw he had beads in his hands .

It seemed as if time had stopped, he began to say a poem in Zulu that I had no idea what it said but by his tone of voice I know it was crazy romantic. It buflud me that he was reciting it to me .

I was stunned looking at him after he said his poem , he took the beads and placed them slowly on me .

He first began with my wrists then my neck ,then my feet before he looked into my eyes causing my heart to race even faster.

He placed the last beads on my head , "Dali , I know it's too soon to ask but will you be mine?"

His voice was sincere and for some reason I could not find it in me to refuse his proposal so I nodded , he grinned then picked me up into his arms and span me around before he kissed me deeply .

I grinned happily in his embrace , people clapped seemingly happy for us but I did see a few disapproving faces .

The two most prominent ones were the queen mother and Nina's faces. I knew those two women hated me.

"This can never happen!" , the queen mother spoke out , "my son will not marry a man , the fact that his white is even worse.

My son will marry a beautiful woman who I will approve of not a man who does not even meet my requirements in a bride.

Son , that boy won't be able to give you children, will you live the rest of your life without hearing a cry from your own child?"

I looked down at her words , she was telling the truth ,I was not worthy to call myself Sthe's wife . I won't be able to give him children , how could I have the heart to make him suffer like that , a small petit woman would be a good choice for him.

"Who do you think deserves to be my bride mother?" His voice was calm as he asked the question .

The queen mother smiled at his question , "Sebukelo's daughter Nina" .

She seemed proud as she said those words making me wonder , if I was a woman and black would she have accepted me as her son's bride? Nina, looked smug as she heard the queen mother's choice of bride.

"So you don't approve of my chosen bride because you think that woman is the best choice for me?", "Yes son".

"Tell me mother what's so good about your chosen maiden?", "She is a strong woman, she can cook , she is also a virgin and best of all she is a full and beautiful woman. Son the most important part about her is she can give you a son" .

Sthe ,looked at his mother , "my chosen bride can do all those things you have mentioned". "That is impossible son , he is not even a virgin, which man is still a virgin in this day and age?" There goes the big question again that made me a bit insecure.

Sthe, looked at me and smirked , "and what makes you think he is not a virgin mother?" I looked down with pink coloured cheeks. Could the man embarass me anymore? I asked myself.

Everyone looked at me and Mariam, smirked , "mother pardon my impudence but may I speak for a few minutes?", The queen mother looked at her with a glare but non the less agreed.

"I can guarantee that this dear has never been touched, I've asked him before about his sex life and he looked a bit bashful blushing all the way.

A man no matter how shy can take an opportunity to atleast show that his had some action these past few years. His too stiff to have had sex with anyone.

Then again after their traditional marriage brother in law can confirm wheather his bride is as pure as a ripe apple" .

My eyes widened I never knew Mariam, could be so insightful yet peveted . My cheeks were so red I'm sure me and a tomato could be mistaken as twins.

Sthe, looked at me and smiled , seeing that I was put at ease even if it was just for a little bit. "I approve of their marriage", said the king, leaving all of us stunned .

The King's words had left us all stunned . No one spoke , silence was all that could be heard at that moment.

"My son has chosen a bride, no matter the colour or gender of the bride I still accept my son's choice!!".

The King's voice boomed so everyone could hear his decision. "Chief I'm afraid your making a big mistake", the queen mother refuted the King's words.

"Woman I see no wrong in my son's choice of bride" , "I happen to disagree chief , the boy cannot be a suitable bride for our son.

I mean look at him, take a good look at him , how can he meet the standards of worthy Zulu bride. Our customs are different from his , he knows nothing about our language and culture.

His simply a foreigner from some country , we don't know him, our ancestors don't know him .

I wonder , how can you accept him so easily chief ? Our son will be ridiculed by others for taking a male bride , can't you see that" . The queen mother spoke , she was supposedly trying to make the king see reason and take back his decision .

The king was silent for a moment making me hold my breath , I truly thought he would take the Queen's side but to my astonishment he did not.

"I stand by my words woman , nothing you say will make me go against my words as the king and your husband".

The queen looked angered to death at that moment , her hands were actually shaking. She shook her head and glared at me , "tell me white boy, did you bewitch my son and husband?" her words left me astonished .

"There is no way my son could fall in love with a man" . She still insisted refusing to believe what was infront of her eyes.

"I will never accept this marriage, I will not bless it, son tomorrow I'm going to Ungaku the traditional doctor , I'm going to consult with him and find a way to save your soul from his binding".

After spitting out those hurtful words to me she stormed out of the ceremony. My eyes were shinning with unshered tears . My thoughts were all over the place , I began to question myself .

Did I really want to marry Sthe? I mean I did not even know the man at all .

I looked at everyone around me holding different expressions and my spirit hit rock bottom. I was the one who had caused that , now there was no music playing , no children laughing , no men or women dancing .

The place was filled with a cold silence. Still lost in my negative thoughts I felt strong arms wrap around me and my heart skipped a beat .

"Dali, don't you dare think about going back on your word, you promised yourself to me and I will make sure your mine no matter what" .

"Sthe, what about your mother?, What about the whole village?". "Dali, not everyone is against us" .

I knew his words were true but still I felt guilty , he was going to be looked down upon by his people all because he wanted to marry me .

What was so good about me anyway ,that he would want to sacrifice his people's loyalty in order to be with me?.

I was weak , pale , and a little skinny if I do say so myself ,so what was so good about me ?.

This question began to plague my mind and it made me uncertain , why did Sthe, want to marry me ? Why did he want me? I looked into his eyes and all I saw was tenderness .

Was what I was seeing true ? All those unanswered questions made me feel a little suffocated. I finally made up my mind to ask him the most pressing questions of all.

"Sthe?", "Yes Dali?", "Why do you want me as your bride? What is so good about about me?". I wanted an answer to erase all my doubts .

Sthe, looked at me , "do you really want to know ?" The answer might take some time. His expression was serious it made me a little uneasy, but I was ready to hear what ever answer he had for me . "Yes ".

Sthe, looked at everyone around us , "we'll be leaving first enjoy the ceremony".

He then pulled me away to what I have now marked as our special spot , the big Oak tree. We both sat down and he looked up at the sky as if reminiscing about something.

"Three years ago my grandmother died , she was ill for a very long time . No one in the village could find a cure for her illness, I loved my grandmother you know , she was the only one who understood me .

She often told me I grew up a little too soon for her liking but she was proud of me because I was just like my late grandfather. My grandmother was a seer , she could tell each and everyone of us our destiny.

What she saw was often not good, because of that our people branded her a witch . My grandmother was not liked in the village, one morning just before she took her last breath she sent my father to go and call me .

Like the good grandson I'm I ran to my grandmother's hut . She was pale and you could see she was just barely holding on to her life .

When I got into the hut she smiled , 'Susu' , that's how she used to call me . "I have something to tell you" , I nodded sitting next to her bed holding her frail hand.

"You will not find your bride amongst our people",my father gasped at her words . "Does that mean he will not marry mother?", Father had asked , "oh no son , he will.

He has a chosen bride, in three years your bride will come son and he will be perfect for you" . "Pardon me mother but did you say he?", "Yes dear , Susu, will marry a man our ancestors have chosen for him .

The man will be a good man though a bit timid just patient Susu" . I looked at her silently and nodded , "what about children?" My father asked, my grandmother just laughed and looked at me .

I saw the answer in her eyes and actually smiled . That is when she took her last breath .

Three years later you came ,from the first time I saw you laying on the ground after you were scared by the wild bore, I knew you were my bride and I fell for you at first sight" .

As he said the last part he looked at me and I looked down blushing all the way up to my ears .

His story touched me and I knew at that moment I was made to belong to Sthe , only one problem , I was straight all my life how was I going to love a man .

Actually loving him was not a problem ,the problem was being held by him intimately , the thought scared me a bit .

No one could blame me though I was after all a virgin , huh , us virgins have it bad with our inexperience you know.

Anyway me and Sthe, stayed silently under the oak tree and just basked in each other's company.

My thoughts began to drift to my own family , I knew for a fact they were never going to accept Sthe . No offence to my parents but they were not exactly the best role models you could find out there .

They were , homophobic , racist and simply cruel to their own son . I could not believe such people were actually my parents , I was simply afraid of them and that says a lot coming from me .

"My parents will never accept our marriage", I told Sthe, with a disappointed sigh .

"My mother does not accept our marriage yet I'm still going to marry you , what does that say about me?" I looked at him , "your strong?", "No Dali, it means I care about You and I do not care what anyone else says about our marriage what matters is what we say about it" .

I nodded after a moment his words made sense. Just then a scream sounded around the village . I stood in a Sturt .

My mind was put at ease by his story but still as the marriage preparations went on, I began to feel I was in danger somehow and I never doubted my instincts.

Sthe, did not seem to be worried though I wondered did he not feel what I felt . I felt like a dark cloud was looming above our heads.

To tell the truth I had never been a spiritual person but in that moment I felt a strong need to pray to God and that is exactly what I did.

"Dear why do you have that worried look on your face ?" Mariam, had asked as we were fetching water from the river .

"I have a bad feeling that's all", I told her looking at the mountains as if they could take away the uneasy feeling brewing in my gut.

"That does not sound good at all", she told me looking a little worried. "I know , I don't know if I should voice my Feelings to Sthe" . "I suggest you do , maybe he'll know how to ease your troubled mind".

I nodded agreeing with her suggestion. Just then we passed a couple of young women walking to the river . One began to clap her hands mockingly, she looked me up and down with disgust .

"Are you not ashamed of yourself ?, stealing the prince from his rightful wife . You dare to still show your face around this village , you truly have guts white boy .

Look at you , your not even a beautiful sight to behold yet you still prance around the village with that ugly appearance of yours" .

The other women behind her laughed happily as she spouted all those hurtful words to me. "Boitumelo, stop your nonsense !" Mariam, yelled her voice full of authority.

"You dare spout such words infront of royalty? Have you no respect?". At those words uttered by Mariam, the young women seemed frightened , they all bowed down to Mariam , "uxolo nkosazana(pardon us princess)" they said as they continued to bow .

"You may stand , now let me warn you , if I ever catch you spouting such hateful words from your mouth again I will report you to the king and you will be punished".

We walked away from the young women but I could still hear them whispering in their native tongue. I was truly dejected , it did not help that the queen mother was even more hostile towards me.

Her constant glares sent shivers down my spine . As soon as we got to the palace we placed the water pots down and I sighed . Sthe, had gone out hunting with the other men of the village and even though I refused to admit it , I missed him .

Later that night I could not sleep , I was feeling restless for some reason , the restlessness sent my heart racing with fear somehow.

Suddenly my eyes closed by themselves , I could not believe it , I was awake but at the same time I was not . I could hear the owl crying outside which made me even more scared.

My hair stood on end and it felt like it was being pulled somehow , I felt like crying honestly . Just then everything stopped the sounds , the hair pulling and even the fear that was eating away at me .

I fell into a deep slumber and began to dream, well atleast I thought I was dreaming. "**Hello child**" , a voice echoed through my mind , I found myself in a room full of clouds .

"Who is there ?" I asked my voice steady as if I was not afraid. "**I'm your husband's Granma**" I looked up to see a beautiful old woman , her white hair was let loose and she had a kind smile on her face.

" I don't have much time dear i just came to give you a gift " at those words white beads appeared out of thin air startling me , she laughed happily and looked at me.

"These beads will protect you from evil , there are those who are trying to break what is not meant to be broken . With these beads no evil shall befall you , I warn you now young child , when the month of your vication is done , go back home" .

At those last words I paused I can't go back home ,"what about Sthe?", I asked her .

" Your bounded by destiny , he will find you , do not worry yourself over such small problems . Now I'm going to send you back to the real world since the land of the dead is no place for the living" .

At her words my eyes once again closed , and I feel into a deep sleep .

I woke with a faint gasp . My hands instantly flew to my neck , it was there , the bead necklace . That means what I thought was a dream was actually real , I really met Sthe's grandma .

I saw my very first ghost , this realisation was kind of creepy once I thought about it carefully . I sighed knowing nothing will come from me overthinking what had happened.

I took a warm shower lost in my own thoughts . Just when I was almost done with my breakfast , my door was opened roughly . I rolled my eyes seeing it was just Mariam .

"Brake the door won't you and also give me a heart attack , let's see how you will explain to Sthe, how his fiance died".

Mariam, laughed at that , "oh my, my scared baby has finally grown some claws" . After her words ,she suddenly turned serious . "I will teach you all about what is expected of you at your umabo(wedding ceremony)" .

I nodded and listened to what she had to say . "There are a couple of things that are expected of the bride during their wedding ceremony . First it's the gifts that are given to the groom's family that are written on the list" .

I was confused , "what list?", "A list ,is the names of the family members that are supposed to receive gifts" .

"What kinds of gifts are expected from the bride?" I asked a bit worried , "it's actually simple things like , blankets , beer pots , grass mats and some furniture".

Mariam, gave me a peace of paper with names written on it , "this is the list" . I looked over the names and to be honest I only recognised a few , Mariam , Lebo and their husbands' names .

I nodded at the list since the names were only twenty , with how the queen mother was out for my blood I thought the list would have a hundred names and ridiculous demands.

"There's one problem though dear" , I looked at her , "what is it ?", "Your family , there is a ritual your father needs to perform to show he agrees to give his son to our family" .

I nodded then sighed , "me and my family are not on good terms , especially me and my father".

"You have to think of something Ajax, because mother is serious and wants to sabotage your marriage to brother in law" .

I sighed once again at what she said , then suddenly a name came to my mind , Allen Tailor , my grandfather. "I have one person I can asked" , Mariam, nodded , "call them now dear".

I took out my phone and scrolled through my contracts . I could not remember exactly when was the last time I had seen or spoken to my grandfather.

I think I was about eight or nine , the whole point was it was a long time ago. My grandfather stopped coming to our house after him and grandmother divorced , to tell the truth I didn't even know the reason for their

divorce.

The phone rang three times before he picked up. "Hello", his voice sounded deeper than I remembered it to be .

"Hello grandfather", "grandson?", He asked his voice sounding a bit emotional , a ping of guilt grew inside of me . "I'm sorry i haven't been in contact , I've been busy with work" .

"Who is that bear?" A voice of a man I did not recognise asked . "Ajax , my grandson" , grandfather responded . "Oh little Ajax" , the man chuckled , his chuckle was pleasing to the ears.

They seemed to have forgotten about me though as they were lost in their own convesation . "Grandfather did you forget about me ?", I had a pout on my lips at this point .

"Oh sorry grandson, so anyway let's get straight to the point , I don't mean to be rude but why did you call?" . "I need a favour", "what is it ?", "Can you stand in place of my father at my wedding ceremony? I need you to give me away".

