

Katrina

It was raining in the month of April 2006 on a Thursday afternoon. Most New Yorkers were enjoying the April showers. I still couldn't seem to erase it from my mind. How could he do this to me after all the things I've done for him. I had just come from a photo shoot in Paris. As I reach for my house keys in my coat pocket, open the front door, walked into my apartment. I heard noises, a lot of moaning. I could still picture it.

"What the hell is going on here?" I shouted out. As I entered my bedroom.

"Katrina babe your home early." Darrin was right, I wasn't do home until early Monday morning but there was no more talking I immediately started swinging for that Bitch.

Stacy my so call best friend slept with my fiancée behind my back.

Darrin grabbed my waist because he knew I was ready to go off. "Please, Katrina let me explain. Katrina babe I love you." Wham!! across the face "Motherfucker you expect me to believe that shit. Now I should slap your ass again."

But I quickly paid the price for saying that statement. Next thing I knew I was bleeding from my nose and on the floor.

Darrin stood over me saying... "Now if you will please, let me explain then you'll understand." He paused for a moment and then said ... "Stacy and I ...

I mean what you see now was just a one night stand. It meant nothing to me and I want you to remember you're the only women for me."

POW! Stacy punched him in the face saying... "You're lying and you know it.

Darrin, you're the one who was always feeling on me. Telling me how much you want me, how much you need me."

I got back up asking them both how long has this been going on. "Katrina I don't blame you for being upset with me but it's time you learned the truth.

For the past four months, your man has been telling me how much he loves me in bed. Every chance he got and today was different because it happened.

The look on Stacy's face I knew they did every position including oral Sex. I quickly threw off the Engagement Ring and kicked them both out of my apartment.

Within minutes I went to my parent's house telling them both. My engagement was off. As I explained to my mother what Stacy said to me?

"Sweetie, you must believe in God even though what Stacy did was wrong she should have been able to control her

hormones. You must forgive, but don't forget. Look at the situation in a positive way. Stacy did you a favor it stopped you from making a huge mistake because if you were married or pregnant with his child you'd be in even more pain." Now as for Darrin..."

But before my mother could finish I cut her off telling her to forget about Darrin, he's a Dog. "All men are Dogs." Mom all the things I've done for him, bailing his ass out of jail so many times and other things. I swear mom all men are Dogs.

"Excuse me, young lady, you know you're wrong. Now what your mother is trying to say is that your friend was thinking cold hearted, but we all make mistakes."

"Please, Dad who side are you guy's on anyway."

I left their house and I haven't heard from my parents since.

Every message people who live for me I wouldn't return the call unless it was business.

Six months pass. No one even knew I went back to John Jay Law School to work on my Criminal Law Degree. Being in school again made me feel like a new woman. I still did a little modeling but not nearly as much as before.

As I continued lying in my bed still thinking about the pain I felt that day.

Ring...Ring...

I started to pick up my phone but once I saw who it was I decided to just listen.

"Katrina it's me, Stacy, look I'm sorry about what happened back in September. I've been looking for you to tell you to your face of how sorry I am. I even went to your Parents house

looking for you one time. Look, girl, we've been best friends since 2nd Grade

Let's not let some man come between us. I know you've had tears of pleasure in the past and it was turned into pain because of me. I should have told you long time ago that your man was flirting with me."

Hood Lover

I quickly picked up the phone saying... “Your right Stacy you should be sorry. You fucked my Fiancée when we had just gotten engaged. I want you to know I just dwelled on that emotional pain what a Dog Darrin turned out to be. But I want you to understand me Bitch I ‘m completely over that. My heart has healed and that pain I suffered on September 14, 2001, I’m leaving it where it belongs in the past.”

There was silence on the other end of the phone for a few moments.

“That’s good to here Katrina because me and the girls would like you to come see the play Lord all Men can’t be Dogs.”

I paused for a moments and then told her yes. “Also Stacy I want you to come upstairs before we leave tomorrow night.”

As I thought about the answer I had just given her only God knew what was in store for us.

2
Stacy

We all had smiles on our faces because this was something we all looked forward to.

“Girl, can’t you drive any faster?” Kalaya said.

“Relax yourself because if you had your license you’d know you have to drive for others especially in New York City.”

I was not about to get into an accident. I had just brought my Toyota Sequoia in February 2002 so I always made sure I drove careful.

20 minutes later as we reached 5th Ave in Park Slope I started to wonder if I was really doing the right thing about inviting Katrina. I mean sure she knew Kalaya and Rose, but I was the reason why we weren’t talking in the first place and I felt it was time we made up.

Moments later as I was about to knock on Katrina’s door it was already opened. “Welcome back Ms. Bitch!”

“Katrina look I said I was sorry and as I said over the phone we’ve been best friends to long to let some man come between us.”

She just gave me a stare.

“Look Katrina things have changed I’ve changed and after we come from the Beacon Theater were all going to the Shadow. Look girl you’ve been hurt I’ve been hurt 4 times since the last

time you've seen me. All I'm saying is it's time we've found our Mr. Do Right."

