

SISTERZ III

CHEATING

By Fiona Snyckers • Published 2010

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STORY TEASER

Things couldn't be better for Latoya Ramepele. She's finally in a relationship with Jayden Depaul, the coolest guy in school, and she's getting to know her long-lost sister Amanda better every day. But then Jayden announces that he's going away to Durban for a whole term, and Amanda gets a new boyfriend who doesn't want Latoya hanging around anymore. Then there's Tendai - the boy who is just waiting to dry Latoya's tears...

CHARACTERS

These are the main characters in Sisterz:

Latoya Rampele, 16 Latoya is in love at last. But when her boyfriend has to move to Durban for a whole term, she can't believe how much she misses him. Should she stay true to Jayden or allow the charming Tendai to distract her?

Amanda McBurney, Latoya's half-sister Amanda is a pro at sorting out other people's lives. But she doesn't see that she is getting sucked into a bad relationship with her control-freak boyfriend Connor

Jayden Depaul Latoya's boyfriend Jayden is thrilled to be chosen for a student exchange programme in Durban. Yes, he'll miss Latoya, but surfing is the new love in his life. Will he realise how much he's hurting his girlfriend before it's too late?

Tendai has been in love with Latoya for months. Now that Jayden is out of the way, he finally sees his chance to get close to her.

CHAPTER 1

“We need to talk.”

Is there anyone who can hear those words without feeling their heart sink?

That can only mean one thing, right? It means you're about to get dumped. People never say, “We need to talk” when it's something good. It always means bad news. Always.

My boyfriend, Jayden, used those words on me yesterday. He asked if we could meet up at the Grayston Shopping Centre after school today so we could talk in private. I asked him what it was about, but he refused to say. He just looked all serious and repeated those horrible words, “We need to talk.”

I just don't get it. How can he want to break up with me? Things have been going so well between us. We've been officially going out for two months now, although we've been friends for a lot longer than that. And the nice thing is that my half-sister Amanda has also got a boyfriend. His name is Connor and he goes to Grayston College - the private school that's really close to Innesfree High, where we are.

Connor is a great guy, and the four of us have been having an awesome time double dating and hanging out together. Jayden and I have been so happy. I can't believe he wants to end it. I just can't believe it.

I keep racking my brains trying to think what I've done wrong - how I could have been a better girlfriend - but I'm getting nothing. I honestly thought he was as happy as I am.

He has been acting a bit strangely lately, though. He keeps having these meetings that he has to rush off to at odd times. And I once heard him talking about “the interview” on his phone. But when I asked him what interview, he changed the subject.

By the time Jayden appears outside the coffee shop, I'm so freaked out that I don't even wait until we're inside.

“Tell me what it is!” I demand loudly. “Just spit it out. Tell me what you want us to talk about.”

“Latoya ...” he says, looking totally broken up. “Let's go inside and...”

“No!” I insist. “I've spent the whole day wondering what it is. Just tell me right now.”

“Okay.” He's avoiding my eyes, which makes me feel even worse. “Here's the thing. I'm moving to Durban...”

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Ah the lng dinstance thing never works trust me! **Vince**

Well dOne!!great begining. **CHANTY**

Yes i do, because i lived this life with my girl 3 years ago and even today we are still in love, and their love will last. **General**

What do you think?

Do you see any future for this relationship? Our readers responded like this: *Yes, I've done the long distance thing before and it can work.*: 21 %, *Let's hear what Jayden has to say first - maybe it's not as bad as it sounds*: 54 %, *No. Sixteen is too young to be tied down to someone who isn't even there. They should break up*: 23 %. To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 2

“You’re moving to Durban?” I gasp before Jayden can even finish talking. “I knew it! I knew you called me here to break up with me. So that’s why you’ve been acting so weird lately.”

“For a term, Latoya!” Jayden says, catching hold of my shoulders. “I’m moving to Durban for a term. One term only.”

“A term? But that makes no sense. Why would you be moving to a different city for one term?”

“Because I’ve been chosen for the student exchange programme. A kid from a school in Durban will come to Innesfree for a term, while I go there for a term. I get to see what it’s like at a small private school and the other kid gets to see what it’s like at a big Model C school. It was an honour to be chosen.”

“That’s great!” I say automatically, trying to stretch my mouth into a smile. But the truth is, I’m feeling a bit cold inside. Now that I know Jayden is not actually moving to Durban for good, I’m not too keen on this idea either. A whole term. That’s a very long time for us to be apart.

“I’m... I’m going to miss you.” I hate the way my voice wobbles as I say this, but I can’t help it.

“I’ll miss you too!” He pulls me into his arms and gives me a long hug. I love the way his body feels against mine. It’s like we were made to fit together. I relax against him with a sigh. But then I remember that he’s going away for a term, and feel myself tensing up again. What am I going to do without him? How am I going to cope?

“I’ve been thinking about what you said a moment ago,” he says, stroking my hair. “And wondering whether it wouldn’t actually be a good idea.”

I pull away from him slightly to look up at his face. “What do you mean? What did I say a moment ago?”

“About us breaking up.”

“You mean..?”

“I mean, maybe we should think about it.”

Reader comments

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Wow, i love the part where she says her body fitr to his body like they were ment for each other

I think Jayden has been planning this all along, his weird behaviour. If he loves her, he couldn't think of breaking up with her. And moreover, he's afraid to tell her directly, but he's pretending. I think Latoya should prepare herself for bad news. **Bafana**

Well this is a really tough one... Well the write of da story makes it pretty clear dat latoya still loves jayden bt there seems 2 be a bit of doubt 4rm jaydens side,this is expressed by da fact dat he actually even considers breakin up. So basically a relationship is a mutual thing, if Jayden doesnt feel da same way about the relationship then there is no need 2 go on wid da relationship becoz this will jst end up inflictin more emotional pain on Latoya at the end. **Afro-Kid**

What do you think?

Why is Jayden suggesting that they break up? Our readers responded like this: He has been looking for an excuse to end it with Latoya and this is: 14%, He wants to be free to meet other girls when he is in Durban: 22%, He thinks it's not fair on Latoya to make her wait so long for him: 63%. To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 3

“He said what?” Amanda asks, her eyes bugging out of her head. “He actually suggested that you break up?”

I nod sadly. “He said we should think about it. He said I should go home and think carefully about whether I really want to wait three months for him, or would I rather be free to date other guys in the meantime.”

“So of course you said you didn’t need to think about it, you didn’t want to date any other guys, and maybe he was the one who was having doubts?”

I can’t help smiling. Amanda knows me so well. We’re only four months apart in age, and sometimes it feels like she’s my twin, rather than just my sister.

“Exactly! That’s exactly what I said, word for word. But he got all defensive and said he was just looking out for me and maybe it wasn’t fair to expect me to wait for him.

So I said, ‘It’s not like you’re going off to war for six years, Jayden. You’re just going to be away for a term. That’s not so long. I can cope.’”

