

## **SCREENPLAYS WRITTEN BY TINA-LOUISE SMITH**

These are the last versions of the scripts that I worked on. They may have been changed further down the line by the production team to accommodate locations and other logistics.

**EPISODE:** 199

**TX DATE:**

**WRITER:** Tina-Louise Smith

**DRAFT:** 01

**TOTAL WORD COUNT:** 3359 (excluding character names and scene descriptions)

**TOTAL DIALOGUE COUNT:** 1610

**STORY DAYS PER EPISODE:** 3 (219, 220, 221)

**LEADS:** Neo, Rendani, KB, Gugu, Thando, Sli, Stukkie, Shandu, Thabelo, Pula, Dino, Khosi, Khangwe, Dumi, Gazini

**SUPPORTS:** Benson, Ayanda, Mpho, Aluwani, Tshilidzi, Lutendo, Peace, Mumsi (photographer-journalist),

**EXTRAS:** 3 x German tourists, Ace, Zola, Dark Stranger

**LOCATIONS:** Taxi rank; Two-bedroom shack; Rambau house; Gym; Shandu's house; Dark alley; Boxing academy; Thando's house; Musangwe field; Limpopo veld; KB's apartment; Thabelo's house; Pula's house

**PRODUCTION NOTES:** Gazini's gun (sc 5, 16); Thabelo's car (sc 15)

**STUNT / FIGHT:**

**BLURB:** KB manages to find meaningful distraction at the gym, while Thando is in her element babying Gugu. Stukkie, Shandu and Khangwe have a successful day with their tour business, and Sli seems to have something up her sleeve for the gym.

**SAME DAY AS PREVIOUS EPISODE**  
**DAY 219**

1      **EXT. TAXI RANK / INT. TWO-BEDROOM SHACK - DAY (SD 219)**      1  
(GAZINI, BENSON)

**CRUX:** Benson threatens Gazini

Two-way phone call between Gazini and Benson. We come in mid-conversation.

BENSON  
I know who this baby really is.

GAZINI  
(joking)  
Did he tell you his name?

BENSON  
(piqued)  
I'm not joking, man! I know who the baby belongs to.

Gazini pays attention.

GAZINI (challenging) Who?!	BENSON (CONT'D) (ignores him) And if you don't give me more money, I'm going to tell the police.
----------------------------------	--

GAZINI  
(tense, cautioning)  
You're playing with fire, friend!

BENSON  
You owe me ...  
(sarcastically)  
friend.  
(beat)  
You took my eye in that last underground fight. It's because of you I can't fight anymore. You ruined my career! I think fifty thousand could just be enough compensation for that. But, if I don't get it from you, I know where I can get it.

GAZINI  
(cautioning)  
Don't do anything stupid, Bennie!  
(beat)  
I'll sort it out.

Benson ends the call angrily.

Out on Gazini muttering darkly to himself.

GAZINI (CONT'D)

And you'll be sorry you asked.

RING OF LIES TITLE CARD

2

**EXT. RAMBAU HOUSE - DAY (SD 219)**

2

(RENDANI, STUKKIE, ALUWANI, KHANGWE, 3 X GERMAN TOURISTS, DINO, TSHILIDZI, LUTENDO)

**CRUX:** The headman's welcome

The German tourists sit under a tree with Stukkie and Rendani, watching Dino and Khangwe performing a rap for them.

DINO AND KHANGWE

Welcome to Limpopo, welcome to  
Limpopo/ Listen to the mighty  
Limpopo River/ you will hear it  
sing/ of the possibilities/ our  
endless sky will bring/ The red and  
brown soil/ sprouts the greenest  
grass/ not to mention mangoes and  
avocados - all first class!

The tourists smile, tap their feet and bop their heads as they listen to the duo alternates between one rapping, the other beat boxing and some smooth moves.

DINO AND KHANGWE (CONT'D)

We tell stories of ancient kings  
and queens/ and there are awesome  
historical sites to be seen!/ So,  
stick with Stukkie/ he's the  
prince, he's the prince/ of the  
spectacular experience!

As the tourists applaud and cheer the performance, Lutendo comes out of the house and unobtrusively gives Stukkie two thumbs up. Stukkie leaps onto the stoep.

STUKKIE

And now ...

(wide eyed)

... we are very privileged because  
the most important person in our  
village has agreed to visit us.

The tourists are impressed.

STUKKIE (CONT'D)

Our headman! He's like the king of  
the village. When he comes, you  
must all bow to show your respect.  
Like this ...

Stukkie does an elaborate bow, ending on one knee as Aluwani and Tshilidzi walk out next to him.

STUKKIE (CONT'D)

*Meine Damen und Herren*, Headman  
Aluwani Rambau!

The tourists, a little nervous, awkwardly copy Stukkie's bow, all of them kneeling in the end. Rendani, Lutendo, Dino and Khangwe watch and giggle amused.

Aluwani smiles warmly at them.

ALUWANI

Please get up, there's no need for that.

(beat)

Greetings and welcome to our little village. My wife and I are delighted to have you here. We're sure your visit will be fascinating and that you will be able to share special stories with your compatriots when you're back home.

Appreciative smiles all around from the tourists.

ALUWANI (CONT'D)

To show how honoured we feel that you have chosen to discover more of Limpopo in our village, my wife, Tshilidzi, will sing a song of praise for you.

Out as Tshilidzi steps forward, nods a greeting, takes a deep breath and starts to sing, while the tourists look on expectantly.

3

**INT. GYM - DAY (SD 219)**

3

(KB, PEACE, ACE, ZOLA [2 X HOMELESS FRIENDS], SLI)

**CRUX:** Life slowly returns to the gym

Peace and his friends watch as KB demonstrates the ideal fighting stance.

KB

If you're going to be any good as a fighter, gents, this is where it starts.

(indicating feet)

You've got to get your basics right. You need to be able to stand firm and stand your ground in the ring, literally and figuratively.

Sli walks into the gym and stops to listen to KB instructing the youths. Peace and his buddies notice her after a beat.

4.

PEACE

(whispers)

Who is that?

KB

That is Sli Majola - one of the owners of the gym.

ZOLA

Do women also belong to the gym?

