

DAMAGED GOODS

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Prologue

Russell was excited because his baby-girl was turning sixteen. He had been raising Vasthai since she was born. In 1970, when his daughter was born it was taboo for interracial dating. Russell was born in the south in the 1954. He saw first-hand what happened to black men and he knew not a lot had changed when he turned sixteen in 1970.

Russell was a handsome dark chocolate man, with gray eyes and a smile that would make any woman want to be in his bed. He had fallen in love with a Japanese woman named Kaori.

In December of 1969, Russell and Kaori laid together for the first time and in September of 1970, he became a father. His child's mother left him never to return again. Russell and his mother were left to raise Vasthai.

When Vasthai was two Russell gathered his mother and his child; and left his home for a better life. Once in the new city, Russell learned the trade of

mechanics and was able to save enough money to open his own garage.

He was able to provide a good life for his daughter. He spoiled her with whatever she wanted. She was his princess and he doted on her with his love and affections. Russell made sure that Vasthai was in the latest fashions, and that her hair was always done. Now, sixteen years later he had watched his daughter turn into a beautiful young woman entering into womanhood.

Russell was planning a surprise party for Vasthai for the weekend after her birthday and he was getting prepared for Saturday's event. Little did he know, devastation headed his way.

Russell ran into the hospital's emergency area and demanded to see his daughter. The nurse rushed from behind the nurse's station and tried to calm the distraught man, "Sir... I am going to have to ask you to take a seat over here in the waiting area." She said.

Russell looked at her as if she was stone crazy. If she thought for one moment that he was going to take a seat while his daughter was in that hospital the Bitch had him fucked up. "I don't give a good god damn what

you want!!! If someone does not come and take me to my daughter I will tear this motherfucker down!! So I suggest you take me to my daughter... Because if I don't get some results the shit won't be pretty!!" Russell responded as he walked around the woman and proceeded down the hall.

The black nurse who was also behind the desk came from behind the desk and walked up behind the angry man. "Sir, let me help you. What is your daughter's name?" She asked as grabbed his hand and looked into his eyes.

Russell had no idea what had happened to his daughter. Today was her sixteenth birthday party at the skating rink and all was going good until he realized that Vasthai had left the party.

She was his everything and he would lay down his life for his baby or kill anyone who did harm to her. He was suddenly back to reality when he heard the doctor calling for any relatives of Vasthai Douglas. "Yeah...Yeah... I'm her father!!! What's going on with my daughter? He asked the doctor in a scarred voice. The doctor and he talked and he explained what had happened to her.

Russell was lead to his daughter's private room and as soon as he saw her; he went to her bed and grabbed her hand. Although, she was physically wounded she was emotionally and mentally torn.

Vasthai fell into her father's arms and began to cry. She was so ashamed of what had happened to her. As much as Russell tried to console his daughter... in her mind all that she could see was the traumatic events that had taken her innocence. From that the day forward Vasthai was never the same.

The Letter

2008

Vasthai pulled up to her house in her 2007 black Mercedes CL S63 AMG. As she pulled up the drive way of her multi-million dollar home she stopped at the mailbox and got the mail. After retrieving the mail she continued up the driveway to the house.

Once inside she realized that her children and husband were not home yet from the store. She went to her bedroom to undress. After she put on her Baby Phat jogging suit she sat on the bed and went through the mail. She sat up straight when she saw that there was a letter addressed to her from her son.

Her oldest son Tyrone was locked up doing time for rape. Although, she knew that he was guilty of the crime that he was accused of she could not turn her back on him. She had unconditional love for her children. Vasthai looked at the letter and then opened it.

Dear Momma,

I know that it has been some time since the last time that I have written you. Here I am almost three years into my twenty year sentence trying to maintain. Everyday I think about the mistakes that I have made. I sit in my cell and think to myself... damn I had such a bright future ahead of me and I fucked that up because my manhood was bruised.

I miss you, daddy, Kamron and Tyson. I would give anything just to see my family. The pictures that you all send me help me but, it's not the same as seeing you in the flesh. Mom, I just want to tell you that I have great remorse for what I did to Shawn and it's ironic that I have had the same pain that I once inflicted on someone else also done to me .