SISTERZ: CHEATING

“And how are you coping?” Amanda asks, raising her eyebrows.

“Not that great,” I admit. Jayden has been gone for exactly two days and I already miss him so much it’s like a physical ache. I keep looking up every time someone comes into the classroom, hoping it might be him.

“Well, listen, I’ve got to rush,” Amanda says, looking at her watch suddenly. “I was supposed to meet Connor five minutes ago. But we’ll talk again tomorrow, okay?”

“Okay,” I say as bravely as I can.

I never realised how hard it is to hang out with a couple unless you’re part of a couple yourself. When you’re single you feel like a spare part - like you don’t fit in anywhere.

I really need to make some more friends, I realise as I look at the kids pouring out of school to go home. I can’t depend on Amanda and Connor anymore. They’ve got their own thing going on.

“Latoya...”

I turn quickly as I hear a voice say my name. A boy is walking towards me.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Honestly to me sometimes it feels like im all alone on my world if im single and no one do care...because of thinking more and more i even feel nausea but when the time goes on i feel much better as i've got other tjings to do which will make me busy and do not feel sorry.perhaps be single is nice because you are your own boss. **Zoe**

Confidence is sumtin u built 4 urslf,by urslf and wat u suround urslf wit. U dnt nid 2 b part of a couple 2 fyl accepted nd confident. Mykin frnds shouldnt b an issue,once u r open,caring,loving nd total happy nd free abt who u r. Der is only a few gud frnds out der but u hav 2 learn 2 depend on urslf 1st,before u depend on others. Make room 4 disapntmnt,becouse life is a challenge

Im single(loving it:)), nd im friends with a couple, nd i dnt feel like a spare wheel, or leftout. Wen im with them, they make me feel cmfortable, we laugh, nd cht. ITS SUPER COOL.
Candygirl

What do you think?

Do you feel more confident and accepted when you’re part of a couple? Is it harder to make friends when you’re single?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 4

“Latoya!”

A guy is walking towards me, calling my name, and for a second I can't think who he is. Then I get it. It's that new guy who started at Innesfree at the beginning of this year. I think he's from Harare originally. What on earth is his name again?

“Hi, Latoya.”

“Oh... um... hi... Tendai!” I remember his name just in time. I also remember that this was the guy Amanda and Jayden used to tease me about because they were convinced he had a secret crush on me. I told them they were talking nonsense, but now I can't help looking at him with a bit of interest. I mean, anyone who has a crush on me must at least have good taste, right?

He asks to borrow my phone, which gives me a chance to check him out while he's making his call. He's not bad looking, although nothing like Jayden. He's not as tall or as well-built or as handsome, or anything. But he is quite a pleasant, attractive guy. I should really try to set him up with someone from my science class. He's a computer geek, apparently.

“How're you doing since Jayden left?” he asks as he hands back my phone. “That must have been really hard for you.”

I feel the familiar prickle of tears behind my eyes. I'm so emotional at the moment.

“Yes. It has been really hard.”

“How's he doing? I presume you've heard from him.”

“Oh, yes. He phoned when he got there. It's all completely different to Innesfree apparently.”

I don't mention that this phone-call was the only one I've had from Jayden since he left. I'm not about to start moaning about my boyfriend to some guy I hardly know.

“Well, if you need a friend, just let me know.”

He gives me a warm smile and walks away. I can't help feeling touched. A friend is the one thing I really need right now.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Dis is such a great story it deserves an award. **Pretty+grl**

M in a lng-distancd R n i hardly c my bf,wen i get a chance 2 c hm n we nw go apart it jst fls so sad n i mis hm so much on my way bt i get usd 2 it..if u arnt usd 2 da knd of Rltionshp thn u obviously gonna cheat.**Dolce**

I think in this chapter the is lots of secret that being hiden because lotaya gives tandai her cellphone without mind wheather if tandai would steal her cell number but she didnt even

say a thing i also think latoya is felling for this tandai guy .i just cant wait to see what happen next between latoya and tandai

What do you think?

Can girls and guys ever be just friends? Our readers responded like this: *Yes, why not? I have lots of friends of the opposite sex: 57%, Be careful. Sometimes the one person is looking for more than friendship: 34%, Never. There's no such thing as a platonic relationship. Latoya must watch out: 7%.* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 5

A few days later my phone rings and I jump to answer it. It's Jayden! At last.

"Hi, Jay," I say, trying not to sound as though I've run a marathon to get to the phone.

"Hi, Latoya."

Oh, no. It's not a great connection. He sounds as though he's speaking from the bottom of a deep hole. It's so hard trying to have a conversation like this.

"How's it going out there?" I ask, as cheerfully as I can manage. "Still having a fantastic time?"

"So fantastic you wouldn't believe!" he says enthusiastically. "This place is amazing. The grounds are so big and beautiful, and the buildings look like an old mansion or something. And I can't believe the facilities. There's even a surfing club. I'm learning to surf - can you believe that?"

"I'm sure you'll be really good at it," I say supportively.

Jayden is a natural sportsman. There's nothing he can't do. But up until now, soccer has always been his favourite thing. Sounds like surfing is on its way to replacing it.

"And how are things with you, 'Toya?"

I swallow against the bittersweet pain of hearing him call me 'Toya again. He's the only one who says that. I've missed it so much.

"All the better for hearing your voice," I say at last. "Why don't you call more often, Jay? I'm missing you so much."

Oh, great. Now I sound like a nagging girlfriend. Way to go, Latoya.

"I've sent you an SMS every day," he says defensively. "They're keeping me really busy here. There's not always time to phone. My schedule is so full."

SISTERZ: CHEATING

I feel like saying that anyone can find time in their day for a five-minute phone-call, but I don't. I sound whiney enough as it is.

"Everything is fine here," I say, trying to be upbeat. "Amanda and Connor are still going strong, but they're very wrapped up in each other. School is the same as normal. I got an invitation to go to a LAN party with that new guy, Tendai, but of course I said no.

"Oh? But, why? You should totally go to that," Jayden sounds a bit distracted. I'm sure I can hear someone calling him in the background. "Tendai's a cool guy and you love gaming. You really need to make more friends, 'Toya. Listen, I've got to go now, but I'll call you again soon, okay? Bye!"

I put down the phone with a thoughtful frown on my face.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

He is lossing the connection wth latoya its lyk the love fading away no guy can tel her girl to go some where wth orther guy's

They say out of sight out of mind Jayden is nt carin anymr 4 LATOYA nd he is jst pretendin now. shame poor gal lovs him. nyc story by the way. **THAPELO**

'Toya should move on, lota fish in the see.. she should learn to LIVE A LITTLE !!

What do you think?

Is Jayden being a bit insensitive about Latoya's needs, or do you think he's just busy and excited?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 6

"Oh, wow! This is such fun. Thank you so much for inviting me!" I turn to Tendai with a huge smile on my face.