KB

Have you heard of Rendani Rambau?  
A.k.a. Fists?

The men nod.

KB (CONT'D)

This is her home. She's one of our top fighters.

PEACE

When will we be able to box like Fists?

KB

Like I was saying, you need to get your basics right first.

The men all copy his stance.

KB (CONT'D)

And you need to get fit, *magents*. You're living on the street - are you looking after your health? Are you eating food that's going to build muscle?

ZOLA

Some days we don't even eat any food.

Sli, pipes up from where she has been watching and walks over ...

SLI

So, let's say you come train three days a week ... at the end of each session, we'll give you a good meal. Feed you and your muscles.

KB is on the back foot, not sure what Sli's plan is.

SLI (CONT'D)

What do you say, gents?

PEACE

Great! I can live with that.

5.

ZOLA

Sharp! Sharp!

KB

Three times a week?? Plus food!  
How're we going to do that Sli?

(dejected)

We need money and people, which we  
don't have.

SLI

(grins, unconcerned)

You focus on the training and leave  
the rest to me.

(walking off)

I'm glad you're doing something to  
distract you. You need this.

Out on KB contemplating Sli's words as Peace and his buddies  
high five in the background.

#### **TRANSITION TO NIGHT**

#### **ESTABLISH LIMPOPO**

4

**INT. SHANDU'S HOUSE - NIGHT (SD 219)**  
(STUKKIE, SHANDU, KHANGWE)

4

**CRUX:** Relaxing after a successful, busy day

Stukkier, Shandu and Khangwe, all with face masks and in their  
gowns, relax in the living room, feet up. A bowl of cucumber  
slices on ice on the table, and Stukkier, his head against the  
headrest and hands folded across his chest, has a slice on  
each eye.

Khangwe scrolls through his phone, while Shandu has a petty  
cash box on her lap and counts the day's takings.

SHANDU

Three thousand eight hundred ...  
four thousand ... erm ... five  
thousand.

(waving the cash)

Five thousand rand! Your tourists  
are good for business Stukkier!

STUKKIE

Eitsa!

SHANDU

(locking the box)

But that was a long day today.

STUKKIE

Yah!

SHANDU

I'm exhausted.

STUKKIE

(wisely)

When you work hard, my chocolate log, you also have to relax hard. I'm just sitting still and I can feel this face mask working its gentle miracles on my face. Try it.

Shandu reaches for some cucumber slices, leans back, places the slices over her eyes and sighs contentedly.

Khangwe smiles at them and follows suit. We're out on all three of them reclining with face masks and cucumber slices on their eyes. Life in Limpopo is not bad at all.

5 **EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT (SD 219)**  
(GAZINI, DARK STRANGER)

5

**CRUX:** Gazini buys a gun

Gazini hands over a wad of cash to a DARK STRANGER standing in the shadows. The man hands over a gun. Gaz turns the gun over, holds it, and feels the weight. He nods, he'll take it.

Suddenly Gaz aims the gun at the man, who freezes, petrified. Gaz pulls the trigger. Click. The gun's not loaded. Gaz runs off quickly, his laughter receding with him.

**AD BREAK 1**

TRANSITION TO NEW DAY

ESTABLISH LIMPOPO

6 **INT. BOXING ACADEMY - DAY (SD 220)**  
(THABELO, NEO)

6

**CRUX:** Thabelo tells Neo the local rag wants an interview

Neo is towelling himself dry after a vigorous training session. Thabelo walks up to him pointing at a note in his hand.

THABELO

I mustn't forget, the local newspaper called.

NEO

Yah?

THABELO

They want to do a story and take some photos with you and Rendani before you leave for Jozi.



7.

NEO

Sure, I'll speak to Rendi.

THABELO

They want a positive story to boost morale after the bodies ...

NEO

(thinks)

No-one's looking for them, hey?  
They must be immigrants.

THABELO

Must be. We're so close to the border with Zimbabwe. They could have been passing through.

(beat)

But the newspaper wants to take people's minds off the murders. They want something heartwarming about two local champions in love.

NEO

(upbeat)

That's us! They've come to the right place. I'm sure Rendani will be keen.

THABELO

(chuckling)

Remember, don't get too close. You know the rule, no sex before the fight.

NEO

Don't worry, I understand and Rendi does too.

Out as Neo slings his tog bag over his shoulder and saunters out.

7

**INT. THANDO'S HOUSE, GUGU'S ROOM, CONTINUOUS - DAY (SD 220) 7**  
(THANDO, GUGU)

**CRUX:** Thando locks Gugu in the room

Gugu lies curled up in bed, eyes shut, covers pulled up to her chin and the curtains drawn.

Thando walks into the room.

THANDO

I've got to go to the shop quickly.

(beat)

Gugu? Child?

Gugu doesn't respond and Thando watches her a beat, then tiptoes out of the room, leaving her to sleep.

She closes the door softly behind her, stops a beat and thinks. Out on Thando locking the door from the outside.

8

**EXT. MUSANGWE FIELD - DAY (SD 220)**

8

(NEO, RENDANI, MUMSI THE PHOTOGRAPHER-JOURNALIST)

**CRUX:** Photoshoot with Neo and Rendani

MUMSI, the local photographer-journalist is thrilled with the story she has just heard.

MUMSI  
(thrilled)  
So, this is where boxing actually  
began for both of you!? On our very  
own *musangwe* field!

Neo and Rendani are posing for Mumsi, assuming some mock bare-knuckle boxing poses as she continues to snap away with her camera.

NEO  
Is there anything else you want us  
to do, maybe?

MUMSI  
(thinks a beat)  
What is a love story without a  
kiss?

Rendani and Neo exchange naughty looks.

MUMSI (CONT'D)  
Would you mind? The readers would  
love it.

Neo and Rendani don't need further encouragement. Neo grabs hold of Rendani's hands and pulls her into him.

MUMSI (CONT'D)  
Oh?  
(fumbling)  
Let me get my focus ...

Mumsi snaps away as the two have a long passionate kiss. Then Rendani pulls away, coming up for air.

RENDANI  
(giggling)  
Need to catch my breath.

Rendani walks teasingly away from Neo, who follows her and they are both followed by Mumsi. The photos are getting more fun and flirty, with Neo and Rendani giggling.

