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ZANIA

STACY - M

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Born Married

Dread it, run from it. Destiny arrives all the same.



BORN MARRIED

Dread it, run from it. Destiny arrives all the same.

One

I look myself in the mirror and I can't help smiling I did it I'm graduating today I can't believe that I did it. After four years of hard work I finally did it I deprived myself of the college life for this education is a really important thing one must have I can literally lack anything but not education. At just 21 I achieved my biggest goal ever.

"baby come before you get late"
that's my mother Patricia 'Yeah I'm coming mom' I take one last look at myself on the mirror "you did it fifi you did it girl" I take my gown and hat and walk out I find my parents waiting for me at the door my dad embraces me

in a hug and we walk out all three of us.

We get in the car and drive off to school my apartment is just fifteen minutes away from school so we made it just in time. We went to the auditorium while they took their seats I walked up to the other graduates I find a seat and everyone gets quite I see some of our lectures and deans approaching the podium everyone seats down one chair left. "ladies and gentleman apologies but it seems like our guest is running late" the lady on the mic says "without further ado please welcome the dean of the students Mr Michael Adze" everybody applauds as he takes the stage

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Mr Michael Adze” everybody applauds as he takes the stage Mr Adze is a very yummy man. He’s Caucasian has a very nicely shaven beard with a bold head he’s a buff guy very appealing to the eyes.

“thank you thank you as the dean of students I” I zone out from everything that he says because suddenly I became hungry I was too nervous to eat breakfast I don’t normally eat it but now I’m super hungry.

“Anzo mawela cum laude” everybody applauds “katlego mphela” ... now I’m getting scared because im up next “Remofilwe Azania Nkoana” I walk up “cum laude” I see my mother

standing up and clapping hands now im all smiles I get handed my degree. “congratulations” Mr Adze says when I shake his hand. “thank you sir” the next person gets called and we continue. Once the ceremony is finished I walk up to my parents and hug them my mother has tears in her eyes my father he has on the biggest smile ever. “im so proud of you my baby” I’ve always been dads’ little princess it doesn’t matter how old I get I guess it’s because im their only child.

We go and take pictures after that my father decides to take us out for lunch he already made reservations at a restaurant talk about a man who knows what he wants. Once ushered

to our table I feel the hunger coming in full force.

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Two

Immediately when I got home on my graduation day I got an email from Zungu.inc my application had been accepted and date of interview set that was two weeks back im happy to announce that yo-girl got the job.

Although it wasn't what I fully applied for it was something at-least I had a job I mean.

So currently im packing my stuff and moving into my new apartment this one is much to work it's just two blocks away so I can walk to and

from work. A big plus is that they have a diner just next door which serves the best burgers I ever tasted and there's Starbucks also. I would safely say im in the best neighborhood ever everything is just a distance away.

“you really are leaving?” I look up and my mother has a coffee mug on her hands and she's standing by my bedroom door. “yes ma. It's close to work” she sighs and walk further in my room and takes a seat on my bed. “I'm really going to miss you my baby” her eyes are glistening. “mom you going to make me cry also please stop” she smiles at me and pats the space next to her “sit down here my baby you know when you were born you had the most beautiful

smile ever it's like you were happy to be born we were happy you were born your father and I prayed so much to have a child but neither one of our kids ever made it if they survived they did stay long enough o mpho ya rona ngwanake" (you are our gift my child) I don't know how many times I've heard the story and every time she tells it she always has tears in her eyes.

I guess losing seven kids is not easy maybe that's why do everything for me I never lacked I am one lucky girl in this whole entire world. "please make us proud baby girl okay?" how can I not I always want to make them proud. "always mom always" she opens her arms and like a little kitten I snuggle in. this woman right here is

my idol she has been through the most and yet she's still strong and standing and my father never left her side.

“alright you two come out im hungry”
my dad shouts from the dining room
we laugh and walk out behind each other to go feed my mothers’
husband I admire their love if one day
I get lucky I want a love just like
theirs so pure raw and honest

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raw and honest but god forbid I have kids nothing against them I just don't want any. My mothers’ past experience scared me.

“home sweet home” I throw my keys and phone on the counter and sigh. This place is literally empty but at least I have a bed and a couch plus tv. I have to do some grocery shopping before I can start my week its Friday today so I still have two more days to get my apartment in order. It’s a one bedroom and bathroom apartment an open kitchen that connects to the lounge its small and intimate.

The next morning I wake up and text Anzo to go shop with me we live in the same building although he’s downstairs he has been staying here since varsity years his father owns the whole buildings so the perks of it I had nowhere to stay so he helped me

find this place. Anzo is not your typical fuck boy he's those nerdy fuck boy he's a rich kid but doesn't let his family riches get into his head he doesn't spend money recklessly he's one focused guy I know.

-right outside he response to my text I put on my shoes and tie my braids and walk outside I meet him just as he's about to get out of the elevator.

"sup dude" I greet him he nods his head and presses G on the elevator he has a car so he comes in handy.

"where to first?" I bite my nails "I don't really know I just want to get a few appliances because im on budget just some things to get me through the month and a few groceries" he looks at me and nods his head. "well go passed the mall then." He drives

out and puts on amapiano music I would never understand what interest people with this kind of music but then to each his own.

We get to pick n pay and he takes the trolley we walk to the appliance section I don't need a lot of things he helps me look so stuff that might be essential next we go to the detergent section to take a few things then then grocery. He too takes a few things here and there when we get to the till instead of paying for his things only he pays for mine too.

I promised I will buy him pizza once I get my first pay and he just laughed at me when we got to our building he got a call but he helped me into my apartment first before going wherever he was called to.

And just like that the rest of my weekend pass in a blur.

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Three

Before I knew it two months had passed and I was enjoying every bit of thing I was doing at work a lot of work it was but it was all worth it my salary was quite impressive I could pay for the apartment buy plenty of grocery and still have quite an impressive change. I managed to buy a few things to make the place look and feel more welcoming I had a carpet and a few couches and chairs one day my parents knocked on my

door unannounced and said they wanted to check up on me I was shocked to see them here but what I was most scared about was that Anzo was coming over throughout our entire meal things were awkward until he left.

“I don’t like him” my dad said *what the fuck!* Okay he and I are not dating but the guy is literally every parents dream boyfriend he’s from a well off family he’s very smart and has good manners who wouldn’t like him? Well...my dad doesn’t. I tried to explain to him that we are not dating but he cut me short told me that he doesn’t want me anywhere near him and then he took my moms’ hand and they left just like that. I was left

shocked about the fact that he doesn't want me hanging with Anzo more than anything my dad was never that kind of person he never dictated for me what I should or shouldn't do who to see or not so the fact that he just did that left me gob-smacked.

Some of my colleagues have invited me to a happy hour at the bar down the road. I'm not really a peoples' person but this is work so I'm forced to know everyone I work closely with I have a presentation that I need to finish so when everyone scatters and leaves because it's knock-off time I quickly pack my bag and sneak out to

the boardroom. Once everything is clear I open my eyes and breath out a sigh well... happy or not this work won't finish itself.