"It's a pleasure." He smiles back.

We're at a big hall where there are lots of computers all hooked up to a high-speed LAN. Everyone is playing World of Warcraft. I've been addicted to gaming for years, but I never get to play as much as I'd like. All I've got at home is my mom's ancient Macbook with a 3G stick. I almost never have enough bandwidth for player vs player and it's not easy to scrape up the monthly subscription fee.

SISTERZ: CHEATING

So this is like heaven for me - and I owe it all to Tendai. I'm still not sure why he organised this, because he doesn't seem to be keen on gaming himself. He's just been sitting watching me while I put my avatar through her paces.

"I'm glad to see you smiling for a change," says Tendai. "You've been looking kind of sad at school lately. Are you still missing Jayden?"

"Of course. I'll never stop missing him until he comes home."

Tendai says something under his breath. It sounds like, "If he comes home."

"What do you mean by that?" I say immediately. "Why did you say, if he comes home? Why wouldn't he come home?"

Tendai looks uncomfortable for a moment. Then he says, "I really shouldn't have said anything."

"But you did, and now you need to tell me what you meant by it. Why wouldn't Jayden come home?"

"It's just that I've heard of kids who go on these student exchange programmes to private schools and then get offered a bursary to stay on at that school. They never come back. But I'm sure you have nothing to worry about, Latoya. It's only the top students who get offered that."

But it feels like an icy cold hand has gripped my tummy. Jayden is one of the best students at school. He gets brilliant marks, and he's a top sportsman too. Anyone in their right mind would offer him a bursary. What if he never comes back?

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Ah.shame,she is so vundrable nd tendai is takn advantage of dat. **flamequeen**

Latoya mst b a suppotive girlfriend n nt 2 b insecure she mst b happy 4 him,she'll hv 2 let go of hm if it happndz dat he doesnt cum bck.her insecurities wil ruin their relationship if she's nt aware. Wat a nyc story i wana knw wat happns btwn da 3 of thm. **2shy2talk**

Tendai wants to crush jay,he is teachng hm that never let go of a gal that loves u an b4 leaving ha u tel ha dat u want 2 breakup,big mistake tendai is in lov wit toya,wow am the second guy that she would love,i calld ha toya. **Lil wayne**

What do you think?

What is Tendai up to? Our readers responded like this: *He's going all out to get Latoya to be his girlfriend now that Jayden is off the scene: 46%, He is totally trying to stir up trouble between Jayden and Latoya: 28%, He's just a nice guy who is looking out for her as a friend: 25%*. To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 7

“So I asked around at school and I found out that it’s true. There was a kid two years ago who got offered a bursary to stay at that private school in Durban, and she ended up never coming back to Innesfree!”

I’m talking so fast that I’m starting to gabble, but I don’t care. I’ve been feeling panicky ever since Tendai told me that Jayden might never come back from Durban.

“Just calm down, Latoya,” my sister Amanda says. “You have no reason to think he’s not coming back. I bet he wouldn’t take a bursary even if they offered him one. Jayden loves Joburg. He loves you.”

“Do you really think so?”

“Of course I do.”

“But what if he ...”

“Oh, for goodness sake!” Amanda’s boyfriend Connor interrupts me harshly. “We’ve been talking about you and Jayden the whole night. Can we please get off the subject now?”

There’s a sudden sharp silence. I’m at Seattle coffee shop in Hyde Park with Amanda and Connor because Amanda took pity on me and invited me to come out with them. And, just for the record, we have NOT been talking about Jayden and me the whole night. This is actually the first time I’ve mentioned the subject.

I’m waiting for Amanda to defend me, but she’s not saying a word. She’s just looking anxiously at Connor as though he’s the one she is worried about.

I stand up slowly from the table.

“I’m sorry you’re finding my conversation so boring,” I say stiffly. “I’ll call my mom to come and fetch me, and leave you guys to enjoy the rest of your evening alone.”

Even now, I’m expecting one of them to tell me not to be silly - to make me sit down again. But they say nothing. Connor looks much more cheerful now that I’m leaving, and Amanda looks worried - but not worried enough to try and stop me.

“Fine, then, goodnight!” I say crossly, and walk off in a huff.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Wow!wow!wow! I lv de writin, strait n easy. **Jerome**

Amanda shud b there 4 her stressed sista no-matter wat ouch man love really hurts espacially a long distance one i fill lyk cryng eish. **CHELSEA**

SISTERZ: CHEATING

They r both to b blamed. Latoya never heard of 3 is a crowd? n amanda never heard of blood is thicker than water. Latoya should hv nt agreed to g out with amanda n bf nt ayoba being da sparewheel amanda is wrng to invite latoya bt she thought she cares dats y she askd ha out n should hv defended latoya. Connor i think he is racist. **Sweet-gal**

What do you think?

If Latoya carries on like this, she's going to have no friends left soon. But who is really to blame - her or Amanda? To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 8

The next day I try my hardest to avoid Amanda at school. I'm so angry with her I can hardly speak. She keeps trying to talk to me, but I just cut her dead. I know I'm being childish, but I can't help it. How could she let her boyfriend talk to me like that? How could she not have stood up for me? I know some girls lose interest in their friends when they get a new boyfriend, but I honestly never thought Amanda would be like that.

And let's face it - we're more than just friends, aren't we? We're sisters too - even if nobody else knows it.

"Latoya!" she shouts as I head out the gates at the end of school. "Latoya, wait! You can't avoid me forever."

I just put my head down and walk even faster. I keep right on going until I bump into someone and almost fall over.

Oh, no. Oh, please no. It's Connor - Amanda's boyfriend. He's coming to meet her at the school gates like he usually does.

"Whoa!" he says, catching hold of my shoulders as I wobble. "Watch where you're going."

"You watch where you're going," I say rudely. "Haven't you done enough?"

Out of the corner of my eye, I notice quite a crowd of Grade 10s gathered around to watch us. They all know there's some drama going on between Amanda, Connor and me.

"Hey, wait a minute," Connor says as Amanda walks quickly up to us. "I haven't done anything. You're the one who needs to get out of Amanda's life. Boyfriends come before friends, remember? Everyone knows that, right Amanda?"

Amanda just stands there, opening and closing her mouth like a goldfish.

"And that's all we are, right Amanda?" I say sharply. "Just friends? You can always make new friends, but boyfriends are forever."

SISTERZ: CHEATING

“Hey, I’m glad you’re finally starting to realise that!” Connor looks pleased. He puts his arm around Amanda. “Come on, babe. Let’s get out of here.”

“No, wait!” she says loudly, stopping dead.

“What’s wrong?”

“I can’t just leave Latoya here like this. She’s having a really hard time at the moment.”

Connor clicks his tongue impatiently. “What does it matter to you? She said it herself - boyfriends come before friends.”