MUMSI  
Your local fans are going to go  
crazy over this!  
(MORE)

9.

MUMSI (CONT'D)  
(through the viewfinder)  
Do you mind if I post this online,  
on the community page?

Neo disentangles himself from Rendani to respond.

NEO  
Not at all. Right, Rendi?

RENDANI  
Sure, go ahead.

MUMSI  
It will really help the village  
morale right now. Finally a good  
news story.

Neo and Rendani hold hands and smile longingly at each other.  
Mumsi captures the moment on camera.

MUMSI (CONT'D)  
One more kiss and then we're done.

NEO  
(mock irritation)  
Another ...

Rendani has no time for jokes and shuts Neo up with a kiss.  
This one even deeper and more passionate than the previous.  
Their desire is growing with each kiss.

MUMSI  
Great stuff! Thanks so much, guys.

Mumsi starts packing away her gear and we're out on Neo and  
Rendani still kissing, oblivious to Mumsi.

9

**EXT. THANDO'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - DAY (SD 220)**  
(DUMI, GUGU)

9

**CRUX:** Dumi can hear Gugu banging

Dumi has come to visit Gugu and stands at Thando's front door  
looking disturbed. She can hear loud banging coming from  
inside.

DUMI  
(raising her voice)  
Hallo? Hallo?

Dumi listens - there's a brief pause in the banging. She  
shouts again.

DUMI (CONT'D)  
Hallo? Who's there?

GUGU (O.S.)  
It's Gugu!

10.

DUMI

Gugu? It's me, Dumi. What's that banging?

GUGU (O.S.)

Thando locked me inside the bedroom. I can't get out of the room.

Out on Dumi looking deeply concerned.

10

**EXT. LIMPOPO VELD, MUSANGWE FIELD - DAY (SD 220)**  
(NEO, RENDANI)

10

**CRUX:** Neo and Rendani are loved up

Neo and Rendani, hand-in-hand, stroll back from the shoot. There's a lot of sexual energy in the air after all that kissing and they're very touchy feely - languidly stroking each other's arms, neck and faces - and giggly. Neo stops Rendani and leans in for a kiss, but she stops him.

RENDANI

No!

NEO

You're done kissing?

RENDANI

(reluctantly)

It's starting to feel like more than just kissing. And we shouldn't before the fight.

NEO

Mmm, I guess you're right.  
(lustfully)

You're just so damn sexy!

He steps into her and they are almost stuck together as they kiss again. Their bodies press further into each other as their tongues explore how much further they can go. Then they stop and stare into each other's eyes.

NEO (CONT'D)

(eyes holding Rendani's)

Remember our first kiss here? When I wouldn't make love to you because you were still a virgin?

Rendani nods, holding his eyes and melting at the same time.

The next thing, they are ripping their clothes off and kissing passionately. As they sink entangled to the grass, we know they're about to break that boxing rule.

11

**INT. KB'S APARTMENT, LOUNGE - DAY (SD 220)**  
(KB, DUMI)

11

**CRUX:** Dumi tells KB about Gugu and Thando

Dumi is making some supper, while KB tells her excitedly about his training with the homeless youths.

KB

They're really keen, Ma and they're going to come three times a week.

Dumi smiles, distracted.

KB (CONT'D)

I hope I don't let them down. I want to help them reach their goals.

(beat)

What do you think, Ma?

Dumi bustles about, not responding, seemingly ignoring KB.

KB (CONT'D)

Do you know what? I actually feel a lot better after today. I think this training is going to be good for me.

KB slightly puzzled by Dumi's silence, watches her a beat.

KB (CONT'D)

Ma? Hey, Ma! Is something wrong?

Dumi starts and considers his question thoughtfully.

DUMI

Well ... yes ... I went to visit Gugu today and ...

KB

What happened?

DUMI

I couldn't see her.

KB

Why not?

DUMI

Thando wasn't home.

KB

And Gugu?

DUMI

Gugu was there.

KB

So, why couldn't you see her?

12.

DUMI

Thando had locked her inside the  
bedroom. Gugu couldn't get out!

KB

(shocked)

What!?

DUMI

You have to go see her, KB.

KB

I'll go first thing tomorrow.

Out on KB looking alarmed.

12

**EXT. LIMPOPO VELD, MUSANGWE FIELD - LATE AFTERNOON (SD 220)**12  
(NEO, RENDANI)

**CRUX:** Neo and Rendani have no regrets

POST SEX. Neo and Rendani, partially dressed lie in each  
other's arms. Neo twirls Rendani's hair around his fingers.

RENDANI

I hope this doesn't ruin your  
chances at the title. If you lose,  
you're going to blame me for the  
rest of your life.

Grinning, Neo traces his finger along her forehead, nose and  
lips.

NEO

This is the best I've felt in  
weeks! Never mind Hoya, I can take  
on the world!

RENDANI

(grinning)

But sex is supposed to make your  
legs weak.

NEO

(chuckling)

Not our sex. I can feel these legs  
are going to kick ass in that ring!

Rendani sighs contentedly and feels his thigh.

NEO (CONT'D)

(conspiratorially)

But, we should keep this from  
Thabelo. He's old school.

13.

RENDANI

(chuckling)

I'm not going discuss my sex life  
with your dad, so don't worry.

Neo laughs at this, while Rendani rolls on top of him.

RENDANI (CONT'D)

The problem is ...

NEO

Problem?

RENDANI

That secret sex is such a turn on.  
If you've done it once ...

We're out as they start kissing again.

**TRANSITION TO NIGHT**

13

**INT. THABELO'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - NIGHT (SD 220)**  
(THABELO, PULA, DINO, KHOSI)

13

**CRUX:** Thabelo wants to be with Pula full time

Pula gathers some of her items (keys, notebook, lipstick) off  
the table and puts them into her handbag, while Thabelo  
watches thoughtfully.

PULA

Dino! Khosi! Make sure you have  
everything - are you ready to go?

The boys run outside past her, Khosi with his soccer ball and  
Dino with his school bag, throwing over his shoulder ...

DINO

We're ready.

Pula heads for the door, but Thabelo stops her.

THABELO

This is always the worst part for  
me.

