

## When they won't read ...

**We know that the more our children read, the better they get at it and the more they enjoy it. So, we provide lots of interesting books for children to read from an early age, read to them regularly and offer them gentle encouragement each time they read or look at books.**

But what if you've done all these things and your child can read, but chooses not to? How do you "switch" them on to reading again or for the first time? Here are a few suggestions – some of them from children who stopped reading for pleasure for a while and then reconnected with it!

- ★ For some children, reading is difficult and so it's less likely that they will choose to read for pleasure. To help them discover the enjoyment that we can get from reading, try to find material on topics that you think will interest them. Books and magazines with more pictures than words can often make reading seem like less of a chore. Read together only for as long as your child seems interested – then leave the book or magazine lying around so that they can choose to look at it later.
- ★ Reading aloud to children regularly – no matter what their age – makes books and reading part of daily life. It is a great way to spend time relaxing together and allows your children to experience stories without having to read them themselves. The satisfaction that they get from time spent together sharing stories, is often enough to switch them onto reading for themselves.
- ★ Nagging never helps! Feeling bad about not reading doesn't encourage children to read – instead, it makes them resent reading. Rather let your children see you choosing to read in your spare time and leave different kinds of interesting reading material lying around your home in places that they will find them!
- ★ Visit the library or bookshops and let your children choose books that they want to read. Reading something is better than not reading at all, so don't worry if the books your children choose seem too easy for them, or are on subjects that you don't think are important. Respecting their reading choices helps them to grow as readers.

## Xa bengafuni kufunda ...

**Siyazi ukuba okukona abantwana bethu befunda, kokukona besiba ngcono ekufundeni kwaye kokukona bekonwabela nangakumbi ukufunda. Ngoko ke, sibanika iincwadi ezininzi nezinomdla ukuze bafunde beselula, sibafundela rhoqo kwaye sibakhuthaza ngobunono ngalo lonke ixesha befunda okanye bebuka iincwadi.**

Kodwa ke, kuya kuthini ukuba ukwenzile konke oku kwaye nomntwana wakho uyakwazi ukufunda, koko ukhetha nje ukungafundi? Uba faka njani "egiyeni" ukuze bafunde kwakhona abantwana bakho okanye baqalise ukufunda? Nazi iingcebiso ezimbalwa – ezinye zazo zivela kubantwana ababeyekile ukufundela ukuzonwabisa okwexeshana baza baphinda baqalisa kwakhona!

- ★ Kwabanye abantwana, ukufunda yinto enzima kwaye ke ngoko akubonakali ngathi banokukhetha ukufundela ukuzonwabisa. Ukuze ubancede bafumane ukonwaba esikufumana ekufundeni, zama ukufumana izinto zokufunda ocinga ukuba zinemiba abanomdla kuyo. Iincwadi neemagazini ezinemifanekiso emininzi kunamagama zidla ngokwenza ukufunda kungabonakali kungumsebenzi onzima ekunyanzeleke ukuba wenziwe. Fundani kunye kangangexesha umntwana wakho abonakalisa umdla ngalo ekufundeni, ningabaxi – ze emva koko uyishiye incwadi leyo okanye imagazini ingungqikana nje, nto leyo enokwenza ukuba bakhethe ukuzibukela yona kamva.
- ★ Ukufundela abantwana ngokuvakalayo rhoqo – nokuba badala kangakanani na – kuzenza iincwadi nokufunda zibe yinxalenye yobomi babo bemihla ngemihla. Yeyona ndlela ilungileyo yokuphumla kuni nonke kwaye ivumela abantwana bakho bonwabele amabali ngaphandle kokuba bewafunde ngokwabo. Ukoneliseka abakufumanayo ngexesha enilichithe nisabelana ngamabali, kudla ngokuba yinto eyoneleyo ukuze batshintshela ekuzifundeleni ngokwabo.
- ★ Ukusoloko ulandelelana nabo akusoze kuncede! Ukuziva unesazela ngokungafundi akubakhuthazi abantwana ukuba bafunde – endaweni yoko, kubenza bakuthiye ngakumbi ukufunda. Okungcono kunoko kukuba abantwana bakho bakubone uzikhethela ukufunda ngexesha ongenzi nto ngalo uze ushiye iintlobo ezohlukileyo zokufundwayo nezinomdla zingungqikana ekhayeni lakho nakwiindawo abanokuzifumana lula kuzo!
- ★ Ndwendwela ithala leencwadi okanye iivenkile zeencwadi uze ubavumele abantwana bakho ukuba bazikhethela iincwadi abafuna ukuzifunda. Ukufunda nokuba yintoni na kungcono kunokungafundi kwanto, ngoko ke musa ukukhathazeka ukuba iincwadi abazikhethileyo abantwana bakho zikhangeleka zilula kakhulu kubo, okanye zingemiba ocinga ukuba ayibalulekanga. Ukuhlonela oko bakhetha ukufunda kubanceda bakhule bengabafundi.



For more information on reading with your children, visit our "How to guides" on [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) or [www.nalibali.mobi](http://www.nalibali.mobi).

Ukuze ufumane iinkcukacha ezithe vetshe ngokufunda nabantwana bakho, ndwendwela u-"How to guides" ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) okanye ku-[www.nalibali.mobi](http://www.nalibali.mobi).



Drive your  
imagination

Story Power.  
Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.  
Naphi na. Nanini na. Nabani na.

*Nalibali*  
It starts with a story...

# Story stars

## Speaking out about stories

Meet the FUNda Leader Campaign ambassadors who are passionate believers in the power of stories and reading!



# Iimbalasane zamabali

## Ukuthetha gabalala ngamabali

Naba abathunywa nabameli bephulo leFUNda Leader nabakholelwa ngokungazenzisiyo kumandla amabali kunye nokufunda!

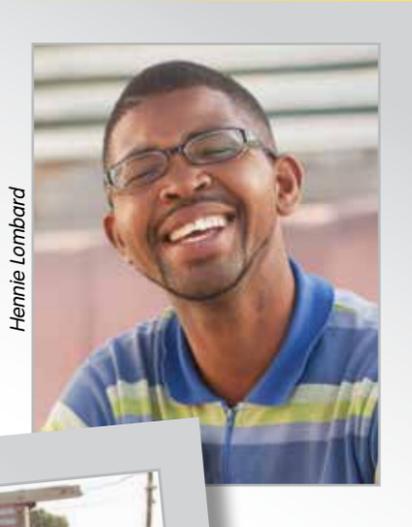
### Mzwandile Lugogo, founder of Imbewu Yobomi

I call myself a township guru – a person who knows the ins and outs of the community. I understand the issues young people face. At Imbewu Yobomi, we do storytelling, reading, writing, drama, drumming – and even meditation!

Storytelling ignited my listening skills and made me self-confident. Through storytelling, I've become a creative thinker, and also talkative and flexible.

We need to become FUNda Leaders to improve basic education in South Africa. A child is raised by a community and we can all make a difference. We can turn this nation into book-aholics!

Mzwandile Lugogo



Hennie Lombard

### UMzwandile Lugogo, ngumseki weImbewu Yobomi

Ndizibiza njengongqondongqondo waselokishini – umntu okwaziyo konke okuqhubekayo kuluntu lwendawo ahlala kuyo. Ndiyayazi imiba nemingeni ulutsha olujongene nayo. Elmbewu Yobomi, sibalisa amabali, siyafunda, siyabhala, senza imidlalo yeqonga, sibetha amagubu – kwaye side senze nemithambo yenzolo nokucamga!

Ukubalisa amabali kwaphembelela izakhono zam zokuphulaphula kwaze kwandenza ndazithemba. Ngokubalisa amabali, nam ndaba ngumntu ocinga ngobugcisa, nothanda ukuthetha kwaye nothambe okwengcongolo.

Kufuneka sibe ziiFUNda Leaders ukuze kuphucuke imfundo esisiseko eMzantsi Afrika. Umntwana ukhuliswa ngabantu bonke basekahlaleni kwaye sisonke singenza umahluko.

Singasitshintsha esi sizwe sibe sisizwe samathanda-ncwadi!

NguMzwandile Lugogo



Hennie Lombard



### Zoliswa Mabula, library volunteer

I started here at the library because they were looking for someone to tell stories and play with the children. I was not trained, but I managed to run outreach programmes for the library. I volunteered for ten years. It changed me a lot as a mother and helped me learn how to help my daughter at home. Reading helps children grow and makes them realise what is out there for them. I'm older now, but I still love reading!

Zoliswa Mabula



Hennie Lombard

### UZoliswa Mabula, livolontiya kwithala leencwadi

Apha kwithala leencwadi babefuna umntu wokubalisa amabali nokudlala nabantwana ndaze ndavolontiya kanti kukuqala kwam ke oko. Ndandingenaqeqesho ndilufumeneyo, kodwa ndakwazi ukuqhuba iinkqubo zokwenza ithala leencwadi lifikelele kuluntu. Ndaba livolontiya iminyaka elishumi yonke. Njengomama, oko kwanditshintsha kakhulu kwaze kwandanceda ndafunda iindlela endinokunceda ngazo intombi yam ekhaya. Ukufunda kunceda abantwana ukuze bakhule bathi kanaanjalo baqonde izinto abanokuzifumana eziphaya ngaphandle. Ngoku ndimdala, kodwa ndisakuthanda nangoku ukufunda!

NguZoliswa Mabula

### Denise Newman, actress

As a performer, stories and their expression are very close to my heart. Ever since I can remember I have been reading stories and being told stories by my parents. With my own children, storytelling and reading were such an important part of their childhood.

My daughter went to a school where the headmaster had every single person at that school reading for ten minutes a day – everyone, from the children to the teachers to the groundsman, read every day. I still volunteer at my old high school, helping the children with the matric network or whatever else I can do to help. It's that simple really – just help children to read more!

Denise Newman



Hennie Lombard

### UDenise Newman, ngumdlali weqonga

Njengomdlali weqonga, amabali kunye nendlela aboniswa ngayo eqongeni zezona zinto ndizithanda ngentliziyo yam yonke. Kwakude kudala, eyona nto ndiyikhumbula kakuhle kukufunda amabali kwakunye nokubaliselwa amabali ngabazali bam. Ukubalisa amabali kunye nokufunda kube yinxalenye ebaluleke kakhulu nakubomi babam abantwana.

Intombi yam yafunda kwisikolo apho inqununu yayiqinisekisa ukuba wonke umntu esikolweni ufunda imizuzu elishumi ntsuku zonke – wonke nje umntu, ukususela ebantwaneni ukuya kooftshala nditsho nabasebenzi basegadini, kufundwa yonke imihla. Nanamhla oku ndisavolontiya kwisikolo samabanga aphakamileyo endandifunda kuso, nalapho ndinceda abafundi bematriki ngoncwadi lwabo okanye nantoni na ekufuneka ndiyenzile ukuze bancedakale. Kulula kanjalo nje – nceda nje abantwana ukuze bafunde ngakumbi!

NguDenise Newman



### Rico Schacherl, cartoonist

I'm a cartoonist so I draw funny pictures for a living. I also draw things for Nal'ibali. I was very fortunate – my parents got me reading so much that I wanted to start creating my own books. I wanted to draw my own books and that's how I got started.

One of the biggest gifts you can give a child is a love of reading and learning. Storytelling and books are an incredible step to making children think bigger. Working for children and literacy is a chance to give something back.

