Full Name: Zimuto Tamirira Title: A Stranger I Met Age: 15 Word Count: 385 Telephone Number: (+263)773396128 School Name: St Faith High School Rusape

Dear Child

Your father has gone out to call his beer hall buddies and make them witness the usual Monday night kickboxing arena as he disciplines me. He has ordered me to find his whip before the audience arrives and I hope I will manage to pen this letter full of wisdom. It might be my last. Do not hate your father for this, it is all my fault. I am the problem, I just fell in love with one of those strangers I met. Do not worry it is just basic kickboxing and he is always quick with it. Trust me child, the gaps in my mouth will never hide the nightingale smile I dorn. The only part that worries me is that the neighbors will enjoy seeing a free Wrestling show as the devil suplexes me . I have learnt how to bite my lips, and keep those moans to myself.

The golden rule is 'No questions, no blows'. Remember thou shalt train my mouth to know one phrase 'Yes Mhofu'. If I do not, the rod will not be spared on me.l need to keep him happy and my happiness does not matter. My make-up the following day must be intensive just to hide from the world a shame of a man I care for, the stranger I met and fell in love with. There is no choice, your other siblings are in school because of the devil's money. If I do not make the master happy, we will all go hungry.

I have to end here. Your father is back and his friends are already taking seats in the dining room to enjoy the show. Do not worry I have swallowed some painkillers and my face is now used to kissing the floor. One thing I like about your father is that the beating is quick. Is not that great? My parting words are rooranai wematongo (marry people of proximity). I was unfortunate that the stranger I met turned out to be a devil in disguise.

The stranger l met was the devil who accidentally fathered you. Do not remember me as a coward who died in the hands of the stranger l met but as a mother who yearned for you to be loved and grow in a happy home.