Since the time that I have been in prison I have been fighting to keep from being someone's fuck boy, but every dog does have their day. I was raped by an inmate here in prison. As I was being fucked by the man who wanted my goods I saw visions of Shawn laying before me crying and taking my penis in her.

It was at that moment that I could feel her pain. I could feel the immense pain and shame that she felt. It was then that I knew that I was getting my karma for

the shit that I had done to someone who didn't deserve it.

It's been three years, six months and twenty-three days since I have been incarcerated. I was nineteen years old when I entered prison, now I'm a man who is twenty-two years old. I have many regrets in my life and my greatest regret was committing the crime that sent me to prison. Everyday I replay in my mind the day that I was sentenced.

I was dumb, young, and I couldn't take rejection. Because of my insecurities and stupidity I fucked up my life, Shawn's life and my family's life as well. When I first entered prison I had no idea what to expect. I was scarred shitless, but here I am almost three years later at the lowest point in my life.

It has been over a year since the last time that I saw you. Mom, you are the only person who I want to see. There are many things that I need to apologize to you for.

Love You,

Tyrone

“Hey baby!! What’s going on with you?!” He asked. Before Vasthai could answer his question he saw the letter in her hand and he grabbed it too read it. After he was finished reading the letter he knew exactly why his wife was upset. Patrick knew that his step-son’s letter was triggering his wife’s emotions.

Patrick remembered the first time he saw Vasthai in his hospital. He was instantly struck by her beauty and he knew that he was going to make her his wife. He was a new medical doctor straight from Howard University’s Medical School and she was his first patient.

Although, he was nervous about her being his first patient Patrick was determined to make sure that she was going to be in good hands with him.

Patrick grabbed his wife’s face in his hand and leaned in and kissed her lips. “Baby, you have to tell him the truth. I know that this will be hard for you, but he has to know the truth”. He told her.

Vasthai looked at her husband, picked up her cigarette and inhaled deeply. “I know. I was just thinking about making reservations for a flight to go and

see him.” She replied as she continued to inhale the smoke from her lit cigarette through her nose.

Vasthai got up from the bed and walked to the window. She looked out of the window reminiscing on her past and the things that had happened to her and the things that she did out of revenge.

Although, her husband knew everything about her; she never told a soul about how she could not let go of the pain from her past. Now she was going to tell the only person in the world her sins....her son.

Three Years Earlier

“Will the defendant please rise for sentencing.”

The judge ordered the young man who was on trial for the brutal rape of an eighteen year old high school girl. The trial was well publicized because the crime was extremely gruesome. The man on trial was accused and convicted of abducting a young girl from her house and brutally raping her multiple times in an abandon building.

“Mr. James you do understand that you have been convicted of kidnapping, rape and imprisonment. My job is to impose sentence. Mr. James your crime is one of the most hideous crimes that have been presented in my courtroom. I have little empathy or compassion for you, my only hope is that you find some redemption while you serve your time in prison.” The judge said to the defendant waiting to hear his fate.

Tyrone James was a young man from the right side of the tracks raised by his mother and stepfather in an upper middle-class African-American community. His stepfather was a predominant physician and his mother was a stay at home mother.

He was the eldest of three siblings and his parents did the best they could to afford their children all of the opportunities that their monetary wealth could afford.

As Tyrone faced his pending sentence his mother sat two rows behind her son praying for strength. Vasthai was in the courtroom each and everyday showing her support for her son. Although, she did not condone her son's actions he was still her son and she loved him unconditional. The last year of her life was one of continual stress and worry over her oldest child.

She and her husband had paid for the one of the best legal defense lawyers but Vasthai saw the writing on the wall and the writing told her that her son, Tyrone was headed to a jail for an indefinite amount of time.

“Young man I sentence you to the maximum sentence twenty years in the Mississippi State Penitentiary. Your time is to start immediately. Bailiff, please remove this man from the courtroom.” These were the last words that Tyrone heard as he was lead

away in handcuffs to a new world that was unknown to him.