PULA

What do you mean?

THABELO

Saying goodbye, instead of going to  
bed like a couple.

PULA

(regretfully)

We're not married, Thabelo.

14.

THABELO  
(meaningfully)  
Let's change that.

PULA  
(cautiously)  
What are you saying?

THABELO  
(grinning)  
Tomorrow afternoon, wear your  
favourite dress. I'll come by  
around two.

Out on Pula looking slightly shocked.

TRANSITION TO A NEW DAY

14

**INT. THANDO'S HOUSE, GUGU'S ROOM - DAY (SD 221)**  
(KB, THANDO, GUGU)

14

**CRUX:** KB takes Gugu home

KB marches into Gugu's room to find her lying motionless on  
the bed. Thando follows him in, shouting ...

THANDO  
How dare force your way into my  
house?

KB  
How dare you lock Gugu up in this  
room?! You're treating her like a  
prisoner.

THANDO  
I did it for her own good! I didn't  
want her to wander off again.

KB  
(frustrated)  
She chose to be here, Thando! Why  
would she wander off?

KB backs the speechless Thando out of the room and locks the  
door. He walks over to the bed.

THANDO (O.S.)  
(knocking on door)  
KB!

KB kneels next to the bed, where Gugu hasn't moved, and lays  
his hand tenderly on her head.

KB  
Gugu?  
(beat)  
I love you.



Gugu is listening, but remains motionless.

KB (CONT'D)

The only way we can heal, is with each other, Gugs. I've just learnt about giving and how giving can help with healing.

(emotional)

And, Gugu, I want to give you everything.

KB rests his forehead on Gugu's.

KB (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Can you forgive me? Can you forgive my mistakes, my anger and my arrogance? Can you forgive the things I said?

(sitting back)

I'm not perfect, but these young men I've met, they've made me feel ... humble. They've made me realise that all I want to do is help you.

Tears stream down Gugu's cheeks as she starts to weep. KB holds her to him.

KB (CONT'D)

I'm not giving up on you, Gugu! I'm going to fight for you.

GUGU

(through tears)

I've missed you, KB. I need you so much.

(choking back tears)

I'm sorry for everything. I just feel so ... broken.

KB

Do you want to come home so we can fix ourselves?

Gugu nods and KB goes over to open the door. Thando storms in.

THANDO

Get out, KB!

KB

I'm going.

He scoops Gugu up and walks out with her in his arms.

THANDO

(aghast)

No! Gugu! Come back!

Out on KB carrying Gugu, determined and not looking back.

**AD BREAK 2**

15

**EXT. PULA'S HOUSE - DAY (SD 221)**  
(THABELO, PULA, DINO, KHOSI)

15

**CRUX:** Thabelo whisks Pula away

Thabelo with Neo in the passenger seat, pulls up outside Pula's house and jumps energetically out of the car. He and Neo are both in snappy suits.

Stukkier and Shandu roar up behind him in Shandu's car. Stukkier looks ultra smart and Shandu is in a very stylish two piece suit...

Thabelo leaps out of the driver's seat. He hurries to Pula's front door and knocks.

Neo jumps out of the passenger seat to make room for Pula.

Pula opens, looking radiant, taking Thabelo's breath away. He beams. Dino and Khosi appear at her side, also smartly dressed.

THABELO

(beaming)

You look wonderful. Let's do this!

He takes Pula's hand and the four of them head to the car, Pula and the boys waving at Stukkier and Shandu. Stukkier hoots loudly, shout out the window:

STUKKIE

Second most beautiful bride in the world!

Shandu smacks him.

STUKKIE (CONT'D)

Okay, sorry. Most beautiful bride in the world, neh?

Shandu beams.

Neo opens the door for Pula. They all hop into Thabelo's car and head for (off screen) Home Affairs, Stukkier hooting again as they pull off.

16

**INT. TWO-BEDROOM SHACK, KITCHEN AREA - DAY (SD 221)**  
(GAZINI, BENSON)

16

**CRUX:** Gazini and Benson argue

Benson opens the front door to their shack to find Gazini standing outside. Gazini grins and pushes in past him.

GAZINI

Where's the baby?

BENSON

In the bedroom. With Ayanda.

(beat)

I can't believe you screwed us like this! Five thousand rand for a baby! How much do you think nappies, milk and everything else costs?!

Gazini shrugs.

BENSON (CONT'D)

(incredulous)

Then I find out you're sitting on a gold mine! I could get a small fortune from that boxer if I wanted.

GAZINI

I'm surprised and honestly, a little hurt, by your reaction, Benson.

BENSON

Not as surprised as I was!

GAZINI

(superior)

Tch, tch. I know you and Ayanda can't have children and I thought if I gave you this baby to look after, you would be grateful ...

(scoffs)

not ...

BENSON

We still need to eat you know? Five thousand rand doesn't go far.

Remembering another injustice courtesy of Gazini, Benson touches his eye patch.

BENSON (CONT'D)

Remember when you did this?

GAZINI

Yes, but that was an accident. And I paid you handsomely with Mandelas for that fight.

BENSON

(sneering)

You don't seem to know how much it costs to live, bra! That money was gone in no time and I haven't had work since!

Gazini's patience is running out and he becomes mean.

GAZINI

(snapping)

It's not my fault you're a lousy fighter, Bennie. I was just being kind. You told me you and Ayanda were longing for a child and when I found this one, I let you have him.

(beat)

And I paid you for that! But my kindness and sympathy have run out ...

Gaz pulls out his gun and aims it at Benson.

GAZINI (CONT'D)

I'm done with you and your complaining. Give me the baby back!

Benson stares down the barrel of Gazini's gun and we're out on Gazini glaring at him menacingly.

17

**INT. TWO-BEDROOM SHACK, BEDROOM - DAY (SD 221)**  
(AYANDA, MPHO)

17

**CRUX:** Ayanda is terrified she will lose Mpho

Ayanda, holding Mpho, leans against the bedroom partition listening to Gazini and Benson. She has heard Gazini demanding Mpho back and clutches him tighter to her chest.

