

# THE LOVE ECLIPSE

*-DARKNESS IN THE LIGHT-*



EZEKIEL VENANT  
MILLINGA

*A NOVELETTE*

It is one of the fantastic books, hakiboi, kifupi, kimekaa kiubunifu mno. That means utapenda uendelea kusoma. Hakina limit ya age because ni real life, pia ni maisha ya level zetu sio ya kufikirika. Simple English but complex kidogo, pia vocabularies zipo kwahiyo utaimprove what you have... In short kipo vizuri mno— amazing sanaa.

—**Erica Festo**, Model and Medical student at MUHAS

I have read the book and I'm amazed at how magnificently life could be squeezed into words.

The book is alive...

—**Renatus Mihayo**, Poet and Medical student at KAIRUKI

I remember receiving the first part of the book via an email sent to me by Ezekiel on 15<sup>th</sup> May...due to various reasons I couldn't read the book till 22<sup>nd</sup> May... and telling the truth I couldn't stop myself from reading till the end of book. It has a fascinating story... start reading the first page it will take you to the next without even knowing it.

—**Albert Macha**, a Diagnostic Radiography student at MUHAS

# **THE LOVE ECLIPSE: DARKNESS IN THE LIGHT**

**A NOVELETTE**

**EZEKIEL VENANT MILLINGA**

## DEDICATION

To my lovely family—

The world is colorful with them in it.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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THE LOVE ECLIPSE SERIES

DARKNESS IN THE LIGHT– BOOK 1

## EPIGRAPH

“Cause Your love just keeps on healing me  
No matter how I bruise  
if I just trust you  
your love just keeps on healing me”

– Lyrics from “Healing” By Deniece Williams



# CHAPTER ONE

*TANZANIA SCHOOL OF TALENTS, DAR-ES-SALAAM*

Music professor Lucy Joseph was flowing out lectures and everyone in the class seemed happy and concentrated but that wasn't the case for Leo. His eyes were on the moon shadow-black hair of a girl at the front seat. He didn't know why but he couldn't stop staring at the girl. To him, maybe that was cooler than the long dreary lecture.

“Who dreams of becoming a great musician?” Lucy said

Everyone’s hand was up except Leo’s.

“Young man at the back!” Lucy shouted

Leo quickly dug into his notebook

"Talking to you, backbencher..."

“Me?” Leo mumbled

“Yeah, you in class..?”

Leo nodded

“What’s your dream?”

“What?”

Her face got red, “Your dream..?”

“Living alone...” Leo wheezed, “In a beautiful faraway place.”

The class giggled.

“Then, I don’t know why you are attending the music school”

*Neither do I*

"Listen, guys... you all have something special inside you. Something you know, something you do, something you can teach. You are all experts.

“We all in here have this something special inside us and if we use it right, we can change the world and eventually become rich in the process.” Lucy wound up her lecture and walked off the class.

It was break time. Leo rushed to the school canteen and took a bag of roasted peanuts. Each table was surrounded by at least five students chattering and squabbling. He looked at the empty table and sat. His thoughts were still on the girl he saw in class. For four years now, he had lost interest in ladies or perhaps life in general.

*20<sup>th</sup> October 2016*, he remembers the day very well. It was on that morning when even a little hope he had in life, vanished utterly. But now, out of blue, a girl was circulating in his brain. The girl he had just seen once. Who was the girl? Why is she in his mind? He kept scratching his head.

What jolted him from the deep imaginations was an hourglass figured lady with long ebony-black hair, standing in front of him.

“Hello!” the girl said

Leo raised his eyebrows

“Can I sit?”

Leo nodded

The girl placed two mugs on the table and sat, "I'm Rachel Simon" she said, extending her hand to Leo with a luminous smile enough to catch any man's attention but not Leo's.

“Leo Felix” he accepted the hand

“Seem aggravated. You okay?”

“Expecting a friend?”

“Why?”

Leo pointed his finger to the two mugs resting on the table.

Rachel smiled, “No... it's our first day in school and all I see around are new faces. I hoped to share this one mug with a new first friend I'll find.”

Leo smiled for the first time. The smile relaxed Rachel.

“Mind taking one?” she said, pushing one mug to Leo.

“What’s inside?”