“you should probably head home it's getting late” I get startled a man is at the door no! this one is not a man he's a total demigod with honey brown eyes I get tongue tied “the office is closing soon” *again* I get tongue tied and don't respond he looks at me and chuckles before he turns around and walk way.

“dam nit” I hit my forehead with my palm

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“what just happened?” I have never gotten tongue tied before hell I never

seen a man like that in my life he is the real definition of tall dark and handsome. Lord oh mercy. I check the time and it's almost ten "ooh God" Anzo has left already and I can't call him to come fetch me I know I live only a few blocks away but home girl scared to walk home I pull out my phone and request an uber.

My uber arrives in exactly five minutes I can see there are still people at the bar but im too tired and I lost the mood to be around people. The uber drops me off at the gate I order pizza and walk to my apartment. When I get inside I close the door with my leg and head straight to the shower it is exactly what I need after all I get called to get my pizza by security so I grab my

own and slippers and go downstairs I see Anzo walking in with a petite yellow bone from work exactly his type ooh well. I pay for my pizza and head upstairs; I take the stairs to prevent getting into the same elevator as them. I have my fridge stocked with wine bottles because im used to living off pizza wine and a good Netflix.

This week I had no time to myself I kept going to work early and knocking off late mom called but I couldn't even pick up her call I told myself that I would return it once I get

home but immediately when I get home I get knocked out if I'm lucky I wake up on the bed but so far I make it to the couch. I don't even know when was the last time I got a proper meal I bumped into Mr honey-brown eyed creature again he made a remark on how im always at work after hours as if I had no place to stay.

This time I only managed to give a smile because for some strange reason the guy renders me silent. As tired and drained as I am I still have more work to do we have to pitch ideas on to the board on a project they decided to take they looking into bringing a different "*department*" for want of a better word into the

company to tackle the socio-economic issues so they want us to present our ideas to them we working in a group of five the group that im working with is... okay I guess yes they dedicated but they stereotyped not thinking out of the box. So I have been doing my own research on my own that's why the late nights and early morning.

“working on a Saturday?” the honey-brown eyed creature is here again I wonder what he actually does I look up at him and laugh a little “ah! Today it's your laughter what will it be tomorrow?” I stop and look at him before I actually laugh and shrug my shoulders he winks at me before I step out of the elevator and leave him

there he has a smile on his face when I turn to look at him.

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Four

“hey Lona do you have a minute” I run to catch up to my supervisor “sure what is it?” she looks up at me and smiles before she goes back to checking her phone. “the task we were given are individuals allowed to pitch?” she stops walking and looks at me “ah I was wondering the rebellion will start”. “sorry?” she ignores me and continues to talk. “we said you must work in groups I expect you to *actually* work in groups if you feel like you want to pitch

something then I expect you to talk to your group and sort it out okay” I nod me head “okay” then I turn and walk away I spot Mr honey-brown eyed creature heading to the elevator.

It's presentation day and im not feeling up to it I have nothing against the topic given to us but I feel they not thinking ahead. Since it's Friday we wear smart casual but then it's presentation day so I have to look my best I had my hair and nails done yesterday and also got an outfit prepared. A knock sounds from the door I go attend to it while I wear my shoes. I find Anzo looking like a snack in black demin trousers and a black shirt and suit jacket he had a new cut and man is this guy

gorgeous. “you look pretty” I let him in “thank you you looking good too” he shrugs his shoulder and goes and makes a cup of coffee I go back to my room and get my bag and spray some perfume.

Im in a white jean and mustard formal shirt and mustard heels. He stands up as soon as I walk out of my bedroom he heads to the kitchen and rinse his cup. I grab my phone and keys and we walk out together he’s leading in the front and I’m at the back. “are you scared” he chuckles “no im pretty confident in my team” well that’s nice to hear. “are *you* scared?” I shrug my shoulders. “im not too sure I’m a bit skeptical about the topic given it literally has no many

ways to go about it” he looks at me and opens the backseat so I can put my stuff. “what do you mean” he closes the door and goes to his seat.

I open my door and put on my seatbelt “I mean it’s either one of two ways there is no alternating around it I just...arg it frustrates me” he shakes his head and laughs at me “you’ve always been like this you don’t just let things be but I’m sure you will work out” I sigh and rest my head by the window.

but I’m sure you will work out” I sigh and rest my head by the window.

We are at the royal academy hotel all members of Zungu.inc are present even the big boss himself. I'm sweating I keep drinking water hoping that it would cool me down but I only get pressed "okay you up next" Lona calls us in now I'm even more pressed. "daisy can you cover for me? I need the rest room?". "yeah sure girl be quick" I quickly rush to the bathroom I have never been this nervous before the presentations have been going on since early in the

morning it's almost three and there are two more groups after us.

I walk back and they have already set everything up they were just waiting for me. I see about fifteen people in suits man and woman but only one stands out the honey-brown eyes he remains stoic and doesn't even smile now more than ever. I zone out until I'm embarrassingly snapped out of my trance because it's my turn to present. "ggh my name is...fuck no sorry I mean" daisy pokes me "I Uhm...transport yes well transport is very..."

"if we bring transport to the people we give them more than just a thing that they want they will be able to" I

can feel tears threatening to come out I have never been this embarrassed. Now more than ever I want nothing but to go back home and sleep forget that this day has ever happened or just hide myself under a rock and never come back without thinking twice I run outside.

I stroll around the hotel to calm myself down instead of the nervousness I was feeling earlier now I regret walking out I probably look like an incompetent idiot. Way to go fifi way to go. “fifi” I look and it’s Anzo “what happened” instead of answering I feel tears burn my eyes and blur my vision. “I messed up Anzo I messed up big time”

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Five

I am so embarrassed to even go to work today. I don't know what I'm going to say to my team members I thought that the weekend would help me get over the embarrass me I even went home but I am still the same as when I went nothing has changed at all. Knock knock I stay in my bed and cover my head I know that it's Anzo but quite frankly I'm not ready to go to work he keeps knocking and calling but I'm attending to neither until he finally gives up.

So that's how I spent my Monday stuffing myself with food and being a

couch potato. I need this day I ignored calls from work and everyone from work. I know I can't wallow up in self-pity but I just need today only. Suddenly a hard knock sounds from the door I check the time and it's almost lunch time Anzo can't be back this early or maybe it's lunch I dust myself and wear my slippers and go open the door I regret not looking through the peephole. Like always when he's around I get tongue tied so instead of saying anything I stand on the door and wait for him to say whatever he came here to say.

After a minute and silent stares he pushes passed me and invites himself inside he looks around and his eyes land on the plate of chips I

saw snacking on he looks at me and takes in my attire. “sawubona ntokazi” okay that’s the last thing I expected to hear. So I nod my head yes and follow him inside he looks at me and smiles “still won’t speak up?” I sigh and sit down. He follows my lead and sits down removing the fleece out of the way. “sorry” I say and remove the fleece “ukahle kodwa?” with one final sigh I lift my legs up and tug them under my butt “I will be” he doesn’t say anything else but continue to look at me.