TITLES

**EPISODE:** 207

**TX DATE:**

**WRITER:** Tina-Louise Smith

**DRAFT:** 01

**TOTAL WORD COUNT:** 3209 (excluding character names and scene descriptions)

**TOTAL DIALOGUE COUNT:** 1066

**STORY DAYS PER EPISODE:** (219, 220, 221)

**LEADS:** Neo, KB, Gugu, Thabelo, Rendani, Gazini, Thando, Stukkie, Shandu

**SUPPORTS:** Gumbi, Cebisa, Peace, Ayanda, Mpho

**EXTRAS:** Uniformed policeman, 3 x uniformed police,

**LOCATIONS:** Thando's house; Neo's house; Rendani's (Cebisa's) car; Gazini's truck; Farmhouse; Madzena dirt road, Crown Mines; Somewhere near Crown Mines; Gym; Building at Crown Mines; KB's apartment;

**PRODUCTION NOTES:** Rendani's (Cebisa's) car; Gazini's truck; Gumbi's car; Thando's unwieldy box (with the gas cylinder); Madzena Road street sign; Bracelet for Rendani made by Gazini; Two extra police vehicles; Neo's car; Broken down building at Crown Mines; Gazini's gun; Cloth for gagging Rendani; Broken down wall

**STUNT / FIGHT:** Gazini stuffs Rendani into his truck, sc 12; Rendani throws herself against the inside of the secret compartment, sc 18; Gazini attacks Neo, sc 21;

**BLURB:** Rendani's plan to lure Gazini gets underway at one of Jozi's iconic mine dumps and it looks like this means Neo and Gaz have to face off. Meanwhile, Thando seems more unhinged and has murderous plans of her own for Sli.

**SAME DAY AS PREVIOUS EPISODE  
DAY 227**

1 EXT. THANDO'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - DAY (SD 227) 1  
(THANDO)

**CRUX:** Thando leaves her house furtively

Thando locks her front door and looks around furtively. It's quiet, no-one is around, the coast is clear. She bows her head and walks off down the road.

RING OF LIES TITLE CARD

2 INT. NEO'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - DAY (SD 227) 2  
(NEO, KB, GUGU, THABELO, UNIFORMED POLICEMAN)

**CRUX:** KB is detained at home

Neo, tense, paces the room.

NEO  
This is impossible!

Thabelo holds his head in his hands.

On the couch, KB seethes, his foot tapping agitatedly.

We're caged in! KB

Gugu, next to KB, anxiously reaches for his hand.

Out on the uniformed policeman barring access to the front door and glaring down his nose at KB, keeping a stern eagle eye on everyone.

3 EXT. RENDANI'S CAR, OPEN ROAD / INT/EXT. GAZINI'S TRUCK, 3  
MADZENA ROAD - DAY (SD 227)  
(RENDANI, GAZINI)

**CRUX:** Gazini foils the police operation

Rendani has pulled over to the side of the road and is on her phone, pacing, agitatedly beside her car. We come in mid-conversation with Gazini.

RENDANI  
I'm almost there, Gaz. I just want  
to check: which turnoff do I take  
to the FARMHOUSE? Is it before or  
after Power Park?

GAZINI  
Listen, Bombaye, don't go to the  
farmhouse.

RENDANI  
(confounded)  
What?

GAZINI  
I'm at OLD CROWN MINES, MADZENA  
ROAD. Meet me here, rather.  
*[Production can use any dirt road in the area.]*

RENDANI  
But, Gaz, I'm almost at the  
farmhouse.

GAZINI  
I'm not, princess.

Rendani needs to keep the operation on track and wants to  
convince Gazini to meet her at the farmhouse.

RENDANI  
So, come!

GAZINI  
It's going to take me much longer  
to get there with my truck. It's  
going to be quicker for you to come  
here with your car.

RENDANI  
I've waited months already, Gaz.  
What's a few extra minutes?

GAZINI  
(not budging)  
Come now, Rendani. I'm here. I'm  
waiting. You'll see the OLD  
BUILDING when you get here.

At a loss, Rendani is forced to give in.

RENDANI  
(nervously)  
Okay. I'm on my way.

Out on Gazini, thoughtful, as he ends the call. Does he  
suspect the police are with Rendani?

**CRUX:** Gumbi calls off the operation

Rendani and Gumbi are mid-conversation about the change of location. Gumbi bangs the roof of his car ...

GUMBI  
(irate)  
No! No!

Cebisa watches, searchingly.

RENDANI  
So, I'm going to Madzena now.

GUMBI  
No, you're not!

RENDANI  
He's waiting for me.

GUMBI  
I can't let you do that, Rendani.  
We need to abort.

RENDANI  
What if we don't get another  
chance?

GUMBI  
(firmly)  
He's playing games, Rendani. It's  
too dangerous.

RENDANI  
(unbelieving)  
But you're the police! There are  
many of you!

GUMBI  
We haven't done any reconnaissance  
of the Old Crown Mines on Madzena  
Road. We won't know what to expect,  
we don't know if we can monitor  
things. It's an open area with  
nowhere for us to hide. We can't  
risk it.

RENDANI  
But ...

GUMBI  
You need to head back home.  
Immediately. And call me when you  
get there.



He ends the call and looks at Cebisa.

GUMBI (CONT'D)  
(urgently)  
Old Crown Mines. Now!

The two of them jump into the vehicle, leaving a trail of dust as they roar off.

We're out on the car speeding away as Gumbi calls for backup.

GUMBI (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
This is Detective Gumbi. We need  
backup at Madzena Road, Old Crown  
Mines. I need the entire area  
covered.

5      **INT. THANDO'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - AFTERNOON (SD 227)**      5  
(THANDO)

**CRUX:** Thando is up to something

The front door opens and Thando stumbles through, carrying a large unwieldy box and a packet. Out of breath, she sets the box down.

*[We learn later that it's a small gas cylinder in the box to gas herself and Sli. The packet contains duct tape and cable ties. At this stage we should think Sli is dead.]*

We're out on Thando locking the door behind her.

6      **INT. RENDANI'S CAR, OPEN ROAD - DAY (SD 227)**      6  
(RENDANI)

**CRUX:** Rendani decides to do it anyway

Rendani sits in her car, her knuckles pale from gripping the steering wheel in a state. She's not happy with calling it off. She remembers Gugu's words.