"Your getting married?", He asked sounding a bit surprised , "yes grandfather". "Why do you need me to give you away though, is it not the bride that needs to be given away?", "I'm the bride grandfather".

At my response grandfather went quite for a few moments , just as I thought he would hang up on me he laughed. "Why are you laughing ?", I asked sounding concerned , thinking the news I had just dropped on him drove him insane .

"It's funny how my son kicked me out of your life so you won't catch the so called 'gay disease' only for you to catch it all on your own".

His words made me come to a realisation, my grandfather was gay , I was not the only one so a feeling of happiness overcome me .

"So are you going to come grandfather?", "I would not miss your wedding for the world . I'll bring along my family, my husband Titan and our son Sona" . After we hang up I looked at Mariam , "my family is coming".

Our wedding day came quicker than expected , my grandfather had come a few days before that. I was amazed when I met him , his husband and my uncle.

My uncle is very identical to my father I found out their twins which was kind of odd since he seemed very different from my father. Looking at him I finally saw how my father would look if he tried to smile .

Very handsome. Mariam, taught them about the roles they had to play at the wedding ceremony. Since my wedding day had finally come , I sat on a chair as Mariam and Lebo fixed me up.

They put all the beads on me and the last touch was the traditional hat . I had to admit I looked good , too good really.

We finally left the house and the ceremony began , first was the sitting on the mat , then the gifts , the bed and the speeches.

Throughout the whole ceremony , the queen mother's face was unsightly and Nina, openly glared at me , talk about making me uncomfortable at my own wedding ceremony.

Finally we had the food and drinks , I was happy about that part , I love food after all. My husband had his signature stoic expression throughout the whole ceremony.

I did not mind though , I liked that only I got to see his other expressions. Mariam, looked at me and smirked , her expression was really mischievous.

"Ajax , I've got condoms you know" my eyes went wide at that , "why do you have those ?" I asked my voice all but a whisper.

"For protection ofcourse, tonight might get heated" , my cheeks spotted a red hue at her words , I hoped Sthe, did not hear her . I did not want him to get any ideas , my chrysanthemum was on the line , I was not going to risk it.

"Sister in law , we won't be needing those so you can keep them , I plan to make him round with my child you know".

My eyes widened once more , was I really married to such a shameless man? I began to question my decision once more. Strangely in my heart I felt very happy , "round with your child? You must be insane".

The queen mother said with an unhappy tone of voice. She began to laugh, "enjoy tonight , you don't know it might be your last" . Her words send cold shivers up my spine .

I felt my body tremble because of the sudden chill that washed all over me . Everyone looked at me with pitiful eyes and I hated it. My grandfather looked at me too and his eyes were asking what was going on .

I just shrugged as if it was nothing , but I knew it was something , something beyond me . The woman was after my life , I touched the bead necklace that grandma gave to me and instantly a strange calm washed over me .

I avoided the queen mother's eyes the whole ceremony , either than that ,my wedding day was a blast if I do say so myself . Immediately after the ceremony Sthe, picked me up bridal style and took me to our marital

hut.

I was really nervous , he placed me gently on the soft bed and looked into my eyes , his eyes glimmering with a certain fire filled passion I've never seen before and slowly he leaned down and our lips met .

I pulled him closer and like that he made love to me ever so gently.

After I finally lost my innocence to my husband , I slept in his embrace. The problem was I could not sleep no matter how much I tried .

There was just something telling me I should not sleep. That feeling like my hair was being pulled came again .

I was frightened, I tightened my hold on Sthe, who was sleeping like the dead , did the man not feel in danger I wondered .

As I was trying to ignore the feeling ,it got stronger , so I opened my eyes only to meet with a silhouette of a person near the door , the thing that unnerved me was how they just stood there not saying a word .

Suddenly their hand raised as if they were planning to attack me or something , at that I screamed , well I tried to . I clutched onto Sthe, hoping he'd wake up , but no , as I said , he slept like the dead .

As I thought my life was over , the bead necklace on my neck began to shake . As it shook ,the person stopped their movements then screamed before they disappeared.

That is when Sthe, decided to wake up , for some reason I was angry at him . So I did the next best thing , I hit him on his chest , over and over again , he did not stop me .

After that I felt like my hands were broken , I began to wonder again , was the man's chest made out of steel?.

"Dali , are you calm now?" He asked and I cursed myself for finding his voice sexy .

"Don't talk , that person could have killed me and what where you doing when I was fighting for my life? Oh yeah you were sleeping! Peacefully in dreamland , dreaming about , God knows what".

Sthe, looked at me surprised , "that is odd , I would have known if someone had entered our bridal hut" .

His lips formed a frown , dare I say I just wanted to kiss him at that moment , but I shook my head , chanting , pull yourself together Ajax , come on.

"Someone wants your life?" I nodded. Sthe , seemed calm after asking that question, too calm . "If I find them , they better hope their already a ghost .

You can't sleep now right?" He asked me , "yes I'm still afraid" at my words he held me tighter . "I will protect you" , after he said that he told me stories to distract me and it worked , finally I fell into a deep , dreamless sleep.

Early the next morning I woke up to find Sthe, staring at me , "well this can't get any creepier" he chuckled at that and gave me a sweet long lasting kiss that I fell into .

I smiled as we broke the kiss , "morning hubby" , "morning wife , time for breakfast". I tried to stand up but hissed as I remembered the night before's events .

I finally let go of my treasured 'V' card , "I can't walk Sthe, and I need a bath, please help me out" . He smirked , "I'll take you to your hotel room and clean you up" .

Without warning he picked me up bridal style and just walked out of our bridal hut , just like that all eyes were on us . I was so embarassed that I hid my face on the crook of his neck. "Don't worry Dali, they know you look good in my arms" . I blushed even harder at that . Damn that shameless man .

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#####hello everyone sorry I've not updated in a while I was busy with  
exams [][]
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Sthe ,took care of me the whole day after giving me a bath and i should confess I've never felt so shy before .

He hand fed me , the other thing was he carried me everywhere. It was late in the afternoon when both my grandfathers decided to visit me .

They both seemed a bit awkward seeing how Sthe ,took care of me . Grandpa Titan , spotted a sweet smile on his face everytime he looked at us then pouted looking at grandfather.

"Why do you never take care of me like that ?" He asked sounding very serious . I wanted to laugh as my grandfather tried to find the right words to coax his 'wife' , it was a truly funny sight.

My grandfather then looked at me , "this is your fault" , my eyes widened in amusement , "how is your incompetence my fault?". "Oh , you have the guts to talk to your grandfather like that" .

"No I don't but I know you won't be able to do anything to me , my husband will protect me" , I said smugly still in Sthe's arms , he was feeding me watermelon.

The melon tasted pretty sweet when he fed it to me . Grandpa Titan, once again looked at grandfather , "I'm getting myself another husband" , as he spoke he looked at Sthe , "Grandson in law, where can I find a handsome , caring and loving stud like you in this place?" .

My grandfather's jaw dropped at those words , he glared at Sthe, playfully , "don't you dare tell him or I'll introduce your wife to a lot of handsome studs".

Sthe , looked shocked which made me burst out laughing . I was cooped up in the hotel room the whole day so I finally felt it was time to go for a stroll around the village .

To tell the truth I loved walking around the village , I felt so free , well that was how I felt at first til everyone started to kind of hate me for stealing their prince.

So like that I told everyone we are going for a stroll . Sthe , had me on his back the whole time as we walked around the village.

I looked at a few women and they looked back at me with hateful looks , I could swear one even sneered at me . For some reason I did not care .

I spotted Thandi , and called out to her , she turned and smiled brightly at me . "Hey little Ajax, how was your night dear?" She asked walking up to us .

I blushed at her question and she cooed , "oh my god I've got to find Mariam , looks like I've got some juicy gossip".

I looked at her bewildered and she looked at me mischievously and winked . My eyes widened , I never thought my sweet Thandi, could be so mischievous.

"Thandi, stop hanging out with Mariam, she's a bad influence on you", I looked at her as if I was a mother scolding her child.

Everyone laughed and I introduced Thandi, to my grandfathers. That night I surprisingly fell into a deep sleep

of cause I should have known it would never be peaceful .

Grandma visited me again , **"grandchild your in grave danger , tomorrow you must leave but at night after Sthe, has gone to bed . He must not see you leave, those that are plotting against you will get what they deserve. Take care child"** .

Throughout the whole time she was talking I felt my heartbreaking, I had to leave my husband only because someone decided to place me in their black books.

That night after I woke up I silently wept as I looked at my dear husband. The husband I would have to leave behind only after two days of marriage.

The next day I spent the whole day with my husband together . I smiled brightly as if my heart was not breaking deep inside of me .

That night as I boarded the flight back home , I felt lifeless like I was just a walking corpse.

The flight went by quickly , I did not inform my parents of my arrival neither did I inform my grandfathers that I was leaving ,I just left.

For a few days I did not leave my apartment , but soon I felt like I would go crazy so I decided to go back to work. My work efficiency became even better probably because I put my all into my work .

I wanted to forget my pain even if it was for a moment. A week past just like that . I don't know how my father knew I was back but I got a call with a special invitation to dinner at an expensive restaurant.

I accepted since I knew they gave me no choice . "Mother , father and lady Jennifer" , I greeted them politely without a hint of a smile on my face .

"Sit down" , my father commanded , I did as told , "so anyway soon it will be your engagement party" . I looked at my father with lifeless eyes , I did not comment at all .

If they thought I was marrying that woman Jennifer ,they were in for a surprise.

Just as I was about to order my food the waiter came with some nasty smelling food making my stomach Chun , I stood up in a haste and ran to the bathroom , I threw up all the food I had consumed during the day .

I felt miserable , I took some minutes before I left the restaurant , I did not tell the three anything . Another week passed and I was happy I was not sick anymore , I only threw up once and I was okay after that .

I started eating anything that had carrots in It, and I hated carrots. I found it strange but still I ignored it . Then there was my mood it kept on changing in a matter of minutes.

If I see a mistake with my paperwork I would cry then I'd get angry . The whole thing was disturbing to tell the truth. My only explanation was I was too sad , so with that I got on with my days .

As a month passed , my Parents kept on putting pressure on me to get engaged to Jennifer and marry her. I wanted to just tell them I had a husband but I did not , did they deserve to know? Hell no.

I knew how they would react and I did not want to see it , Even though they were horrible parents they were still my parents and I loved them .

My grandfathers finally got back to the state and I immediately went to visit them .I asked them about my husband and I got really sad at their words , they told me Sthe, was going crazy without me and the village was in chaos.

I wanted to go to him and hold him in my arms , tell him I'm okay but I could not . "I'm hungry" , I told grandpa Titan , "we just ate" , he said to me looking me incredulously.

"At this rate you'll get out of shape" , commented my grandfather . For some odd reason I became very emotional, "I'm getting fat?" Their eyes widened at my reaction . "No , no, no , grandson I did not mean that I

was just trying to say it's not healthy to over eat" .

At his words I became angry, "but I'm hungry, I wish to eat now!" I was simply fuming. Their mouths were agape in shock . "Okay I'll cook for you okay" grandpa Titan , coaxed me .

I giggled hearing he'll cook for me . "Are you okay?" They asked spooked , at that I got sad , "you think I'm sick now?", "Wow" , they both said in unison. "We need to visit the hospital" , "no" I refused .

"If you don't do it you won't get the carrot cake I baked" threatened grandpa Titan, sternly. I lowed my head and nodded to show them I agreed.

Two days had passed since I got the shocking news and to tell the truth I'm still shocked.

I know your wondering what news am I talking about ,well I'll tell you. After grandpa Titan , gave my carrot cake to me and I ate it like a starved man .

He told me the next day I had a doctor's appointment. Being me I did not like hearing that but I also did not throw a tantrum since I knew I needed to go and see a doctor.

The next day I sighed as I stood next to grandpa Titan, looking at the entrance of the hospital , to tell the truth I did not want to go in hence why we stood there staring at it like lost people.

I'm afraid of needles , those things hurt so no one can blame me for not going in. "Boy if you don't enter this hospital , I swear I'm going to carry you in" .

I looked at him and knew he'd do it , so we walked in . The doctor was actually very kind but that was not the problem ,the problem was the needle he was holding .

I looked at him wearily , my eyes narrowed as I stared at the needle , daring it to come closer to me and see what will happen . "Dear it won't hurt,it will be real quick" I shook my head no .

"Ajax, if you don't let the doctor do her job then I won't make you the carrot cake ever again" , grandpa Titan , threatened , I gulped in and nodded , I let the doctor do her job with my eyes closed .

She took a lot of tests as if confirming something . "Mr Tailor, could you lay down for a bit? I need to confirm something" I did as I was told and she pressed on my lower abdomen making me hiss at the small throb of pain.

She nodded and then took a jell like thing , she poured it on my stomach and took the sonogram machine , she moved the head over my stomach and gasped before she looked at me .

"Well , congratulations Mr Tailor, your a month and a half pregnant" . Hearing those words I saw dark spots invade my vision before everything turned dark.

The next I woke up was to a worried looking grandpa Titan, and a smiling doctor . "Grandpa Titan, I had the weirdest dream" he rose a brow , "in that dream, did the doctor tell you your pregnant ?" he asked.

"Yes, how did you know?" I asked curiously , "cause it's true and by the way your having twins" . My mind fell into chaos as many thoughts filled my mind .

I was going to be a father or was it a mother? Since I was the one carrying them . I was suddenly hit by a melancholy feeling , my husband was not with me , how could I raise two children alone , will he find me in time? I wanted him to , he had to .

I missed Sthe , his overbearing presence , his possessive yet protective demeanor , most of all his love filled eyes as they looked at me .

Would Nina , make a move on him while I was gone? , anger suddenly bubbled inside of me because of that . No , Sthe , was a good man he'd never cheat on me , I believed in him .

That night I fell asleep and had a dream that actually made me happy for once . Grandma visited me again , she told me that Sthe , would soon be coming for me , and that the necklace will protect me and the babies all the time even when Sthe , comes .

I was looking forward to the arrival of my husband . One thing though I was having twins , two , was that not a crowd? Oh well me and Sthe , will manage , I hope.

Have you ever been so annoyed that you feel like throwing something at the person or thing that annoyed you?.

Well that's how I felt when I looked at the woman my parents wanted me to marry .

"So Jennifer, why exactly are you here?" I asked her as calmly as I could . "Could you atleast let me in?" She asked standing outside my door and yes I'm that petty I did not want to let her in .

Who knows where she's been , she'll end up living her whoring, gold digging disease inside my house .

"No, so talk fast or beat it" , "why are you being so unreasonable? I only cheated on you like five times stop being so melodramatic" she said rolling her eyes .