Thirty minutes passed and he was still silent I tried to offer him something to drink but he turned them all down. He is making things

super weird for me. I don't even know what to say to him anymore he has been sitting here looking at the sports channel which he set for himself without asking for my permission. After some time he looks at his watch and brushes his thighs "I should get going" then he stands up. He looks at me sitting down and raises his one eyebrow "what?" I ask "walk me out?" I raise my eyebrow too but stand up nonetheless I take the fleece and cover myself with it I see him smiling a little. We walk out together until we reach the door he stands outside while I stay inside

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he stands outside while I stay inside he stops walking and looks at me "it

was nice being with you I hope to see you at work tomorrow morning” he tips my chin up and place a kiss on the corners of my mouth. Then he stands straight and walks away as if nothing happened I can see Anzo stepping out of the elevator and looking at- *what in the world is his name?*

so I just shared kiss with a total stranger well... it's not a kiss and neither is he a stranger but then... well I guess I will never know who he is right.

The next morning I woke up bright and early I prepared to get there earlier than usual I put on a pot of coffee and went back to getting ready. What I love the most about Zungu.inc is that there is no hassle in what you wear especial in the creative department which im currently doing right now every once in a while they place us in different department to see where our strength lies. I felt like doling myself up so I put on some makeup a pink dress and black block heels then I put on a black blazer for that corporate nyana look. I tied my braids up and took my laptop bag and handbag.

I poured my coffee in a to-go mug and before I could finish wrapping up

a knock sounded at the door well... that must be Anzo I grab my mug and his and head to the door "hey I will help you with that" he grabs my nag and mugs allowing me to lock up. "thank you" I say and grab my mug and handbag. "what happened on Friday" I look at him and chuckle a bit I feel so stupid right now I shouldn't have reacted the way that I did "I freaked out and ran out of the presentation room". "no way" he looks and sounds shocked "yeah" I nod my head and laugh now that I feel somehow okay I feel really stupid for what I did or maybe the honey-brown eyed creation was the one who caught me off guard I don't know.

We continue to the car making small conversations here and there Anzo and I were somewhat friends if you ask me how we met I don't remember but I know since then he always had my back like I had his a romantic relationship is something we never had I had a crush on him for the longest of time but unfortunately nothing ever happened.

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Six

“where the hell were you I hope you have a doctor's note because I will not tolerate what you did Friday? ha! I will let that one slides little lady” first

of all she's maybe three or four years older than me I know she's my supervisor so I will just keep quite. "I do not have it" I stand next to her like an errant child don't know my next move. She looks at me and sighs "go get your warning from Mr Zungus' office" *my what?* "Lona come on it was a once off thing it won't happen again I promise" she looks at me and continue walking "unfortunately it's out of my hands we do not appreciate such behavior here work before all else is our motor and you need to give it your one-hundred percent go on he's expecting you".

I stand rooted to my spot until I finally decide to go to the big bosses' office to get my warning letter. I step out of

the elevator on the twentieth floor. It is a very quiet floor with only the CEO office and the boardroom it's where I used to come to get all my research done it's very quiet and has very good Wi-Fi signal. I walk all over to the receptionist and she allows me in I stand close to the door and take deep breaths trying to calm my nerves down. Before I can knock the door flies open and like the thousand times my breath hitch and I'm rendered silent. I am met but *cold* honey-brown eyed creature "get in" he commands "Layla hold my call" I walk further in and stand in the middle of the office.

"sit down" he sounds so serious instead of doing what I'm told I

continue to stand “Remo I said sit down” the sound of my name coming from his mouth pushes me to sit down he straightens his suit out and walks over to his chair he takes out a brown envelope and hands it to me “your warning” I bit my tongue to stop the tears that are burning my eyes from falling I nod my head countless times and attempt to stand up “where are you going?” is he for real? “back to work?” he sighs and stands up walking to my side he holds me by the waist and leads me to the couch he unbuttons his suit jacket and takes the envelope from my hands and puts it on the coffee table next to the couch.

He sits and looks at me no! stares at me for a good thirty seconds before he composes himself and clears his throat. He takes out the warning and shreds it into pieces shock is written all over my face “this will stay between the two of us on one condition” he looks at me as if waiting for me to ask a question but how can I when he never cease to render me silent as if accepting defeat he sighs and turns so he’s looking straight at me “pitch your presentation the one you were working on the past few weeks” now how the hell did he learn about that.

He looks at me as if waiting for me to say yes instead I shake my head no. I hear him chuckle.

serif; background-color: transparent; font-variant-numeric: normal; font-variant-east-asian: normal; vertical-align: baseline; white-space: pre-wrap;">"okay... how can I forget you not a woman of too many words you can go" he shows me the door. He is kicking me out right? Like really wants me out of the door.

I stand up the same time as him he places his hands at the back of my waist and walks me to the door. I can feel butterflies in my stomach I have never felt like this before he does some things to me I can't begin to imagine. I walk out and step further away from him to the elevator when I look back his still at the door looking at me. He has this intense look like he's trying to read me or something.

The rest of my day goes by uneventful and so does the month before I knew it it has been six months working for Zungu. Inc and I was finally placed in the creative department. Literally a dream come true. The brown-eyed creature has been having out of the country meeting but whenever he was in town he made sure I felt him. One time he rocked up at the bar down the road during our usual Friday rush hour. Immediately when he stepped in the room went silent. He looked

around and finally his eyes rested on me he maintained that stoic look of his and walked over to the bar and then walked out a couple of seconds later.

I don't know if I'm being paranoid or what but I somehow saw him everywhere I went. The other time I was at the mall he came straight to me at the till paid for my stuff and then took me home in complete silence when we got to my apartment he set the grocery on the kitchen island made himself comfortable in my couch with a bottle of hunters dry ***my hunters dry*** and some sports Chanel. No one said anything. I made some slap senguages and he

endulged himself after another round of my beers he stood up looked at me expectantly and I walked him to the elevator still in complete silence this time though when we got to the elevator he pulled me closer to him by my waist. Sending electric shock waves all over me. He looked at me straight in the eyes I thought he would kiss me so I looked at him expectantly he dipped his head down I inched closer just when he was supposed to he places a lingering kiss on my cheek sending more shock waves down below. He stepped back looked at him with that intense look he likes to give nodded his head and then called the elevator up. We continued to watch each other until the doors opened he

stepped in and right before the door could close. For the first time ever he smiled and shook his head. I went to my apartment confused yet giggly I don't know what game he was playing but I know it would be too dangerous to handle but I'm still up for the challenge.

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Seven

I promised my parents that I will visit them so here am I carrying my bag in my hands with one walking home because I just got off the taxi so I'm walking home they know that I will visit them but I didn't say exactly when so I will just rock up on them.

I pass some of my kasi mates sitting outside smoking zolo and go straight home thankfully the gate is not locked so I let myself in. I can see my mom busy on the stove from the kitchen window because the blinds are not closed yet. I knock and my father comes to open immediately when he opens the door he embraces me in a hug while patting my back **well...** More like hitting that's how my father shows affection. He places a kiss on my cheek while my mother wipes herself and comes to greet me.

"dumelang" I say after I went to put my bags in my room and finally settle on the couch. Instead they look at me and continue smiling. You can't miss

the love and affection in their eyes and I know for sure I am the apple of their eyes.