Amanda swallows hard. “But that’s just it,” she says at last. “Latoya is not just my friend, Connor. She’s my... she’s my...”

“Yes ...?”

All the kids who are standing around watching us seem to lean forward at the same time.

“She’s my sister!” Amanda says at last. There’s a loud gasp from the crowd. I stare at her in disbelief. What has she done?

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Oh my gosh!! dis is gr8:D...cnt wait 2 read wt happens after(*). **COCA**

Its funny how selfish and ign0rant connor is if i were amanda i would leave him like a hot potatoe as n0 0netalks to my fam and friendz like that. **Kid**

This story is really starting to heaten up :)... Amanda is a useless friend, she should've said something long ago. **AyKay**

What do you think?

Do boyfriends come before friends? Our readers responded like this: *Yes. When I’m in a relationship, my friends must understand I don’t have the same amount of time for them:* 5%, *It’s a balancing act. You have to try to keep your friends AND your boyfriend happy:* 28%, *No. Boyfriends may come and go, but your friends are always there to pick up the pieces afterwards. Never neglect them:* 66%. To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 9

Everybody is staring at us in amazement. It looks like practically the whole of Grade 10 is gathered around us. They’re whispering and pointing, and looking from Amanda to me and back again.

SISTERZ: CHEATING

Amanda's boyfriend, Connor, is staring at us like we've got horns sprouting from our foreheads.

"Your sister?" he says disbelievingly. "How can Latoya be your sister? I mean, look at her. She's... she's..."

"Black," I say helpfully. "And Amanda's white. Yes, we did notice that, thanks."

He shakes his head angrily. "It's not just that. You're so completely different. You're nothing like each other."

"Yes, they are," a voice says from the crowd of learners.

I turn around in amazement. It's Refilwe, my least favourite person at school. She's an airhead and a boyfriend-stealer, and one of the most popular girls in school. Don't tell me she's going to stand up for us.

"I knew there was something odd about you two," she says, coming to stand right in front of us. "I knew there was something wrong with your friendship. I mean, one moment you couldn't stand each other, and the next you were best buddies. I knew it was fishy."

"It's not fishy, Refilwe," I say patiently. "We didn't know we were sisters at first either. We only found out about it recently."

"Wait till I tell Jayden Depaul about this," she says with a smirk. "I wonder if he'll still want to hang out with you when he knows you tricked him like this."

I can't help flicking a glance at Amanda, who gives me a tiny smile.

"Jayden knows all about it," I tell Refilwe. "He figured it out from the very beginning. Unlike Connor here, he could immediately see what we've got in common."

"But how did you... how...?" Connor's mouth is hanging open like he's catching flies.

"We have the same dad," Amanda answers shortly. "And different moms. It was just one of those things."

The whispering starts up again. This is exactly why we waited so long before telling everyone - because it puts our father in a bad light. First of all because he hooked up with my mom while his wife was pregnant with Amanda, and secondly because he didn't take responsibility for me, except for paying my school fees. That's all changed now, but Amanda and I still try to protect him.

"Well," says Connor at last. "I still don't see what the big deal is."

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Yeah man by th way its an interesting story th writer is very very talented and gifted big up keep up wif ur gud work. **Skotten candy**

SISTERZ: CHEATING

I think he should be protected by her daughter and its a good thing that they are protecting there dad course it shows that they have forgiven him for what he did in the past.everyone deserve a second chance. **DINNY**

its a win/win situation and it is very brave of both of these kids.they are taking their fathers responsibility of protecting the family. And they are making the best out of the worst that can come up if they just do as any kid who felt rejected and uncared for by the other parent,some would've acted foolish and be idealy be understandable under their current situation. I take my cap off to these kids. Now both parties are leading a stress and emotional turmoil free cause they are learning to deal with the 'cause' that is supposed to be handle by their respective parents. Their are handling way better than most adult would do. And to the WRITER, keep up! **Mpumie**

What do you think?

Does Latoya and Amanda's dad deserve to be protected by his daughters, or should he be made to face the gossip that comes from cheating on his wife?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 10

“Let me get this straight,” Amanda’s boyfriend Connor says. “You and Latoya were brought up in different families and you only found out that you were related this year?”

We both nod. That’s about the size of it.

“So your relationship is nothing but an accident, right? You’re not real sisters. You just happen to share the same birth father. You might as well be total strangers.”

“Now wait a minute!” I can’t keep quiet a moment longer. “Of course we’re real sisters. We share the same blood. And we look out for each other - that’s what sisters do.”

“Blood!” Connor laughs. “That’s so old-fashioned. Blood means nothing. Nothing! If you weren’t brought up in the same house, there’s no way you can suddenly have a close relationship now.”

“Yes, we can,” I say immediately, but it doesn’t sound very convincing.

“Whatever,” Connor says dismissively. “As long as you realise that I’d like to spend some time alone with my girlfriend from now on. You can’t tag along with us anymore, Latoya. You need to get a life, and stop trying to live Amanda’s.”

I turn my head to look at Amanda. Isn’t she going to start defending me soon? Isn’t she going to say that we ARE real sisters and that we mean everything to each other?

No, apparently she isn’t.

SISTERZ: CHEATING

She looks very upset, I admit, but she just keeps right on staring at the ground and saying nothing.

“That’s better!” Connor says with satisfaction. “Now let’s get out of here, babe.”

As I watch, he reaches out and grabs Amanda’s wrist so hard that she winces. Then he gives her a tug that sends her stumbling towards him. And only then does he put his arm around her and lead her away from the school gates.

I’m waiting for my feisty, no-nonsense sister to tell him to stop being so damn clumsy, but she says nothing. This is so weird. It’s like she’s had a personality transplant or something. The Amanda I know would never let a guy get away with that.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Bloodz thckr den water.lotoya shuld mean evrthng 2 amanda

This connor dude is a jerk, and apparently, so is amanda, not latoya's fault her boyfriend went away. And yes, blood most definately is thicker than water, now the two of them should get the true meaning of the phrase. **Pheobus-Apollo**

Connor, Connor, Connor wat is yo prblm dude? **Pussycat+doll**

What do you think?

Are blood relationships important, even if you haven’t been raised in the same family? Our readers responded like this:*No. Connor’s right. Blood is just an accident of birth. It’s how you were raised that counts: 2%, I’m not sure, but it seems as though shared DNA can give you a strong bond with someone: 9%, Yes. Family is everything. Blood is thicker than water. Everyone wants to know who their real blood family is: 88%.* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 11

“So you finally told everyone that you’re sisters, huh? That’s great.” Jayden’s voice is as warm and comforting as hot chocolate over the phone.

“Yes, we told them, but I don’t know how great it is,” I say. “Everyone is gossiping about us today. Even the teachers have been staring and whispering. The news is spreading around school like wildfire.”

“Are you sure the teachers didn’t already know about it? Considering that your dad has always paid your school fees.”