Vasthai got one last glimpse at her son as he was taken away. She could see the tears in his eyes. It was at that very moment that she saw a little scarred boy being lead away to become a man in a world of men who were habituate criminals.

She stood from where she was and headed for the door. With a heavy heart and broken spirit she walked out the courtroom to enter into a world that was not going to be complete because her son was no longer with her.

Tyrone was taken away and placed in the county jail waiting for his transport to the Mississippi Prison. He was in isolation because many of the other inmates knew that he was the perpetrator of the rape of the young girl who everyone knew as Shawn Doe. The correctional officers were afraid that if he was put in public population that he would be found dead in his cell.

Tyrone was in the county jail for three days before he was called from his cell and taken to his awaiting bus to take him to his new permanent home. The trip to Mississippi was a 12 hour drive.

The trip for Tyrone was one of fear and anxiety. He slept little and kept a watchful eye on all of the other inmates that were riding with him. Although, he acted as if he was tuff and rugged on the outside; the truth was that he was a punk ass boy from a good home that took his fantasy of a girl who he wanted to far.

Tyrone was a recent high school graduate and was headed to Howard University to study law when he started dating a Shawn. He always wanted to be her boyfriend but each time that he thought that they would be together she would be in a relationship with someone else. The two of them remained the best of friends and he was always the shoulder of comfort for her whenever she needed him.

Tyrone was one of the most popular boys in his high school and could have had any of the chicken-heads that were always on his dick, but he wanted Shawn.

When he got the call from her he was shocked that he was the first call that she made when she found out that her last boyfriend was cheating on her. As he rode to prison he went back in his mind to that phone call:

“Hello may I speak to Tyrone?” A voice of sweet satin spoke through the phone of the cell phone. “What’s going with you Shawn?” He asked her as he sat up in his bed. Whenever he got a call from Shawn he made sure that she had his undivided attention.

Before the conversation got started Shawn broke down and cried into the phone. Tyrone’s heart immediately felt for her and he wanted to rescue her from her misery. “What’s wrong Shawn?” He asked her as he got up and started to put on some clothes.

“I found out that Cory has been cheating on me with that trick ass bitch Lisa. He even had the fucking nerve to bring that bitch to the same party that I was at.” Her words had sorrow and extreme devastation. Shawn and Cory had been together since their freshman year and she finally gave him her virginity when she

turned sixteen and now she regretted giving him something that she held so close to her.

“Shawn where are you? I’m about to get in my car and come to where you are.” He said as he grabbed his keys and headed for the front door to leave. Shawn was still at the party with her girlfriends. She was trying to keep her friends from stumping the shit out of Lisa.

When Shawn saw her boyfriend walk in the party with another girl on his arm she snapped the fuck off and confronted him. The look on Cory’s face was priceless when he saw Shawn in at the same party. He knew that he was busted and that the drama was about to be on.

Shawn walked up to her rival and smacked the dog shit out of her. Before Lisa could strike her back Cory jumped in between the both of them and the venom of a woman’s scorn was released from Shawn’s mouth. “You punk ass nigga!! How are you going to play me with this tore up bitch! I mean if you are going to cheat bitch, at least upgrade! This trifling bitch doesn’t have shit on me!” Shawn was hot that she was embarrassed for all to see but she was a trooper and

she was going keep on pushing. She hurried out the door and called the first person that came to her mind- Tyrone.

Tyrone was there to pick her and her girls up within 15 minutes. After he dropped her friends off the two of them went to the Waffle House and talked. After that night they were together finally. They were a couple for two years and even decided to go to Howard together, but the shit fell apart when Shawn wanted to be free to do her own thing.

Tyrone started to see changes in Shawn and he began to question her but each time that he confronted her he got the same bullshit- that she loved him and that he was the only one. It was not until he ran up on Shawn with another nigga in the mall. He was so enraged by her betrayal that he walked up to them in the mall and started to whip the other dude's ass.

Tyrone caught an assault charge but his stepfather was able to pull some strings and get his record expunged. He was still able to get into Howard. After he saw with his two eyes that one girl who he

thought he loved with someone else he was not the same.