*Rico Schacherl*



### URico Schacherl, ngumzobi weekhathuni

Ndingumzobi weekhathuni ngoko ke ndizoba imifanekiso ehlekisayo nengaqhelekanga kwaye oko sisonka endiphila ngaso. Kananjalo ndizobela uNal'ibali imifanekiso. Ndaba nethamsanqa elikhulu – abazali bam bandikhuthaza ukuba ndifunde kangangokuba nam ndafuna ukubhala ezam iincwadi. Ndandifuna ukuzobela ezam iincwadi ndaze ndaqala ngaloo ndlela ke ukuzoba.

Esinye sezona zipho zikhulu ongazipha umntwana wakho luthando lokufunda. Ukubalisa amabali kunye neencwadi linyathelo elimangalisayo lokwenza abantwana bacinge nzulu. Ukusebenzela abantwana kunye nelitheresi lithuba ubani analo lokunikezela onako kuluntu.

*NguRico Schacherl*

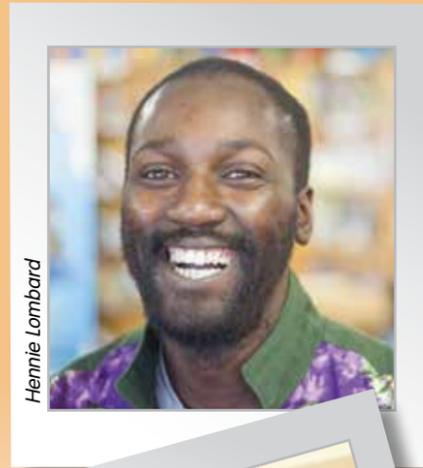
### Bulelani Futshane, founder of Township Roots

At Township Roots we focus not only on improving the standard of literacy in impoverished communities, but also on helping young people envision life beyond the impoverished communities they find themselves in.

I didn't really have the opportunity of being read to when I was a child, but I was very into listening to fairy tales and I enjoyed them a lot. It helped me to broaden my way of thinking; my imagination. My mom's stories would take me on a trip, you know? Sometimes it was scary and sometimes it was magical.

With stories I was able to see life beyond the environment I found myself in. Through stories I was able to learn more about other cultures and understand the importance of nature. As I grew older, I started to see the impact of storytelling on my language skills and also how it broadened my vocabulary. Stories helped me become better at expressing myself in my mother tongue and I wanted to be a better English speaker too. And so I got involved with debating – and it all started with listening to stories.

*Bulelani Futshane*



### UBulelani Futshane, ngumseki weTownship Roots

ITownship Roots ayigxininisi nje kuphela ekuphuculeni umgangatho welitheresi kuluntu olungathathi ntweni, kodwa sisekwagxininisa ekuncedeni ulutsha lucinge ngokuzimisela ngobomi olunokubuphila obungaphaya kwentlupheko uluntu oluzifumana lukulo.

Andizange ndilifumane ithuba lokufundelwa ebuntwaneni bam, kodwa ndandiwaphulaphula kakhulu amabali abalisa ngemikhonjane kwaye ndandiwonwabela kakhulu. Oko kwandanceda ekuvuleni ingqondo neengcinga zam; kwanokuzakhela eyam imifanekiso-ntelekelelo. Amabali kamama wam ayengathi lutyelelo kum, uyayazi? Maxa wambi lwalusoyikisa kodwa ngamanye amaxesha lube ngumlingo.

Ngamabali ndandikwazi ukubona ubomi obungaphaya kwale ndawo indingqongileyo ndikuyo. Ngamabali ndakwazi ukufunda ngaphezulu ngezinye iinkcubeko kwaye ndakuqonda nokubaluleka kwendalo. Okuye ndikhula, ndaqalisa ukulibona ifuthe lokubalisa amabali kwizakhono zam zolwimi kwanendlela oku okusityebise ngayo isigama sam. Amabali aphucula indlela endibeka ngayo izimvo zam ngolwimi lwam lweekobe kwaye ndandifuna ukuthetha nesiNgesi ngcono. Ngoko ke ndathatha inxaxheba kwiingxoxo-mpikiswano – kwaye ke konke oko kwakuqala ngokuphulaphula amabali.

*NguBulelani Futshane*



### NAL'IBALI ON RADIO!

Tune into the following radio stations to enjoy listening to stories on Nal'ibali's radio show!

**Ikwekwezi FM** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.45 a.m.

**Lesedi FM** on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9.45 a.m.

**Ligwalagwala FM** on Monday to Wednesday at 9.10 a.m.

**Munghana Lonene FM** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.35 a.m.

**Phalaphala FM** on Monday to Wednesday at 11.15 a.m.

**RSG** on Monday to Wednesday at 9.10 a.m.

**SAfm** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1.50 p.m.

**Thobela FM** on Tuesday and Thursday at 2.50 p.m., on Saturday at 9.20 a.m. and on Sunday at 7.50 a.m.

**Ukhozi FM** on Wednesday at 9.20 a.m. and on Saturday at 8.50 a.m.

**Umhlobo Wenene FM** on Monday to Wednesday at 9.30 a.m.

**X-K FM** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.00 a.m.



### UNAL'IBALI KUNOMATHOTHOLO!

Ngena, umamele ezi zikhululo zikanomathotholo zilandelayo ukuze wonwabele amabali kwinkqubo kaNal'ibali esasazwa kunomathotholo!

**KuIkwekwezi FM** ngoMvulo, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-9.45 kusasa.

**KuLesedi FM** ngoMvulo, ngoLwesibini nangoLwesine ngo-9.45 kusasa.

**KuLigwalagwala FM** ngoMvulo ukuya ngoLwesithathu ngo-9.10 kusasa.

**KuMunghana Lonene FM** ngoMvulo, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-9.35 kusasa.

**KuPhalaphala FM** ngoMvulo ukuya ngoLwesithathu ngo-11.15 kusasa.

**KuRSG** ngoMvulo ukuya ngoLwesithathu ngo-9.10 kusasa.

**KuSAfm** ngoMvulo, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-1.50 emva kwemini.

**KuThobela FM** ngoLwesibini nangoLwesine ngo-2.50 emva kwemini, ngoMgqibelo ngo-9.20 kusasa nangeCawe ngo-7.50 kusasa.

**KuUkhozi FM** ngoLwesithathu ngo-9.20 kusasa nangoMgqibelo ngo-8.50 kusasa.

**KuUmhlobo Wenene FM** ngoMvulo ukuya ngoLwesithathu ngo-9.30 kusasa.

**KuX-K FM** ngoMvulo, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-9.00 kusasa.





## Get story active!

Here are some ideas for using the two cut-out-and-keep books, *The tooth fairy*, (pages 5, 6, 11 and 12) and *Lazola's lost goat* (pages 7, 8, 9 and 10) as well as the Story Corner story, *How the ostrich got a long neck* (page 14). Choose the ideas that best suit your children's ages and interests.

### The tooth fairy

Mbali is so happy to lose her first tooth because she knows this means she will be visited by the tooth fairy! But things go wrong when Mbali's sister becomes jealous of the amount of money the tooth fairy leaves for Mbali's tooth. Children aged 6 and older are more likely to enjoy this story about honesty. With younger children, you might want to show them the pictures as you retell the story more simply in your own words.



★ After you have read the story aloud, try discussing some of these questions with your children.

- ☉ Why, do you think, Zoleka stole one of the R5 coins?
- ☉ Mbali was quite happy with only two R5 coins, so do you think it matters that Zoleka took the third coin?
- ☉ Were there other things that Zoleka did that you think were not right?
- ☉ Do you think the punishment that Zoleka got was fair?
- ☉ Are there other stories you have read or heard in which a character has been dishonest? What happened in those stories?

★ There are no pictures of the tooth fairy in this story! Encourage your children to draw a picture to go with the paragraph on page 6 where the tooth fairy visits the girls' bedroom.

### Lazola's lost goat

Lazola loves his goat, Spotty, very much, but then Spotty goes missing. Lazola looks for her everywhere, but he can't find her.

★ Together look at the picture on page 15 of the storybook again. Can you find these places: Lazola's house, Ma Mary's house, the shop, the tree where Lazola saw the girl on the swing and the place next to the river where the woman was collecting wood?

★ Encourage your children to make up their own stories about a lost pet or farm animal. Suggest that they write down their stories – or write their stories down for them.



### How the ostrich got a long neck

Did you know that long, long ago ostriches had short necks? What happened one night when Mrs Ostrich was out dancing and Mr Ostrich was looking after their eggs, changed this forever.

- ★ Let your children use clay or Plasticine, sticks and feathers or leaves, to make their own ostriches.
- ★ Discuss what you all think Mrs Ostrich looked like when she was dancing and then dance like that to your favourite song!
- ★ Invite your children to draw a picture of their favourite part of the story. Then suggest that they copy out the words from the story that go with their pictures.



## Yenza ibali linike umdla!

Nazi ezinye zeengcebiso onokusebenzisa ngazo iincwadi ezimbini onokuzisika-ze-uzigcine, *Umkholonjane wamazinyo*, (okwiphepha le-5, ele-6, ele-11, nele-12) kunye no**lbhokhwe kaLazola elahlekileyo** (okwiphepha le-7, ele-8, ele-9, kunye nele-10) kwakunye nebali leNdawo yamaBali, *uIndlela eyayifumana ngayo inciniba intamo yayo ende* (okwiphepha le-15). Khetha ezona ngcingane zifanele ubudala nemidla yabantwana bakho.

### Umkholonjane wamazinyo

UMbali wonwatyiswe kakhulu kukukhumka kwakhe okokuqala kuba uyazi ukuba oko kuthetha ukuba uza kundwendwelwa ngumkholonjane wamazinyo! Kodwa izinto zonakala xa udadeboMbali ephathwa ngumona ngenxa yobuninzi bemali umkholonjane oyishiyela uMbali ngelo zinyo lakhe. Abantwana abaneminyaka e-6 ukunyuka ngabona banokulonwabela kakhulu eli bali limalunga nokuthembeka. Mhlawumbi ungathanda ukubabonisa imifanekiso bona abantwana abancinane lo gama ibali eli ulibalisa kwakhona ngeyakho indlela elula, usebenzisa amagama angawakho.

★ Emva kokulifunda ngokuvakalayo ibali, zamani ukuxoxa ngeminye yale mibuzo kunye nabantwana bakho.

- ☉ Ucinga ukuba kwakutheni ukuze uZoleka ebe enye i-R5 kwezi ngqekembe?
- ☉ UMbali wayekonwabele ngokupheleleyo ukuba neengqekembe nje ezimbini kuphela ezizii-R5, ngoko ke wena ucinga ukuba yayiyinxaki into yokuba uZoleka eyithathile ingqekembe yesithathu?
- ☉ Ingaba kukho ezinye izinto ezenziwa nguZoleka ocinga ukuba zazingalunganga?
- ☉ Ucinga ukuba isohlwayo esafunyanwa nguZoleka sasifanelekile?
- ☉ Ingaba kukho amanye amabali owakhe wawafunda okanye waweve apho kwakukho umlinganiswa ongathembekanga? Kwenzeka ntoni kuloo mabali?

★ Ayikho imifanekiso yomkholonjane kweli bali! Khuthaza abantwana bakho ukuba bazobe umfanekiso oza kuhambelana nomhlathi okwiphepha le-7 apho umkholonjane utyelela igumbi lokulala lamantombazana.

### Ibhokhwe kaLazola elahlekileyo

ULazola uyithanda kakhulu ibhokhwe yakhe egama linguSpotty, kodwa nako ngoku uSpotty elahleka. ULazola umkhangela kuyo yonke indawo, kodwa akamfumani tu.