“I think the headmaster knew,” I say. “But no one else. Anyway, they all know now. It seems to be the only thing everyone is talking about.”

SISTERZ: CHEATING

“That’ll die down,” Jayden says calmly. “By next week they’ll have found something else to gossip about. You and Amanda must just ride it out in the meanwhile. And, hey, speaking of riding, did I tell you how well my surfing lessons are going? You know I managed to stand up on the board by my...”

“... second lesson already,” I finish for him. “Yes, you told me. That’s great, Jay. I’m really glad it’s going so well.”

“I’m having such a fantastic time here!” His voice is practically glowing with enthusiasm. “Getting on the student exchange programme is the best thing that’s ever happened to me. I feel like I never want to leave Durban. I’d like to stay here forever!”

“Oh, really? Well, that’s... uh... great.”

This time I don’t manage to sound quite so keen. Here I am missing him like crazy, hardly getting through the days without him, and he already wants to stay there forever? And I’m supposed to be fine with this?

Okay, Latoya, don’t overreact. Don’t snap at him. I take a deep breath to calm myself down.

But before I can speak, Jayden is off, rambling on about how great his new school is and how much fun he’s having. And as he speaks, I remember that Tendai invited me to have pizza with him this weekend. I turned it down because it felt too much like a date. But now I’m thinking I might just call him up and say yes.

I mean, if Jayden can have fun while we’re apart, then so can I, right?

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Latoya is not playing with fire at all! I mean, the girl is feeling lonely and the only thing Jayden says 2her is how much fun he's havin at durban! Amanda and her boyfriend doesn't wana hang out with her anymore. What does Jayden expect hr to do?? Latoyo should go out with Tendai!

I think its fine 2 have pizza with a friendly as long as they don't take it further and who knows maybe latoya might have found her new best friend. **A paragon of human perfection**

I dnt thnk latoya is playing wit fire, latoya shud jst 4get bwt jayden until he cumz bak, well if he does...in tha meantime she can do wateva she wana, like havin a friendly get 2getha wit tendai..itz a harmless date or wateva u call it. **PROFESSOR P**

What do you think?

Is Latoya playing with fire here, or is it okay for her to go and have a friendly pizza with Tendai?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 12

We've chosen St Elmo's pizzeria in the Grayston Shopping Centre because it's an easy taxi ride back home to Wynberg for me. As long as we finish up before half past nine I won't even have to ask my mom to come and fetch me.

There's nothing like walking into a warm pizza place when you're hungry. The smell hits me like pure temptation and I can feel my tummy rumbling. I already feel better than I have in weeks - all happy and relaxed. This is how a Saturday evening should feel.

"Should we sit over there?" Tendai asks, touching my arm lightly to steer me towards a table in the corner.

This is mainly a takeaway place, but they have a few tables out front.

"Yes, that's fine!" I give him a big smile and sit down.

He leaves his hand on my arm for a moment, but removes it when a group of kids from school walk in the door. St Elmo's is very popular with Innesfree High students. There's normally a steady stream of them in and out all weekend.

I notice a few of them staring at us. Without really thinking about it, I move my chair just a bit further away from Tendai. It's not that I'm feeling guilty or anything. I mean, we're just friends, right? You're allowed to go out for pizza with your friends. And Jayden was the one who said I should get out more and meet new people. He even said Tendai was a cool guy.

It's just that I wouldn't really want anyone to misinterpret this and think it's a date or anything. Because it's not.

We order two pepperoni pizzas and Cokes. While we're waiting for them to arrive, Tendai asks me how I'm doing after the big announcement that Amanda and I are sisters.

"The gossip has died down a bit, thank goodness," I tell him. "It was really hard to know that people were saying bad things about my mom and dad. I mean, I know they made mistakes, but it was a long time ago and they've both changed a lot since then."

He listens as if I'm the most interesting person on earth, and then asks me another question. I feel myself starting to relax. This is wonderful. I haven't felt so understood by someone in ages.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Im a guy nd a gud listener 2, my gal tels me all her nonsense nd i just listen. **V_licious**

Ok its obvious that tendai lyks letoya a lot nd his strategy is to be there 4 her emotionally, to be the sweet nd caring guy, be a gud listener nd that will work 4 him cz thats what we r lukin 4 in guys, i just hope his character is legit. **Pam**

SISTERZ: CHEATING

My boyfriend is not a gd listener at all.he jst listenes to me wen im talking about issues affecting our relationship.bt wen im jst chatting to him he doesnt wanna listen sometimes he ends up falling asleep wen we ar chatting. **Sweetie+pie**

What do you think?

Tendai is a good listener. Is this a rare quality in a guy? Our readers responded like this: *Yes, most guys just want to talk about themselves: 31%, It's not just the guys. Most girls just want to talk about themselves too: 30%, Maybe I've been lucky, but the guys I know are mostly good listeners: 37%* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 13

Tendai and I spend ages over our pizza, eating slowly, drinking our cokes, and talking about everything. He seems to be so interested in me. Every time I finish answering one of his questions, he asks me another one. It makes me feels like the most important person in the world.

But eventually I get tired of the sound of my own voice going on and on.

“That’s enough about me,” I say at last. “Tell me a bit about yourself. What do you like to do on weekends?”

“Oh,” he says, looking uncomfortable. “Nothing, really. I just watch TV and hang out at home.”

“Do you like sport?” Jayden is crazy about sport, and it seems like a safe question to ask a guy.

“No, not really,” he says.

Okay. Well, that makes a change. Jayden would have answered by giving me a 15-minute rundown on what Sundowns’ chances against Swallows look like for Saturday. Hmm... a guy who doesn’t like sports, or computer games, or anything really. What are we going to talk about?

Just before the silence becomes uncomfortable, I see Tendai stiffen suddenly in his seat. I look over my shoulder and see that my sister Amanda and her boyfriend Connor have just walked in. They haven’t noticed us yet, but go straight up to the counter to order.

“Two large Hawaiian pizzas,” Connor orders in a loud voice. I stare at Amanda. Her favourite pizza is pepperoni, like me, and she always takes a small.

Sure enough, she touches him timidly on his arm. “Actually, I’m more of a small-pepperoni-pizza kind of girl,” she says.

“You won’t enjoy a pepperoni pizza,” Connor says confidently. “That spicy sausage makes your breath stink. Eat the Hawaiian pizza like a good girl.”

SISTERZ: CHEATING

Amanda's cheeks flush red with embarrassment, but she just nods. Then she turns around and spots us. I give her a cheerful wave, even though things have been a bit tense between us lately. For a moment, she hesitates, glancing over at Connor. It's as though she's asking him for permission to come over and talk to us, which is just super-annoying.

When Connor sees who it is, he rolls his eyes, but says nothing, so she walks up to us.

"Hi, Latoya," she says, looking from Tendai to me and back again. "Does Jayden know where you are tonight? And who you're with?"