"hawu fifi goreng osa Bua gore watla nkabo kego latile" my dad though.

"aowa papa I wanted to surprise you guys" we continued to talk while my mother goes on to dish out. It's nothing fancy it's amasi and 'sotho' pap. We all know we cook it differently. And no we are not poor nor are we rich yes my mother is a domestic worker but my dad works at an engineering company as a quality control supervisor so he earns enough to make sure we set for life if I can say so but bottom line is we are good.

While we busy watching uzalo we all know that's a ritual to watch the show I mean I get a text from Anzo to watch ENCA "papa ke kopa go changer channel gannyane fela"

"othomile" he says still handing me the remote. I click on it and immediately I feel my heart racing it's Mr honey brown eyed creature in a press conference talking about the new project from Zungu. Inc

Its not until I finally pay attention that I see what's written underneath that my heart skips literally stops.

Quinton. M. Zungu-Ceo of Zungu. Inc. I can feel my heart racing no it's no longer a race it's a marathon or... Or *fuck!* I don't know. Why didnt I see

all this how come I didn't even stop
and -

"I admire this young man he
managed to accomplish a lot at such
a young age" I turn to look and it's my
dad talking with his arms folded and
spectacles on the bridge of his nose.

"you know him-?" I holding my breath
in please say no please say no.

"of course I do he's always on the
news with some new youth
development strategies he has going
on he's going far I tell you"

serif; background-color: transparent;
font-style: italic; font-variant-numeric:
normal; font-variant-east-asian:
normal; vertical-align: baseline;
white-space: pre-wrap;">phew. **At**

least he doesn't know him personally.

"he's my boss" now both my parents turn to look at me and I pretend like I don't feel both their eyes piercing my head. Then finally they turn their heads around and continue watching TV. I'm looking at the TV but not watching it my mind is else where. His interview ends so I change the channel back to SABC1.

I'm in my room lost in a train of thoughts when suddenly my phone vibrates from underneath my pillow I grab it and answer without checking.

"hello?" the person on the end of the line goes quite. I remove it from my ear and check the caller ID it's an unknown number. "hello" I call again.

"where are you?" I think I stopped breathing I know that voice I can tell it apart from any other even in my sleep. I heard it on the TV a few hours back.

"Quinton?" I call out. "yes it's me" we stay quite for some time until he speaks again.

"I came by and you not here"

"I'm home" he keeps quite. "yours parents house?" He asks after a heart beat.

"yes"

"okay" and then he clicks the call.
What the fuck just happened.

I keep tossing and turning why?
Because I can't sleep. Why can't I
sleep you want to know? It's because
the call is still at the back of my mind
I can't get it out it's been hours since
and yet I can't get it out so I do the
only thing I find logical and pick up
my phone and call him back it's a
quarter to three in the morning I'm
sure he will pick up I mean people
are up by this time not sleeping
right?

But before logic can slip in he picks
up and keeps quite. Well... I didn't
expect for him to pick up so I'm
rendered silent. "Remo" the sound of
my name from his mouth is... No I

know what it is no one has ever called me Remo since my grandmothers death it was her nickname for me.

"what are you doing still up this time?" He ask when he hears me say nothing.

"not sleepy" I lie well... Not really since it's half the truth.

"why?" He sounds concerned.

"because you never told why you called" he chuckles I can picture him smiling I've never seen him smile but I can definitely imagine how handsome it would look on him that I even find myself smiling like a fool.

"it was nothing you should go back to sleep" I shake my head as if he can see me.

"tell me why you not sleeping" I can hear him sigh from the end of the line.

"I just wanted to see you that's all"
"why?"

"should I have a reason?" He counters back.

"no you don't but I would still like to know" he chuckles and stops for a minute.

"I'll see you tomorrow ma' Nkoana omuhle" then he hangs up.

I'm left with a stupid ass smile plastered on my face and it is exactly how I woke up.

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Eight

I found my mother cleaning the yard my father on his camping chair watching my mother clean. This guy.

"hawu papa Gao thuse mama khante?" He looks at me and does the 'Mxm' thing he likes to do I chuckle and sit down on the stoop next to him.

"wena why ontse fatshe? Emella o thus a"

"eh nna ke moeng" my mother looks at us banter back and forth and chuckles.

"tsamo ntirela tee" my mom calls I look at her and stand up.

"papa wa e batla?" He shakes his head no and asks for cold drink instead.

I head inside the same time my phone starts ringing the caller ID is written-Q. That's how I saved it.

"Remo" he says the moment I answer the call giving me no chance to say a hello.

"Quinton" he stays silent before he speaks again.

"I want you to go with me somewhere I'll come pick you up"

"you do know I'm at my parents house right you can't just rock up in here like that" first of all why didn't I say no because my answer technically is a yes.

"so I will see you right" it sounds like a question but it's not.

"okay"

"Good I'll see you then"

I stand staring at my phone like what just happened? Did I just agree going out with my boss? What? No... what the hell am I going to tell my parents? Maybe if I say that I'm going to-

"yeyii wena tea yaka e kae?" mama le Ena.

I fill the cattle with water and take out eggs and bacon from the fridge. I

start whipping the eggs while I do the bacon on the other hand. Once I'm done with everything else I plate them and place them on the tray mom is the only one who loves tea she can drink it twelve o'clock with the December sun scotching hot and she won't even say it's hot or wait for it to cool down my granny was like that too. So I guess it's hereditary. I'm just glad I'm not like that.

I'm in my room enjoying my nap when I hear a third voice a voice that I know all too well. The voice haunts me in my dreams. So I can tell

exactly who it is without going outside.

I take out my phone and send him a text. *_what are you doing here?*

He doesn't respond I send another one and still he doesn't respond.

"mxm" I throw my fleese and stomp out of my room to where they are if he thinks he's the king of the jungle he has another thing coming

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if he thinks he's the king of the jungle he has another thing coming he can't just show up in here like some "arg" I roufly push my door open and immediately all eyes turn to me. I stop dead on my tracks when I see

him. But! It's not my honey brown eyed creature.

"dumelang" I greet.

"sawubona" he greets me.

"so baba like I was saying this papers are just a formality only I wanted to be the one to give them to you personally"

"thank you very much Mahlangu I appreciate it. By the way this is my daughter Remofilwe fifi this is my boss Kagiso Mahlangu"

"hello" he extends his hand for a handshake. I feel my heart beating fast because of how much alike they look. Except for the honey brown eyes. They have the same physical appearance except Quinton is a bit lighter in complexion.

"my hand please"

"ooh sorry" my parents laugh while he just brushes it off like it's nothing I feel fairly embarrassed. As if to save my my phone rings. **Q.** It's written all of them have their eyes on me so I excuse myself and go outside to answer it.

"MaNkoana what's going on" like it's his habit he doesn't greet let alone give me a chance to say hallo when I answer. Instead of answering I laugh instead.

"funny thing I thought you were here wanted to give you a piece of my mind"

He stays quite "why would you think I was there?"

"because I thought I heard your voice but turned out it wasn't anyone it was fathers boss I think but I swear I thought I heard your voice"

"mmmh anyway are we still on?"