★ Ninonke jongani kwakhona umfanekiso okwiphepha le-15 encwadini yamabali. Ingaba niyazibona ezi ndawo: ikhaya likaLazola, kwaMama uMary, ivenkile, umthi apho uLazola ebebone khona intombazana idlala ujingi kuwo kunye nendawo esecaleni komlambo apho umfazi othile ebetheza khona?

★ Khuthaza abantwana bakho ukuba baqambe awabo amabali malunga nesilo-qabane okanye isilwanyana sasefama esilahlekileyo. Bacebise ukuba bawabhale phantsi amabali abo – okanye ubabhalele phantsi ngokwakho loo mabali abo.

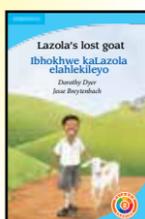
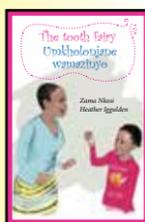
### Indlela eyayifumana ngayo inciniba intamo yayo ende

Ingaba ubusazi na ukuba kudaladala iinciniba ezi zazineentamo ezimfutshane? Okwenzeka ngobunye ubusuku xa uNkosikazi Nciniba wayesaphumile, eye emdanisweni lo gama yena uMnumzana Nciniba esagade amaqanda abo, kwayitshintsha loo nto yezo ntamo zabo zimfutshane naphakade.

- ★ Vumela abantwana bakho ukuba basebenzise i**Plasticine**, izinti kunye neentsiba okanye amagqabi ukuze benze ezabo iinciniba.
- ★ Xoxani ngenikucingayo xa ninonke malunga nendlela uNkosikazi Nciniba awayekhangeleka ngayo xa wayedanisa nize ke nani nidanise ngolo hlobo nikhathshwa zezona ngoma nizithandayo!
- ★ Memama abantwana bakho ukuba bazobe umfanekiso weyona ndawo bayithandileyo apho ebalini. Bakugqiba ke bacebise ukuba bakope amagama avela apho ebalini nahambelana naloo mifanekiso yabo.

### Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

1. Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
2. The sheet with pages 5, 6, 11 and 12 on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
  - a) Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
  - b) Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
  - c) Cut along the red dotted lines.



### Zenzele iincwadana EZIMBINI onokuzisika-ze-uzigcine

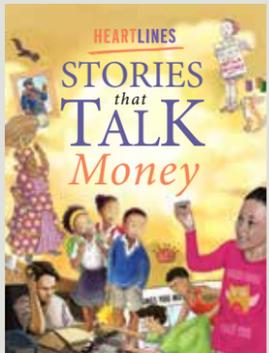
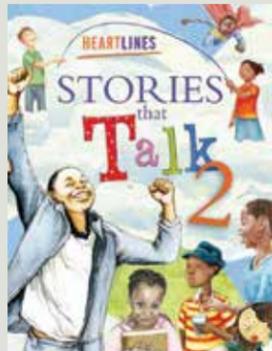
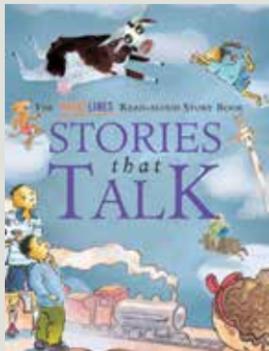
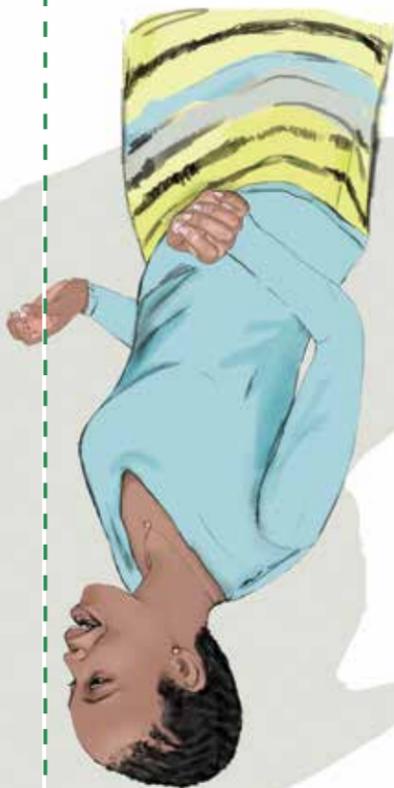
1. Khupha iphepha le-5 ukuya kwele-12 kolu hlelo.
2. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwele-5, ele-6, ele-11 nele-12 lwenza incwadi yokuqala. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwele-7, ele-8, ele-9 nele-10 lwenza eyesibini incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa uxwebhu ngalunye kula mabini ukwenza iincwadana. Landela imiyalelo engezantsi ukwenza incwadi nganye.
  - a) Songa iphepha phakathi kumgca wamachaphaza amnyama.
  - b) Phinda ulisonge phakathi kwakhona ulandela umgca wamachaphaza aluhlaza.
  - c) Sika ke ngoku ulandela imigca yamachaphaza abomvu.

“Zoleka, nawe Mama, jongani ukuba umkholonjane undinike ntoni?” wakhwaza ngovuyo uMbali. “Ntombi yam, oko kuyamangalisa. Ingaba uqinisekile ukuba awushiyelanga ezinye iingqekembe phaya phantsi komqamelo?” kwabuzwa uMama. “Ndinqinisekile, Mama, ndikhangele kakuhle. Ezimbini zininzi kakhulu kumi Andisavuyi?” watsho uMbali. UMama wabukela uMbali efaka imali kwisikalibhokisi sakhe sokugcina imali. “Uqinisekile ukuba akukho nto ufuna ukuyithenga, Mbali?” kwabuzwa uMama. “Hayi Mama, ndiza kuyigcina le mali ukuze ndithenge izihlangethi zokudlala ibhola ekhatwayayo xa ndisesikolweni samabanga aphakamileyo,” kwatsho uMbali ngokuzingca.



In the morning, Mbali woke up excited and looked under her pillow. She saw two big, shiny five rand coins. “Zoleka, Mama, look at what the tooth fairy gave me!” she shouted. “My girl, that is amazing. Are you sure she didn’t leave any other coins?” asked Mama. “I’m sure, Mama, I’ve checked. Two is a lot! I’m so happy,” said Mbali. Mama didn’t seem happy and Zoleka was very quiet. Mama watched Mbali drop her money into her piggy bank. “Are you sure you don’t want to buy anything, Mbali?” asked Mama. “No, Mama, I’m going to save my money so I can buy soccer boots for big school,” said Mbali with pride.

Kusasa, uMbali wawuka echulumancile waze wakroba phantsi wawuka echulumancile komqamelo wakhe. Wathi mandla ngeengqekembe ezimbini ezizirandi ezindlanu inye, ezinkulu nezimnencyelayo.



This story comes from *Stories that Talk Money*, Heartlines’ third collection of stories about values. For more information please email [orders@heartlines.org.za](mailto:orders@heartlines.org.za) or phone (011) 771 2540.

**HEARTLINES**  
The Centre for Values Promotion

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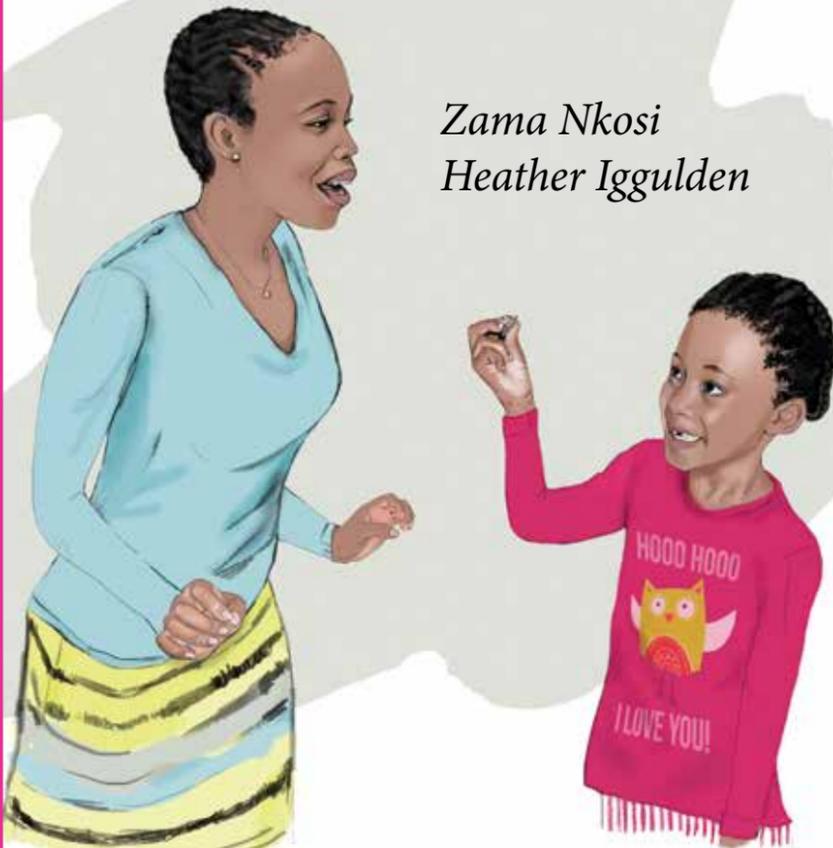


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# The tooth fairy Umkholonjane wamazinyo

Zama Nkosi  
Heather Iggulden



UZoleka wayethe cwaka, engathethi kakhulu, nto leyo yayingafani konke-konke naye. “Ingaba wonwabile Zoleka?” kwabuza uMama. “Ewe,” kwatsho ilizwi elithethela ezantsi. “Kulungile ke, nilale kakuhle ke mantombazana,” kwatsho uMama. “Nilale kamandi ukuze umkholonjane wamazinyo wenze umsebenzi wawo.”

Kuthe lo gama amantombazana aleleyo, umkholonjane wamazinyo wachwacha wangena kwigumbi elo lokulala, walithatha izinyo ngokuthe cwaka, washiya imali phantsi komqamelo, waze wahamba ngobusuku njalo. UZoleka wothuka xa kanye umdiya diya ushukuma. Wachwacha waya ebhedini kaMbali. Ngokuzolileyo nangonophelo waphakamisa elinye icala lomqamelo kaMbali. Kwakungekhono nto apho. Wachwacha, econdoba waya kwehinye icala lebhedi. Ngonophelo waphakamisa elinye icala lomqamelo. Thu, ayinyanga, azimbanga, koko SISTITHTHTU sonke sengqekembde ezinkulu, ezimnyezelayo ezizitrandi ezindanu inye. Kodwa yena umkholonjane wamazinyo wawumniko nje iingqekembde ezimbini zecrandi ezindanu. UZoleka waziva ekhuleniwa ngumona. Le nto yayingadonakali inabulungisa konke-konke. Kodwa ukuba uthathe nje yanye kwezo ngqekembde, akukho bani uya kugaphela. Ngoko ke, phambi kokuba acinge nzulu ngeso sigqibo sakhe, wayithi wende enye yezo ngqekembde waze wabuyela kwasebhedini yakhe. Wayifumbatha nqi! loo ngqekembde lo gama azama ukugweba ubuthongo kwakhona.

“This is definitely a loose tooth,” said Mbali as she wiggled her tooth. “Definitely!”

“You know what that means, right?” asked her big sister, Zoleka.

“The tooth fairy!” smiled Mbali.