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Connor is no good influence .he is no gentleman he should come 2 me for lessons on how to treat the ladies

This is just insane... I mean connor is a control freak. Wat u want is up 2 u nd no man should tell nd demand u 2 have wat thy like ...**buyi**

love isnt blind .. it just flipz ur mind.. amanda standup for ur behind.. otherwise u'll regret it n can neva c0rrect pushing toya away

What do you think?

Is Connor too much of a control freak, or is it okay for him to order Amanda's pizza for her? Would you put up with that from your boyfriend?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 14

"What do you mean?" I ask defensively.

"I'm just asking whether Jayden knows that you're out with Tendai tonight?" Amanda says again.

I look at her closely. She's not being mean - she's just concerned about me. I know she's a good friend to Jayden as well as being my sister. It's understandable that she's worried about us. But her question still makes me uncomfortable.

Am I so untrustworthy that I can't even have a pizza with a guy without everyone thinking I'm cheating on Jayden?

"Latoya and I are just friends," Tendai says.

But Amanda is looking at me, not him. I suddenly realise that I don't want to have this conversation in front of him.

SISTERZ: CHEATING

“Please excuse us for a moment,” I say, and drag Amanda outside into the parking lot. “Now, what was that all about?”

“I don’t know, Latoya, why don’t you tell me?” she says crossly. “How would you feel if Jayden was spending Saturday night alone with a pretty girl who was really into him?”

“Maybe he is! Who knows - he could be getting up to anything there in Durban.”

“Jayden is a good guy, Latoya. He would never cheat on you. You know that, don’t you?”

“All I know is that he keeps telling me what a fantastic time he’s having and how he wishes he could stay in Durban forever.”

“Well, you don’t want him to be having a horrible time, do you? If you love someone you wish the best for them, even when they’re not with you.”

I stare at Amanda in frustration. Why does she have to be so damn reasonable all the time? I was feeling so sure of myself, but now I’m wobbling.

“Jayden was the one who encouraged me to go out with Tendai!” I say triumphantly as I remember my trump card. “He said Tendai was a cool guy and that I should get out more and meet new people.”

Amanda looks like she can’t believe her ears. “Jayden told you to go out for pizza on a Saturday night with Tendai?”

“Um... well... no, not exactly.” Now that I think about it, Jayden was just talking about the LAN party. He doesn’t know a thing about tonight. “But he doesn’t want me sitting at home and moping.”

“Latoya! Tendai is majorly into you. He’s had a huge big crush on you since forever, and you know it. You’re playing with fire by going out with him. I mean, look at the guy!” She points through the window of St. Elmo’s where we can see Tendai ripping his paper napkin up into tiny pieces.

“Honestly, Latoya, who do you prefer - Jayden or Tendai?”

For a moment, I’m quiet. Then I open my mouth to answer...

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

I thnk Amanda is a gud frnd 2 Latoya by openin ha eyes dat Tendai hs a big crush on ha...dy sy "frndshp cn lead 2 sumthn mor"

Amanda should mind her bussiness,she is emotional abused by her bf an nw she interferences wit latoya's business

WHAT LATOYA IS DOING IS RIGHT BECAUSE SHE NEEDS SOME FUN BACK IN HER LIFE.IF JAYDEN CAN HAVE FUN SO CAN SHE...AND ITS NOT LIKE JAYDEN CARES

ABOUT HOW MISERABLE HER LIFE IS I MEAN NOT ONCE WHEN THE GUY CALLS YOU HEAR HIM SAY LATOYA I MISS U..NOT ONCE. **Material+gal**

What do you think?

Amanda is worried about Latoya, but is she showing it the right way? Our readers responded like this: *Yes, Latoya needs to wake up and smell the coffee, or she's going to lose Jayden for good: 42%, Amanda could be more tactful. People don't like to feel attacked: 38%, Amanda should mind her own business. Latoya knows what she's doing: 19%.* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 15

“No!” I shake my head crossly. “Of course I’m not going to give up Jayden for Tendai. I love Jayden. He’s my boyfriend. It’s not like that between me and Tendai. We’re just friends. Honestly we are.”

“So you’re not attracted to him at all?” Amanda asks, raising her eyebrows. “If Jayden weren’t on the scene, are you telling me you wouldn’t even think about going out with Tendai?”

“I...” I hesitate.

I want to lie and say that I feel nothing for Tendai, but Amanda knows me too well. I still love Jayden and know that he is my first choice all the way. But it is kind of flattering the way Tendai listens when I talk, like I’m the most fascinating person he’s ever met. And Jayden’s not here, is he? And every time I talk to him he’s so wrapped up in his Durban life it’s like he doesn’t even have time for me anymore.

“I knew it!” Amanda says triumphantly. “I knew you had feelings for Tendai. I was right! You’re getting yourself into a bad situation here, Latoya. You need to be careful.”

Suddenly I feel my temper flaring up. Who is Amanda to tell me what to do? It’s not like her life is that great either.

“Don’t act like you’ve got all the answers, Amanda,” I say snappishly. “Why don’t you stop worrying about my relationship and start worrying about your own?”

Amanda folds her arms across her chest and stares at me angrily.

“My relationship?” she says. “What has my relationship got to do with it? I’m not the one who’s two-timing her boyfriend.”

“It’s your boyfriend that’s the problem!” I say. “He’s the biggest control-freak I’ve ever met. You’re not even allowed to walk across the street without his permission. I’ve seen the way he pulls you around and bosses you. A guy who treats you like that now is a guy who could get violent with you later on.”

SISTERZ: CHEATING

“Violent!” Amanda snorts. “Don’t give me that. You just don’t like him because he doesn’t want us hanging out any more.”

“And doesn’t that strike you as a bit control-freaky? Trying to separate you from your own sister?”

“Oh, stop it, Latoya! There’s nothing wrong with Connor or our relationship. You’re just trying to distract me from your feelings for Tendai.”

“I don’t have any feelings for Tendai!” I almost scream.

But it’s too late. Amanda has already turned on her heel and gone back inside St Elmo’s where she greets Connor extra-lovingly because she knows I’m watching.

Oh, nice going, Latoya. Now they’ll probably stay together forever.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

Its an AWESOME storie I luv it!!!!:P

Yoh!dis is getting very interesting bring it on yoza. **BABY+BEAR**

Amanda should just mind her business n sort out connor.latoya deserves to have a bit of fun too.tendai is there for her when her own sister is not. **Lokizai**

What do you think?

Who should Latoya talk to about her problems now that she’s had a fight with Amanda? Our readers responded like this: *Jayden. If she tells him how upset she really is, he’ll stop focusing on his Durban life and listen to her:* 30%, *Her mom. A girl should always talk to her mother about matters of the heart:* 56% *Her dad. Where is that guy anyway? Is he still even playing a role in Latoya’s life:* 12%. To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 16

I really need someone to talk to. If I have another conversation with Jayden about rips and curls and swells, I’m going to scream. Surfing is literally all he can think about. He’s become completely obsessed with it. It’s like his Joburg life isn’t real anymore. When I told him I’d had a huge fight with Amanda, all he could say was that he was sure we’d sort it out.