"yeah sure what time?"

"be ready by three"

Then he drops the call someone needs to teach this guy some manners how the hell do you hang up on a person when you don't whether they are done or not. Ake gane he called but some manners nyana won't hurt anyone really.

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Nine

Like a little child I do exactly what I'm told to do here I am sitting in front of the mirror trying clothes on. I don't even know where we are going nor the kind of clothes I'm supposed to wear but then you can never go wrong with a dress so that's exactly what I wear a flower printed dress I bought from legit some time back and a block heel I tie my braids and put my phone and some nose powder inside my clutch. I haven't even told my parents anything yet but I'm ready to go. Hee! Weitse bo Remofilwe bona. I spray myself and take one last look at myself on the mirror. I'm impressed. He better be impressed

too because I actually put some efforts on my looks.

I walk out and my mother's eyes immediately land on me. She looks at me and smiles. I go sit next to dad and hook my arms around his and rest my face on him I don't say anything but read whatever he's reading he's on the sports section of the newspaper that's what I was able to see. I'm not a big fan of reading but I can try a lot but sports. Sorry no can do. I just don't understand a thing about it. My phone vibrates from my clutch I take it out and I see **Q** on the screen as me what I saved him as that? I don't know. I could have chosen Mr Zungu or rather his full

name but I just had to choose a letter.

I turn my phone over and look at my mom "papa"

"mmmh" he still has his focus on the newspaper.

"kopa goya somewhere I'll be back tonight though akitse what time"

He stops reading and looks at me. Adjusting his glasses to get a better look at me. I look at him back after some time he pushes them further up and goes back to his newspaper.

"mama" I'm scared my dad's answer might be a no. I want to go I'm afraid if he says no I will sneak out or something.

"Remofilwe omo golo" my mom says. What's that even supposed to mean.

"papa" my mind might have kind of given me permission but we all know fathers have the last word. He looks at me and goes back to his newspaper. My phone vibrates again; I can feel tears threatening to come out.

"Remofilwe!" my mom shouts. I look at her and stay quite waiting for her to finish. "TsaLona" I look at dad one last time before I stand up and walk out. Immediately when I get to the door I see my father putting his newspaper down and looking at mom I puff out a sigh and walk outside. Immediately when I step outside the gate I see a black Audi A8 parked

outside. I'm too into my emotions to even think straight so I go over to it and head to the passenger side. Immediately when I get in I rest my head on the seat headrest and sigh. My dad can be difficult at times I know he's scared to lose me but I'm a big girl I can take care of myself.

"are you okay?" He asks looking at me. I nod my head yes. Instead of starting the car he continues to look at me.

"if you don't want to come it's totally cool you know"

"no it's not that" I expect him to let it go but he questions me further.

"what is it then" I look at him and shake my head no.

"you know it would do us a huge favor if you come forth with information instead of making me extract it from you we not moving here until you tell me what's bothering you"

I look at him and chuckle "you would do that" instead he looks at me and raise his eyebrow as if to say 'dare me'. With a final sigh I tell him.

"it's my dad I don't think he wants me to go anywhere"

"do want to go back? I won't mind really" I shake my head and chuckle.

"actually I'm scared because I don't want to go back if I go in now I might probably call you later on and then sneak out" I laugh at myself but he

doesn't. He looks at me like I lost my mind. "what?" it's true.

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He presses the gate and it slides open. He drives in and parks and a valet comes and opens my door he hands one of them the keys and walks over to my side hand on my back he leads me inside. It looks like a private golf club.

"where are we?" He looks at me and smiles.

"Kotze private club"

"Oooh" I Scan around while he leads me outside. When we get there I can see a group of man in golf uniform.

"hey man" one of them comes towards him and they do some manly handshake.

"sup man" Quinton greets him back his other hand still on my back. After the shake the looks at me and smiles.

"milady I'm Leo you must be?"

I smile and extend my hand. "Azania"

"beautiful" he takes my hand and kiss it. I can't help the blush creeping by.

serif; background-color: transparent; font-variant-numeric: normal; font-variant-east-asian: normal; vertical-align: baseline; white-space: pre-wrap;">"alright player cut it out." he leads me further until we on the table watching people play golf.

He hands me a glass of champagne and clinks our glasses together. I smile and take a sip all this time he's looking at me not smile or having any reaction.

After some time we are joined on the table by the golfers and their wives. We are served food and wine; they talk about the charity gala that took place a few weeks ago.

"are you okay?" He looks at me. I smile and nod my head he chuckles

and goes back to his meal. Leo engages him in a conversation and somar his focus is on him. I'm not complaining though "hey... Are you here with him?" the girl next to me ask I turn to her but have a sip of my drink before I nod my head yes she smiles and extends her hand. "I'm Susan Taylor's wife" I just smile because I don't know who she's referring to.

"come let's go have some cocktail over there they going to discuss business and trust me you won't enjoy it one bit"

I turn to my side and indeed Quinton is so engrossed in his conversations he won't even notice me so I nod my head and stand up Q turns his head

and looks at me with a questioning look.

"I'll be over there with the ladies" he looks at me and over where the 'ladies' are at.

"ooh okay then but you know you don't have to right?" I just smile at him and then walk away I feel him looking at me and indeed when u turn he is looking at me.

*

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I have nothing against those ladies but at some point a person like myself was bound to get bored. Talking about fashion and the latest

Gucci back would tire me so I step away while they were still talking but Quinton got to me and led me back to the table where they were discussing business I didn't mind that because they had such an intense topic that I found myself so engrossed by it. Sometime during the convo Akin Kotze came with his wife Boitumelo Kotze the owner of Illuminate Hub I'm not a social media person but I can tell you something this woman right here is a role model to young girls her company is about youth representation mostly females but she made a name for herself she's in her late twenties and already made a name for herself.

They sat down and everyone's attention was on them.

"hey T how's it going" Leo said.

"you know" Tumi answered everyone chuckled maybe it's an inside joke I don't know. After an hour or so of business talk Q stood up and took me with him we walked around the golf court. It's almost seven so the sunset looked nice from out here just close to the lake there was a bench so we sat down there and watched the sun setting.

"what did you think?" I raised my eyebrow. "about the new venture what did you think?"

Is he asking me about business matters?

"well... I don't know"

"yes you do" he countered.

"I don't know really they made really pressing matters the solar energy project seems nice but isn't Zungu all about youth employment and all that?"

"yes it is"

"well then diss it I think you can do major work with Illuminance hub the two companies basically have the same visions and from the way I have been following it use it as your recruitment have people from there and then give them projects to work on"

He kept quiet and looked at me while I spoke. He nodded when he needed

to and gave the right reaction which led me into diving much more into the project I was working on. Until-

"ooh my God!" I clapped my hand on my mouth.

"what what is it?" He looked around trying to see what I was looking at but my focus was on him. "what?" he asked again.

"you just had me talk about my project didn't you" I hit him on the shoulder.

"we'll at some point you had to didn't you it was a pretty good one might I add also. I took the liberty of talking to Tumi about it and she's impressed"

"what the fuck!"