Within seconds, I saw Katrina smile. I quickly hugged her, and she hugged me back. "Katrina, let's both do each other a favor and not let another man come between us."

40 Minutes later, we were all in front of the Beacon Theater, ready to see the play 'Lord, All Men Can't be Dogs.'
I told Katrina I was working for Con Edison and how I was able to buy my Toyota Sequoia.

We were all in our seats, ready to watch the play

Hood Lover

Two hours later, when the play was over, all four of us brought T-shirts, and we were all ready to go clubbing. I really enjoyed looking at how he could still act.

We were all talking about how we were all going to find a decent man out here in New York City. Rose, on the other hand, just didn't give a fuck. She didn't care if she found a man or not.

Rose was one of the Independent Sister's out here in New York City.

She had everything going for herself. She was still young, in her mid-twenties, and had everything a young lady could want: a good career at the Post Office, her own place, and was about to buy her Ford Expedition.

Kalaya, on the other hand, was the opposite. Every time she had a man, she would always lose him to another woman. She would come crying to me, always telling me she found out the man was married or he got back with his Baby Mama.

I used to think Kalaya was crazy for even messing with those kinds of men.

That was until I found out the man I was messing with was married. But would you'll believe it was his wife who called my house and told me. I was really hurt when she told me that, and I could only imagine the pain she was in.

We finally reached the club, and I immediately found us a parking spot. Kalaya was the first to get out of the car, wearing her short low low-cut, red dress. Her nails was matched her

lipstick. “Hurry up, ladies, it’s time to get our drinks on,” Kalaya said.

Rose was the second to get out. She had on a black suit with heels on.

“Kalaya’s Right, Stacy, you're taking too long and putting on all that makeup on isn’t going to get you White as a man, but it will get you a one-night stand.” Rose said, smiling.

Kasim Power

As I locked the door to my car, I quickly said... “Rose, just because you’ve given up on love doesn’t mean we should. Also, I want you to make something clear right now, this Sister here stopped those one-night stands a very long time ago.” I said, trying not to let my ego get the best of me.

Clam down, Girl, I was only joking. Look, it’s time for us to head into this Club, let’s go have fun. Rose said as all four of us gave each other a high five.

30 Minutes later, as we all were in the Shadow, I could tell Katrina wasn’t too happy about being here. For starters, she was at the Bar drinking and not dancing.

Katrina looked as though she had something on her mind.

I decided to walk up to her. “Katrina, is there something wrong?”

“No, not exactly.” She said as she turned to face me.

“It’s just that I’ve thought about what you said earlier. It’s time we’ve found our Mr. Do Right.”

‘People you don’t know, how happy I was too here Katrina say that.’ I just hugged her. Let’s go, Katrina. Let’s get our dance on, they’re playing Ginuwine’s new song Jeans.”

Before we could even reach the dance floor, this tall Brother with Dreads walked up to Katrina. He quickly touched her hand, asking her to dance with him.

As Katrina turned her head, I quickly gave her a sign telling her to go dance because the night was still young.

An hour had passed, and I went back to the Bar asking the Bartender for a Bacardi light. I was really happy to see Katrina

enjoying herself. I noticed she was still dancing with that same Brother. ‘What a surprise.’

Moments later, Kalaya and Rose came to join me at the Bar for a drink.

As I started on my second drink, I was explaining to Kalaya and Rose about finding their Mr. Do Right.

“Look, ladies, we’ve got to believe in God first before he can send us a Mr. Do Right.”

Look, forget all that bullshit, Stacy, because you, of all people, should know I don’t give a fuck, and you’ll know I don’t mess with a no-cash man.”

“I understand that, Rose, but sometimes you’ve got to take a chance.”

I quickly explained to both of them about some of these Brothers out here as we all took a view of the Club, checking out some of these Brothers in here.

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She spotted a man with a nice suit on, but his face was all messed up. You could tell he was one of those Brothers always getting high, and he looked like an Alcoholic

“He’s probably one of those Niggas who will fuck anything he can. Fuck it, he’s a Stink Hitter” Rose said.

Hood Lover

Rose had a name for all Men. We soon spotted a man in the corner we all could tell he was a Mama's boy know older then 25.

Now Mama Boys are what's up because those are the Men who'll treat you right. They know how to make a Woman happy. The only thing was we couldn't tell if he was mature enough to be a man or was he still a boy. I quickly turned my head when he seen me looking at him and took another sip of my drink.

"Stacy look out! Because that last guy you were eyeing is headed our way." Kalaya said.

Within seconds he was in my face. "I notice you were staring at me and I want to tell you straight up you look Sexy."

I quickly crossed my legs as if I didn't want to be bothered.

"Would you like too dance? And by the way, my names Stephan what's yours?"

I had to admit he even looked better up close, but a sister has too play hard to get.

"You must think you're Mister Valentine, don't you. I'm tired of you men thinking the earth revolves around you."

Clam down Sister all I'm asking is for a dance. Look why don't I buy you and you're girls a drink. I mean I know you had you're drinks already but this ones on me.

Also, I'd like to see you smile. I mean there playing LL Cool J's new song from his 10th Album 'Luv you better.'