GUGU (V.O.)  
Please bring my baby back.

Her phone buzzes as an sms comes through and she checks it. It's from Gazini and she reads it aloud to herself ...

RENDANI  
Take left fork, end road. Look for  
old broken down building.

She frowns, thinking, then switches off her phone.

RENDANI (CONT'D)  
 (muttering)  
 Sorry detective. You're not going  
 to stop me.

Out as she turns the ignition and speeds off down the road.

# **AD BREAK 1**

7

**INT. NEO'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - DAY (SD 227)**  
 (NEO, KB, GUGU, UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICER, THABELO)

7

**CRUX:** Gumbi tells Neo the sting is off

Neo is on the phone to Gumbi (one way). KB and Gugu sit on  
 the edge of the couch, listening anxiously for clues.

NEO  
 Okay, detective.

Neo hangs up.

NEO (CONT'D)  
 (uneasily)  
 Gumbi's called it off. Rendani's on  
 her way home.

KB  
 (jumps up)  
 Why?

NEO  
 Gaz changed the location. The cops  
 think it's too risky.

Gugu collapses in a heap on the couch, unable to bear another  
 disappointment.

KB  
 (furious)  
 Gaz is toying with us!

UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICER  
 (clears his throat)  
 I don't think I'm needed here any  
 longer.

KB glares after him as Thabelo lets him out.

Neo scrolls to Rendani's number on his phone and holds it to  
 his ear while it rings. It goes to voicemail.

NEO  
(panicked)  
She's not answering!

THABELO  
You said she was on her way. She'll  
be home soon, then you can talk to  
her. Don't panic, son.

GUGU  
(wailing)  
Mpho!

KB  
We should go.

GUGU  
(sobbing)  
My baby ...

KB helps Gugu off the couch and Neo walks them to the door.

KB  
Let me know what Rendani says.  
Please.

Out as Neo nods, apprehensive.

8 **INT./EXT. RENDANIS CAR, MADZENA ROAD CROWN MINES - DAY (SD 8 227)**  
(RENDANI)

**CRUX:** Rendani finds the fork in the road

Rendani drives along a dirt road - no other cars around, it's  
an abandoned area. She passes a street sign announcing  
MADZENA ROAD.

She gets to a fork and swings left, putting foot. Her car  
swerves in the dirt and disappears along the fork.

9 **INT./EXT. GUMBI'S CAR, MADZENA ROAD CROWN MINES - DAY (SD 9 227)**  
(GUMBI, CEBISA)

**CRUX:** Gumbi wonders where Gazini is

Gumbi and Cebisa tear past the sign announcing Madzena Road  
in Gumbi's car.

They skid to a stop when they reach the fork.

GUMBI  
Which way?

Cebisa looks left out the passenger window, then back at Gumbi, none the wiser.

Out as Gumbi hits the accelerator and swings right.

10

**EXT. SOMEWHERE NEAR CROWN MINES - DAY (SD 227)**  
(RENDANI, GAZINI)

10

**CRUX:** Gazini realises Rendani has been misleading him

Rendani's car is parked alongside Gazini's truck near a DISUSED BUILDING.

The two of them approach each other cautiously near the vehicles - Rendani, wary of this murderous man and Gazini hoping against hope that Rendani really misses him.

GAZINI

Bombaye!

RENDANI

Gaz ...

GAZINI

Come closer.

RENDANI

(carefully)

Did you hear about KB's baby?

GAZINI

That dog!

Gazini takes a step towards Rendani, who takes one step back. Gazini eyes her quizzically.

RENDANI

The baby's been missing for days.

GAZINI

My queen! I'm thinking of you, not someone's baby.

RENDANI

Gugu's losing it.

GAZINI

I thought I had lost you.

(steps forward)

But, like they say, if you love something, set it free. If it comes back to you ...

(triumphant)

... it's yours!

RENDANI  
Gaz! The baby!

GAZINI  
Ai! Stop talking about this baby!  
Didn't you miss me?

RENDANI  
Yes, Gaz, I missed you.

GAZINI  
Sure?

Rendani nods and smiles unconvincingly.

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
So, come.  
(gesturing)  
I want to hold you.

Rendani approaches cautiously, not wanting to get close at all.

RENDANI  
Maybe ...

GAZINI  
Yah?

RENDANI  
... you've heard about the baby?

GAZINI  
I've just heard about the baby now,  
from you.

RENDANI  
You have no idea where he is?

GAZINI  
(shakes his head)  
What is this? Why do you keep  
asking me about this baby?

RENDANI  
Everyone's worried.

GAZINI  
(realising)  
You think I have the baby!

Rendani's eyes dart towards Gaz's truck - is Mpho in there?  
Gaz reads her like a book.

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
 (angry)  
 Is that why you're here?

Gazini scans the dirt road quickly.

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
 (shouts)  
 Have you been followed?

Rendani gulps, a subtle admission that Gaz notices, even though she shakes her head in denial.

Out as Gazini lunges menacingly for Rendani.

11 **EXT. CROWN MINES - DAY (SD 227)**  
 (GUMBI, CEBISA, 3 X UNIFORMED COPS)

11

**CRUX:** The cops comb the area in vain

Gumbi and Cebisa

From a high vantage point, we see Gumbi's vehicle parked near an abandoned building. Two other police vehicles stand nearby.

Gumbi, Cebisa and three uniformed cops are spread out, stealthily combing the area.

While the others keep at it, Gumbi heads to his car and reaches for his radio.

GUMBI  
 Despatch!  
 (radio crackle)  
 Send another contingent. Urgently!  
 We need as many as you can spare.  
 And keep the sirens off! We don't  
 want him to know we're coming.

12 **EXT. BUILDING, CROWN MINES - DAY (SD 227)**  
 (RENDANI, GAZINI)

12

**CRUX:** Gazini stuffs Rendani into his truck's secret compartment

Gazini has Rendani in a powerful grip and is dragging her alongside his truck to the back. She struggles against him, but his rage tightens his grip on her.

GAZINI  
 (enraged)  
 I've had it with you and your two-  
 timing ways!

RENDANI  
(muffled)  
Let me go, Gaz!

GAZINI  
Sgila was right about you! Zaks was  
right about you.