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Ten

I don't know how I feel about what he did I think I overreact but I had the right to right? It was my project after all he had no right going and raving about it and the little stunt he pulled I'm mad I'm pissed.

I had him drive me home and on the way back no one said anything he didn't even try to say sorry or anything he dropped me off at my gate I waited for him to say something but he didn't I left his car feeling more pissed than I did when I got in. I didn't even greet my parents I

just went home and slept immediately.

The following day I spent it cooking with mom she didn't ask anything and I didn't say anything either I didn't know if I was overreacting or what but once we were seated down they asked me I had no reason to hide it so I told them everything. "what if he wants to grow you and be lucky he didn't steal it and make it his work" my dad said.

I still wasn't sure how I felt but I guess maybe they were right maybe I did overreact a little bit. So here am I Monday morning staring at the Zungu sign outside the building dreading going in. Anzo came by my side with coffee and a doughnut.

"shall we?" I looked up at him and reluctantly nodded my head yes. I'm not ready to face him yet and just my luck he was in today or maybe my dismay because suddenly I'm feeling sad that he's not in. For the past months that I've been here for he pitches in every once in a while so I should not be sad right? I mean I was trying to avoid him but... *sigh*. I don't know what I want really. I do not.

"Azania can I please see you in my office?" it's him he's here now I'm nervous he turns around and walks away I had expected him to wait for me but... I guess I can't have it all now can I?

I clear my desk and follow him he calls the elevator "I'm really sorry about my behavior over the weekend" I blurt out immediately when we get inside the elevator. He cast his eyes down on me clears his thought and pretends like he didn't hear me.

serif; background-color: transparent; font-variant-numeric: normal; font-variant-east-asian: normal; vertical-align: baseline; white-space: pre-wrap;">"Qui"

“I heard you.” He says and then keeps quite alright then. If that’s how he wants things to be like fine by me. I step away from him and focus on the elevator I totally don’t mind silence. The elevator door opens and he steps out first. He won’t even try to be a gentleman.

His two assistance are on opposite ends of the room he opens the door and walks in I step in and stand by the door.

“close the door please” he irons out the front of his suite and sits down and gestures to me. “please have a sit”

I oblige and do as I’m told. He clears his throat “you still haven’t changed your mind about the project?”

I sigh and correct my posture before I answer. “I have actually. It was quite stupid of me to behave like I”

“language please” he interrupts.

“ooh” I clear my throat. “im sorry as I was saying. I wasn’t thinking and I let my emotions cloud my judgement so... I thought about it it’s a great chance to do something that I’m passionate about so I’ll be honored.

He shifts in his seat. “great because Mrs Kotze is looking forward to the project and it’s beneficial to all parties I’m glad you on board I would really hate it if you were not it’s too good an opportunity to pass”

“so... you saying you would have gone ahead with it had I not agree?” I ask he pulls something from the table

drawers not looking at me he answers. “sadly”.

I’m shocked to say the least. How could he.

“here” he hands me the file. “this is just a standard contract my office is open for anything if you want any info or something feel free to come here anytime and search for the info.”

“thank you.” I say. He looks at me as if he has something more to say but decides otherwise. “another thing...” I wait for him to say what it is but nothing so I stand up and walk out. He doesn’t call me back or anything so I guess there really is nothing to say.

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Eleven

I've accepted that things are as they are he never really acknowledged my apology so I left things I don't really know what was going on but I know that it has stopped all that we talk about is work and nothing more.

It's a Friday and as per work tradition we going out Anzo sent me a text saying that they are leaving already we in different departments so...

Anyway I pack up my things and meet with him at the reception he greets me with a hug "you coming with right?"

“yeah totally. I need a drink I’m tired and drained”

“I’m sure you are” we wait for a few more colleagues before heading off. I’m feeling a little dizzy since I barely ate during lunch so I order a burger and a glass of wine.

“that’s not all you having right?” Phenyso asks she’s one the girls we sat with we four in total me Anzo Phenyso and the yellow bone I once saw Anzo with who by the way I just learn her name is Visage colored and boy is she all over Anzo it’s uncomfortable.

“no of course not I will have a glass of water after this” I look at them to analyze their faces until they looked at me like I’m crazy.

Too bad they don't understand my sense of humor. We continue to have our food and drinks courtesy of Zungu.inc. I wonder if he comes here some times. Or... no! I need to stop thinking about him. I really do.

I get text while I'm still at the bar from Quinton.

Can I see you. I look at it and contemplate if I should answer it when another one comes through.

Please. How do I even respond to such but then again logic escapes me so I stand up "guys... I'll be back" I take cash from my wallet to cover my tab and walk out. They don't say anything and I'm glad. I walk the

distance from bar to the side of Zungu building.

His Audi pulls up right in front of me and he asks me in after a few minutes of silence in the car I finally ask him.

“so... what’s going on?” he looks at me and then back at the road.

“I wanted to see you is that wrong?” I exhale. He is one confusing man this one.

“no there is nothing wrong with that but I thought ... never mind” I rest my head on the car headrest and look out the window.

“no

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please tell me what is it” he places his hand in mine every time he’s near me I my head gets messed up now his hand on me my stomach is doing backflips right now.

Sigh. “I just I felt like I don’t know like you were mad at me or something I tried apologizing and you just blew me off so I thought... I don’t know that maybe you don’t want to see me anymore?” now I did not expect to be so honest and instead of answering me or acknowledging what I just said he says “ooh?” and then removes his hand and continues to drive ignoring me like I didn’t just open up to him like that.

I release another sigh I seriously feel like a fool how do I open to a person

like this and he doesn't even say anything not even an 'I'm sorry?' like how.

We remain quiet for the rest of the way he parks and looks at me. "we here" I looks outside and we in front of my apartment building I let out a soft chuckle.

"so you brought me home?" he shrugs his shoulders. "do you want to come up?" he rests his head on the steering wheel and looks at me.

"I can't I'm sorry" I nod my head and open the door only to find it locked. Im slowly losing my patience with this man.

"can you please open the door?" I can feel the tears building up. He opens his door and comes to my

side. He opens it and gives me his hand to get me out I grab my bag and step away from him. He locks the car and walks me up to my flat.

All the way in the elevator no one says anything the doors open and he leads me out as pissed as I am his hand on me feels so good I feel my head buzzing. we get to my door I open up and attempt to step in.

“I’m sorry” I exhale and stop not turning to look at him. “please look at me” if he doesn’t stop I’m afraid I will cry he wraps his arms around mine and hugs me from the back “I had a nice time thank you” I nod my head still in that position. I feel him sigh before he turns me around.

“can I call you later?”

“yeah sure” I nod my head.

“alright then” he cups me neck and places a lingering kiss on the corner of my mouth before he steps away and walks to the elevator. I watch him walk away until he disappears inside I step into my apartment and rest my head on the door I’m overwhelmed I really don’t know what to make out of his actions I don’t know if he’s interested in me or not it’s all so confusing. Plus considering that I have never done anything like this ever before so I really don’t know what to expect.

