

Chapter 27: A brighter future

Things have changed since Yinka passed away but Ray found the strength to go on thanks to his mates and the support of the Western Alliance. The first concert, which took place in central London, was a massive success. People came from both the sides and all the guys could see was peace and friendship. Ray shed a tear because the fights had finally stopped. He sat down to relax a bit but Marga Man immediately showed up.

"Hey man, what's up?"

"Yo gotta get ready man, your sista and the girls are almost done. Guys, come here!" says while watching Tyrone and Prem "This is going to be an amazing night for both the bands, yu know what I'm sayin', it's the beginning of a new era. Are yu ready for this? Show them whatcha made of!" "We were born ready!" shout both the bands "Let's kick some asses!"

While Marga Man was taking the boys near the stage Kori and her girls, who had just finished their performance, ran down the stairs to meet Ray before their show.

"Hey bro, what's up?" says Kori "Thara, Lizette, could you leave us alone for a minute?"

"Sure" say together.

The girls walk away and the two can finally speak face to face.

"Thank you Ray for this great opportunity, this means a lot to us. We're happy this night has been a success for the Naughty Girls!"

"Naughty Girls?" asks Ray puzzled

"Yeah, Naughty Girls! Cool name, isn't it? It's one of my favorite Beyoncé songs. Maybe one day we'll become famous enough she will notice us!" says laughing

"Maybe, sooner than what you think" smiles him

Marga Man joins the stage and introduces the two bands. The guys get in and start rapping. As always, the crowd gets mad and waves the hands to the rhythm. Songs from all of their albums were performed that night.

After one and a half hours they end the first part of the show with their new song, "Friends and Enemies". In order to give the guys a break, the Naughty Girls get back to the stage and sing another song. Straight after that, they start talking to the crowd

"This next song" says Kori "is very for special for us because it inspired the name of our group. Ladies and gentlemen, Naughty Girl, by the one and only Beyoncé!"

The people are excited even if they were there for a different kind of sound. The girls start singing but suddenly Marga Man interrupts them and takes up the microphone

"Wait wait gurls, I need to say somethin'"

"What is it Marga, you're ruining our performance!" says Kori upset

"Don't worry, yu will thank me later... Listen people" takes a deep breath "There's a special guest here tonight, someone yu all know very well. We invited her for yu and she kindly accepted to come. Please welcome the Queen of R&B, former Destiny's Child leader, Beyoncé!"

The Naughty Girls are shocked. They see their idol entering the stage, it's like a dream. They immediately start singing together. The stage in on fire. The crowd can't stop screaming. Pure excitement. The song is soon over and Beyoncé starts speaking, even if the people are still screaming and shaking their hands

"I'm really happy to be here tonight, thanks for inviting me" she looks at Kori who is about to burst into tears

"Oh girls, you are so beautiful! You remind me of myself when I was a teenager, dreaming of becoming a superstar. You know, I founded a band with two girlfriends of mine too" the girls look at each other smiling "we worked really hard and our dream came true. Keep following your dreams and never, ever give up!" The girls hug their idol and go to the backstage all together, followed by noises from the crowd.

"Beyoncé we love you so so much, thank you for coming!" say the girls

"My pleasure! Ray told me you're really talented and I wanted to see you performing. Well I have to say, he was right!" she stops for a minute "Girls, I'm working on my new record right now. Would you like to be part of it? I mean, would you like to duet with me on a new songs?"

Kori almost falls to the floor

"A duet!? Of course we'd like to, we'd love to! Thank you so much, it's going to be amazing!"

"Great" says Beyoncé smiling "I'll introduce you to my manager later. I'm sure you're full of new and exciting ideas. See you soon!" says smiling, as she leaves the room followed by the security.

Kori runs to her brother and hugs him

"You can't believe what just happened!" says excited

"I know, I overheard the conversation" replies Ray smiling "That's great, I'm really happy for you girls!" he continues "Yo I was thinking, you should be with us on tour. We need someone to open the nights and you would be great, if that's not too much of work for you of course..."

"I think we can do it" says Kori as she flips her hair "You know, real divas know how to

work hard!" the two laugh out loud and start pinching each other.

A year later...

The tour had been a success and the earned money had been spent to build new schools, like the one the three boys went to. Ray and Mallam decided to move in together in Ray's apartment, they managed to overcome the death of Yinka helping each other in difficult times. The relationship between him and his father had finally improved. They trusted each other and his father, with the help of the family, was able to stop drinking. This allowed to improve the atmosphere within the family, in fact parents stopped arguing and Kori was following in the footsteps of his brother, becoming famous and doing what she was best at, singing. Everything in Ray's life was going well. His dream came true, he had a beautiful girlfriend who loved him, a perfect family and two great friends, Tyrone and Prem.

Tyrone and Sam finally had a baby, a girl... Yinka, and they were thinking of getting married. Prem and his girlfriend are still together and are really happy.

Marga man became the owner of the record company founded by the two bands to help young people to follow their dreams.

The Western Alliance and the Positive Negatives recorded an album together, the songs they wrote and composed told their stories and each of them had a deep meaning.

Everything was just great, for everyone, and the song by the Naughty Girls and Beyoncé reached the top position in many countries of the world. The sound was catchy and the lyrics touching and autobiographical. 'A Brighter Future' was that kind of song a lot of people were able to recognize themselves in.