He stuffs her into the secret compartment at the bottom of  
the truck.

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
They could see who you really are.

He bangs the door and bolts it shut.

From the inside, Rendani starts banging loudly on the truck.

RENDANI  
Let me out! Gaz, let me out!  
Somebody?

But only Gaz is around to hear. We're out as he walks off.

13

**EXT. GYM STREET - DAY (SD 227)**  
(PEACE, AYANDA, MPHO)

13

**CRUX:** Ayanda shows Peace the baby

Peace is outside the gym, kicking at the ground, waiting for  
someone to show up and open up.

Ayanda approaches from around the corner, carrying Mpho in a  
bundle. She is crying silently as she approaches. She notices  
Peace and wipes her tears, holding Mpho closer.

AYANDA  
Sorry, bhuti, I'm looking for ...  
KB, KB Tau.

PEACE  
I'm the only one here. I don't know  
where everyone is.

AYANDA  
Is KB coming?

PEACE  
(shrugs)  
Don't know. I've been waiting for  
an hour already.  
(off Ayanda's distress)  
He's not usually late.

Ayanda, looking around, is trying to decide whether she should wait with Peace, when Peace nods in Mpho's direction.

PEACE (CONT'D)

Is that yours? What's its name?

Ayanda uncovers Mpho's face and holds him for Peace to see.

AYANDA

Mpho.

Out as Peace nearly passes out with shock and has to briefly steady himself against the wall. He has read all about missing Mpho.

14 **INT. NEO'S HOUSE, LOUNGE / EXT. MADZENA CROWN MINES - DAY 14**  
**(SD 227)**  
 (NEO, GUMBI, THABELO)

**CRUX:** Neo is on his way to find Rendani

Neo, looking anxious, is on the phone with Gumbi.

NEO

No, I haven't heard from her. Her phone goes to voice mail.

Thabelo, concerned, listens in on the conversation.

GUMBI

Damnit!

He looks around the abandoned space, as if to spot Rendani.

GUMBI (CONT'D)

She probably went and met him anyway. What is it with you people?

Neo grips Thabelo as he realises Rendani may be alone with Gazini.

GUMBI (CONT'D)

(reassuring)

But our people are crawling all over Madzena Road.

Gumbi's eyes keep scanning the area.

GUMBI (CONT'D)

We'll find him. Sit tight, son.

Neo, terrified, hangs up and turns to Thabelo.



NEO  
She's gone on her own.

THABELO  
What!?

Neo grabs his keys and tears past Thabelo.

NEO  
(over his shoulder)  
I've got an address.

THABELO  
Leave it to the cops, Neo.

The words hang in the air as Neo is out the door.

THABELO (CONT'D)  
(gravely, to himself)  
Don't do anything stupid.

#### AD BREAK 2

15      **EXT. MADZENA ROAD, CROWN MINES - DAY (SD 227)**      15  
(NEO)

**CRUX:** Neo takes the correct fork

Neo roars along the dirt road, passing the Madzena Road sign.  
He gets to the fork in the road and impulsively takes the  
left fork.

16      **INT./EXT. KB'S APARTMENT, LOUNGE, FRONT DOOR - DAY (SD 227)**  
(KB, GUGU, PEACE, AYANDA, MPHO)

**CRUX:** Ayanda returns Mpho to his parents

KB and Gugu, tense and worked up, cling to each other on the  
couch.

GUGU  
She did this for us, KB!

KB  
(unconvincing)  
The cops will find her, Gugu.

GUGU  
(destroyed, whispering)  
We'll lose Mpho and Rendani.

There's a knock at the door and KB, distraught, somehow finds  
the will to move, walks over to open the door.

Peace is at the door, with Ayanda.

PEACE

Bra KB, there's someone who wants  
to see you.

KB

Peace, I'm sorry, this isn't a good  
time.

Ayanda steps forward, uncovers Mpho's face and holds him out  
to KB, like an offering.

KB takes the bundle, as if in a dream. He stares  
unbelievably at his son's face, tears running down his  
cheeks. He tries to call for Gugu, but his voice is gone,  
only his breath escapes. Finally ...

KB (CONT'D)

(urgently)

Gugu! Gugu!

Gugu appears, sad and drained. She stops short as she spots  
Mpho in KB's arms and breaks down sobbing and crying.

GUGU

My baby is home!

KB passes Mpho lovingly to Gugu.

GUGU (CONT'D)

Our baby is home!

Out on the three of them - a family again.

17

**EXT. BUILDING, CROWN MINES - LATE AFTERNOON/EVENING (SD 227)**  
(NEO, GUMBI, CEBISA)

**CRUX:** Rendani is gone

Neo screeches to a halt at the BROKEN DOWN BUILDING. He jumps  
out, sizes up what he sees: Rendani's (Cebisa's) abandoned  
car and truck tyre tracks! He panics.

NEO

Rendani! Rendani?

Gumbi and Cebisa break in a swirl of dust next to Neo. They  
leap from their vehicle and spot the abandoned car. Gumbi  
puts his hand on Neo's shoulder ...

GUMBI

Go home, son. We'll find her.

NEO  
(shaking off Gumbi)  
Rendani!

GUMBI  
Our people are combing every inch  
of this place.

NEO  
(tense)  
I can't sit at home doing nothing!

Neo jogs off around the building. Out as a miffed Gumbi,  
strides after him.

18      **INT. TRUCK / EXT. BROKEN DOWN BUILDING NEAR RAND MINES**      18  
**VILLAGE - EVENING (SD 227)**  
(GAZINI, RENDANI)

**CRUX:** Gazini wants to deal with Neo

Rendani crouches in the hard, dark compartment of Gazini's  
truck, holding her chest as she gasps for air.

RENDANI  
(to herself)  
I can't breathe.

Outside, Gazini paces.

Rendani's terrified and starts crying and banging on the  
inside of the truck.

Gazini looks up at the banging, torn about keeping her locked  
up.

RENDANI (CONT'D)  
Let me out! Gaz? Somebody?  
(plaintively)  
Please! I can't breathe!

From the inside, Rendani throws herself at the door, but it  
doesn't budge and she gets bruised.

Gazini is surprised by the force coming from inside.