I was so shocked , my hormones started reacting and my mind was spinning as I thought of the ways I could kill her then not get caught .

Yeah I'm crazy like that , even I was startled by my imagination . I started imagining myself pulling her hair til she was bold. That would have been a funny sight.

I laughed at my own thoughts , "why are you laughing?", "Mind your own business .

Anyway maybe it's time I made things clear with you , I'm already taken and my partner is a hundred times more worthy of me and is very loyal , unlike you who takes whoring as a hobby.

Well anyway good luck, I hope you don't catch something" .

I said then shut the door infront of her face , oh man that made me feel so badass that I actually danced around in my kitchen while I was cooking I decided to cook enough for three , it was just a hunch but something told me I should cook enough food and I always trust my gut instinct.

As for my ' loving ' parents I ignored their calls the whole day , I knew that witch went to tell on me . Huh , the joke is on her like I care what my parents would tell me .

They can keep their aristocrat lifestyle out of my life , I've been obedient since I was born , it's was time I broke out of my shell . That night as I was sleeping I was woken up by the doorbell ringing, I yawned and stretched annoyed , who in the world visits someone at night? Seriously people nowadays.

I walked down the stairs with a frown on my lips , I opened the door ready to blow off on whoever came to disturb my beauty sleep , why do you think my skin is so smooth? Well I'll tell you , the secret is good sleep .

I gasped when I met face to face with the beautiful , dark brown eyes I've been longing to see. "Dali, did you miss me?" Sthe's deep voice asked , at that moment tears just flew silently from my eyes and I threw myself in his arms and they were as warm as before .

I did not say a word and neither did he , he just picked me up and took me to the living room. I could not believe he was here , my beloved husband was here , he really found me .

"Don't cry Dali, I'll never leave you again I just had to take care of a few pests before I came to find you" .

I looked up at him as he spoke and kissed his lips softly , they were just as I remembered , my mind went blank as he deepened the kiss .

I shivered as his large hand entered my shirt , my body came alive and I knew it was going to be a long night , I hoped daddy dearest did not expect me at work the next morning, cause I knew my husband was going to make sure I can't walk the next day , oh well.

Waking up to my husband's warmth was truly blissful and I felt truly happy only one thing was plaguing my mind .

The night before I had a dream , grandma , visited me again , her smile was warm as usual but like always she had a message for me .

She told me that one of the twins was going to be born with a gift , I asked her what she meant by that , her only answer was that I would see when the time comes .

Her words made me really worried because I had the feeling we would have to go back to my husband's motherland when the twins were born .

"What troubles you Dali?" Sthe , asked as soon as he woke up , his voice was so deep , it sent shivers down my spine . Did I tell you I love my husband's voice? Well I do .

"Nothing" I answered his question, "do not lie to me" his voice was stern and dominant, did he want to kill me with his hotness so early in the morning.

"I had a dream" , "what type of dream?", "Grandma , came to give me a message" , "grandma?", "Yes, your grandmother. She told me one of the twins will be born with a gift" .

"Twins?" Sthe , asked in a curious tone , I bit my lip at that since I forgot I did not tell him I was pregnant . "Well I have news for you" , "go on" , "I'm pregnant, if you don't believe me I'll show you the sonograms and pregnancy test I got from the doctor" .

I said rambling as I was trying to defend myself . "I believe you Dali, and I'm very happy, the happiest man in the world" .

As he said that our lips met and let's just say my waist has never been more sore. We spent the whole day together which was quite peaceful but like always good things have to come to an end .

That early evening the doorbell rang , I stood up leaving Sthe , watching TV . "Who is it?!" I yelled feeling a little lazy to find out myself.

"What type of manners are those boy?" , and with that my body froze , I knew my father's voice from anywhere, now I was truly convinced that Jennifer , told on me .

I opened the door and my parents let themselves in , "your welcome, please come in" I spoke my voice coming out more sarcastic than I intended.

"Boy mind your manners" , my mother scowled, "I'm sorry I swiftly apologized" . "Dali, who is at the door?" Sthe , asked and I could hear footsteps echoing around the house and I knew he was coming to me .

I cursed under my breath it was about to get real very quickly. And I was right , as soon as Sthe , showed up my father's face because unreadable.

Sthe , looked at me then at my parents before speaking , "you must be Dali's parents, I'm Sthembiso Khaya , it's a pleasure to meet you".

"Who is this?" My mother asked not fully looking at Sthe , I did not wish to lie to them so I told them the truth. "He is my husband" both their eyes widened.

"Are you joking?" My mother asked me cautiously , "no mother" . "I will not tolerate this insolence!!" My father all but yelled .

"It is not up to you father we are already married" . "We strongly disagree with this whole fiscal, you will marry Jennifer, whether you want to or not" .

"Will Jennifer raise my twins with me?" At that question everything became silent.

The silence lasted a while longer til mother spoke again.

"What twins?" She asked suspiciously, "our twins mother", I replied not looking directly at them.

"I fail to understand you boy, get to the point", my father spoke his voice was stern. "I'm pregnant", "that's simply an abomination. What do you mean your pregnant?"

"Father, I mean every word I say . I went to the doctor with grandpa Titan" , "you were with that queer?" My father asked then laughed . "I knew it was contagious, That is why I told them to stay the hell away from you" .

"I called them so they can walk me down the Isle". "Your a boy you don't need to walk down the Isle , that is what a girl is supposed to do".

"Father, I will not allow you to belittle me", after saying those words even I myself felt bewildered , when did I gain a spine to stand up to my father? . "Don't you dare talk back at me, I will not tolerate it" .

"Funny I was about to say the same to you Mr Tailor, respect my wife or you might not like what I'll do" Sthe ,said . My father scoffed, "oh, that is all you blacks know, using violence to solve everything, you are a danger to society, simply bebarians" .

I was amazed by my father's words , "your the one who's a danger to society. My husband is more civilized than you'll ever be" . I said anger swirling all over my body .

I had never been so angered in all my life ,they could say anything about me but not my husband .

At that moment I saw a vain about to pop on my father's head and he raised his hand ready to hit me but a larger , much darker one caught his. By my father's expression I knew it was a strong grip.

He groaned in pain and I held Sthe's hand , "it's okay Sthe, I'm fine see" . "He was going to hit you, no one touches what belongs to me" .

His voice was deeper than before, but I was not frightened because I knew he would never hurt me . I looked at my mother , "take your husband and leave" , my mother looked at me shocked.

"You are an ungrateful child, simply a mistake" Sthe , laughed at that , "does that matter, his a mistake I'm willing to love and take care of, besides you call him mistake, I call him a treasure, a treasure born just for me.

Now get out of this house before I do something drastic, only come back when your ready to accept your son for who he is" . My parents stormed out of the house and I fell into my husband's embrace and just wept .

I was truly sad , I loved my parents no matter how they were , I loved them . "It'll be alright Dali, your parents will come around and if they don't you don't need them, you have me and the twins" .

I nodded sadly . That night I slept with a heavy heart , who would have known that the next morning it would only get worse , my husband was arrested for assault .

My father pressed charged against him , I was truly amazed by my father's wickedness. My husband told me

to call Hekhule , I found the number on his phone and called the number.

The man answered just after the first ring.

"Hey boss what's happening?", "It's not your boss it's Ajax Tailor Khaya". "Boss's wife?", "Yes Hekhule". "What happened Makoti?", "Sthe, was arrested I need your help".

The line was silent for a moment then he spoke again . "Don't worry I'll take care of it, it might take a few days though" . "No, I need my husband now" . "No you have to wait a while I understand your worries".

"You don't!", I yelled angrily , tears were falling freely from my eyes now . "Shit!" The man cursed , "please don't cry boss will kill me" .

I laughed a bit at that . "Look give me just three days okay" , "okay" I replied in a weak voice. After hanging up I drove to the police station, I could not calm down and my hands shook as I drove .

I got there and parked quickly, I ran into the station a bit out of breath , man I had to get in shape or was it the pregnancy? I wondered. "Hello I'm Ajax" , I said to the reception lady , "what do you want?" The white lady asked .

"I want to see Sthembiso Khaya", "oh that man" she said her face turned in a sneer . I looked at her bewildered , "are you going to let us meet or not?", "No I can't do that sir I don't have the authority".

"Then where is your station commander?", "He is busy" , I was really getting angry at the woman , "look lady that man is my husband" , she looked appalled by my words I swear.

"Your a faggot who married a baboon?" At that I lost it I began to throw anything I can find at the glass window protecting the lady .

She screamed and many police officers came to subdue me . I kicked at them wanting to get my hands on the homophobic , racist bitch. "Sir calm down" they tried to calm me down. I broke down , and just cried .

"Let me see my husband his innocent" , "sir we still have to investigate Mr Tailor ,was badly injured" , "badly? All Sthe, did was hold his hand to stop him from slapping me" .

"No, Mr Tailor, has wounds on his head and left hand" my jaw dropped , "my father is lying , I swear believe me" . "Sir you have no evidence of your words" , "and you do?" I asked seriously.

They kept quiet at that , "sir this is just standard procedure, a criminal is a criminal". "Your criminals, my father is a criminal!!!", I yelled angrily .

"Why won't you believe me? , why are you doing this? did my father pay you all" . They did not speak , I laughed without any humour in my voice.

"This is justice, you actually call yourselves individuals of the law? accusing an innocent man of a crime he did not commit? Wow, I truly love the law of this country .

Anyway as for me I'm not leaving until my husband is released". "You have to go home sir, everything will be taken care of" . "No it will not ,I'll stay here and wait".

They tried to drag me out but then I asked a question , "how many days will I have to do if I slapped a police

officer?", "A week" the man said in a monotone voice .

I smirked then punched him , it felt good , I placed both my hands infront of me . "If my husband is staying in this hell hole Then so will I , come on arrest me".

They just stood there, "what are you waiting for? You arrested my husband without question or evidence, why are you hesitating?", "sir go home" .

I was beyond angry , what was even going on? I choked on a sob, I just wanted my husband . I drove to my father's house at full speed when I left the station , I'd really give him a reason to send me to jail .

Good Ajax, is gone daddy dearest , not when my husband is involved.

I got to my parents's house after only 15 minutes and it would normally take thirty minutes.

I got out of the car and ran to the door , I just let myself in . "Mother , father!" I yelled , they came into the living room , looking like they had been preparing to go to bed .

"You were going to sleep? While my husband is in jail?" I asked them , my tone was low , angry and heartbroken. "What are you doing here ?!" My father asked in an angry voice .

I looked at him , his head was fine , hell even his arm was fine by the way he held my mother's waist so tightly.

"Why are you doing this father?", "I'm doing this to stop your stupidity" , "my stupidity?", "Yes you disgraceful son". "Well since you like arresting people so much I'll help you" .

I said before I punched him hard on his right cheek . My father actually fell down and my mother screamed for security .

I was angry I wanted to do more but I could not as they held my arms tightly then my father stood up and was about to punch me in the gut when something happened .

He was pushed away from me by a strange force . I looked at him wide eyed then i remembered the bead necklace, it still worked , grandma , did say it will protect me .

My father was bewildered , "how did you do that?" He asked angrily but there was some fear in his tone. It was the first time I ever saw my father like that . "You should not have tried to hurt my babies, father" .

I looked at my mother , "I'm sorry I was not the perfect son you both wanted, I just want to tell you one thing, I love you people, but I can no longer stand you.

From this day onwards your both dead to me and my family . I do not wish to have anything to do with you anymore". "You learned witchcraft from them right? They did this to you.

They got into your head using their chums, you are bewitched by them . Your not my son". I laughed sarcastically , "you don't deserve a son like me.

I here by disown you as my parents and as for the companies , keep them. Your wealth keep it , your cars keep them. Everything that belongs to you keep it".

After saying those words I left the house , I was still crying and my heart felt stuffed. I wished I could get some sort of relief. That night I did not sleep at all , yet I saw grandma again .

"They won't be able to hold him in that cell for a long time , your husband is stronger than you'll ever imagine. Another thing dear , after the babies are born , stay for two years in your country then go back home with your husband , because his motherland is where you belong my child" .

After saying those words she left , I knew this had something to do with the gift one of the twins will receive. I sighed as I looked at nothing in particular .

I realised in this life I was lonely ,I had no friends , no family . " **That cannot be possibly true child , think about it again , do you truly have no family and friends?"**.

Grandma's voice disappeared just like that and I thought about her words. Grandma , was right , I did have family and friends .

I had a wonderful husband , I had Lebo , Mariam and Thandi as friends , I had grandfather , grandpa Titan and my uncle as family . The twins were also part of that group , for the first time I smiled touching my stomach .

I decided to call my grandfather and I told him everything . They told me they would come and meet me the next day and I was happy to hear that .

Hekhule , also gave me updates about my husband's case . I was happy to hear that Sthe , would be released on the third day like Hekhule, promised.

Hey guys I'm so sorry if you can't read the story clearly because I did not put quotation Marks on it i'll edit all the chapters and put quotation marks . I'm really sorry for the inconvenience . I'll also try to put the story into paragraphs only on my next chapters though . □

The third day finally arrived and I stood inside the police station without a word . My eyes were glued to one spot . The spot my husband would walk through any minute now .

My breath hitched as the door opened , I did not wait a moment longer I just ran to my husband and threw myself into his arms . He held on tight and did not let me go. I just cried , I missed my husband a lot . "I'm here now Dali , don't cry".

I looked up at him and kissed him deeply , god I missed his lips . They were just as warm as before. "I missed you Sthe , I'm sorry my father did that to you . Please don't hate him because I don't ", " I won't ".

"This is great and all but I think you guys forgot about me ", A man spoke standing next to us , I looked at him curiously. "Who are you?", "Wow I'm hurt, and here I thought I'd also get a hug for getting your husband out of jail" I gasped at that .

"Oh my god, I'm sorry Hekhule" I made a move to go and give him a hug but Sthe's arms tightened around my waist . "Don't ask my wife for stupid things I'll kill you", his voice was cold making Hekhule , shiver.

"Boss I was just playing", "does my wife look like a toy car? Don't play with things that don't belong to you".

"Sthe , calm down the man helped you out after all". "Thank you Makoti ,for that", Hekhule , spoke only to keep silent again when Sthe , glared at him . The man looked ready to kill but I was just craving some carrot cake.

"Sthe, I'm hungry " he looked down at me after I said that and smiled , it was small yet still there . That was a smile only I knew since he only ever smiled at me .

"Let's go home, we'll order in", "no Sthe, my grandparents and uncle are at home ", he nodded , "let's go then ". "Boss what about me?", "Bring the car around then leave ".

Hekhule, faked a mock hurt expression and I found it funny . I giggled and Sthe's glare on Hekhule, increased.