I wish I could talk to my mom, but she’s having a really busy week at work. After she got retrenched a couple of months ago and broke up with her horrible boyfriend Kabelo, she finally found a job in telesales. They keep asking her to do overtime and she always says yes because she wants to get promoted to an admin position like she had before.

SISTERZ: CHEATING

That leaves my dad. Amanda's and my dad. I usually see him on a Sunday when I spend time with him, Amanda, and our little brother Nick. But today Nick has a party and Amanda has gone off with Connor in a huff, so it's just me and my father. I wasn't really planning on telling him the whole story, but no sooner does he ask me how I am than the whole story comes pouring out.

"It's like Jayden doesn't even care about me anymore," I wail as he listens sympathetically. "And now I've had this silly fight with Amanda, and the only one who really gets me is Tendai. I just don't know what to do."

After I've finished speaking, my dad is quiet for a while. This is one of the things I like about him. If you ask him a serious question, he never answers you immediately. He always thinks about his words before he says them.

"You know, Latoya," he says at last. "Sixteen is way too young to get married."

I stare at him in astonishment. "What do you mean?"

"I mean you don't have to make a permanent commitment to someone right now. If you and Jayden are growing apart or you've met someone you like better, you're allowed to break it off with him. It's normal to have a number of relationships while you're growing up."

"I guess..."

"But," he carries on sternly, "you have to be honest about it. You can't keep Jayden hanging on a string while you're making up your mind about Tendai. If you want to explore your feelings for Tendai you have to break it off with Jayden first."

At the thought of breaking up with Jayden, the tears come to my eyes again. And I speak without thinking.

"But, hang on," I say to my dad. "That's exactly what you did. You had an affair with my mom while you were still married to Amanda's mom!"

He looks up at me in shock...

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

yah he was not suppose to preach such staff to his kid that's to way out of order because he shows & gives the kid wrong impression that you can go around play & cheat as long as you still young.loving,commitment & intimacy starts at a young age so shame to this guy who calls himself daddy. **Bby-n**

yes he do hve a right 2 tel his dauther tht.because he had learn from hs mistake.
MISS+IMPOSABL

her dad clearly duznt take account for his actions. he shud stop being such a hypocrite and shud rather practice wat he preaches!!

What do you think?

Does Latoya's dad have the right to preach about honesty when he had an affair himself, or does that make him a hypocrite?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 17

Oops, I can't believe I just said that.

I reminded my dad that he had an affair with my mom while he was still married. Amanda must be rubbing off on me. I normally never talk back to adults. If I spoke to my granny like that she would smack me on the head. And if I talked to my mom like that she would ground me for a month.

But my dad doesn't seem angry at all. After his first shocked look, he just smiles sadly.

"Exactly," he says. "So I know what I'm talking about. I betrayed my wife and caused my family years of secret sadness. I can't say I regret it because it led to your birth. But I regret the unhappiness I caused."

We're hanging out in the garden of his Strathavon home. Sometimes we go out on Sundays, but often we just stay home. My dad says it will help me feel part of the family. But now I can't help looking over my shoulder to check if his wife is listening. Amanda's mom is one scary lady. Luckily I can't see any sign of her.

"If you start going out with Tendai while you're still supposed to be with Jayden, you'll regret it for the rest of your life," my dad continues. "You never forget the heartache you cause. Either stop seeing Tendai completely, or break off with Jayden and start seeing Tendai properly. But don't play the two boys off against each other, Latoya. Someone will get hurt, and it might very well be you."

I shrug my shoulders. This really isn't what I wanted to hear. I wanted him to say that of course I can keep seeing Tendai while Jayden's away. It's completely innocent, after all. And why can't girls and guys just be friends? Blah blah blah.

But instead he's saying that I need to make a choice. Jayden or Tendai. That's what it's come down to. I need to pick just one.

And now that I think about it, I suddenly know what I have to do. Of course. It's a no-brainer. I think I realised it all along.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

SISTERZ: CHEATING

I think she should take Tendai but at the end of the day they are more rewards just make a good choice.

Thato

Follow your heart because it never lies. Don't please other people because at the end of the day your happiness counts. **Glamour**

She should choose Jayden, they have been through so much together. She doesn't love Tendai she is spending time with him because Jay is not here. **Ninilvc**

What do you think?

What is Latoya going to do? Our readers responded like this: *Choose Jayden, of course. Tendai is sweet, but Jayden is a total hottie: 33%, Choose Tendai. Jayden will probably not even come back from Durban, 37%, I think she's going to find a way to keep stringing them both along: 28%.* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 18

"You mean we can't hang out ever again?" Tendai looks totally devastated. "But, why? Was it something I said? Something I did?"

I can't help wincing at the pain in his eyes. It's a good thing I'm ending this now. If I'd let it go on any longer it would have been much worse for both of us. Tendai is a really sweet, gentle guy. He doesn't deserve any of this.

"No, it's not you," I say quickly. "I'm just not feeling comfortable hanging out with another guy while Jayden is out of town."

We're at Bridles Steakhouse in the Grayston Shopping Centre. I deliberately chose a public place that's full of Innesfree High students. I thought it would make it easier if things went wrong tonight. Tendai ordered me a Brutal Fruit earlier. He can easily pass for 18. I'm not much of a drinker and can already feel it going to my head. I try to slow down, but I'm really thirsty and it tastes just like coldrink.

"I know how tough it's been for you with Jayden away," Tendai says, reaching out and covering my hand with his. "Has he been paying any more attention to you lately? Or is he still so obsessed with surfing?"

"He's... he's pretty obsessed," I admit. This isn't what I came here to talk about, but I can't resist the sympathy in his eyes. "I tried talking to him last night but he just couldn't get his mind off surfing."

"You must feel so lonely and rejected."

"I guess I do, in a way. And the worst part is not knowing for sure whether he'll ever come back."

SISTERZ: CHEATING

“You deserve so much more, Latoya,” Tendai says, still holding my hand. I try to pull it away, but he tightens his grip. “You deserve someone who recognises what a great girl you are. Someone who really appreciates you.”

“Jayden does,” I say, but without much conviction.

“Well, as long as you know that you’ve always got me as a friend.”

I look up into Tendai’s eyes, slightly surprised to find his face so close to mine. He’s got lovely eyes, I realise. They’re dark brown and really warm. When I look into them I feel so safe and appreciated.

“You’re a good friend, Tendai,” I say woozily. Whoa - that Brutal Fruit has gone straight to my head.