RENDANI (CONT'D)  
Gazini! You have to let me out!  
(begging)  
I can't stay here all night. I'll  
die ...  
(beat)  
Gaz?

Gazini walks closer to where she is.

GAZINI

I'm here.

RENDANI

(relieved)

Gaz! I'm scared. Let me out!

Gazini, ringing his hands, thinks.

Rendani listens a beat.

RENDANI (CONT'D)

Please, Gaz. Why are you doing this  
to me? I can't ...

Gazini can't take her cries any longer and gives in. He  
unlocks the compartment and pulls her out.

Rendani staggers briefly, adjusting to the light and gulping  
the fresh air.

RENDANI (CONT'D)

Thanks!

GAZINI

I'm sorry, but I didn't have a  
choice. You made me do this.

RENDANI

Gaz?

Gazini reaches for the gun and waves it at her.

GAZINI

Don't try anything funny, now.

Rendani manages to hide her fear.

RENDANI

Remember how we loved each other  
once?

GAZINI

I still love you, Bombaye.

Rendani smiles uncertainly.

GAZINI (CONT'D)

I think about you all the time.

He takes a step closer to her. She bravely stands still.

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
I'm grateful for this time we have  
to be alone now. I've missed you,  
Rendani. So much.

Gazini runs his hand lightly across her cheek and she moves back, recoiling - his touch is just too much for her and she struggles to keep it together.

RENDANI  
What are you going to do to me?

Gazini blinks, looking shocked and hurt.

GAZINI  
I would never hurt you. I would  
never force myself on you. If you  
think I would do that, you are  
wrong.

Rendani relaxes a little.

Gaz digs in one of his pockets and pulls out a bracelet he has made for her. He hands it to her ...

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
Each time I was in a new place, I  
would work on this. It kept me busy  
and helped me remember you.

He carefully ties the bracelet for her.

Rendani uses this closeness to probe more about Mpho.

RENDANI  
Gaz?

GAZINI  
Mm?

RENDANI  
Did you really not hear about Mpho?

Gaz's eyes harden a little.

RENDANI (CONT'D)  
You have no idea what happened to  
him?

Gaz holds her gaze.

GAZINI  
KB had it coming.

RENDANI  
So, you did take him?

GAZINI  
(nods)  
I took him.

Rendani looks vindicated - finally the truth, she was right.

GAZINI (CONT'D)  
But that woman has run off with  
him.

RENDANI  
What woman?

GAZINI  
We can look for her together ...  
(off her nod)  
... after I've dealt with Neo.

RENDANI  
(fearful)  
Neo? What do you mean?

Out on Gazini's darkening eyes.

**ESTABLISH NEW DAY 228**  
**DAY OF NEO'S FIGHT**

19      **INT. NEO'S HOUSE, LOUNGE - EARLY MORNING (SD 228)**      19  
(NEO, THABELO, SHANDU, STUKKIE)

**CRUX:** Gazini gets in touch with Neo

Neo and Thabelo sit anxiously in the lounge. They've been up all night waiting to hear from Gumbi and look the worse for wear.

THABELO  
Do you think we should call off the  
fight?

NEO  
Let's wait and see.

THABELO  
How long do we wait?

NEO  
(shrugging)  
Right now Rendani is my only  
concern.

Thabelo just nods, looking haggard.

NEO (CONT'D)  
I don't know what to do, Dad! I  
feel so helpless, not knowing where  
she is. Is she okay?

Thabelo feels for Neo.

THABELO  
I wish this wasn't happening, Neo.

Neo's phone buzzes and he checks it eagerly.

NEO  
(surprised)  
It's from Gazini.

He reads it aloud for Thabelo's benefit.

NEO (CONT'D)  
Meet me here if you want to see her  
again. Any sign of the cops, she is  
dead.

Neo and Thabelo look at each other, wide-eyed.

NEO (CONT'D)  
He's sent the pin for the location.

Neo grabs his keys in a flash and is gone, leaving Thabelo in  
despair.

There's a noise outside the door and Thabelo opens it  
hurriedly thinking Neo has returned. It turns out to be a  
bedraggled Stukkie and Shandu arriving in high spirits from  
Limpopo.

STUKKIE  
We're here, *meneer*.

Thabelo is speechless from his confusion at seeing Stukkie  
and Shandu suddenly.

SHANDU  
We just saw Neo ...

STUKKIE  
(finishing her sentence)  
... leaving like Speedy Gonzales.  
Where's he going?

Thabelo looks ill ...

THABELO  
Rendani is missing.

Out as the happy Limpopo visitors stare at each other in shock.

20 **EXT. BROKEN DOWN BUILDINGS NEAR RAND MINES VILLAGE - DAY (SD 228)**  
(RENDANI, GAZINI)

**CRUX:** Rendani convinces Gazini not to lock her up again

Gazini and Rendani stand at the truck. Gaz pockets his phone and turns to Rendani ...

GAZINI  
You need to go back inside.

RENDANI  
No!

GAZINI  
It's best if he doesn't see you.

RENDANI  
No, Gaz! I'm not going back in there. There's no air inside.

GAZINI  
You'll be in the way out here.

RENDANI  
You can tie me up. Just don't put me back in there.  
(grabbing his arm)  
Please?

Gazini gives in and grabs some rope out of the truck. As he is tying her, he hears an approaching car. He pushes her down beside the truck, stuffing balled up cloth into her mouth, but without tying the rope tight enough.

He runs out of sight, leaving Rendani alone at the front of the truck to wait for Neo.

21 **INT. CAR / EXT. BROKEN DOWN BUILDING NEAR RAND MINES VILLAGE - DAY (SD 228)**  
(NEO, RENDANI, GAZINI)

**CRUX:** Gazini attacks Neo

Neo drives up and sees Rendani gagged in front of Gazini's truck. He pulls the handbrake and leaps out of his car.



Gazini is nowhere to be seen, so he heads straight for Rendani.

Rendani gurgles through the gag and wriggles, trying to warn Neo, who runs towards her, intent on freeing her.

Before he can reach her, Gazini lunges from behind the BROKEN DOWN WALL knocking Neo to the ground.

Out on Rendani watching in horror as Gazini pounces on Neo.

END CREDITS