" Makoti , spare me and don't laugh your husband will kill me " Sthe , growled and Hekhule , ran away . It was really amusing, they acted like brothers and I liked that .

Back at home , grandpa Titan, really had cooked and most of the food was eaten by me and Sthe , kept adding more food into my plate . The other three at the table did not utter a word .

I noticed grandpa Titan, kept on looking at grandfather , who was very much into his food , "horrible husband", he said as he now glared at grandfather , who was confused on how he became a horrible husband.

"Father if you keep that up you might be sleeping on the couch tonight" uncle Sona , said with a light laugh which I joined him in . The rest of the dinner went smoothly .

That night I stayed awake once more since I could not sleep . Finally Sthe , woke up and looked at me , "can't sleep?", "Yes".

"Why did you not wake me up?", "You need your rest Sthe", "no","what I need is for you to relay on me more as I'm your husband, if you can't sleep, wake me up , I will never get annoyed , Dali, let me take care of you,

forever and for always".

I sighed and turned to snuggle into his arms .

"It's not that I don't know you care for me, it's just that I don't want to be too much of a burden on you " Sthe , growled at that and held onto me a little tighter before he kissed me .

"You will never be a burden to me, hell I'll give you everything you want , including my life, the burden will be me as I will never let you go ".

"Sthe , I'm poor now you know". "So what?, I only want your heart , body and soul , as for money I have enough to buy you the whole earth.

Believe in me when I say I'll take care of you , because I will for the rest of my life . The only thing you will have to worry about is my cold , unfeeling yet Loving self forever". I cried happy tears at those words and embraced him tighter.

"Thank you Sthe ", " no need to thank me I love you Dali", "I love you too".

That night grandma came again , as always she came bearing news for me .

"Your husband is in danger , for this whole week keep him in the yard where you can see him , it seems the Jennifer , girl is serious about having you back . A car is all it takes to end his life remember that child ".

Her voice soon disappeared after that , my heart was thumping loudly inside my chest and I was scared . I could not loose my husband , seriously I felt I could not catch a break , I had also never felt such hatred for a person before .

How could Jennifer, plot against my husband? She did not know what was coming to her and I'd show her .

Three days had passed and I was still keeping Sthe , in the yard . I wanted to scream as the man seemed to want to go out so bad .

Seriously I love my husband but he was beginning to get on my last nerve . I wondered , was he suicidal or just bewitched. The other thing was I had been having dreams for the whole three days .

The dreams were like a premonition, like something was wrong . One thing they had In common was the crying child .

The child kept saying I should save **him** . I didn't even know the person he was talking about , I wondered if it had something to do with my husband .

Like most nights I slept in my husband's arms when I had that dream again . Like always the child was crying , it seemed a bit different that night , the child spoke more Cleary. **"Mommy , save him , his going to die , don't let him die "**.

After saying those words the child vanished into thin air , I jolted out of my dream . The child's voice had more urgency and it got me worried .

I had a strange urge to see a doctor and I never ignore my gut feeling.

I immediately stood up from the bed and called doctor Larsson , he was my personal doctor that Sthe ,hired . "Where are you going?" Sthe , asked in his sexy voice , yummy.

Okay that's not the point. "I'm going to see doctor Larsson ", "why at night?", "I don't know I just have to see him , don't worry I'll be back soon".

" I'm going with you Dali", "no Sthe , you know you have to stay at home , I will not be a widower at this age". "Nothing bad will happen","I'm sorry but you can't promise that ".

After saying those words I took the car and drove to the hospital . I had to get there as soon as possible , I had a feeling , a bad feeling.

When I arrived there I went straight to doctor Larsson's office . The middle aged man smiled seeing me , I did not return it as I was really worried .

"I need you to check if everything is alright with my babies". He nodded and got to work , he began to frown as he looked at the screen showing my infants.

"it seems one of the children is not developing normally ", "what? " , " It's a good thing you came today or the child would have died , you would have had a miscarriage. We have to do an operation now or else the baby will die".

At that moment I felt my Whole world collapse . I had to save my child ,was all I could think about and to that I agreed to do the operation. I don't remember what happened after that , all I know is I woke up , two days later to good and bad news. The good news my babies were both safe , the bad news , Sthe , got into an accident.

The thought running through my mind when I heard the news was , how stupid can that man be . Luckily ,I

think I should thank his ancestors , he survived . He got away with an injury on his right arm and ribs .

My family was dead worried about us and I could only sigh and curse my bad luck. I wondered , in my last life did I use up all my luck , maybe that was why I was facing misfortune after misfortune.

"Well done child , by listening to the warning of the child, you saved both your unborn child and your husband ".

I smiled after hearing what grandma had said , it seemed the storm had finally passed but it did not mean I would not give Jennifer , what she deserved . She almost took the life of my husband and to that I could not be nice and easily forgive.

It took another three days before I could see Sthe , but it felt like three years. That whole week I spent next to Sthe , I made sure I was right next to his curve just to make sure he was alright and he was still there .

I figured the whole experience had made me a tad bit paranoid . I went to the hospital everyday just to check if my children were okay .

I asked Hekhule , secretly to get me some dirt on Jennifer , and man did the girl have a lot of dirt . Everything illegal you could think of of she had done . I was wondering , can a girl really be that bad? , *Illegal weapon trading*, that was the top of the list .

The next thing you know she was doing some hefty time in jail . I felt proud of what I had done , though I had gotten in trouble with my husband . The punishment was sweet though , it made me wonder , should I provoke Sthe , more often?. Well I guess I could if I wanted to have a sore waist all week . It might have been the pregnancy making me think all crazy .

Finally it was almost time for me to give birth , it had been a long journey to get to where I was . Mood swings, cravings and even the morning sickness but I managed to pull through .

That was what I told myself though I was really feeling uneasy as I got closer to the due date. Like always I had dreams , this time it was not grandma , it was the crying child , this time he was not crying though He just had these sad eyes and I knew those eyes were looking right at me .

Me always being in a daze unsettled Sthe , that was probably the reason he had me at arms length all the time . I wanted to tell him about my dream but somehow everytime I tried , my tongue would be tied and no words would come out .

The day before I was to give birth the sad eyed child visited me in my dream , this time he spoke.

" Mama , you must be strong , bring me and my brother to the world , it will be hard but you can do it . Be warned though mother no matter what you go through don't even think about c-section, that will kill us in an instant, you can only give birth naturally, remember my words mama please".

I woke up after those words panting and dead worried , my life was getting harder the way I saw it.

Just then I felt warm liquid flow through my thighs, I furrowed my brow and pulled the sheet aside only to see the bed was wet . I looked at my thighs and I knew what happened . My water broke .

"Sthe", I called to him in a panicked tone , he woke up immediately in a start . "What's wrong Dali? " He immediately asked as soon as he opened his eyes.

I knew I worried my husband a lot but I could not help it . "My water broke ", "oh shit" , "we have to get you to the hospital" just after he spoke I was hit by a sharp pain on my abdomen, "Ahh!" I could not help but yell , the pain took me by surprise , it did not prepare me for the second pain though or the third .

"Dali be strong I'll get you to the doctor soon enough", Sthe , sounded calm but I knew he was nothing of the sort . "Breath Dali", he spoke as he carried me to the car .

"You try fucking breathing I'm In pain damnit!" , I all but yelled , I could not stand it , the pain was too much but something told me it was only the start. That something was totally right.

We got to the hospital and I was immediately rushed to the ICU, I could do nothing but curse at Sthe , he was the one who put me in that situation in the first place.

"I'm never carrying children for you again! " I cursed as I held onto his hand tighter . He did not even groan in pain and somehow it got me mad that I cursed him out some more.

What else could I do to vent out my anger and take my mind off the pain? , I thought I'd be in pain for only a few hours but no as I said I had the worst luck on earth I swear.

I finally thought it would be over two days later but no it did not . The babies were not ready to come out still . The doctor suggested c-section but I refused him on the spot .

How could I not? I knew my babies were going to die if I did that . I could not bring myself to risk it. I could

Dead , I was dead , atleast I thought I was . That was probably the reason I was very surprised when I opened my eyes , I was laying under our sacred oak tree back in South Africa.

I looked around for my husband since I knew when I was under this tree so was he . It took me a while to find him . He was at the river and was also shirtless and looked ever so sexy , my husband was really hot , have I ever told you that.

His body glistened as water droplets fell down his dark , chocolate torso. His eyes turned to me and he smirked. "Hello Ajax" , I looked at him a bit confused at the name but still smiled , it was okay if he wanted to call me by my real name , I had no quillmes with that at all.

All I knew was that I was happy so happy to see my husband again. I had a feeling I had forgotten something but for the life of me I could not figure out what it was .

I simply ran into Sthe's arms but something was not right . They were not as warm as usual . I thought maybe it was because he was standing inside the river. The explanation I gave myself was reasonable so I went with it .

"Sthe , I missed you" , I said holding him tightly , " so did I Ajax". My name again , it just sounded so wrong for him to call me that way . I looked at him and smiled , "what are you doing?" , "Fishing Ajax , I want to cook fish ".

Those words were also strange since my husband can't cook to save his life . "You cook?" , "Yes Ajax " , my smile somehow tightened . Something felt wrong . "Since when? " , "a very long time ago " . " So you were pretending not to know how to cook?" , "Yes".

I bit my lower lip and decided to let it go , maybe it was just me overthinking like always , it's not easy to be smart you know. Like that he actually fried the fish and I was about to eat it when something stopped me . I looked down and it was the bead necklace.

Everytime I touched the fish it shook violently. That made me suspicious , I looked at the Sthe, infront of me and frowned . What was going on? , Was the only question running through my mind .

Sthe , looked at me , "are you not hungry?" , "no I don't feel well at the moment " , I lied straight through my teeth , I never lied to my husband but this man infront of me was just not the same.

"When did we came back to South Africa?" , "We have been living here all along, are you sure your okay Ajax". My name again , it irked me to hear it come from his mouth.

It just made me uncomfortable, I did not feel safe with the man infront of me . It surprised me how I was feeling.

That is when the realisation hit me , Sthe , would only call me Ajax , when he did not approve of something I did . My husband can't cook , my husband makes me feel safe and most of all my husband looked at me with love in his eyes .

I knew then and there that the man infront of me was not my husband. "who are you?" I asked so I can get an explanation of what was happening. "What do you mean ?,I'm your lover".

" No you can't possibly be my husband", "but I'm Ajax", "no your not , your nothing like my beloved husband" .

The man laughed , "oh my , seems I've been found out , your right I'm not your husband, I'm the keeper of this place". "Where is this place ?", "the place that will bring you happiness " I looked at the man with a stern look. "My happiness is with my husband and children , I want to go back".

" Your happiness was to be free from everything, being with that so called husband of yours has brought you nothing but misfortune". " Misfortune or not , I love my husband , I love our babies and I will cherish them til my last breath".

The man looked taken aback by my words. " Well then if you want to go back to them so bad do it ", I looked around me and I knew I could not leave this place , this place that was filled with nothing but illusions.

I closed my eyes and began to chant , this is not real , this is not real . "What are you doing?!" The man sounded panicked. " I'm leaving , I'm not from this land of illusion, I belong where my family is". I smiled after saying those words , a smile filled with a certain nostalgia.

"Dali , please wake up we need you ,I can't raise the boys alone , I'm not that strong without you " I was startled hearing the voice of my husband , the husband I missed , "Sthe" I called for him but he did not hear me . I was devastated but the fact that I could hear my husband's voice meant I was still alive .

I looked around me and began to concentrate some more , I rubbed the bead necklace , as I kept on chanting , **this is not real** . I concentrated for some time but I could not clear my mind .

What if I get back and they do not want me anymore?, It was a stupid question yet it plagued my mind making my heart ache . My husband , oh how I missed my husband , I also wanted to see my babies and with that my resolve was made .

I smiled and concentrated even harder , I was going home , I was going to be in my husband's arms very soon . "Sthe, I love you", with those words spoken out loud I blanked out . The next time I woke , I could not open my eyes for a while ,then I heard a voice I had missed ever so much. "Dali?" I moved my hand to show him I could hear him .

It did not take long before I felt lips crash gently ontop of my dried ones . I smiled into the kiss and tried to speak but my throat was parched. "W-a-t-e-r" I managed to croak out . It felt painful just to say that simple word .

I finally opened my eyes after Sthe, gave me water to drink . I looked into his brown eyes and it brought me to tears , slow , silent tears that portrayed my joy . I was just so happy. "I love you Sthe" , I said still crying, "I love you more Dali" and for the first time in my life I saw my husband cry . My mean , big , strong yet Loving husband was crying.

He just embraced me until the doctor came In. The man looked to have aged ten years since the last time I saw him . "I'm glad your awake Mr Khaya", he said after seeing that I was alright. "How long have I been asleep doc?", "Three whole months". I was astonished by his reply.

I looked at Sthe , "where are our boys?" , "In the hospital Dali " . "I'll send the nurses with your babies In a

moment" the doctor said . I could not wait to see them .

After the doctor left I looked at Sthe , again , "what are their names ?" , " I have not named them yet , I could not do it without you by my side " , "so if I did not wake up what would you call our babies?".

"Baby 1 and baby 2" I laughed at his silliness , it eased my mind and heart a lot to know how much Sthe , valued me.

The door opened as I was about to say something to Sthe , and with the door opening , in came two nurses holding our babies .

Hey guys here's an update , thank you for reading my story ☐

I sat on the hospital bed and the nurses gave me my twin boys . I smiled looking at them , then I noticed something about them which was different. One had pale skin like myself and the other had dark chocolate skin like Sthe .

Though I noticed this difference I still thought my babies were very beautiful , too beautiful actually. The pale twin had an odd resemblance to Sthe , his dark chocolate eyes and dark black hair , you could clearly see who was his father .

The dark twin had my features , from my brown hair to my blue sea eyes . Their features were really surprising yet ever so accepted , atleast by me and my husband. I knew he'd hurt anyone who'd look at our twins the wrong way.

My eyes went to Sthe , and our gazes met , "their so beautiful Sthe " , " surely they have to be their our twins" Sthe , replied oddly proud . I had to laugh a little at his behaviour
"I see you have become humorous Sthe", " have I?" , "Yes you have .

Anyway going back to the main point , our twins need names because I'm not calling my babies , baby 1 and 2 okay".

Sthe , looked at me , "I have an idea Dali", my eyes stayed on him urging him to continue. "I'll give them the Zulu names and you'll give them English names ". I nodded his idea was brilliant.

"In that case we'll name the dark chocolate one first " I said looking loving at my dark look alike .

"His name will be Amandla ,which means strength in Zulu" Sthe ,said with a small smile on his face . I nodded loving the name "I'll call him Joy , since he will bring happiness to our lives.

