

When The Honey Turns Sour

Introduction

There is a distinct, rhythmic madness that takes hold of Trinidad in the small hours of Carnival Monday. Long before the sun cuts through the heavy tropical mist, the streets of Port of Spain belong to the darkness, the drums, and the paint. It is a time when ordinary rules dissolve, when the anxieties of daily life are smeared away under layers of blue, black, and red pigment, and when thousands of strangers merge into a singular, breathing organism known as the J'Ouvert band.

For Stephen, J'Ouvert was supposed to be the ultimate escape—a vibrant release shared alongside his wife, Gail, and his oldest, most trusted friend, Dwayne. Immersed in the hypnotic chants of the One Love Movement and the thunderous, earth-shaking pulse of the Laventille Rhythm Section, the world felt expansive, euphoric, and entirely full of promise. But joy, much like trust, can be a fragile thing. Sometimes, the loudest music cannot drown out the quiet, corrosive ticking of suspicion. Sometimes, the very people standing closest to you are the ones dragging you into the dark.

When The Honey Turns Sour explores the thin, trembling boundary where reality frays and obsession takes over. It is a psychological journey into the architecture of a mind under siege—where every lingering glance, every muffled text message, and every rhythm beating against the skull becomes a piece of a larger, inescapable puzzle.

Step inside the honeycomb. The gates are open, but once you cross the threshold, there is no turning back.