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Twelve

True to his word he called literally an hour after he left I'm in my pajamas eating popcorns and watching Netflix. Then again I'm really not paying attention to the tv because it's on mute and I'm busy playing with the popcorns. Why? I'm all smiles like a high school with a crush. Maybe this is some late adolescent stage because I never really did date when I was in high school. It has always been school school school and nothing else.

“so... I will see you tomorrow?” he's not asking but then I don't need for him to ask because I do want to see him again.

“I have a meeting with Boitumelo maybe after?” I hear him sigh.

“okay I’ll pick you up then?”

“okay” we continue to talk until I actually say I’m off to bed.

The next morning I woke up bright and early. I had a breakfast meeting with Mrs Kotze so I had to be prepared and I woke up and prepared all my documents. We were meeting at a restaurant so I had to look presentable.

Quinton called to wish me good luck with my meeting as this would be our first ever official meeting we have been talking via emails but that’s as far as we went maybe a call once but then that was it.

It’s sunny outside I want to wear something casual but presentable as

well. After rummaging my closet I stood on my bed in just my panties and bra. I fell back on the bed with my back and placed my hands over my face. I must have dozed off because I was woken by my phone ringing.

I quickly rose on to my feet and answered. "hello"

I'm greeted by a chuckle "are you ready" a smile automatically forms.

"I think I dozed off" he chuckles.

"well get ready" then he hangs up. I can't keep the smile off my face I end up wearing a summer dress and sandals I let my hair off and walked outside calling a cab.

I get to the restaurant and I'm ushered to the table Tumi is not here yet so I set up in the meanwhile. We are outside on the balcony it's neither hot nor cold but there's a bit of wind so I decide against the papers.

"can I get you anything in the meantime mam?" the lady that just showed me my table asks me.

"uuhm! A glass of lemon water please"

"okay mam" she leaves and I attend to my task.

“ooh sorry I’m late this pregnancy has me crazy. You would swear it’s my first” the beautiful chubby Mrs Akin.jr Kotze walks in.

“it’s not a problem I was just setting up” she smiles and takes out her laptop. I’m not big of a social media person but she’s one girl I love to follow. She has been nothing but an inspiration to me. I like how she never gave up on her dreams started off by selling her branded clothes to actually owning her very own company when no one believed in her.

“alright then we waiting for just one more...” she looks around “ooh he’s here” I look to the direction of the

door and I almost choke on my saliva.

In a black fitted suit and a shirt a freshly cut hair and a nice fade walks in Quinton. This guy is an epitome of beauty let's not forget the honey brown eyes he walks all the way towards us and when he reaches our table he goes by Tumi's side and kiss her on the cheek. "looking lovely Mrs K" she blushes "ooh you flatter me Quinton".

"ma' Nkoana" he nods his head I nod mine too

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I nod mine too feeling somehow I don't know why.

“well then now that we all here shall we?” he looks at me expectedly.

“uuhm yes.” Now I have no choice but to take the documents out “I’m sorry I only prepared for two but you can have this one” I handed Quinton my folder.

“are you sure you won’t need that one he is an intruder after all” I smile and shake my head no.

“Its fine Mrs K”

“alright then go right ahead” I look at Q for god knows what but he isn’t paying attention he’s focus is on the folder that I gave him.

I open a document on my laptop to use it as reference and place it in

front of us all. The waiter comes back with my water.

“thank” I say I take a sip before I place it next to me. “okay... so I did some extensive market research on Aluminate hub so you are basically about youth employment so does Zungu.inc but in a broader version. The two companies basically have a lot in common if not similar Aluminate focuses on the artistic side mostly but have you thought about music because you tackle all artist except musician.”

“are you trying to say Zungu should go into music? ” He looks at me staring in the eye. Everytime I look

into his eye I just get lost but this is serious I need to be on top of things.

" no... I'm saying look at page three" they turn the page "your construction can do more good employ people from that particular area to build studios maybe and then Aluminate can use those studios fill up necessary equipments and rents out the place I know most people would be thrilled to have such"

They looking at each other probably considering what I said? I don't know... I hope so.

"that's a lot to consider I have a doctors appointment and Akin will be

here any minute from.... Ooh speak of the devil. I need to cut the meeting shot. Can you come by my office when you free I would like to discuss something without your boss here" she throws a look at Quinton.

"alright madam. It's time to go" the ever charming Akin Kotze walks up to his wife with their son in his arms with Spiderman toy on him. He's probably three years old maybe. "Zungu..." he shakes his hand "miss..." he extends his hand towards me. "Azania please" I shake his hand.

"lovely... wame let's go please" Tumi rolls her eyes and stands up.

"hey buddy... Did you miss mommy?" she tickles him. He hides under his father but a small laugh erupting I can't help but adore them. They are a lovely set of couples. They walks out smiling at each other i watch them until they disappear to-

"you look beautiful today" I'm caught off guard. I look at him and he's already looking at me. It's the first time he's ever complemented me. I look away and mumble a thanks.

"shall we go?" He stands up and extends his hand. I take it and stand up.

"let me clear all this" he helps me pack my stuff and he takes them. Leaving me to just hold my handbag.

"where are we going?" He looks at me and bits his bottom lip concealing a smile.

"my house" he opens the back door and puts my stuff there and then the passenger door I hasitantly step in he shuts the door and walks to his side.

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Thirteen

would you like anything to drink?" He comes out in just sweatpants and a

shirt he went inside to change out of his suit. We sitting on a couch outside on his balcony. He has a really beautiful glass house the balcony overlooking the sandton streets.

He has two glasses of wine and a bottle also. "yeah sure" I answer he already bought it moss. Why ask. "you have a really nice home"

"Thank you" he sits next to me his body facing me and we both look out the streets enjoying the casual breeze that suddenly started. He pours wine and hands me one.

"thanks" I take a sip and continue looking out. My heart is racing a mile a minute I don't know what will happen but then I want something to happen gore what? I don't know.

"you should relax your feet the shoes will hurt them" he places his wine glass on the table and lifts my left leg up we maintain eye contact neither one of us willing to back out he softly caresses my leg before untying my sandale he caress my foot and then mores on to the other one. I can feel my heart beating fast I'm anticipating his next movehe places both my legs on his and brush them.

"tell me about yourself" he takes his wine and sips. I'm a little dumbfounded so it takes me a minute to come back to my senses.

"what do you want to know?" I say.

"anything you willing to share" I smile.

"well...what can I say? My name is Remofilwe Azania Nkoana daughter of Patricia and Paul Nkoana. I'm an only child and I'll be twenty one" he smiles and shakes his head.

"why those names" I look past him.

"my mother had seven miscarriages I was the eighth child apparently I'm a miracle child God answered their prayers and gave me to them hence Azania."

"that's very touching I'm sure you the apple of their eyes"

"you bet what about you?"

"what about me?" He counters back.

"tell me about yourself who are you and what are you about"

"well... Right now all I know is that I want to kiss you" I stop my glass midway and look at him.

"w.. What?" now I feel my body heating up.

"can I?" is... Is He asking if he can kiss me?.

"okay" I swear to God and my ancestors I didn't plan on saying that. He puts his drink down and takes mine too gulps it and places the glass down.