Sthe , seemed to like the name as well , we turned our attention to Sthe's lookalike, "he'll go by Ukhanyo, which means light " I smiled at the name . I looked deeply at the child and a name just came to my mind , "Gift" I blunted out.

"That is a lovely name " said Sthe , but I on the other hand felt it had a deeper meaning than just an ordinary name. I smiled non the less. The nurse wrote the names down and left .

My family Soon came to visit us and they gushed over the twins who were different even in personality. Joy , was really naughty and cheerful , while Gift , just looked calm though curious .

"They are so cute " grandpa Titan, said in tears , I could not stop myself from laughing. "Why did we not have such cute babies?" He asked grandfather , who had no words to say to answer the question.

Uncle Sona , on the other hand just looked offended. "Dad , how could you say I'm ugly?" Grandpa Titan, looked at him with with a raised brow , "boy your as ugly as your father " I laughed at the shocked faces of the two man .

Sthe , just looked amused , "are you going to tell me I'm ugly too in the near future?" He asked , his amused eyes now looking at me .

" Oh hell no , you'll always be my handsome prince even when we're old and grey" his smile became a little more visible and he held me gently and we kissed.

There was always something magical when we kissed , it made me feel such joy and the sparks ,oh my goodness.

"I love you " , "I love you more Dali" . Days passed and I was finally discharged from the hospital , we took our twins home and everything was going so well.

That is until grandma , decided to visit me again , she never brought good news , though I liked seeing her it always made me feel like she was the messenger of bad luck.

"I see your happy , your babies are so beautiful , but remember what I said a while ago , when the twins turn two years old , take them back home , that is where they belong , especially the gifted child" .

"Grandma , which one of the boys is the gifted one? I asked curiously, **"you'll see in due time , the gifted child will reveal himself , just accept him and love him non the less .**

I nodded , I knew I'd love my child no matter how he was, I was going to be different from my parents , I was going to be loving and caring but most of all supportive. Grandma ,seemed to read my thoughts as she smiled

" I'm glad your his mother , atleast he won't be condemned like I was , he won't be lonely like I was , he will be different"

Her words made me sad as Sthe , told me her story . It was truly heartbreaking how humans could not accept those who were different from them.

" Oh ,one last thing ,the gifted child has a significant other back in South Africa, no one else can marry him if not that person " .

"Grandma, how will he know who is his beloved ?" , **" Sthe, knew ,so the child will know, I have to go now please remember my words , when their two take them home"**. Her voice vanished after that.

That is when I woke up and I decided to visit the boys' room just to check on them . They got me worried especially since I did not know which one was the gifted child. I looked into their crib and they were sleeping peacefully . I sighed before I felt strong arms wrapping around me.

"Dali , why are you awake ?" , "I wanted to check on the twins , I'm so worried about them Sthe" , "we can get through everything together Dali , trust me the twins will be fine , they have a strong support system after all , me , you , your family and my family" .

I will admit those words made me feel better , I turned in his arms and kissed him sweetly , he picked me of the ground gently and I smiled, then I remembered something.

"Sthe ,where is Bonnie?" , "You mean the rabbit?" , "Yes Sthe , the rabbit" , " I gave it to Lebo" , "the same Lebo , you said knows different ways of how to Cook a rabbit?" , "Yes".

"Sthe , how could you? If something happens to my rabbit I'm never talking to you again" Sthe , just chuckled and pecked my cheek , "don't worry I told her the rabbit was special and can't be eaten or I'll cook all of her clothes" .

I just had to laugh at that , my husband was a bit crazy sometimes . "Now Dali , can I get my kiss , I've been starving these past three months" my cheeks became inflamed at that and I hit his chest playfully .

His deep chuckle sent shivers down my spine . We once again kissed , and my husband showed me just how much he missed me when I was asleep for three months .

If my sore waist was not proof of how much he missed me then I wouldn't know what was .

Hey everyone here's an update , hope you like it ,
thanks for reading my story □ □

I was happy , I was finally happy. Two years had passed and I had been living with my family in peace which was very rare as you probably know.

We decided to hold a birthday party for the twins as they were turning two. I had forgotten what grandma had told me since it had been a long time since I had last seen her.

The twins had grown up to be pretty smart , especially when it came to talking , I was really proud of them.

"Mama! " The twins yelled as they came into the house all muddy making me scrunch my nose in disgust. I had tried to make them stop calling me mama , since it was kind of hurting my male ego but they refused.

"Boys why are you both so dirty?" I asked in a stern tone. "We was playing mama " answered Joy , the mouth peace of the two , I swear the child could never just shut it for a minute .

It was pretty cute how he defended Gift , the child was really protective of his brother and it was admirable .

"Your father better clean you chipmunks or his sleeping on the couch " I said with a sweet smile. My husband and I were having a disagreement on how the boys should be allowed to play.

I really liked being clean so I preferred they played as safely as possible , he on the other hand wanted them to play wildly as if he was the one washing their dirty clothes , that always smelled weirdly for some reason.

"Dali, I'll give them a bath , don't worry about it " he said kissing my lips . I smiled at that , he knew just how to make me melt . My husband was the best , " tomorrow their having their birthday , is everything ready ? " I asked Sthe , since I tended to be worried easily about simple things .

" Everything is done Dali, you need to rest though, I'll finish the cooking in your place" , " no!" I said with a sweet kiss to his lips, " you just need to clean the twins up , i love you dear " he sighed then chuckled , "you don't want to take the risk of having our kitchen burn down ha" I blushed since I knew he saw through my act .

Just like that a night passed , the birthday party was really fun though exhausting , we only invited our family and neighbours. The kids were very happy which all I could ask for .

Alas , I was the king of bad luck so the happiness did not last . A week after the twin's birthday party , something strange happened . The twins fell sick . I was dead worried and I felt I had strongly forgot something.

"Doctor Larsson , please tell me what is the news , what's wrong with our boys ?" I asked already crying , Sthe , tried to comfort me but I wanted non of that. " I'm sorry Mr Khaya , but I can't find anything wrong with the boys , I've even consulted different specialist but the boys are healthy I broke down at that .

" How can my boys be healthy if they won't wake up?" I was angry , Sthe , held me tightly as I tried to fight with the doctor .

It was not his fault of cause , but he was standing right there , where else was I supposed to vent out my frustration. I cried in Sthe's arms , we decided to visit a few more doctors but they said the same thing, the was nothing wrong with the twins.

Somehow I just became angrier , everything made me angry . Sthe , was there with me all the way . " **It**

seems you forgot child , remember what was forgotten" and with those words , when I woke up , I immediately booked a flight to South Africa.

"Sthe , I hope they will be okay " he held me tightly and kissed my lips gently , " Dali , their going back to their motherland , don't worry the boys will recover" I believed him . I always believed my husband , I loved him after all.

As soon as we entered South Africa , I felt something within me calm down. I smiled "Sthe , we're home" I whispered my voice did not seem to want to go any higher. I looked at the boys and they were still asleep peacefully .

Unlike the other days I was not worried at all . Hekhule , came to pick us up and I was happy to see him . "Welcome home Makoti" he said with a warm smile .

" I'm happy to be home Hekhule" I would have given him a hug but someone would not let me get even a single metre close to Hekhule .

I sighed helplessly , my husband had not changed at all , he was still as protective as ever . We drove for a while before we arrived at our destination.

I looked at the beautiful , green land with some nostalgia in my eyes. I walked into the village and just as I entered grandma spoke to me " **welcome home child , now wake the boys up , their now home**" I nodded and shook the boys and as expected they woke up .

"Mama , papa , where are we?" Asked Joy, making me weep in happiness. I cried while smiling , it was weird , but I did not care . "We are home JoJo", spoke Gift , making me a bit startled.

He looked at me and smiled " mama , the land welcomes us , can you hear it , it is singing " I frowned in confusion. "What?", "The land is happy mama , the land is singing" he said again .

I looked at Sthe , he seemed to be thinking the same thing as I was . Suddenly as we were still confused , Gift , turned to Hekhule ,and held out his hand . Hekhule, took the small hand and smiled " hello little one " he spoke with a happy voice.

Gift , said nothing for a moment and suddenly turned his head to the sky " uncle your wife is sick , go home and take her to the doctor " after that he smiled and looked around happily like a curious child leaving all of us dumbstruck .

I looked at Hekhule , "listen to him , go home and take your wife to the hospital" Hekhule , looked worried but did as told. I turned back to Sthe , " he is the one ,right?" , " I believe so".

Everyone was happy when they saw us arrive , especially the king , Mariam , Lebo and their husbands who I had met for the first time. I should admit though , I thought they were pretty handsome . My husband was better though , still is.

We were all still chatting and catching up since everyone wanted to know my whole life story it seemed . I just indulged them and let them play with my little babies.

The boys seemed really happy to meet their new family members and that just made something in me very happy.

"You really gave birth to the boys?" Mariam , asked amazed . If only she knew how I had suffered giving birth to them .

I had promised myself that I'd never carry another child again , i was not about to seek death . What if next time I woke up in the underworld? Yep , I thought so , it was not a good idea.

As we were chatting I noticed something or someone was missing . "Where is the queen mother?" I asked looking at everyone. "She is sick , really sick " confessed Mariam .

I looked at them for a moment , "did you not take her to the doctor ?" I asked since I wanted to know her sickness perhaps she can be cured.

"Dear , no doctor knows what her illness is , we have tried all types of doctors, traditional doctors and even medical doctor but still nothing" I frowned at that .

I wondered what was wrong with the queen mother. I admit I disliked the woman but I did not hate her therefore I would not wish any misfortune to befall her.

" Will she be alright?" I asked a little more concerned than I should have been . "Her condition is not looking good at all" Lebo , answered dejected.

I was about to ask another question when Gift and Joy , ran up to us . They looked really happy so for a moment I forgot the matter at hand . " Mama , I caught a frog! " Joy , yelled happily. I did not know if I should laugh or cry .

Was I raising a little jungle baby ? I looked at him with a warm smile . "Go and give it to your father , his with the other men outside " I said since I planned to make Sthe ,take care of it . Me and slimy creatures just did not get along.

Joy , ran outside happily but I noticed Gift , did not move. "She is being punished for trying to break what should not be broken" I looked at Gift , skeptically . "Who is being punished baby child ?" I asked curiously.

" The bad woman who wanted to hurt you mama " one name came to mind as he said that . The queen mother. I looked at Gift , " is there a way to help her?" After the question fell I noticed everyone was extra quiet. I looked around me and they all had strange expressions.

"Why are you asking a child that type of question ?" Lebo ,asked and she sounded very curious. " He knows the answer " I spoke looking at Gift .

" Go to her mama , if she says sorry and you forgive her then she will be well again " my heart beat a little quicker at his response.

Though I should have not, I decided to give the queen mother a chance . I believed strongly that all of us deserved second chances.

I asked Mariam , to show me where the queen mother lay and she happily did . I picked Gift , up and place him on my hip before we followed after Mariam.

We entered a room that was tightly shut that I felt uneasy just looking at it . I did not get why I was feeling that way so I decided to let it go. I entered the room with my child and my heart almost stopped literally ,if not for grandma's bead necklace then I'm sure I would have been dead .

"What are you doing here you evil child ?" Was the first thing the queen mother said when I finally composed myself .

" I want to help you " she laughed at that but somehow it sounded evil . It made me more uneasy. " You think I need help from someone as evil as you ?" Her words cut deep into my heart .

I looked through her with tears in my eyes , "what have I ever done to you ?" I asked since I needed to know. " You took my son from his rightful bride , the power that was promised to me , all gone just because of you " I looked at her confused.

I was about to ask when gift spoke " papa is coming mama " I looked at him and nodded .

The queen mother , froze for a moment then laughed happily . "My son is coming , now I can finally convince him to leave you white trash " I laughed for a moment but my eyes were still flowing with tears.

I thought I could help her and seeing that I was wrong broke my heart .

Sthe , entered the room and looked at me, seeing my tear stained face he instantly became angry . "Dali, why are you here with this evil woman?" He asked not even bothering to look at his mother.

" Gift , told me I could help her heal" , " yes you could but only if she was willing to let herself heal , an evil heart can repent only when the the owner is willing to change her ways , mother is clearly not willing so let her be" I looked at Sthe , and nodded .

He took my hand gently and we left the room.

I could hear the queen mother , yelling some pretty colourful profanities at me . I smiled to myself , hey what the hell was I being sad for , I had my husband and family with me .

I had more friends than I've had the first half of my life . Thinking this way made me happy so I held my head high and walked with my husband and child .

Like that we spent the first week in peace but as you know I can never rest . Just as I was finally taking a stroll by myself around the village after a lot of begging since my husband still did not trust I could stay out of trouble if I was alone .

Who knew a few kisses would convince him . I had finally caught a strong weapon to use against Sthe , my husband was weak to my sweet kisses.

Anyway I took a stroll around the village admiring how beautiful it was when I heard my name being called . "Ajax!" I turned since I did not recognise the voice.

I knew the young woman who had called me , although she looked a bit older than she should have and she also looked miserable."Nina , what can I do for you?" I asked her politely since I did not want to cause a scene knowing the woman's character.

"I mean no harm Ajax, I just wish to talk to you " the woman had never been more polite so I was surprised.

I was a bit hesitant to follow her til I heard grandma's voice in my mind " **go with her dear and hear her story , what you do after it's for you to decide , just know her fate is in your hands** " her words got me thinking hard at the end I decided to follow Nina.

I followed Nina , and she led me to a place near the river . It was not me and Sthe's sacred oak tree of cause but a smaller tree , it provided good shade though.

I looked at Nina , waiting for her to begin , since I needed to know the reason she needed to talk to me so urgently.

"Do you know people think I grew up in a good home simply because my father was wealthy. He had many cattle and many wife's which means he has a lot of children.

I happen to be his 13th child and one of 15 female children that he has" . She began.

"What does this have to do with me ?" I asked her since I was curious . " Listen quietly Ajax , and don't interrupt me " I nodded to show I would do what she asks of me .

" Since we are so many we all wished to gain father's attention , I was among those who want his attention but he never gave it to me . The only time my father ever spoke to me was when he wanted to berate me for the wrongs I had done but he never praised the good I did" . After she said that her eyes clouded with sadness.

"This need to feel loved by my father grew with me as I became older , that is why I set my sight on prince Sthembiso , to me he was the only way I could gain my father's attention . My father loves power and he would do anything for it , so I figured , if I become queen then he'll finally look at me and tell me he was proud of me.

To achieve this I constantly chased after the prince but he never gave me the time of day" . It kind of got me mad that she was chasing after Sthe , while I was not in the picture yet .

"I conspired with the queen to get what I want , of cause I never told you this since we were rivals and all but my father was the strongest traditional doctor in our village.