Mbali had heard a lot about the tooth fairy when Zoleka had lost her teeth not so long ago. Mbali knew that if you hid your tooth under your pillow, the tooth fairy would come in the night, take your tooth, and leave you some money.

Over the next two days, all Mbali could think about was her tooth. She touched it with her tongue every chance she got. She wiggled it with her fingers when no one was looking. She pulled it and pulled it, but it wouldn’t let go.

“Eli zinyo ngokuqinisekileyo liyashukuma.” kwatsho uMbali eshukumisa izinyo lakhe. “Ndiqinisekile ke ngaleyo into!”

“Uyayazi into ethethwa koko, akunjalo?” kubuza udadewabo omdala, uZoleka.

“Umkholonjane wamazinyo!” watsho uMbali encumile.

UMbali wayeve kakhulu ngomkholonjane wamazinyo ngethuba ibinguZoleka obekhumka kutshanje. UMbali wayesazi ukuba xa uthe waliqushuka phantsi komqamelo izinyo lakho, umkholonjane wamazinyo uza kufika ngobusuku, uthathe izinyo lakho elo, uze ushiye imali.

Konke uMbali awayecinga ngako ngezoko zombini yayilizinyo lakhe. Wayemana elityhala ngolwimi olu lwakhe ngalo lonke ithuba alifumanayo. Wayelishukushukumisa ngeminwe yakhe xa kungekho bani umjongileyo nombonayo. Wayelitsala, aligungqise, kodwa lalingade liphume tu.

That day at school Zoleka bought a lot of sweets. She wouldn't share them with Mbali. "Use your own money, Mbali. I don't want to share," said Zoleka.

I wonder where Zoleka got all that money, Mbali wondered. But she didn't say anything because her sister seemed cross.

That night Mbali told Mama about how Zoleka had bought a LOT of sweets and didn't want to share them.

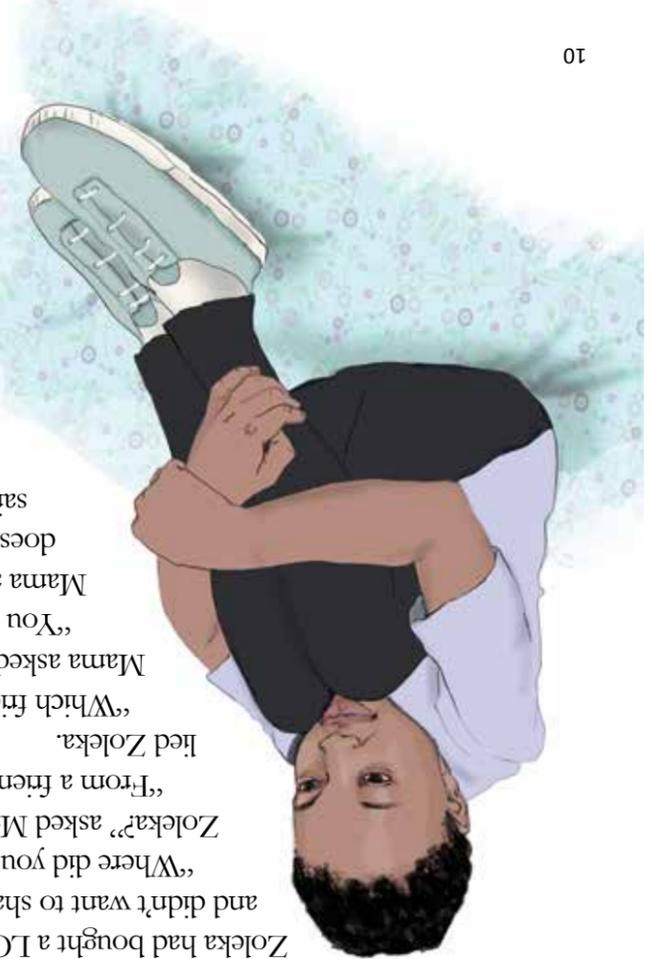
"Where did you get the sweets, Zoleka?" asked Mama.

"From a friend, Mama," lied Zoleka.

"Which friend?"

Mama asked.

"You don't know her, doesn't know her," said Zoleka.



UZoleka wacinga ngalo lonke elo xesha alichithileyo ukuze onge loo mali. Ngalo lonke ixesha ecoca iyadi kaNkosikazi Ngoma aze ahlawulwe, wayeyifaka imali ayifumeneyo kwisikalibhokisi sakhe. Xa athe wakhumka, waze umkholonjane wamazinyo wamnika imali, wayeyifaka kwisikalibhokisi sakhe loo mali.

Xa uMakhulu ebatyelele ngeKrisimesi waze wampha imali engamaphepha, loo mali wayeyifaka kwisikalibhokisi sakhe sokonga. Emva kwawo wonke loo msebenzi unzima kangako, ngoku uza kulahlekelwa yiyo yonke loo mali.

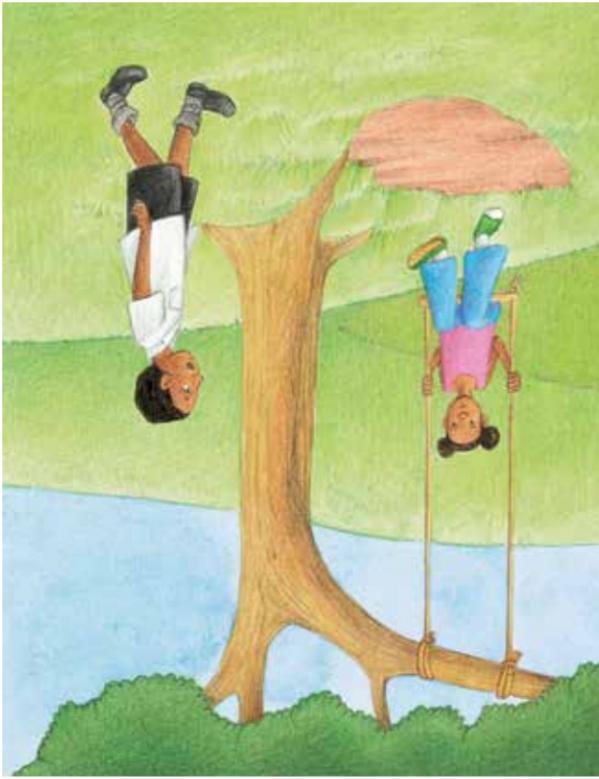
“Kulungile, Mama,” watsho uZoleka elusizi. “Uxolo Mama. Uxolo nawe Mbali. Andisoze ndiphinde ndiyenze le nto kwakhona.”

“Kulungile, Zoleka. Ndiyakuthanda kwaye ndiza kukuncedisa kumsebenzi wakho ukuze ukwazi ukuqokelela imali oza kuyifaka kwisikalibhokisi sakho sokugcina imali kwakhona,” kwatsho uMbali.

Ezi ntombi zizanyo zimbini zangana waze uMama wavuyiswa kukubona uZoleka efunde isifundo noMbali emxolele.

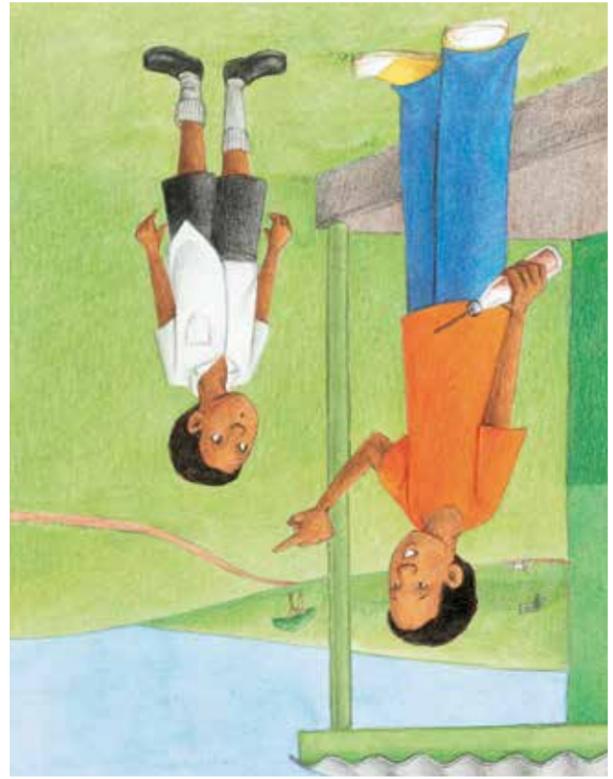


“Ingaba ukhe wayibona ibhokhwe yam?” wabuza kwintombazana eyayidlala kuJing.



“Have you seen my goat?” he asked a girl on a swing.

“Ndiyibone isihla ngendlela isiya ngasedlelweni,” yatsho le nkwenkwe.



“I saw her walk down the road to the field,” said the boy.

CAMBRIDGE

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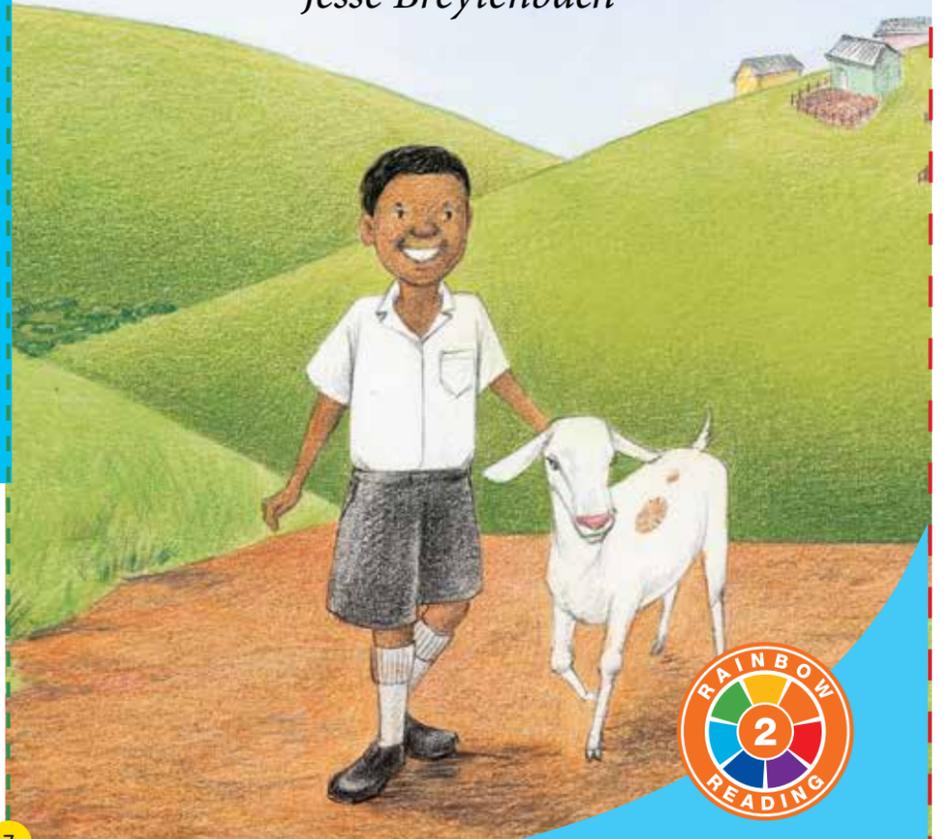


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# Lazola's lost goat Ibhokhwe kaLazola elahlekileyo