He shift and places both my legs around him and inches his face closer to mine.

serif; background-color: transparent; font-variant-numeric: normal; font-variant-east-asian: normal; vertical-align: baseline; white-space: pre-wrap;">"are you sure" I can feel his breath mixed with wine hitting my face. I involuntarily close my eyes and nod my head yes. "look at me then" I slowly open my eyes and raise them to look at him the same moment he places his lips on my my eyes close again as I savour him. He doesn't move or do anything. His lips are just on mine.

Then... Then he takes my bottom lip and starts moving I don't know what I'm doing but I'm going with the flow.

He pulls me further onto the couch so he's completely on top of me. He hikes my dress further up and caress my thigh. I'm transported into a different realm a place I never knew existed.

"I enjoyed thank you" he takes my hand and place a kiss on it.

"I did too" he comes to my side and opens my door.

"let me walk you in" he takes my bags from the back and walks me in. We ride the elevator in silence when we get to my apartment he takes the keys from me and opens up.

I take my bags to the bedroom and change into more comfortable clothes. When I walk out I find him in front of the TV eating my snacks.

"I hope you don't mind" he gestures to them.

"no I don't" I go to the fridge and grab bottle of water.

"come sit over here you look cute in those clothes"

I can't help but blush "thank you" I settle on the couch next to him he wraps his arm over my shoulder and brings me closer to him. We settle like that and watch TV. I must have dozed off because when I woke up I was in my bed I woke up to check if he was here but nothing an unfamiliar feeling crept inside me I wish he could have stayed. I really like being with him maybe I might be jumping the gun but I think he likes me too.

The next morning it was a Sunday I did nothing but laze around the house. Anzo came by with pizza and

wine and well you know how it goes
watch movies until sunset.

I wake up and Anzo is next to me
sleeping. I untangle myself from him
and clear everything before I wake
him. It's almost midnight.

"dude wake up. It's late" he rubs
sleep off his eyes.

"what's wrong?" He looks around
looking like a little lost kid.

"it's almost midnight"

"ooh shit"he shoots up standing and wearing his shoes." did we fall asleep? "I nod my head yes.

" fuck! " he cusses." I promised vee I would call her. Dammit "he runs out taking his keys along and goes out the door. Which by the way looked slightly opened. I shrug my shoulders and lock the door and go straight to my bed.

Tomorrow is Monday normally I would dread it but now... Now I'm looking forward to it or should I say look forward to seeing someone?

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Fourteen

Left already - A

Sigh. I know work is two blocks away but I was so used to going with Anzo I'm feeling lazy to walk. Plus I tried calling Quinton this morning but nothing I saw his missed calls and now he's not answering me. I know I should make something out of it but I can't help it.

Winter is slowly drawing in I need to buy winter wear for work I was so used to being a student that even in the past months that I spent working I

have not prepared for winter. I need to make time this weekend and go shopping.

I make myself a cup of coffee and take my bag and house keys and lock while walking out. I guess today I will have to walk to work I could use the walk to think properly and do some life introspection.

My heart beats fast when I see the all too familiar car pull up next to me. I get a little excited when I see him i remember the kiss that we shared I can't help but blush when I see him I

stop walking and wait for him so we can call the elevator together.

He steps out and gives the security guard his car keys to go park it at the basement probably on him he has only his phone and he's busy typing on it he looks pissed but calm in a way he's busy typing on his phone he's wearing Grey two piece suit with no tie I like his fade it suits him very much.

I smile when he approaches but my heart drops down to my feet when he passes me without any sort of acknowledgement. His perfume hits my nostrils. I try to utter something anything but nothing comes. I feel a

lump forming on my throat. I turn and dump my coffee inside the bin and walk away. When I turn I see him looking at me he's waiting for the elevator I go to the next elevator and wait for it. I don't know what I did but I can't keep up with his moods its too early for people to me dramatic.

I have a lunch meeting with Tumi at her house because ooh well she is a Kotze wife plus she's married to Akin I'm sure I say that a lot but that guy is a sight to sore eyes I swear..

I grab my things and head outside. When I get to the elevator I find Anzo there I walk in and guess who else is here I don't even bother looking at him or anything there are a few other people in the elevator so I step closer to Anzo.

"hey sorry I left you this morning" he says as soon as I stand next to him.

"it's no problem. What happened vele?" He looks at me and chuckles.

"eish man I was with vee you know I was supposed to meet with her last night and we passed out man she was so mad" he puts his hand over

his mouth "but then again she knows that you my friend and well

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she knows that you my friend and well I could use our wine and pizza movie day hey" he nudges me I only offer him a small smile the elevator doors open and people step out.

"I'll see you late okay " he steps out. We on the third floor now one more floors and I'll be out.

"sharp" I say.

He still here we only three now in the elevator his on the left side and looking at me. I throw him a look and stare at the doors. I dont have this

kind of time he won't speak to me and now he's looking at me. Lucky we reach the first floor I stand straight and attempt to walk out when I feel hands on my waist.

"stay" he says. I want to leave God knows I want to but how the hell am I suppos to think straight when he's touching me? While I'm still contemplating what to say the door close and its just the two of us only.

With a sigh I turn and attempt to look at him but he suprises me with a kiss. The elevator announces our arrival and he steps back grabbing my hand in his he leads me towards his car. No one had said anything to anyone

yet. My head is still buzzing from what just happened.

He opens the door for me to get in and stupid foolish me does so. He goes to his side after closing my door and gets in he puts the car in reverse and drives out still not saying anything. If he wont say anything I won't either I won't put myself on the line again.

* **

The first thing he did when we got inside his house was to kiss me he closes the door with his foot and cups my neck. Fuck. He tilts my head a little up and parts my lips with his tongue before I start feeling butterflies exploding in my stomach.

"I'm sorry" he whispers. I can't even think straight so my response is a low moan. He presses his lips even further and pulls my jacket off before he kisses my neck. If this is the guy I'm loosing my innocence to the God I agree.

He picks me up and walks me to his bedroom well I think He puts me on the bed and takes off his jacket. He has bloodshot eyes and Lord does he look sexy right now.

Next he takes his shirt off and climbs the bed and wraps my leg over his waist and kisses me. How I wish he had some hair to pull because what I'm feeling right now is out of the world I'm wearing a dress which he pulled up and now he's rubbing himself Over my panties I can feel from how he is that God blessed him down there.

He pushes my dress off and I'm left in just my panties wet panties and a matching bra.

"fuck you look so sexy right now" he says in a low voice I hum and push my pelvis towards him. He plants wet kisses over my neck and shoulder while magically working on my bra and then it's off he cups my left breast and kisses the other I can feel I'm starting to build. I know I'm a virgin but I know these things I was a book worm back in school so please and I watch movies and read books.

He comes back to my lips while pulling my panties off at the same time this time my heart is beating fast

I'm really doing this? I am really. He pulls back to take off his pants and Jesus. It's curved upward.

He looks at me and smiles before coming to me and kissing me while his finger plays with me. My breathing rate has picked up I can feel my first ever orgasm but before I can reach my peak he stops and looks at me.

"i-I... Ive never done this before" I stutter.

"I know" and before I can ask how he knows I feel an intense pain down there.

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