There was nothing he could not do , the queen wanted more power , while I wanted my father to look at me so I went along with their plan not even thinking about the backlash of it all when it all comes back to haunt me.

My father promised the queen mother , spiritual powers that would keep her young and beautiful eternally". I was shocked by her words but it finally made sense to me what the queen mother , was talking about .

"Everything was going to plan til you came , your mere presence made our whole plan fall apart. The queen was beyond angry when prince Sthembiso , declared you would be his bride , I was devastated by the whole thing.

That is why I hated you so much , I hated that you took the only chance I had to be closer to my father". I felt sorry for her when I heard her words.

" So the queen mother , came up with another plan which we agreed to. The plan was to kill you since you were an obstacle to us reaching our goal. It made me uneasy to take another life but the queen mother, convinced me , she said my father would finally see me , he would love me .

The temptation was too sweet so I went along with her plan . We got a charm that would allow me to get Into

your marital hut at night and finally kill you , but we did not expect you to also have spiritual backing that far surpassed that of my father" .

I frowned finally figuring out that the person who was in our hut on our wedding night was Nina.

" Since our first plan to kill you failed we thought to just poison you normally but the day we were supposed to do that you disappeared.

We sighed In relief thinking we finally got rid of you . We were wrong , prince Sthembisio , went crazy after he found out you were gone . Somehow he found out about our plan and we were severely punished.

My father was stripped of his wealth , I was flogged and tossed in the jungle for several days . The queen mother , was stripped of her tittle as queen , now the only people who still call her queen are those who still feel awkward calling her anything else .

Her punishment was going to be more severe but she fell ill mysteriously. No matter how much the doctors tried they could not figure out what was wrong with the queen mother".

I knew what was wrong with her but I would not tell Nina , she did not deserve to know.

" As you know I was chosen to become a bride by Sipho Lunga. The man is sweet , even after he found out what I had done he still forgave me , for that I fell in love with him .

I thought finally I could live happily , who would have thought my past deeds would come back to haunt me . No matter how hard we tried , I couldn't reproduce. I knew my husband was not the problem , the problem was me .

Despite all of this my husband insisted it was not my fault . His family was against me but he stood up for me ,his actions made me feel even more guilty".I sighed feeling truly sorry for her .

"Two years finally passed and his family suggested he should marry again , this made my whole world fall apart , my husband did not agree though I could see his longing to have a child to call his own .

Then the night before you came back my late mother visited me in my dream she told me only through your forgiveness can my life get back on track. So you see why I asked to speak to you so urgently.

Ajax , please find it in your heart to forgive me , I beg of you , whatever you need from me I'll provide . So will you forgive me?"

That question made me think very deeply. She had hurt me yes , but should I hurt her back ? My answer was very simple and it came from the depths of my heart.

" Nina, I forgive you and I hope from now on your life is nothing but peaceful. I want to ask one question though". "What is it ? " , "Do you still pine after your father's love?" She smiled sadly after I asked that .

" No , because I found someone more precious and that person loves me no matter what I do , my father is not so important to me anymore though I will always love him".

I was happy for her and I noticed we were both crying silently. She hugged me gently and I returned it . " Thank you Ajax" , hearing those three words I knew I had made a new friend .

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Time had past since I forgave Nina , and to tell the truth I was really happy I forgave her since I gained a new friend.

I told Sthe , about what happened and he picked me up with a warm smile and span me around , he told me "Dali , I'm very proud of you " our two chipmunks were giggling the whole time which made my heart warm.

I was proud of what I had done and turns out grandma ,was just as proud of me as I was of myself since I heard her voice in my mind, of cause her being proud was not the only reason she spoke to me .

" Ajax , I'm so proud of you child you did very well ,I have news though . The ones who birthed you will soon come , child prepare your heart . Listen is all I'll tell you the rest is up to you. Whatever you choose will decide their fate. Until next time child , stay happy" after hearing her words I froze still in Sthe's arms.

My heart beat loudly and I held on tightly to him , "what's wrong Dali?" He asked his voice sounding worried." Their coming Sthe " he frowned a bit at my words .

" Who is coming?" I looked up with teary eyes , " my parents Sthe , I bet their coming to cause trouble , why else would they want to see me after two years" Sthe , sighed and kissed my lips gently , his smile was warm and loving as he looked at me.

" Dali , do not assume their purpose for coming to our home , let us wait and see what they will do" I knew he was right but I refused to listen for some reason . In my mind my parents have never been good and it was true , they have never treated me like a person and I had gotten used to being their puppet .

Now that I was free of their shackles I did not want to go back. I realised at that moment why I was reluctant to meet them , I was afraid of feeling it again , the pain of loosing my parents .

Although I tried to deny it I could never do it. I loved my parents I truly did , me and Nina , truly were the same when it came to that aspect , we just wanted our parents to love us back .

" Worry not Dali, with me here nothing will happen" I smiled a teary smile at that. I truly loved my husband , he never failed to cheer me up .

" Your right I'll listen to you " he looked at me with those deep brown eyes of his and smirked , "I feel like going for a swim" .

My eyes widened at those words and my cheeks spotted a red hue. " Sthe , please stop being a pervert " his chuckle after I spoke was deep and husky making my body Slightly heat up . I realised I was still in his arms .

" Put me down , I don't feel very safe in your arms at this moment" , " oh , why not Dali?" His voice was full of mischief as he squeezed my bum a bit .

I gasped shocked then hit him which of cause ended up with me hurting my poor hands and he just laughed. I was about to scold him when Joy , spoke .

" Mama , what is a pervert?" I gasped at his question and glared at Sthe . I felt so ashamed since I forgot our two boys were in the same room as us .

" Dear children should not ask that or the big dragon will take them away at night" Joy , looked shocked at my words . " The big bird that breathes fire mama?" He asked sounding slightly scared .

" Yes baby child " , " I don't want it to take me mama " he said running to us .

I chuckled then became serious " I won't let it take you baby child if you never ask me that question okay " he nodded very quickly I kind of got worried his head will fall off. I loved how naive children could be.

" I'll protect you JoJo" Gift , spoke with his soft voice . I looked at him feeling very proud , "no , I'll protect Gigi", Joy , said puffing up his chest , I smiled as Sthe , put me down. I hugged the two and gave them both loving kisses .

" Now that your done having fun with your mother go and play with your friends boys , Sthe , said to the boys who nodded happily .

" Okay papa!!" The two yelled running out of our room . " Now how about my offer to take a swim?" Sthe ,asked holding on to my waist , he laid gentle kisses on my neck and I shivered .

" I'm sorry Mr Khaya, I can't take your offer because a man once told me that if I ever get naked in his presence my waist will ache" I spoke innocently while smiling secretly to myself .

I wanted to go and swim in the river but honestly Sthe , had zero self control . Yes my husband could not keep his hands to himself , can you believe it? well if you don't you should.

" That man must have been stupid to tell you that luckily I'm your husband . You can naked infront of me anytime " I shook my head with a warm smile and turned so I can kiss him better .

We did not go to the river since my husband could not wait even a moment longer to have me . My waist ached but I was happy , very happy.

A week past and I decided to just sit with my family and chat. The whole of that particular day I was restless , I did not know why so it got me on edge and Sthe, noticed.

" What's troubles you Dali?" He asked gently and I sighed , " I don't know Sthe" . Sthe , was about to speak when Gift, came running to us on his chubby short legs. It was kind of cute .

" Mama , papa , their here " he said when he finally reached us . Sthe , was shocked by his words and looked a bit curious. " My parents have arrived Sthe " I said fear striking me stronger than I expected. I looked up as a car parked just infront of our house .

Grandfather , got out first followed by grandpa Titan and uncle Sona . Finally the people I wanted to forget yet longed to see got out of the car. Their appearance shocked me .

For a moment I wondered if they were truly my parents . My mother , had always been a beautiful woman , always adorned with expensive jewelry and dresses , her make-up always on point but the woman who stood infront of me at that moment was not the same .

She looked old and sad . She was not wearing any make- up , she was not wearing her jewelry and even her clothes looked too casual and poor.

A simple brown skirt , blue shirt and black pumps. My sight went to my father and he was just as old , his clothes were also too casual , not his usual expensive suit. Even his imposing aura that I was used to was not there .

To say I was stunned seeing them would have been an understatement. I looked at them for a long time without uttering a single word .

"Ajax " my father called out and his voice sounded lower that it used to , it was not as powerful as it used to be .

I did not answer him as he called my name , it seemed as if I was still frozen . "Are those our grandchildren?" Mother asked softly . Those words woke me up from my daze and I finally spoke.

u bdate everyone ☐

"what are you both doing here ?" I asked sounding more hostile than I intended to be . They both looked a little weary after hearing my tone of voice .

It surprised me since I knew my parents from before would have retaliated with just as much hostility but they did not. They looked even more dejected than before.

Their reaction honestly confused me . I wondered what was wrong with them. "Are you both deaf ?" They still did not reply and I got even angrier.

" That's enough Dali, let your parents speak it's clear they have something important to tell you" Sthe , softly reprimanded me while slowly caressing my arm to keep me calm .

After he spoke I looked at my parents without a word. "Thank you son-in-law " my father said looking at Sthe , with gentle eyes .

Seeing my father act so out of norm made me quite suspicious honestly yet once again I remained silent. " Your welcome father-in-law " Sthe , replied politely.

" May we have a seat please" my mother asked , when she asked that I seriously tensed . It was just too odd seeing them act so polite.

"Go ahead " Sthe , spoke once again pointing to a bench near us . My grandparents and uncle were already sitting on the other one. My parents sat down with a polite thanks.

I was about to speak when the sleeve of my shirt was tugged lightly , I looked down and it was Joy , who wanted my attention. "

Mama , who are they? " he was curious when he asked that and I knew but I did not feel like telling him so I replied " their not anyone important at the moment , take your brother and go play with the other children alright I'll call you when lunch is ready" my little boy nodded obediently and took his brother's hand .

Joy , was about to pull Gift , away when the boy spoke . " Mama , listen to them and don't harden your heart your kinder than that " after he said that he smiled like a child he is and ran away with Joy, hand in hand.

It always got me curious how one minute he was speaking like an adult then the next moment he was acting like a child .

After the children had left I once again looked at my parents. It took them a moment but my father finally spoke.

" After that day you disowned us strange things began to happen" he spoke slowly as if it was hard to even get the words out of his mouth.

" It started with us having weird nightmares of a child who was abandoned, each time the child asked the same question ' **why did you leave daddy and mommy**' the dream made us have less and less sleep as the days went by" he sighed as if remembering the dream.

A child who asked why they abandoned him ? I laughed a little , it was not a happy laugh but a sad one . I knew that child , that child could be no one but myself , as a child I used to ask myself why they did not love me .

" Things got worse when the companies began to have problems , things like fraud were happening , the shareholders sold their shares , the companies began to go bankrupt, the employees began to steal from us .

What was worse was we could not stop it , we tried to ask for help but no one would give us a hand , even our so called friends we held in high esteem left us without a care in the world".

I could say nothing to that , I had always tried to warn them about their friends but they never wanted to listen, honestly I felt they got what they deserved.

" The companies we worked hard to build crushed just like that , everywhere we went we either got mocked or pitied which did not make our situation better at all".

After that he seemed as if he could not speak anymore so my mother took over.

" After all that happened , your father got sick , we took him to the hospital and they told us he had lung cancer , the only good thing about it was that it was on its starting stages and could be removed with a simple operation .

We were really happy til we encountered a problem , money , the one thing we had never dreamed we would ever be short on was our biggest problem.

We decided to visit my parents and ask them for help , you won't believe how they treated us " my mother was close to tears when she said all that.

"They first refused us entry to their mansion and we had to speak to them through the Intercom system installed at the gate , we had never felt such humiliation since they day we were born.

I asked them for money for your father's operation. My parents straight up refused , they told us they wanted nothing to do with us , that I was a disgrace of a daughter for marrying a good for nothing like your father .

I was honestly surprised since the time I decided to marry your father they were really happy and told me how proud they were that I snagged myself a fine man like your father ". Now she was full on crying.

" They chased us away before their reputation could be tarnished , since being seen near their gate would bring them nothing but misfortune.

I was honestly disappointed in my parents then one thing finally hit us . We were just like them , Ajax , we finally realised we were horrible parents to you , we only cared about our reputation and casted our only son aside .

Ajax , that realisation made us really ashamed . Guilt began to eat us up and we had a strong edge to apologize to you so we went to your apartment , only to find out you had already left and had sold it .

We searched everywhere but could not find you and slowly your father was getting worse and we needed help . As if our problems were not enough we fell into debt somehow and had to sell our mansion and cars just to repay it back which left us with nothing.

Finally your father thought of his parents , with how badly we treated them in contrast to how well we treated my parents we were worried that they would also not help us .

How wrong we were , as soon as we got there they embraced us , they gave us warmth and we felt even more ashamed , your father turned into a child again in his father's arms that's when I realised what horrible people we truly were.

I guess it took us suffering to show us we were turning into monsters. His parents and brother paid for his operation and it was successful.

We then had one last thing to do , and that was find our son and apologize , we asked his parents about your whereabouts and they told us they'll take us to your home .

We never knew we would be traveling to South Africa" . After she spoke they both looked at me .

"Ajax , son , we are so sorry , we realise how horrible we were and you did not deserve all that , your not a dirty faggot your honest and sweet and we accept you , we don't care about your sexuality and we don't think your a freak for having the ability to carry a child , we just think your blessed .

You have a handsome husband and equally handsome children . Please find it in your heart to forgive us , we know our wrongs and that is why we found the courage to apologize".

I could not say a word after they spoke , I just cried silently still looking at them , Sthe , held me gently his hand running up and down my back in soothing circles to calm me down .

I looked at him and he smiled and nodded . I knew he could see what I had decided even before I said it .That was also another reason I loved my husband so much , he just understood me. I stood up from his lap and went to my parents .

I took each ones hand and they both stood up and then like a child I embraced them and cried , they also wept . They kept on saying sorry and my heart both ached and felt warmth .

I knew I had made the right decision when I spoke those three words " I forgive you".

I felt somehow lighter after I forgave my parents . I could feel the huge burden that had followed me my whole life had finally Fallen off. I asked my parents if they would be going back to America with my grandparents but they told me no . They told me they rather loved south Africa and they enjoyed not being stared at like they contracted some type of illness.

I was honestly happy they were staying , it was about time we bonded . So weeks past just like that and I had never been more happy , my parents tried their best to try and get to know me and my family and I truly appreciated their effort. The twins were very happy to get to know their grandparents . I had never seen mother and father more happy , they seemed like they were free and I was glad for that .