Dorothy Dyer  
Jesse Breytenbach



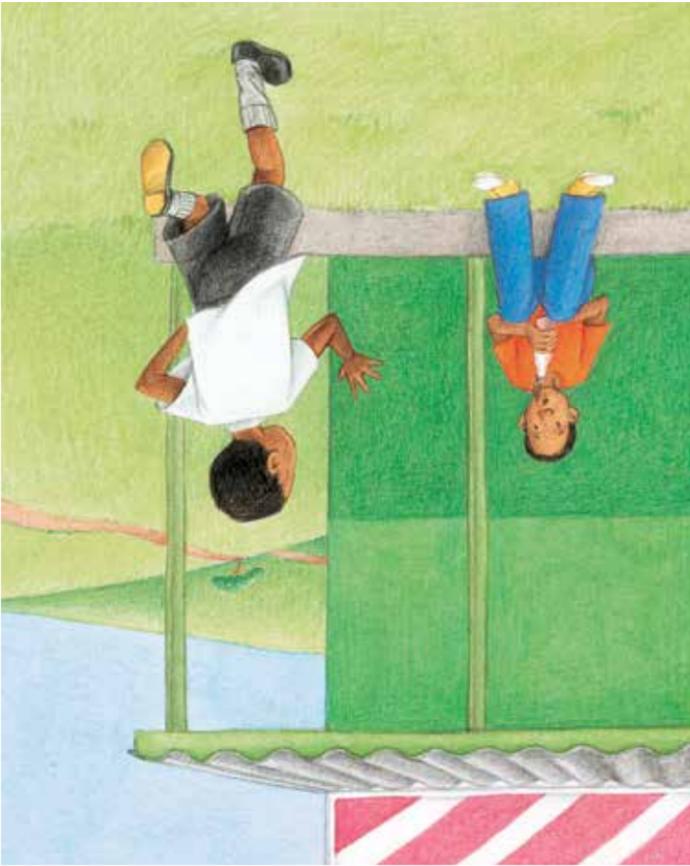
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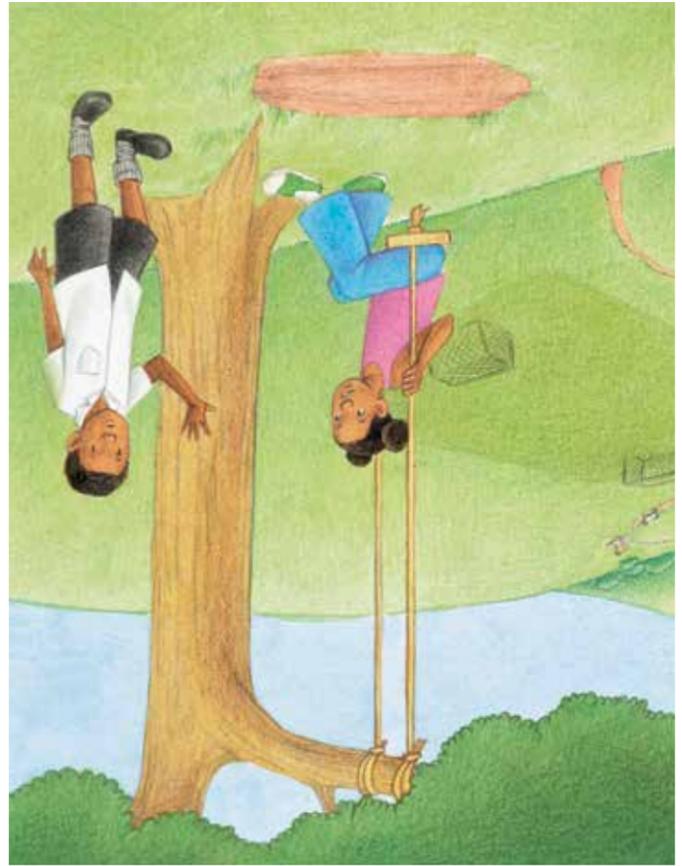


“Ingaba ukhe wayibona ibhokhwe  
yam?” wabuza inkwenkwe  
eyayihleli ecaleni kwevenkileni.



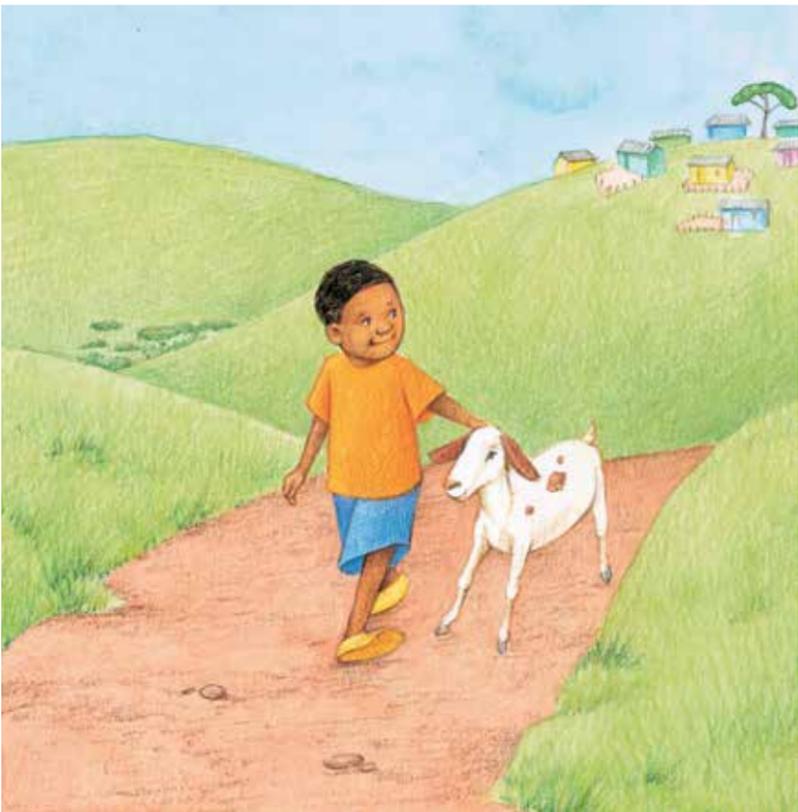
“Have you seen my goat?” he asked  
a boy outside the shop.

“Ndiyibone ibaleka, ithoba lo  
mlambo,” yatsho le ntombazana.

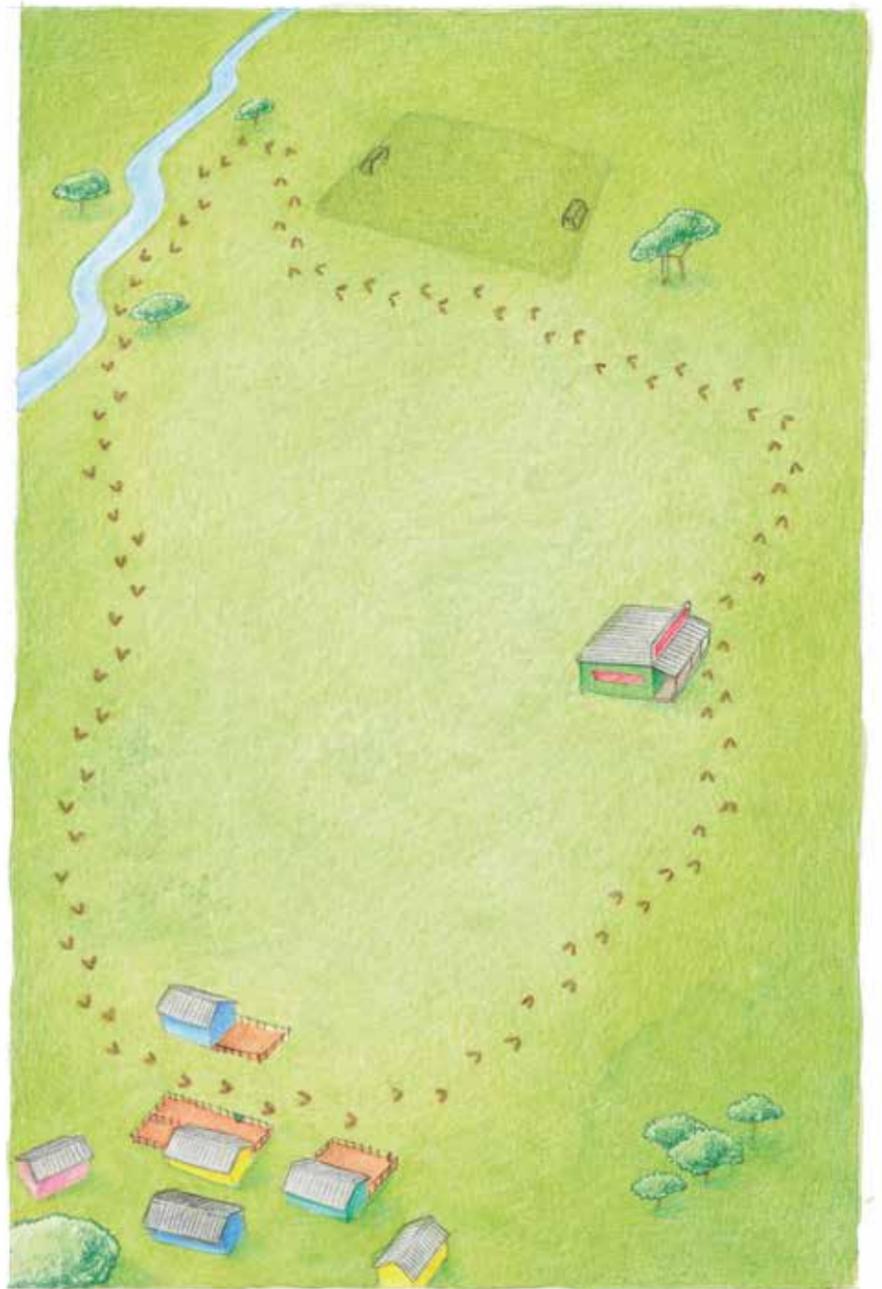


“I saw her run down to the river,” said  
the girl.

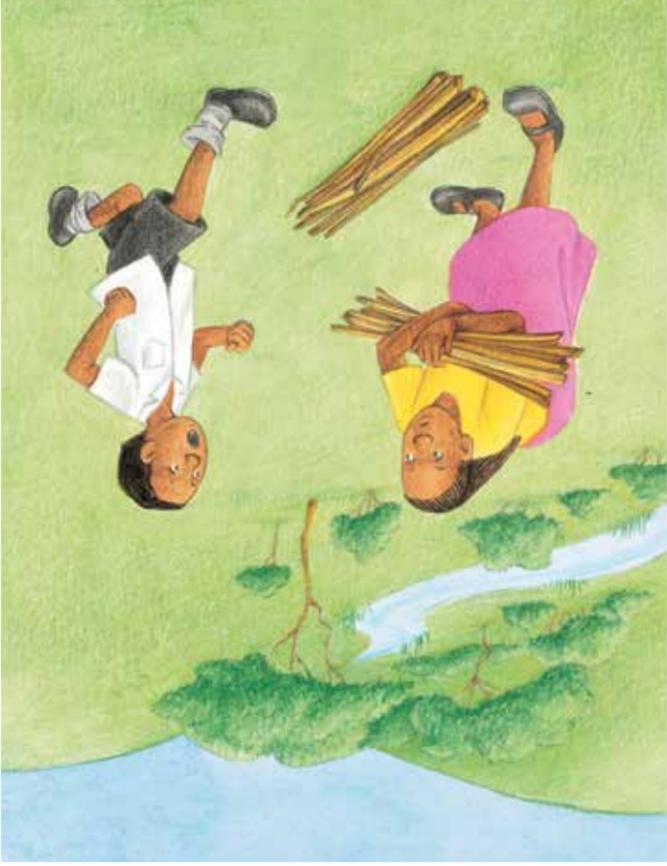
This is Lazola and his goat, Spotty.  
Lazola loved Spotty.