“Coffee”

“Heard it’s not good for health”

“Once a week is not bad”

He smiled, “take some peanuts” Leo pushed his peanuts bag to Rachel

“Ooh no! Thank you.” The smile on her face disappeared

“Don’t take things from strangers?”

“It’s not like that Leo, I just—”

He pushed the mug back, “it’s called give and take.”

“Fine! I’ll take some” Rachel smiled, putting a peanut on her puffy lips.

Their conversation grew hot. Smiles and laughs conquered the table. It was as if it wasn’t their first meeting.

“You alright..?” Leo said suddenly

Rachel nodded, “why?”

“Didn’t put blue lipsticks, did you?”

Rachel smiled, “of course!”

“Look pale. You really okay?”

“I am –” Rachel’s hands dashed on her neck, holding it as if somebody was snatching it.

Leo licked his lips “What’s wrong?”

She was breathing heavily, the paleness of her skin increased. Her eyes grew weak and looked like they were fading out at any second. She started retching. Leo promptly sprinted to her side. As he reached there, Rachel’s eyes were fully closed and she fell into Leo’s arms.

Cold sweat seeping all over his tremulous body, he shook Rachel’s body

“HELP” he screamed.

## CHAPTER TWO

*TST*

Two hours had passed and no one came out of the room. Leo was at the bench, staring at the door written PATIENT'S ROOM. His two arms brought together and his chin resting on them.

"Leo Felix..?"

This soothing voice woke Leo. His eyes landed on an Amazonian figure sitting well on a wafer-thin body. His mouth was left wide open looking at the lady's decanter shaped waist. His heart stopped for a while when his eyes fell over the pencil-thin eyebrows eased down to her black beetle's leg eyelashes.

In front of him, it was a girl who subjugated his mind since morning. He didn't know how and when, but the badge on her shirt read *class representative*.

"I'm already famous!" he mumbled

"You scoundrel!" the girl shouted, "What did you do to her?"

"Her? Who..?"

"The girl on your table"

Leo shrugged, "nothing!"

Her face was flushed, "Nothing?"

Leo nodded

“Expecting us to believe?”

“That’s your choice”

“Something happens to her, it’s a murder case and you know it.”

Leo smiled, “You’re being so vindictive!”

“Pray she comes out alive”

Leo smiled

“You jerk!” she thumped his shoulder, “Someone is dying in there and all you can do is smiling. If she dies, you will rot in the—”

Leo’s lips landed over her heart-shaped lips. It was a nippy and unexpected kiss. The girl struggled to get off him.

“You scoundrel..! How dare—”

“What’s wrong?” a brawny man of about fifty-something appeared. The badge on his shirt read *warden*. “You are disturbing patients.”

The two laid their heads low

“You Leo Felix..?”

Leo nodded

“Follow me”

Leo followed the man to a well-arranged office. On the walls, he saw several pictures of the man in boxing outfits, holding medals.

“Went to boxing school?” Leo said

"You were with Rachel?" the warden asked, ordering Leo to sit

Leo nodded

“What did you do to her?”

“Why does everyone ask me that?”

Warden clenched his fist, “You were with her and she suddenly collapsed”

“Think I’m responsible?”

“Heard your dream is to live alone?”

"How does it relate to this?"

“Well” warden crossed his hands, “you were alone in your table until the girl appeared. After a few minutes, she was down.”

Leo chuckled

“What did you do to her?”

“Nothing”



"Mr. Felix" warden sighed, "I'm trying to help. If you tell us what you did to her, we can save her. If she dies, you won't escape the police's hands."

"I did nothing. We just sat, ate, and drunk. I—"

Warden pounded the table with his fist, "So what did you put in the food or drinks?"

*I wonder how long Adam sat with Eve. I just spent less than ten minutes with a girl and here I am, my life threatened.*

"If you can't talk then I'll hand this case to the police"

"I'm innocent!"

"Prove!"

Leo stared at the ceiling

Warden dug into his pocket and came out with a phone. He typed something Leo couldn't see. Before he did what he wanted, someone knocked and he rushed to the door. It was a woman Leo didn't know. The two talked to each other for a minute and warden returned to the table.

"You can go now," he said, leaning on the table. "Be at alert, we will need you at any time."

Leo walked out of the room, his head was baffled. He only wanted to know how Rachel was doing, so he hurried to the

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