"He's right Girl you need to get lose I mean didn't you say ..."

Before Kalaya could say finish her sentence I took Stephan's hand and walked to the dance floor.

For the next couple of songs, we were looking in each other's eyes especially when the slow Music came on.

"Stacy I what you too I was watching since you and your friends made your entrance. I said it before and I'd say it again you look very Sexy."

After he looked me in the eye and told me that a smile came across my face.

I felt my heart warming up and if he was capable of making this happen this was on Brother I'd have to get to know.

Kasim Power

3

Kalaya

It was a little after 2:00 am me and Rose were still at the bar while Katrina and Rose were still enjoying themselves with those Brothers.

“I had to admit that dared Katrina was dancing with wasn’t bad looking at all.” Rose and I quickly continued our conversation. “Rose what you said earlier you wasn’t serious were you?”

She gave me a serious look saying... “Kalaya you damn right I was serious about what I said and you of all people should know I was serious.”

I continued to listen to what she was saying.

“You’ve got use these Nigger’s for what they got or take what you can get, and you know I don’t really need no Nigger’s money I mean I have a great job at the Post Office I pay my own rent and Bills. I mean half of these Nigger’s anit even got jobs out here but that’s ok because I understand Society’s been messed up since 9/11 and the other half just refuse to work.

“Rose the Lord might have blessed us with great jobs and Careers and that’s good and all but he hasn’t blessed us with a Man. I mean I’m tired of being the other woman I...I just want a man for myself.”

Rose immediately shook her head saying... “ Kalaya that’s you’re problem now. You’re too caught up in this love shit. I mean you’re right about one thing God did bless us with great

jobs and all but this isn't the 60's or 70's where you had hard working men coming home to support their families.

That's why I don't depend on a Nigger for shit.

As I watched Rose take another sip of her drink she continued by saying...

“Kalaya you know me better than anybody you know what my Stepfather Michael did too me. I mean don't you remember me crying because my Mother punched me in the face accusing me off fucking her Man while she was at work. And I looked up to Michael like a father.”

Hood Lover

Before Rose could even finish I cut her off because it had come back to me.

I could still picture her face the tears coming down her eyes.

We were in our senior year off Junior High School back then.

‘Give a detail’

“Hey look girl Katrina’s headed our way. I said
As I watched Katrina come to the bar she told us the
Brother who she was dancing with name was Hasson and that
they exchanged numbers.

“Ok girl give us some details.” Kalaya said.

Katrina just smiled at us. “There really aren’t any details to give, but while we were dancing he did tell me how much he appreciated a woman who didn’t feel she needed to show off her body or advertise her looks all the time to get attention. Now if you two will excuse me I’m going to the Ladies room.”

I could tell Katrina was holding back but it was all good as long as she was enjoying herself.

Moments later Stacy came through the crowd holding this Brother’s hand.

“Ladies I’d like to introduce you to Stephan. Stephan this is Kalaya, Katrina, and Rose.”

Stephan quickly shook our hands I had to admit this Brother wasn’t bad looking at all.

“So way was it Stacy you approached earlier and not one of these Hoochies in here. I mean this is the Club where you men like to get you’re one night stands on right?”

“Rose!” Stacy shouted out.

We all looked at Rose. We had no clue as to why attacked Stephan like that, but it didn’t bother him at all he just smiled at us. Well, Ladies as I told Stacy when I approached her she looks beautiful and know offense to the other Sister in here but most of them have issues up in here. But you’re girl Stacy is so attractive I just had to introduce myself.” Stephan said as he kissed Stacy on the cheek.

After Stacy and Stephan exchanged numbers we were all ready to leave.

It was already 3:30 am and usually, we’d be out the club by 1:00 or 2:00 am.

As we exited the Club it was obvious Stacy was pretty upset. “Damn Rose you didn’t have to attack him like that. I mean was that really necessary?” Stacy asked.

“Look I’m sorry I was just testing him. Look I dint want to see any of you get hurt because you’ll know most Women give their body away thinking a man is going to commitment to them.

Also, I don’t want to see any of you dating these Bulldogs out here.”

After listening to Rose say that she quickly explained to us that a Bulldog was man who hit on women or a man who must have his way all the time. She even explained to Stacy and Katrina the situation with her Mother and Step Father. “And the

Kasim Power

Motherfucker started abusing my Mother and sleeping with other Women and my Mother was still in love with him. That's why I promised myself I'd never be that weak."

As I kept listening to what Rose was saying both Stacy and Kalaya had a shocking look on their faces.

Rose, we're sorry too here that, but we're grown women now and you need to stop thinking every relationship is going to lead to Infidelity. As for your Mother that was years ago and if you want it you can get help for that but only if you want it. I mean didn't we just go to a play and Clubbing come on girl remember what we said it's too find our Mister do Right." Stacy said.

Yeah, whatever! I should have known you'll wouldn't understand, because you'll haven't been through what I've been through. But thanks for the ride home Stacy I'll talk to you'll later and Katrina it was good seeing you again.

With those words said we all watched Rose enter here building and I had to say to myself Heaven help her.