Lo nguLazola kunye nebhokhwe  
yakhe, uSpotty. ULazola umthanda  
kakhulu uSpotty lo.

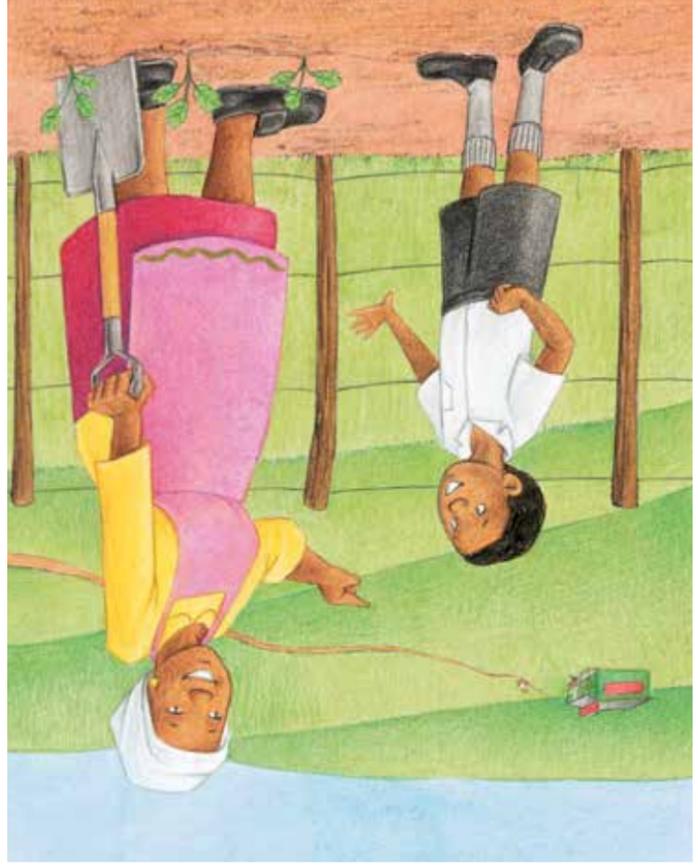


“Ingaba ukhe wayibona ibhokhwe  
yam?” wabuza umfazi otheza  
ecaleni komlambo.



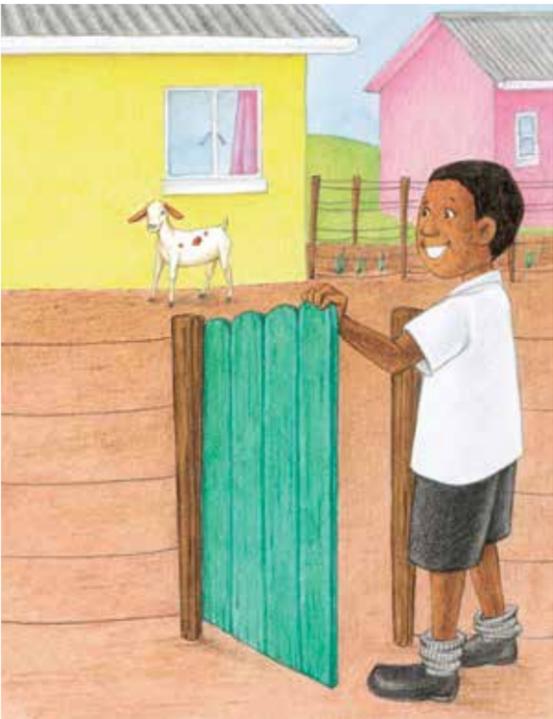
“Have you seen my goat?” he asked a  
woman collecting wood near the river.

“Ndiyibone isihla ngesitato,”  
kwatsho uMama uMary.



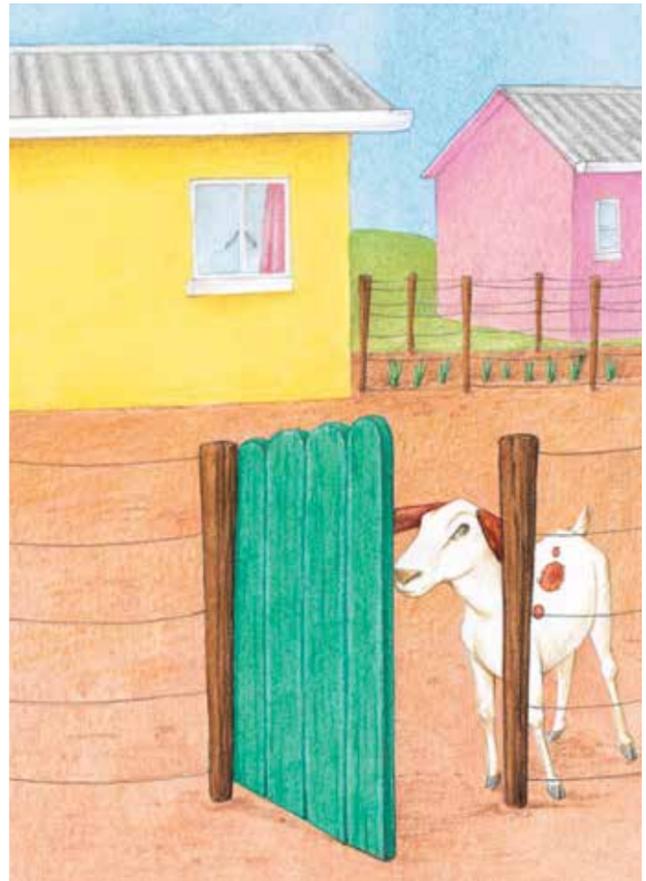
“I saw her walk down the road,”  
said Ma Mary.

When he got home, who did he see?  
“Spotty!”



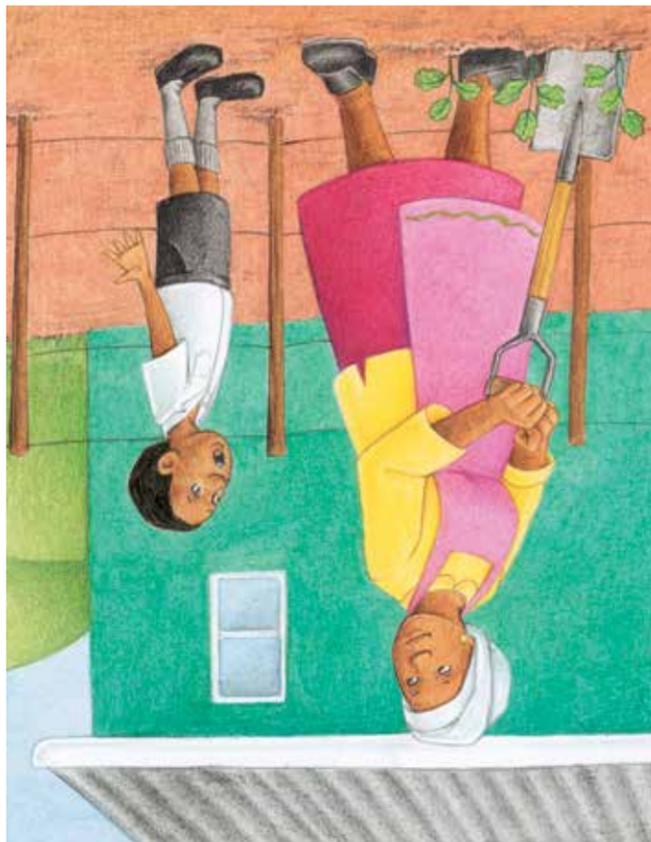
Uthe akufika ekhaya, wabona bani  
qashi-qashi?  
“USpotty!”

One day Spotty ran away.



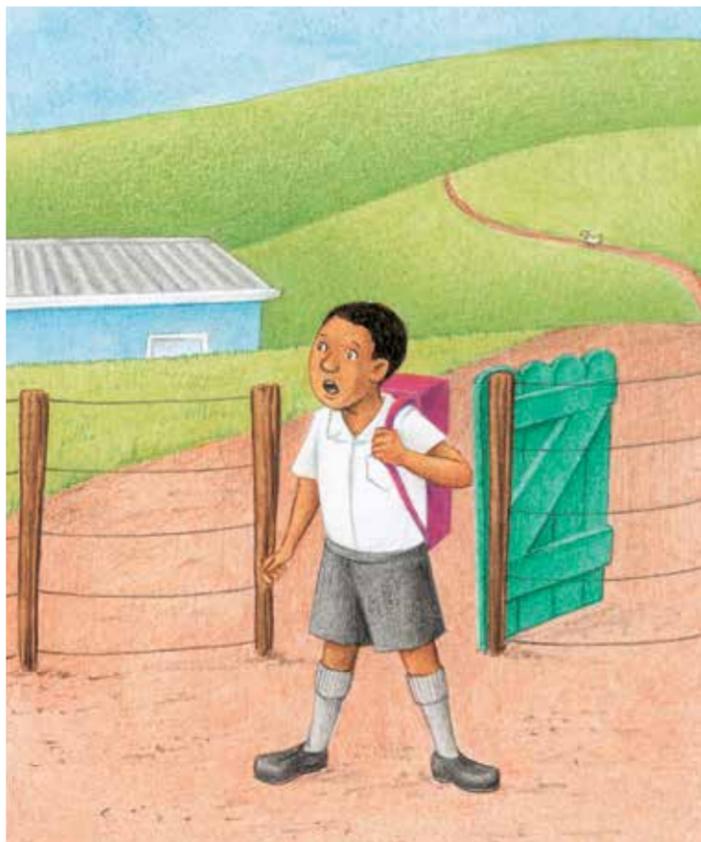
Ngenye imini uSpotty walahleka nya.

“Ingaba ukhe wayibona ibhokhwe yam?” wabuza kuMama uMary.



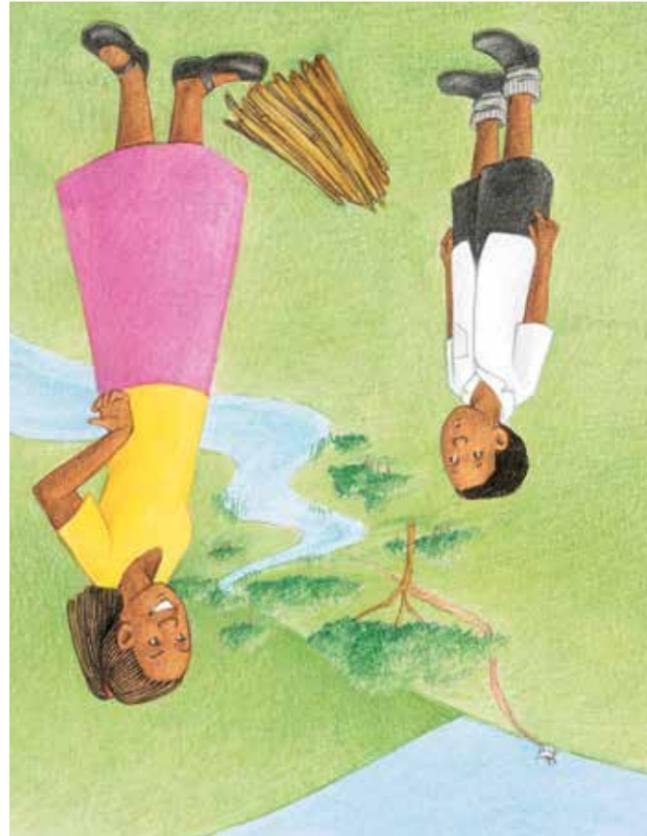
“Have you seen my goat?” he asked Ma Mary.