Sitting on the front porch after dinner I was tired and all I wanted was to go to bed . That was when I heard an excited screech . I lifted my head from my husband's chest and smiled . Nina , stood there before me glowing like never before . She looked really happy and finally looked her age . " What has made you so happy Nina?" I asked her curiously. At my question she burst into tears and I panicked.

"Ajax , I'm finally pregnant , I'm going to be a mother " she said still crying , I stood up from Sthe's lap and went to her . I just embraced her and laughed happily , I was so glad and grateful that she could finally be fully happy . " I'm so happy for you Nina , I hope you have a strong and beautiful child " my words were true and I hoped they would come true .

"He will be mama " Gift's voice suddenly spoke , startling me near to death . I really could never predict the actions of that boy . I still can't. " Why are you saying that Gift?" I asked him seriously. " I just know Mama because his very special to me , aunty Nina , take good care of him because he is my gift from above" I was shocked by his words , they were unbelievable til what grandma told me hit me like lightning. The boy was going to be Gift's significant other.

Nina , looked really confused and I could not find it in me to clarify what my child meant. I could not do it , what if she did everything to stop destiny like the queen mother had . I was truly frightened." What do you mean by he ?" She looked at Gift , for an answer. " Your going to have a son aunty Nina" Nina , was really shocked by his words . " I'm only a month along how can you tell?"

Gift , smiled at her without a word then left us alone to take in his words . He ran to Joy , and they ran away to find Mariam and Lebo's children . " Don't worry about how he knew all that , just do as he said , that child of yours is special". Nina , just nodded and I went in to call Mariam and Lebo, to celebrate I also wanted Thandi , to join us so I sent someone to call her . I was truly happy for Nina . I hoped she would always be happy.

Sthe , smiled at me and whispered," so when are we going to make another child ?" I looked at him skeptically .

" Sthe , you know I don't want another child " he knew my fear , I was almost dead the last time I gave birth to the twins . Getting pregnant again struck a big fear inside of me ." Dali, this time it will be different and I know it , I know your afraid , but you don't have to be , I promise I will always be there ".

" I know Sthe , but everytime I think about it I get so frightened" Sthe , looked at me with love in his brown eyes . The eyes that only saw me and I knew it . That man would do anything for me , even give me his life.

I wanted to make him happy , truly happy but I could not think about having another child it was simply too

much for me to think about.

I looked at him and kissed him slowly without a word . I wanted to show him that no matter what I loved him . He kissed me back of cause and we fell into it til we heard multiple throats clearing.

I looked up from my husband's embrace and my cheeks became inflamed . I was so embarassed. Everyone was standing there . Mother, grandpa Titan , Mariam , Lebo , Nina and even Thandi .

I tried to hide my embarassment by burying my head on my husband's chest ,Which rumbled as he chuckled and held me tighter. " I love your reactions so much Dali " he told me and I hit his chest , trying to get him to stop teasing me .

" Anyway Dali , I'll leave you guys to your celebration and go drinking with the other man at the back , I heard Mariam , made some strong traditional beer " I looked at Mariam and she smiled at me . " I did dear , don't worry about brother-in-law , after it's hit him hard he'll come and show you a good time " my mouth dropped at that and I watched as Sthe , walked away with more confidence than usual it really made me crazy suspicious.

"Anyway guys thank you for coming with food and drinks " I thanked them with a wide grin . " I've got good news" I said looking at Nina , and we yelled together " she's\ I'm pregnant!!!"

Everyone was shocked then they suddenly yelled happily too. They all gave Nina , hugs and I smiled warmly. " Congratulations sweetheart" my mother congratulated. " Thank you Mrs Tailor" my mother smiled at her then at me . " So should I be expecting another grandchild from you Ajax?" I looked at her wide eyed .

" Mother no" I replied feeling very embarassed and they all laughed at me which made me pout. " Don't worry Mrs Tailor, after today he'll surely give you one " Mariam , said winking at my mother .

I could not believe the nerve of that woman . " That won't be happening anytime soon , thank you very much" I said while holding my hip in a diva pose. Mariam , just looked at me mysteriously , which made me really suspicious. What the hell did she do to my husband's beer . " Mariam , what did you do ?" I asked her with narrowed eyes .

" Nothing dear , just you know made sure the men will be keeping you all up all night long " we all looked at her shocked . "What does that mean?" My mother asked nervously. " Yeah please explain yourself young lady" grandpa Titan , said with a stern voice.

" I spiked the traditional beer all our husbands are drinking" she said smirking. We all looked at her In horror and we all began to run the same direction . I could not believe she did that . My husband was a beast in bed , can you imagine what he'd do if his sexual desire was enhanced? Yeah I thought so it'd be super bad.

"Sthe! step away from the beer " I warned with urgency . I could tell the others were just as equally agitated. They also stopped their husbands from drinking . To our horror though their drinking pots were halfway empty .

I looked at Sthe , and his brown eyes were darker as he looked at me . I laughed nervously , "honey are you okay ?" I asked hoping the drug would not affect him . " I'm very okay Dali" he spoke his voice deeper and it sent shivers down my spine . With just those words I knew I had a long night ahead of me .

I cursed Mariam ,in my heart, she ruined our celebration and made me sleep with a mutated beast . Sthe ,
picked me up bridal style Infront of everyone and walked to our room. I cried without tears at my fate .

I prayed Marian's husband would do her for two days so she'll learn her lesson. Who would have thought I
had cursed myself instead . By the time I got to rest I was thoroughly exhausted . I might have fallen into a
coma , who knows , what I knew was my husband must never , ever come near any drugs of that nature ever
again and I emphasise **never** .

hey everyone here's another update enjoy□

A month had finally passed after my husband ravished me half to death . I was mad at him for a few days but that man knew just what to do to melt my heart . I was also angry at Mariam , not just me alone though, me and my team of wives who were tormented by their husbands.

It was funny how all of us complained about Mariam ,yet the woman acted like she was innocent , truly evil. Anyway that episode passed quickly and life seemed to be flowing in the right direction which made me breath easier .

For some time I had been feeling odd though , and it got me very nervous . The tiredness , the overeating and the moods . I refused to believe it was what I thought it was .

I could not be pregnant again , no , I refused. Things went down hill when I started craving carrot cake. I cried , yes I wept my eyes , red and puffy. I could not believe it.

Sthe , was surprised by my sudden outburst . " Dali , are you okay ?" He asked looking very worried . I did not say a word , I simply continued to cry . He tried to hold me but I stepped back . It was his fault , everything in me blamed him.

"Dali" he called out his voice sounding really hurt ,but I did not respond . I looked at him with anger in my eyes . " It's all your fault!" I yelled at him , feeling very frustrated.

Sthe , looked confused and he had the right to be. I looked and acted crazy . " I'm going out for a while don't follow me Sthe , and I mean it " .

Walking out on him was harder than it should have been but I needed time to myself. I needed time to think. I was so scared , so scared.

What if what happened the last time happened again ? I was supposed to be happy to have another child but no all I felt was fear . Deeply rooted fear.

I walked all the way to a small lake I had discovered weeks prior. It was like my safe heaven . Really calming . That was the kind of peace I needed at that moment.

"Child you seem distressed, your heart is not calm , do you want to talk about it?" Hearing grandma's voice I felt relieved .

" Grandma , I'm afraid I'm once again pregnant " I could feel grandma smile in my mind and it soothed me .

" My child that is good news , do you not feel the same?" I took a deep breath and told her what plagued my heart.

"I'm afraid I'll end up losing my life this time around, my children are still so small and my husband needs me . What if this time I truly can't escape death ".

Grandma sighed then once again smiled **" that child is a gift not a curse , you will be alright , the last time was caused by the gifted child "** I knew she was right , I just wished I would not feel so scared.

" It is alright to be frightened but don't let that fear be the reason you loose that joy of carrying your

child" she was right and it got me thinking.

I hugged myself with a soft sigh and looked at the lake , it was pretty quiet unlike me whose spirit was chaotic." I'll try my hardest grandma but it is going to be truly hard "

" I know child but remember this, your not alone , everyone is with you" silence reigned after she said those words.

My family and friends would be supportive and I knew it . It made me happy to realise that since it seemed sometimes I forgot just how lucky I truly was.

The most supportive person though I would say was Sthe , then it hit me . My husband , I had been so rude to him . That moment my happy mood turned distressed again.

"Dali" his voice called out and for a moment I thought I was helucinating . "Dali" he called again and I turned my body to look behind me.

I gasped because right infront of me my husband stood in all his handsome glory. Yes , even at that moment in time I still thought my husband was to drool over.

"I'm sorry for whatever I have done " he apologized looking at me with those love filled eyes making me feel even more guilty.

I stood up slowly and walked towards him hesitantly. When I finally stood infront of him I just embraced him and cried silently . " I'm sorry Sthe , I'm so sorry"

" Don't cry Dali , I forgive you , now tell me why are you so upset" I looked up at him at that and finally confessed." Sthe , I'm pregnant again"

At that moment his smile could not have been brighter . It actually warmed my heart and eased some of my fear. So what if

I could die , if I could make him smile that bright , It was totally worth it.

" Do you know Dali, it hurts me when your sad , angry or in pain , it hurts so much it feels almost physical" my heart ached hearing those words coming out of his lips.

" I'm truly sorry Sthe , I was out of control this time , I should not have let my fear get the best of me " after I spoke Sthe , claimed my lips in a searing , deep kiss that left me breathless.

" Dali , let's go home , our boys must be worried about us " . I nodded and finally whispered , " I'm hungry Sthe , I want carrot cake" Sthe , laughed at that.

" My Dali , seems to turn into a rabbit when his pregnant , probably why you decided to keep one " my cheeks tinted pink at that and I hit his chest with a pout.

" Hey keeping Bonny , was to save his life and I love that rabbit" Sthe , raised his brow at that and his eyes darkened.

" I must say I'm very jealous of that rabbit , it seems I really should give it to Lebo , so she can make rabbit

stew with it"

My eyes widened at that , " Sthe , no , you'll do no such thing " he chuckled at the horror that could be detected in my voice .

I looked at him and decided I was happy with the man no matter what we go through. When we arrived at home , Joy and Gift , came running to us .

Gift , touched my stomach and smiled , " mama it's a girl " he turned to Joy , " JoJo , we're going to be big brothers!" Joy , gasped shocked and looked at me ." Is it true mama ?" I nodded to confirm and he yelled " yay I'm going to be a big brother too!"

I shook my head at my silly boys , that was how I found out the gender of my baby . Who needs a doctor when you have a gifted child? Yep , no one.

I was still looking at the two dancing all silly when Mariam's voice rang out " Mrs Tailor ,I told you it will happen!!" She all but yelled for the whole village to hear.

The woman was seriously crazy , I wondered how her husband and children could handle her. So like that everyone gathered around us saying congratulations .

I was happy yet somewhat embarassed. I truly did not know what to do with myself . Nina , looked at me . " It seems we're connected by fate " how right she was and she did not even know.

I looked at her stomach then at Gift , who was laughing and playing with his brother . I could feel a sigh coming on.

It took some time but I finally got used to the idea of carrying my baby girl. Like that months passed quickly.

The night was a peaceful one for everyone but myself, as you know my nights can get pretty hectic. That night was one of those nights, I tried to fall asleep but I could not. Something in me told me I should not fall asleep and I always trust my gut feeling.

As far as I knew it was supposed to be a clear night yet thunder began to rumble loudly all of a sudden and I was startled.

I frowned and looked at Sthe, the man was sleeping like he did not hear it. It kept rumbling and the rumbling got louder. **" It's about to happen child "** I heard grandma's voice in my mind.

" What is about to happen grandma?" She was silent for a moment then spoke again. **" Your son's beloved is about to enter this world. Gift, already knows, he'll be here soon you better wake Sthe, up".**

I nodded and began to shake Sthe, gently. " What happened Dali? are you alright?" I looked at him and sighed. " Nina, is about to give birth" he sat up startled at that. " Since your telling me, it means we have to go to her " I nodded in agreement.

Just then our door was pushed open by an excited little boy. " Mama, papa, his coming !" Gift, said happily. " I know baby child, we have to go " Gift, nodded. " Your right mama, we have to hurry, since he is waiting for me "

We all stood up and went to the boys' room, I did not want to leave Joy, all alone so I told Sthe, to carry him. I could not carry the two with my huge stomach so that was his job.

We informed Mariam, and the rest, we were going to Nina's house. Mariam, looked uneasy, when I told her. " Your going to Nina's house?" I nodded in confirmation. " Ajax dear, you should not go, trust me, the only good person in that household is Nina's husband"

Her words got me unsettled but I knew I had to go. Gift, had to be there. He was needed I felt it. " I'll see you guys when we come back " that was all I said before I took my family and we walked to Nina's house.

It took some time because I was a bit slow but we finally got there. I immediately heard screaming as we neared the gate. Nina, seemed to be praying unlike I who had cursed my husband to the moon and back.

" What are you doing here in my house?!" A man's voice boomed which made me frightened, I moved a little closer to my husband. " We are here to see Nina" I spoke bravely.

" You are not welcomed here " he said menacingly. I frowned, " is there a reason I'm not welcomed in your home?" I just had to ask.

" Your a bad omen, your not going to influence my son's wife with your witchcraft" my heart ached at that and I felt slow tears fall down my cheeks. I had thought it was over, yet some people still thought I was a witch who charmed their prince.

Before I could say anything, the man was on the ground bleeding. I was shocked til I looked at my husband who had placed the boys on the ground and had punched the man.

"You dare talk to my wife like that?" He chuckled darkly after saying that and continued beating the man til his sons plead for mercy.

They knew they could not fight against Sthe , the man was strong and I knew that very well ." Enough Sthe " I said after a few moments and he stopped and picked our boys back up.

We were finally allowed into the yard . Nina's screams became louder , til panicked voices began to resound from the hut." We are going to loose her !" That made Gift , slip from his father's arms and run into the hut .

The thunder rumbled even louder . " Little pale boy this is no place for a child get out!" One woman yelled at my son and it got me angry. I was about to speak when grandma spoke first , **" child let the boy speak for himself , he has the voice , after all only a husband can speak for his wife, let him speak"** .

I nodded and stayed silent . That is when Gift , spoke and he sounded more like an adult than a child and I knew his inner voice was the one talking.

" Woman , I'm the prince of this land and like my father , what I say goes , that child that woman is giving birth to is special to me , and I will not allow you to force me to leave his side , if I leave right now the child will never be born and this land will fall into calamity".

The woman seemed stunned by his words, she became tongue tired. Gift , began to chant some words in Zulu , which surprised me who knew only a little bit of Zulu.

Finally after some long hours a cry of a baby was heard . The thunder stopped yet it rained and heavily . We took shelter in a spare hut in the yard . " He is born Sthe " I said sounding more excited than I should be .