It was the summer before Tyrone and Shawn were to head to Howard, when Tyrone started to stalk Shawn. Wherever she was he would magically appear. Until one hot July day he saw Shawn get out of the car with the same boy that he saw her with in the mall.

He waited for her to get to her door. He swiftly ran up behind her placing his hand over her mouth and dragging her into his car. Shawn was screaming pleading for him not to hurt her. Tyrone could see nothing but red when he looked at her.

“Whore! You cheat on me and you didn’t expect me to get back at you!” He said as he drove them out in the boonies. Shawn was afraid and never seen this deranged look in his eyes before. She did a silent prayer and sat quietly in the car.

They were outside of the city limits when he finally stopped the car and pulled Shawn out the car by her hair. He saw an abandoned building and they headed inside. “Lay down!” Tyrone commanded. When

Shawn refused Tyrone began to beat her. He beat her until she was semi-conscious. “Look what you made me do! I was good to you and that wasn’t good enough for you! You had to go and fuck the next man!” His words were slurred and his face was tormented.

As he demeaned her he undressed her and began to suck her breasts. His dick got hard as he saw her struggling to get free but he was too strong for her. He pulled down his pants, pulled out his dick and pushed his manhood into her. Shawn screamed from the pain. Her pussy was dry and tender. When he realized that her pussy was dry he went down to her pussy and started eating her.

Shawn was beaten but she could not control her body. The feel of his tongue made her pussy explode in his face. When Tyrone tasted her pussy juice he looked at her and said, “Just like I thought... You like that shit...Don’t you bitch!! Tyrone raped her for several hours and when he was done he left her there naked and beaten.

Tyrone sped off never looking back. All that he could see in his mind was Shawn getting out of another

man's car. He rationalized his actions by telling himself that Shawn's pussy belonged to him and no other man was going to be fucking her but him.

He pulled in to parking lot of his boy Darius' apartment complex. Tyrone got out of the car and ran the two flights of stairs and started to beat on the door. Darius opened the door and he bushed passed Darius.

"What fuck is up with you Tyrone!?" You know you interrupting me from getting my dick sucked! This better be important!" Darius said to his friend as he went to his bedroom to close the door from the preying ears of his awaiting company.

Tyrone looked at his oldest friend and could see the concern in his eyes. He went over to the bar and poured a shot of Patrone.

Darius sat on the couch and waited for the Tyrone to say something. "I fucked up! I'm in trouble and I know it!" Tyrone said.

"What are you talking about?" Darius asked as he walked over to the bar and poured another drink for himself. "I saw Shawn get out a car with another man

and I just snapped. I pulled her into my car and drove her out in the middle of nowhere and fucked her senseless. After I was done I left her there.

Darius closed his eyes because his ears couldn't believe what they were hearing. He was hearing one of his oldest friends tell him that he just kidnapped his ex-girlfriend, raped her, and left her God knows where. He knew that he was upset when Shawn told him that it was over but he never in a million years thought that he would do some shit like this.

“What the fuck do you mean that you pulled Shawn into your car and drove out somewhere and fucked her!! Nigga do you hear what you are saying!!! You are saying that you kidnapped your ex, raped her and left her!” Darius was perplexed. He had no idea how to help him but what he did know was that he was not about to get involved with his bullshit.

“Where did you leave her Tyrone?” Darius asked. “I took her out to that old abandoned building out passed route one.” Tyrone said as he sat down. “Look, Tyrone you and I have been friends for forever but on this shit I don't know how to help you. The best

thing that I can tell you to do is tell your parents to get you the best defense lawyer that they can find, because you are about to need one.” Darius told his friend as he went to his room and put on his socks and shoes.

Tyrone knew that his friend was right. He was fucked and he was going down. He finished the last of his drink and headed for the door to leave.

When Darius returned to the living room he found it empty. “Destiny get dressed I need for you to ride with me somewhere.” Darius called to his girl in the other room. As he waited for her to get dressed he prayed that Shawn was alive when he got to her. The ride to where Shawn was rode in silence.