Lazola looked for her, but he could not find her.



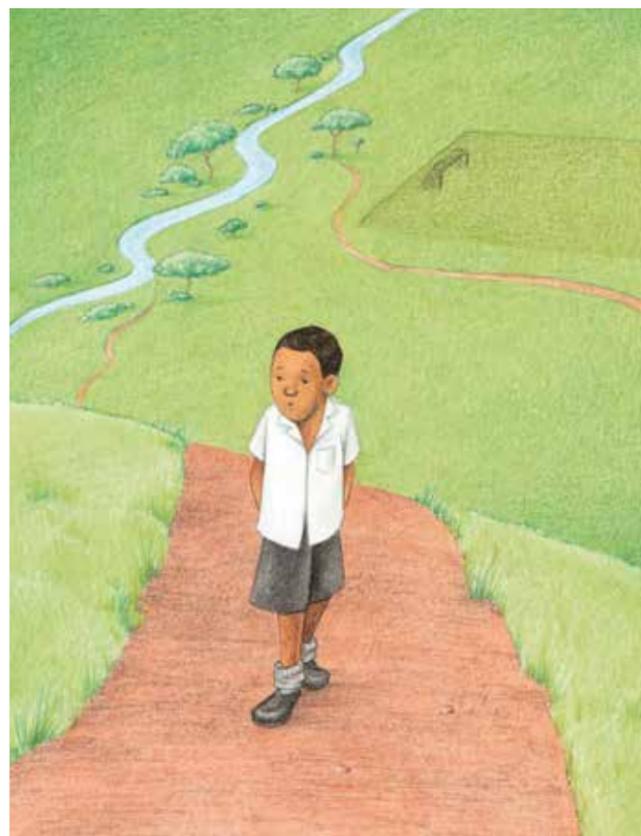
ULazola wamkhangela ndawo yonke, kodwa akazange amfumane.

“Ndiyibone inyuka, isiya ngaselalini,” watsho lo mfazi.



“I saw her go up to the village,” said the woman.

Lazola walked all the way back to the village.



ULazola wahamba yonke loo ndlela inde kwakhona, wabuyela kwaselalini.

Ngaloo mini esikolweni uZoleka wathenga ilikese ezinzi. Wayengafuni ukumpha uMbali nokuba ibenye nje kuzo. “Thenga ngyakho nawe imali, Mbali. Anduzukupha ma kwezi zam,” kutsho uZoleka. Ingaba uZoleka uyithatha phi imali engaka, wamangaliswa koku uMbali. Kodwa akazange aithe okanye abuze nto kuba udadewabo wayekhangeleka engafuni kuthethiswa. Ngobo busuku uMbali wabaliseka uMama malunga nelekese EZININZI ezithengwe nguZoleka kodwa waza akafuna nokumpha nanye nje kuzo. “Ubuzithatha phi ilikese, Zoleka?” kwabuza uMama. “Etshomini yam, Mama,” waphosisa watsho uZoleka. “Ngubani loo tshomi yakho?” kwabuza uMama. “Awuzukuyazi nje Mama kwaye noMbali akayazi,” kwatsho uZoleka.

Zoleka was very quiet, not saying very much, which was not like her at all. “Are you okay, Zoleka?” asked Mama. “Yes,” came a quiet voice. “Okay, good night girls,” said Mama. “Sleep tight so the tooth fairy can do her job.” While the girls slept, the tooth fairy crept into the bedroom, quietly took the tooth, slipped some money under the pillow and off she went into the night. Zoleka woke up as the curtain twitched. She tipped over to Mbali’s bed. Quietly, quietly she lifted one side of Mbali’s pillow. Nothing. She tipped to the other side of the bed. Carefully she lifted the other side of the pillow. There she saw not one, not two, but THREE big, shiny five rand coins. The tooth fairy had only given her two five rand coins. Zoleka felt jealous. It wasn’t fair. But if she took only one of those coins, nobody would ever know. So, before she could think about it anymore, she took one of the coins and went back to her bed. She held the coin tightly in her fist as she tried to get back to sleep.

Zoleka thought about all the time she had spent saving money. Every time she cleaned Mrs Ngoma’s yard and was paid, she put the money in her piggy bank. When her teeth fell out, and the tooth fairy gave her money, she put it in her piggy bank. When Gogo came over last Christmas and gave them real paper money, she had put that money in her piggy bank too. After all that hard work, she was going to lose it all.

“Yes, Mama,” Zoleka said sadly. “I’m sorry, Mama. I’m sorry, Mbali. I won’t ever do that again.”

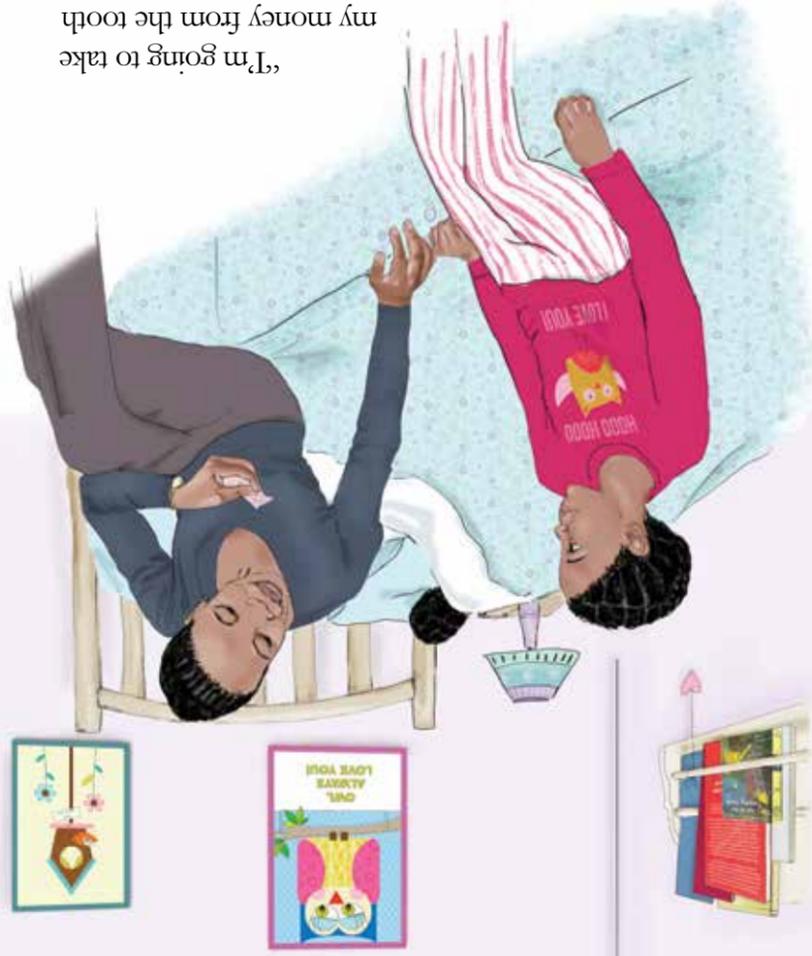
“It’s okay, Zoleka. I love you and will help you work hard to get money in your piggy bank again,” said Mbali.

The two sisters hugged and Mama was happy that Zoleka had learnt her lesson and that Mbali had forgiven her.



“Mama, ndiza kuthatha imali yam endiyiphwe ngumkhonjane wamazinyo, ndiyifake kwisikalibhokisi! sam sokugcina imali,” watsho uMbali lo gama umama wakhe wayemombathisa, emqoshelisa ngobo busuku.

“I’m going to take my money from the tooth fairy and put it in my piggy bank, Mama,” Mbali said while her mother tucked her into bed that night.



Mama knew immediately that Zoleka had been telling lies. “Zoleka, I’m going to give you one more chance to tell me where you got those sweets,” said Mama in a very stern voice. Zoleka knew that when Mama’s voice got stern, trouble was around the corner. Tears filled her eyes. “I took the money from under Mbali’s pillow, Mama. I’m sorry! The tooth fairy gave her more money than me. I just wanted a bit of it,” she cried. Mbali stood to the side, shocked by what her sister was saying. “Zoleka, you have done a very bad thing. That money was for Mbali, not for you. That was stealing and stealing is never the right thing to do. Do you understand?” asked Mama. “Yes, Mama,” cried Zoleka. Big, fat tears rolled down her cheeks. Mama put her arm around Zoleka. “I am going to take all the money from your piggy bank to buy Mbali her soccer boots. That means you have to start saving all over again. You’ll have to work very hard to earn back all the money you had saved. This is what happens when you take things that do not belong to you – in the end you lose everything,” Mama said.

Then suddenly in art class, her tooth fell out. After showing her teacher, Mbali carefully put the tooth in a tissue and into her pocket and waited for the bell to ring.



Kodwa kwathi ngephanyazo kwiklasi yezobugcisa, izinyo lakhe lasuka laziwela. Emva kokuba ebonise utitshala wakhe, uMbali walisongela ngobunono ngetishu izinyo lakhe, waza walifaka epokothweni yakhe elindele nje ukukhala kwentsimbi.

UMama wayazi ngoko nangoko ukuba uZoleka uyaphosisa. “Zoleka, ndiza kukunika ithuba lokugqibela lokuba undixelele ukuba ubuzithathe phi na ezo lekese,” watsho ngelizwi elingqongqo uMama.

UZoleka wayesazi ukuba xa lithe langqongqo ilizwi likaMama, inkathazo ifikile. Aqala amehlo akhe ukuthi gwantyi iinyembezi. “Ndithathe imali ebiphantsi komqamelo kaMbali, Mama. Ndicela uxolo!

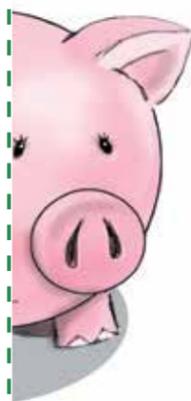
Umkholonjane wamazinyo umnike yena imali eninzi kuneyam. Ndiye ndanqwenela nje ukukhe ndifumane nje encinane kuyo,” watsho elila.

UMbali wema qelele, ekhangeleka othuswe koko kwakuthethwa ngudadewabo.

“Zoleka, into oyenzileyo imbi kakhulu. Laa mali ibiyekaMbali, hayi eyakho. Wena uyibile kwaye ubusela abuzange bayinto elungileyo. Uyayiqonda loo nto?” kwabuza uMama.

“Ewe, Mama,” watsho elila uZoleka. Iinyembezi zaqukuqela, zisihla kwezo zidlele zakhe.

UMama wamgona uZoleka. “Ndiza kuyithatha yonke ke imali oyongileyo esikalibhokisini sakho, ndithengele uMbali izihlangu zebhola ekhatywayo. Oko kuthetha ukuba wena kuza kufuneka uqale ekuqaleni ukonga. Kuza kufuneka usebenze nzima kakhulu ukuze uphinde ufumane yonke loo mali ubusele uyongileyo. Kwenzeka oko kanye ke xa uthatha izinto ezingezizo ezakho – ekugqibeleni ulahlekelwa kuko konke obunako,” kwatsho uMama.