" You know Dali , you never told me what is so special about the boy " I nodded at that and told him . " That boy is the future queen of the land , like myself he is special Sthe , he means to our son what I mean to you " .

Sthe, seemed genuinely surprised by my words and I could not blame him . Through all this commotion , Joy ,never woke up . Seriously it made me wonder just how deep he could sleep .

" Mama , he is born , Olwethu June Lunga , my beloved " after Gift, said that his whole demeanor became childlike. He pouted as he rubbed his tired eyes. He went to Sthe , and passed out in his arms .

I smiled softly and laid a sweet kiss on his forehead, and whispered. " You did good my child , mama is so proud of you " . I hoped their future would be bright . I knew I was somewhat wishing for the impossible with my luck but I still hoped.

I wondered would Olwethu , be able to accept Gift , most of all would Gift , be able to accept himself and his destiny. It worried me a lot . I knew he was still a child and did not understand but as he grew up he would be able to realise just what type of burden he was carrying.

" Our son is very strong Dali, the same spirit that runs in me also runs in him I can feel it .Both our boys are very strong " I agreed with him . I knew he would grow up to be very strong and I hoped that was a good thing .

" Worry not child , only the both of them can either break or build each other " I thought deeply after she spoke.

Destinies were never meant to be broken and I hoped nobody would try to temper with their destiny like they tried to temper with ours . For their future , I could only pray.

Hey everyone here's an update, there are only two chapters left of this story and I'll be wrapping it up . Thank you so much for the support.□□□

Nina and the baby were very healthy and their family celebrated the birth of the baby . I was of cause invited to the celebration by Nina , who did not care what her in laws thought about it.

I was happy she was my friend , the problem seemed to be our sons . Olwethu , seemed to always want to be in Gift's presence . I was glad Nina , was a bit ignorant and did not think much about it.

A month past since Nina's son was born . Not much happened after that to be truthful . I was the only one who brought drama with my rotten luck anyway.

One early morning I woke up earlier than usual . I wanted badly to take a walk to the river which was odd since I never really went there without my husband.

"Dali , where are you going?" Sthe , asked in his sexy , sleepy voice. " I'm going to take a stroll to the river" .
" Why are you going to the river at 4:00 am in the morning?" .

" I don't know Sthe , I just want to go there " he nodded and got off the bed . " Let's go " I followed him out of the house. We held hands as we enjoyed the morning breeze.

"Child are you ready to welcome your own child to the world" grandma , asked and I was first startled then fear gripped onto me like a vine and refused to let go.

I was not ready at all , I could not stay calm at that moment and Sthe , noticed. " Dali, are you alright ?" I could not talk with all the trembling.

We finally got to the river and my water broke . I shook intensely and looked at Sthe , with teary eyes , " Sthe , she's coming " he was shocked but unlike the last time he was quicker.

He lifted me off the ground and was about to run back home when Grandma , spoke. **" The river wishes to bless you and your child Ajax , tell him to dip you in it for a moment then go back"** I nodded though confused.

" Sthe , dip me into the river quick then go back" he looked at me confused yet did not question me , he just did as I told him . Finally he ran with my wet body back home.

He told Mariam , to call the mid wife since the hospital was a little further from us and I could not drive that far I was in so much pain. Sthe , was even more nervous and I could tell he was just as frightened as I was .

A bad experience was really too hard to forget . I prayed that this time it would be different . **" Child worry not within a few hours you will be holding your baby girl in your arms "** I wanted to believe her I truly did.

I kept stroking the bead necklace so it can offer me some protection . Soon , Naomi ,the mid wife in her early sixties arrived. She looked like she had experience so I did not doubt her.

I only looked at her in tears , " if I don't make it please save my child , I want her to see the world , I want her to see her motherland" Naomi , nodded in understanding.

" I will do as you wish but in my capable hands both you and your child will be just fine" after she spoke a

contraction hit me so hard I trembled and bit my lip to stop myself from screaming.

That did not work so well as I screamed anyway as another hit me . This went on for hours before Naomi , told me I was ready and could push .

I did as told and pushed with all I had . What was running through my mind at that time , was I could not wait for my baby to be born . I would love her so much, with all my heart .

After a lot of pushing I heard a baby's cry . I sighed in relief seeing I was still alive . I actually wept . I was alive. Naomi , took my child and went to clean her up . After a few minutes she entered the room with Sthe , and our newborn in his arms .

"Dali, you did a good job , she's very beautiful , she has your eyes ". I smiled even though I was so exhausted . I told him to hand the baby over to me . He did and I cried some more looking at her.

" She's so beautiful Sthe" I looked up at him with a teary smile . " I know Dali , after all her mother is equally as beautiful" my cheeks turned crimson at that.

He bend down and claimed my lips with his . " What should we name her ?" I asked him curiously. " Well since the river wanted to bless you I'll name her Lwandle , which means the sea" .

" That is a good name then I'll call her sky " I looked up at everyone who had just entered the room . " Everyone meet our new addition , Lwandle sky Khaya" .

Everyone looked honestly happy to meet the caramel skinned little girl . She was not dark chocolate nor was she white . She was just perfect in my eyes . A sure combination between me and Sthe.

I looked at my two little boys who were trying their best to see their little sister yet were too short to climb on the bed . I thought It was really cute.

" Mama , we want to see her " Joy , said with a pout. " Uh huh , mama , we want to meet her" I smiled and looked at Sthe . He picked the two up and put them next to me .

" Mama , why are her eyes closed ? Is she blind?" Joy asked curiously. I laughed at that . " No Angel , she is not blind , she is still a baby you were also like this " Joy gasped in horror.

" No mama , I could see when I was a baby" everyone laughed at that. Gift , just giggled at his silly little brother. " She is cute mama " I nodded .

"Dali , you look exhausted you should take some rest after feeding her " I looked at Sthe , with love in my eyes . He was always so caring.

" I know " I was glad my little girl did not have some weird future . " **I told you child , you and your family are blessed you should always be happy** " I was happy when she said that . I knew I could finally live happily.

I looked at Gift , I hoped he would be alright. " She is blessed by the river mama , which means she will have eternal happiness" Gift , spoke looking at his little sister.

" Gift , in the future , you will also have eternal happiness" he looked at me and smiled somewhat sadly . " Mama , that is if he accepts me and destiny is not toyed with" .

I looked at him with pity and closed my eyes ." *Grandma , should I give him the bead necklace for luck?*" I waited for a moment before she replied.

" No child , that is your gift from me , he will have his own worry not , Gift , will make it if he stays strong" I nodded .

" Everyone leave I want to clean my wife up " Sthe , finally spoke and that is when I realised I was still covered in grime and blood .

He brought warm water and helped me clean up before I went to bed . I slept soundly and happily. The future I did not know but at that moment I knew one thing I was happy.

hey everyone here's an update . Only one chapter left ,
enjoy ☐

FIVE Years LATER

Many years had passed and of cause my misfortunes were probably forgotten.

Anyway I could not have been happier . The king had finally retired as king and surprisingly he gave his seat as king to Sthe .

Sthe's brothers were cool with it since one just wanted to be a great hunter and one wanted to spend more time with his family.

So yeah I became the first white Zulu queen , I don't know though there might have been others before me .

Being queen could be a bit taxing but I was happy to see that everyone became more accepting of me. It made me truly happy.

My coronation as queen was a bit odd since just before I was crowned a strange light came from the sky and illuminated my whole body.

I probably looked like some fairy and it confused me . Til of cause grandma , clarified everything for me .

" Child our ancestors have blessed you and will also bless the queen after you , you will never meet misfortune again as long as you live" when grandma , said that I cried.

Yes , I cried my eyes off , elegantly of cause , I was a queen after all I had to lead by example. I couldn't cry like a siren , that would have been truly shameful.

Days passed happily like that well they were supposed to accept Gift , kept having trouble with Olwethu. I did not get what was the problem seriously.

One evening I decided to ask Gift , " son , we need to talk" I know I probably sounded too serious talking to a seven year old but it could not be helped Gift , was a bit different from other children .

" Yes , mama , is everything alright ?" He asked me curiously. I nodded before I spoke , " what is the problem between you and Olwethu ?" .

He sighed before he spoke , " mama , it seems Olwethu , always thinks his right although his wrong and it's very annoying" .

I looked at him incredulously. " Baby boy , the boy is only five of cause he thinks his right" Gift , pouted then looked at me . " He seems to act a bit spoiled too ,he wants everyone to listen to him , what's so special about him?" .

My son left me speechless . So I could not say anything for a while not knowing what to say so I decided to show my son the right way to treat his future wife.

I knew how Olwethu , felt , I was just like him . I was very spoiled by my husband , always pining for his attention and I always wanted to be right even when I'm wrong.

I stood up and yelled "Sthe !!" The man came running to me with all his might and I smiled smugly. " Yes

Dali?" He asked as he entered our sons' room . " Sthe , $1+1 = 11$ I'm I correct ?" Sthe , nodded .

"I'm pretty smart ain't I Sthe ?" He nodded again . " My Dali , is the smartest " my cheeks turned crimson at that and pecked his lips . " You deserve a reward for that " . He smiled and held me closer . " What are you doing Dali?" .

I looked up at him and pouted , "Sthe , I feel like eating fried steak" Sthe , smiled at me. " I'll go and get it".

"I don't want it too overcooked but it must be cooked , the spices have to fit my taste or else I won't eat it".

" Whatever makes my Dali , happy " my husband is a danger to the kitchen but he sure can make a mean steak .

He kissed me before he left the room. I turned to look at Gift , and his jaw was on the floor . " Mama , you just acted like Olwethu " I chuckled at that . " Yes I did and did your father get angry ?" .

He shook his head no . " Baby child , do you know what to do now ?" I asked him with a warm smile . " I know mama , I'll do it tomorrow" I kissed his forehead then told him I was proud of him .

I looked at my other little boy and he was sleeping soundly . He was full of mischief and his main target at that moment seemed to be Thando , who was Thandi's oldest son .

He was about nine years old but was very gentle. Everytime Joy, bullied him , he would just smile and never hit him or fight back. My son could be very naughty that sometimes I have to stop him when he goes too far.

Either than all those problems life was pretty good . I kissed Joy , as well then went out of their room.

Just as I entered our room I found Sthe , inside with a plate of perfectly made stake. My heart raced and my smile could not have been wider.

" You really made steak Sthe " I looked at him with loving eyes. " My Dali , asked for steak , of cause I'll make steak" I walked up to him and embraced him tightly.

" Sthe , thank you " he embraced me as well . " Why are you thanking me Dali ?" I looked at him . " I'm thinking you for being there for me , for loving me , for giving me three beautiful children and for being my husband".

" Dali , you got it all wrong , the one who should be thankful is me " he kissed me deeply after and that poor steak was soon forgotten.

The next morning I cooked breakfast with Mariam , who was as mischievous as always . We were still talking when my little girl came running towards the Cooking shed .

" Mama, JoJo , is using Dodo , as a horse again!!" My daughter came to tell on her older brother again . My little had a very serious hobby , that was to tell on people.

I smiled at sky , " baby girl mama will come in a moment " I said smiling at her . She nodded with a pout . I looked at Mariam , she just smiled at me . " Go and take care of your troublemaker" . " Thank you so much Mariam " .

She just chuckled and waved her hand in dismissal. I ran to the front yard and it was true .

Joy , was busy ridding on Thando's back , he kept on yelling "go horse , faster , how can a horse be so slow, bad horse!" .

"Joy , unmount that boy this moment! " I reprimanded with a stern voice . He did as told and I helped the poor boy stand up from the ground.

"Why are you letting that naughty boy walk all over you?" I asked Thando , a bit concerned. The boy just looked up at me and smiled .

" Is it not good to spoil him ? After all I think his very cute , just like a small rabbit". My jaw dropped at his words . I looked at Thando , a bit more and just sighed .

My little girl ran up to us and held Thando's hand , " let's go and play together " she said with an excited tone. What I did not expect was for Joy to come and take her hand away from Thando's hand.

" He is playing with me go away!" he actually growled at his little sister. " Joy , stop that !" What was more unexpected is that he actually cried when I reprimanded him.

" Mama , he can only play with me he can't play with her , he can't!" He yelled. Thando , smiled and hugged him . " Don't cry JoJo , I'll only play with you okay" Joy , actually nodded and I was shocked.

Grandma's voice chuckled in my mind " **my child this is very interesting it seems he is molded for your son** " I had nothing to say to that .

I was about to turn when I heard Gift's begging voice. " Olwethu , my queen please forgive me I'll do anything you want and your always right I'm the one who's wrong" .

Olwethu , actually turned to him, " kiss my hand and tell me I'm the best in the whole world" my son without once of protest knelt on the ground, took Olwethu's hand gently and and kissed it sweetly.

" My Lolo ,is the best in the whole world , in this village no one is more pretty or more talented. Olwethu , smiled . I forgive you , he then kissed Gift , on his cheek and giggled.

All the children began to play while I found a bench and rested . I could not stop thinking about their futures . It was too troublesome to think about .

Suddenly as I was sitting down , strong arms picked me up and Sthe , sat me on his lap .

" You seem troubled " I looked at him . " I was but since your here I know everything is going to be alright".

He smiled and we sat silently on the bench looking at the children.

As I sat there I felt true happiness flow through me . My life may have not been perfect but it was satisfactory and I was happy with it.

I looked at Sthe ,again and gave him a sweet kiss . " Sthe , I love you " he looked gently at me before he replied. " Dali, I love you more" .

With that my story ended , I looked at Gift and Olwethu , maybe they'll tell you their story.

_____ hey everyone so that's the last chapter I hope you enjoyed my story and thank you so much for the support .□

-----++++-;------ so I was thinking of writing Gift's story next , I'm thinking of separating Gift and Joy's stories like write Joy's story after I finish with Gift's story .

So if you guys have any thoughts on that please tell me I'd like to hear them.

Once again thank you guys□□

So someone asked me for the cast of this story so here they are□ I found the pics on the internet..

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Ajax Tailor ..is he not cute people?!!□□

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Dun dun dun...there's our hubby people!!!□□ Sthembiso Khaya ..

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The king (Sthe's father)

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Ajax's mother (

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Alax (Ajax's father)

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Baby Joy (his very cute) □

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Baby Gift (also very cute)□

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The mischievous Mariam

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The queen mother

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Lebo (the rabbit cooker)

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Thandi the sweet one

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Nina

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Baby Olwethu (the cutest)☐

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Baby Lwandle (the cutie),☐

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Bonnie the forgotten rabbit

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Jennifer (the ex)

Hey everyone enjoy the pics . _____&&&I've decided to write the stories of Joy and Gift separately
☐

Hey guys The **second book** is out and it's called: **my destined Zulu bride** . plz check it out and I hope you enjoy it☐