Darius and Destiny arrived to the abandoned building where Shawn was just as she was regaining consciousness. She looked like hell and Darius cold not believe that Tyrone had done this to her.

“Oh my God what happened to her!!! Destiny shouted in pure disgust and fear. “Look!!! Destiny I don’t have time to explain the shit to you right now!!! I

need for you to help me get her to the car!!” He said to his girlfriend as he bent down to help Shawn up.

“Shawn... Baby its Darius. I’m going to take you to the hospital.” He said to her as he picked her up in his arms. He could not believe that Tyrone would do this shit. He could feel his blood boiling and if he could he would have choked the life right from his friend’s body.

They were able to get Shawn to the car and they rushed her to the hospital so that she could receive medical attention. When they arrived at the hospital Patrick... Tyrone’s step-father was on call and was immediately paged to the emergency room.

When he rushed to the emergency unit and saw the patient he was instantaneously taken back. He did expect to see his son’s ex-girlfriend laying on the table before him. He reevaluated her chart and was able to stabilize her.

After he was able to get her wounds sustained he walked out to the lobby to find out what happened to her. When he walked out to the lobby he saw Darius

but not Tyrone. “Hey Darius!! Why are you here and not Tyrone?!!” He asked as the two men gave each other a pound and embraced each other.

Darius looked at the man who treated him like he was apart of the family and he did not know how to tell him about his son.

“Look, Dr. James let me talk to you in private outside. Destiny, can you please wait for me in here while I talk to him.” Destiny looked at her man and did not raise any fuss and she took her seat in the lobby and allowed the men to speak.

They walked outside and they walked over to the doctor’s parking area. They got into Patrick’s 750I BMW and the men began to talk. “Dr. James I don’t know how to tell you this!! But Tyrone is the reason why Shawn is in the hospital.” He said.

Patrick did not understand what Darius was saying. He heard what he said but the words were not registering to his brain. Darius told Patrick everything and once they were finished talking they walked their separate ways.

Patrick went back into the hospital and went and checked on Shawn. He had to hear it from Shawn's mouth. Did his step-son do this to her? He walked up to her bed and held her hand. He was looking at a girl who was beautiful but you could not tell how beauty she was because her face was swollen.

Patrick had her hand and stroked her head. He had contacted her parents and they were on their way. "Shawn...Can you hear me? This is Dr. James...Tyrone's father. He said. Shawn looked at him and smiled. She liked Dr. James and she did not hold him or his wife responsible for what their son did to her.

"Honey... how are you feeling?" He asked. She opened her mouth and spoke for the first time since she had arrived at the hospital. "I feel little better. I'm still little shaken up though." She said as she tried to sit up in the bed.

Dr. James quickly helped her raise her body enough for her to sit in the bed. When she was comfortable in the bed he took the seat next to her bed. The room was silent and he finally found the strength to ask her about Tyrone.

“Shawn... Did Tyrone do this do you?!” He asked already knowing the answer in his heart. Shawn looked at Dr. James and she could see in his eyes that he was hurt. She never thought she would suffer any harm at the hands of Tyrone. If he would have allowed how to speak... she would have told him that she had broken up with Davion that day and she wanted to be back with him.

“Mr. James I love Tyrone and I never meant to hurt him when I broke up with him. I just needed some space so I could make sure that he was the one for me.” She said. Patrick was quiet. He wanted Shawn to remain calm.

“If you don’t want to talk about this...you don’t have to Shawn. I won’t press the issue.” He told her. Shawn looked at him and said, “Mr. James I know that you and Ms. James are good parents to all of your children. I don’t blame either one of you for what Tyrone did. I just want him to get some help.” As she was talking to him her parents walked in the room and Patrick knew that it was time for him to leave.

After he was done checking on Shawn he walked briskly to his office. He was still trying to wrap his head around what Darius had told him and what Shawn confirmed to him. He could not believe that Tyrone would do this shit. He was having *déjà vu*.

He picked up his office phone and called his attorney. He knew that Tyrone was going to need representation. After he got off the phone with the attorney he gathered his things and went to tell Vasthai what was going.