Tendai’s face gets closer and closer until it seems like the most natural thing in the world to let him kiss me. The kiss feels... weird. Kind of like kissing your brother. But when I open my eyes again, I see something that sobers me up instantly.

Jayden Depaul is standing watching us with an expression of total shock on his face.

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

I hv done something like that bt no1 has seen me nd i regret it latoya is goin 2 b hurtbroken shym. **Pearl**

Yea it happened 1nce,i had an affair with my friend's boyfriend,soon 2 be fiance nd even nw i stil regret it!! **Pretty.AMY**

Oh no.. now she's gonna get it!! know how tht feelz. **MiEksIE**

What do you think?

Have you ever done something you really, really regretted?

To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 19

I think this is the most depressed I’ve ever been in my life. As soon as Tendai realised that Jayden had seen him kissing me he disappeared into the crowd at Bridles and never came back. The look on Jayden’s face was enough to scare anyone. It turns out that Jayden had come up to Joburg for the weekend especially to surprise me because I sounded so down on the phone. My mom told him I was at Bridles.

SISTERZ: CHEATING

After Tendai left, I tried talking to Jayden. I tried explaining to him that I had actually been in the middle of telling Tendai I could never see him again. That the Brutal Fruit I'd been drinking had made me silly. That I didn't kiss Tendai - he kissed me. That the kiss was horrible anyway.

But he didn't seem to hear any of it. All he cared about was the sight of me kissing another guy. And to be honest, if I was in his place, that would be all I'd care about too. So now we've broken up. I've said sorry about a million times, but it hasn't made any difference. He's too hurt to care. But still he can't seem to leave it alone.

I'm waiting for Amanda at the coffee shop in the Grayston shopping centre on Sunday morning when Jayden appears again. He carries right on where we left off on Friday night. With him asking me over and over again how I could have betrayed him like that, and with me apologising and trying to explain. We're going round in circles when a voice speaks behind us.

"Instead of asking Latoya how she could have betrayed you, why don't you ask yourself how you betrayed her?"

Jayden and I turn in surprise. It's Amanda, and it looks like she's in a fighting mood.

"What do you mean?" Jayden asks defensively.

"I mean that you left her, Jayden, and she was heartbroken. You have no idea how isolated she's been these last few months. All you could talk about was surfing and what a fantastic time you were having and how you never wanted to come home. And every time she called, you didn't have time to talk to her because you were so busy. She felt like she was losing you - like you were slipping away from her."

"Is this true?" Jayden asks, turning to me.

I have a big lump in my throat, so all I can do is nod.

"And I let her down too," Amanda admits. "I've been so wrapped up in Connor that I haven't been there for my own sister. The only one who showed her a bit of attention was Tendai. It's not surprising that she turned to him in her loneliness, especially after you encouraged her to hang out with him. Yes, she made a big mistake in letting him kiss her, if only for a second. But you made mistakes too, and I think yours were bigger than hers."

As I turn back to look at Jayden, I can see him slowly shaking his head...

Reader comments

Here are some comments left by readers at www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

W0w! Wat a intrstin chptr i cnt w8t 2 read chptr 20.

Lekker stori guys,nw bring us chapter20...jayden is such a guy all wrapd up in hs own world..he shud just 4give toya coz its all hs fault.as 4 tendai....no comment! **Gojus**

Amanda is right, jayden also made mistakes so did latoya bt that dusnt mean he's got to be angry at her like forever. Although it was heartbreaking for jayden seeing his girl kissing another guy, he should have paid more attention to her over the phne though he ws

somewhere else. So i think they should give it another try and i hope they've both learned from there mistakes...:) **HIP+HOP QUEEN!**

What do you think?

Should Jayden give Latoya another chance? Our readers recommend this: *No. Once a cheater, always a cheater. 3%, Yes. She never intended to cheat on him - it was all Tendai's doing. 13%, They should give each other another chance. They're both to blame here.83%* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/

CHAPTER 20

“Why are you shaking your head?” Amanda demands. “Don’t you agree with me?”

“I don’t know what to think any more,” Jayden says in despair. “I want to believe you but I keep seeing Latoya kissing that guy. I can’t get that image out of my mind.”

“It was a stupid mistake,” I say for the millionth time. “It meant nothing and it will never happen again. I wish I could go back in time and undo it. I’m so, so sorry, Jayden.”

“Okay, you’ve apologised enough now, Latoya” Amanda says crisply. “Jayden owes you an apology too, in my opinion. Don’t you, Jay?”

“Yes,” he admits. “I had no idea what a rough time you were having while I was gone, Latoya. And I guess it was pretty insensitive of me to keep talking about how much fun I was having. But it didn’t mean that I wasn’t missing you. I missed you like crazy. I just thought it would depress you if I talked about it, so I tried to sound cheerful the whole time.”

“That’s all I wanted to hear,” I say. “I just needed to know that I wasn’t the only one who was sad. I needed to know that you missed me too sometimes.”

“Of course I did. And I’m so sorry I didn’t let you know it more often.”

“So are you guys good now, or what?” Amanda asks. “Because I don’t think I could handle it if you broke up. Connor and I would miss hanging out with you too much.”

I can’t help pulling a face. As wise as Amanda is about some things, she just can’t see that Connor is bad for her. Am I really only allowed to hang out with them if I’m part of a couple? I make a mental note to talk to Jayden about this later. Then I remember with a sinking feeling that there might not be a later. Not if he decides he can’t forgive me.

“I don’t want us to break up, Latoya,” Jayden says sadly. “But I just don’t see how things can ever go back to the way they were.”

“We can work on it together,” I say, holding out my hand to him.

“I... I guess so.”

SISTERZ: CHEATING

It breaks my heart to see how long Jayden stares at my hand before finally taking it. It's like he's wondering where it's been - like I'm contaminated or something. And in that moment I realise how badly I let him down.

As we clasp hands and look each other in the eye, I know we have a long, hard road ahead of us. And I wonder whether our relationship will ever make it.

Reader comments

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Its a wonderful story. Ppl i hpe we learnd sumthng here. **Hard 2get**

Wow dis is da reli touchin stori i luv kip up da gud work authour i reli reli luv it. **Ready+tee**

Love has its upsides and downs,this story definatly proved it,if one truly love that person he or she will forgive that person no matter what because they truly love one another,they know people make mistakes and learn from them,we learn from the things we do,if one believe whats in his or her heart nothing is impossible. **SWEETNESS**

Nyc endng guys cnt wait 4 anada episode

What do you think?

There are still lots of loose ends here. Which ones are you looking forward to seeing tied up? Our readers recommend this: *Tendai. Is he really out of the picture now, or is he going to come back into Latoya's life: 15%, Jayden and Latoya. How will they build up the trust that's been broken down between them: 32% Amanda and Connor. That guy is trouble. He is trying to control Amanda. Can Latoya help her get out of his clutches: 52%.* To answer this question, or to leave your own comment, go to www.yoza.mobi/stories/25/