## Nal'ibali endimthandayo

Igama lam ndinguEdith Fezeka Khuzwayo. Ndingusothala kwithala leencwadi, iMurray Park eBelgravia, eRhawutini. Le yileta nje yokunikelela indlela uNal'ibali andinceda ngayo ukuze ndikwazi ukunceda abantwana baseJeppetown naseBelgravia.

Kwiminyaka emibini edlulileyo ndafumana olunye lweentlelo zenu kwiphephandaba. Andikuthandi ukufunda amaphephandaba, kodwa njengosothala, ntsasa nganye ndihambisa nje amehlo am, ndityhlatyhile iphephandaba ukuze ndazi okuqhubekayo nokungundabamlonyeni. Kodwa ngaloo mini, ndafumana uHlelo lweNal'ibali ndaze ndalufunda! Ndaqala njalo ke ukwazi ngoNal'ibali.

Emva kwaloo mini ndalithile iphephandaba yonke imihla – ndingalithileli kulifunda, kodwa ndilithileli ukukhangela uHlelo lweNal'ibali. Ndaqokelela ezo ntlelo ukuze abantwana bafumane iincwadi ezininzi zokufunda. Incwadi yokuqala esayifundayo yayisithi, *Ukuchetywa kukaBhere* obhalwe nguNola Turkington noJoseph Mugisha. Eyesibini yayisithi, *UNguni Omhle* obhalwe nguMarianne Bester noShayle Bester.

Emva koko kwafika ixesha lokungabandakanywa koHlelo lweNal'ibali kwiphephandaba lethu. Sasingaqinisekanga ukuba singenza ntoni na ukuze sifumane ezinye iintlelo kwaye sasizifuna kakhulu kuba zazisinceda nangemixholo esibonisa ngayo kwithala leencwadi. Kodwa kwathi ngenye imini, oogxa bam ababini abavela komnye umbutho bandixelela ngocweyo loqeqesho abaya kulo, olwaluza kubanjelwa kwaNal'ibali. Ndandinomdla wokwazi indlela oluza kundinceda ngayo olu qeqesho ukuze ndikwazi ukunceda amaziko ompeleso nokukhathalela abantwana abasakulayo kwakunye nabanye abantwana abakummandla wethu. Ngenxa yoogxa bam, ndafumana ithuba lokuba yinxalenye yolo qeqesho!

Enkosi, Nal'ibali! Unceda abantwana ukuze baqhube kakuhle kwizifundo zabo esikolweni. Abantwana abakwiklabhu yethu yokufunda iShooting Stars Reading Club, nesaqala nabo ukusebenzisa uhlelo lweNal'ibali, ngabafundi abanobuchule kakhulu ngoku. Ukuphuma kwesikolo, beza kum kwidesika yokuncedisa ekwenziweni komsebenzi wesikolo owenzelwa ekhaya. Babedla ngokusokola ukufunda nokuqonda ukuba kufuneka benze ntoni na kumsebenzi wabo wesikolo owenzelwa ekhaya, kodwa namhlanje bayakwazi ukufunda, baphendule nemibuzo. Iphazili neendida zamagama ezifumaneka "kOkokuzonwabisa kwakwaNal'ibali" ekupheleni kohlelo zibanceda ukuba bakhe amagama. Bayayonwabela kakhulu imisetyenzana elolu hlobo kwaye bafunda lukhulu kuyo.

Maz'enethole, Nal'ibali – sonke siyakuthanda. Kuninzi kakhulu esinokukuthetha ngawe.

Ozithobileyo

NguEdith Fezeka Khuzwayo

## Edith endimthandayo

Enkosi kakhulu ngeleta yakho kunye nokwabelana nathi ngamava akho. Kusivuselela kakhulu oko ukwenzayo kwithala leencwadi lakho kunye nomahluko owenzayo kubomi babantwana.

Hlala njalo uvuselela oko abantwana banokukwazi ukukwenza kwanomdla wabo ngokubalisa amabali nokufunda!

Ithunyelwa ngothando ivela  
KwiQela lakwaNal'ibali

## Dear Nal'ibali ... Nal'ibali endimthandayo ...

Write to Nal'ibali at  
The Nal'ibali Trust, Suite 17-201,  
Building 17, Waverley Business Park,  
Wycroft Road, Mowbray, 7700, or  
at [info@nalibali.org](mailto:info@nalibali.org).

Bhalela kuNal'ibali  
ku-The Nal'ibali Trust, Suite 17-201,  
Building 17, Waverley Business Park,  
Wycroft Road, Mowbray, 7700, okanye  
ku-[info@nalibali.org](mailto:info@nalibali.org).

## Dear Nal'ibali

My name is Edith Fezeka Khuzwayo. I am a librarian at Murray Park Library in Belgravia, Johannesburg. This is just a letter to tell you how Nal'ibali has helped me to help the children of Jeppetown and Belgravia.

Two years ago I found one of your supplements in a newspaper. I don't like to read newspapers, but as a librarian, every morning I run my eyes through the newspaper so that I'm aware of what is in the news. But on that day, I found the Nal'ibali Supplement and I read it! That is where I started to know about Nal'ibali.

After that I opened the paper every day – not to read it, but to find the Nal'ibali Supplement. I collected them so that the children had more books to read. The first book we read was *Bear's haircut* by Nola Turkington and Joseph Mugisha. The second one was *The cool Nguni* by Marianne Bester and Shayle Bester.

Then there came a time when the Nal'ibali Supplement wasn't in our newspaper anymore. We were not sure what to do to get more supplements and we needed them because they also helped us with our display themes in the library. Then one day two colleagues of mine from another organisation told me that they were going to a Nal'ibali training workshop. I was very interested in how the training could help me to help the day care centres and children in our area. Through my colleagues, I got the chance to be part of the training!

Thank you, Nal'ibali! You are helping children perform well at school. The children at our Shooting Stars Reading Club with whom we first started using the Nal'ibali Supplement, are good readers now. They come to me at our Homework Help Desk after school. They used to struggle to read what they had to do for homework, but today they can read and answer questions. The wordsearch puzzles in "Nal'ibali fun" at the end of the supplement help them to build words. They enjoy the activities and they learn a lot from them.

Thank you, Nal'ibali – we all love you. There is a lot we can say about you.

Yours faithfully

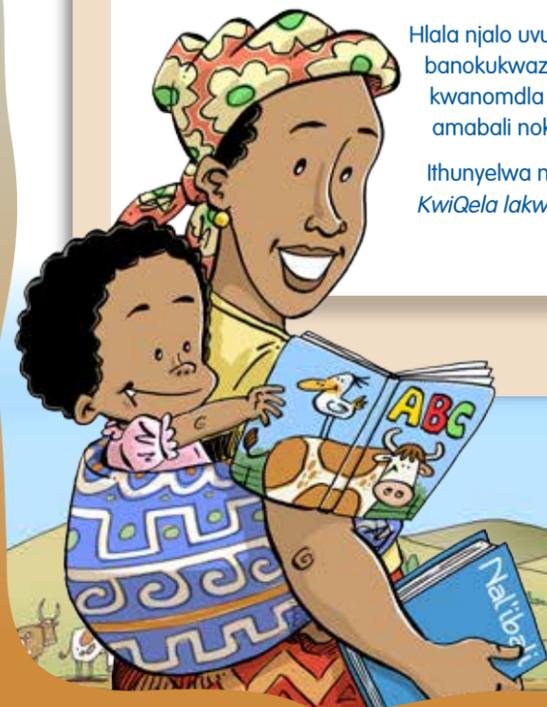
Edith Fezeka Khuzwayo

## Dear Edith

Thank you for your letter and for sharing your experiences with us. We are inspired by what you are doing at your library and the difference you are making in children's lives.

Keep on sparking their potential through storytelling and reading!

With love from  
The Nal'ibali Team



# How the ostrich got a long neck

Retold by Wendy Hartmann ✨ Illustrations by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

Mr Ostrich was kind and gentle and he loved Mrs Ostrich very much. He always helped her with the things she had to do.

One day, Mrs Ostrich laid seven eggs in her nest in a hollow in the ground. She fluffed her feathers and sat on her eggs to keep them warm. For days and days she sat there looking after the eggs.

“Dear Mrs Ostrich,” said her husband one evening, “you have been sitting on our eggs for so many days. My black feathers are as dark as the night. I will not be seen in the darkness, so I will look after our eggs at night. I will keep them warm for you. Now you will have some time to yourself. You can enjoy yourself until the sun comes up in the morning.”

Mrs Ostrich was so happy. She wanted to stretch her legs. She stood up and Mr Ostrich sat down clumsily to cover the eggs. Mrs Ostrich fluffed up her feathers to show how happy she was. Then she left to dance in the fields that were around their nest.

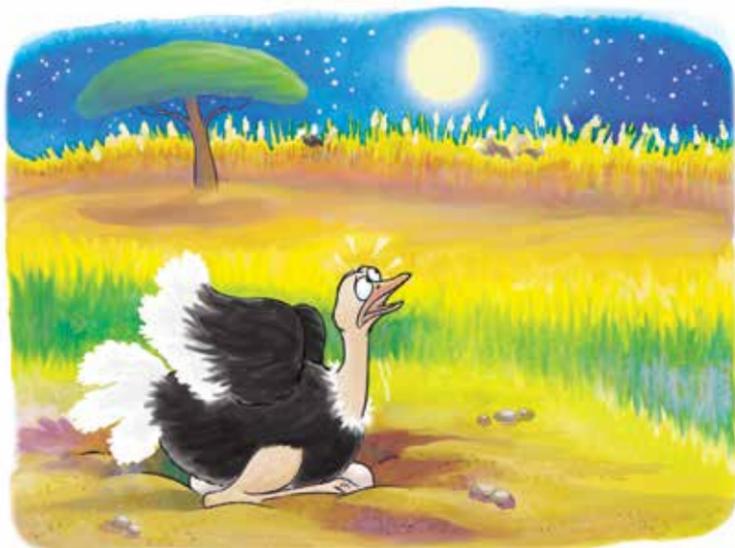
Mr and Mrs Ostrich had chosen the place for their nest very carefully. They knew that in this spot it would be difficult to see Mrs Ostrich as she sat on the nest during the day. You see, in those days ostriches had short necks like a guinea-fowl. So, from a little way away, when her head was down, the ostrich mother looked like a bump on the ground. They had chosen this field, which had short grass, because long ago they had learnt that in long grass they could be attacked before they even knew there was any danger. Because they had chosen carefully, they were able to see everything.

Mr and Mrs Ostrich also knew how to keep their eggs safe from the fires that sometimes burnt across the fields. They had carefully scratched away the grass so that there was a big circle of dusty sand around their nest. Mr and Mrs Ostrich were very happy with their lovely, safe nest and their seven eggs.

But now that Mr Ostrich was sitting on the eggs at night, there was one thing that made him worry. His wife was too happy when she was out in the fields. She danced around with her feathers flying, and it didn't look like she was alone.

“What is she doing?” Mr Ostrich thought. She should not be dancing around like that. She is a mother now and she has eggs to look after. But like a good father he wiggled his body on the ground to cover the eggs and keep them warm. Then he settled down for a long night's wait while his wife was playing in the fields.

One night, the silvery moonlight made strange shadows on the field. The shadows seemed to be dancing. Mr Ostrich was getting very sleepy. His eyes were starting to close when he heard his wife's laugh. He was wide awake the moment he heard it. He looked up.



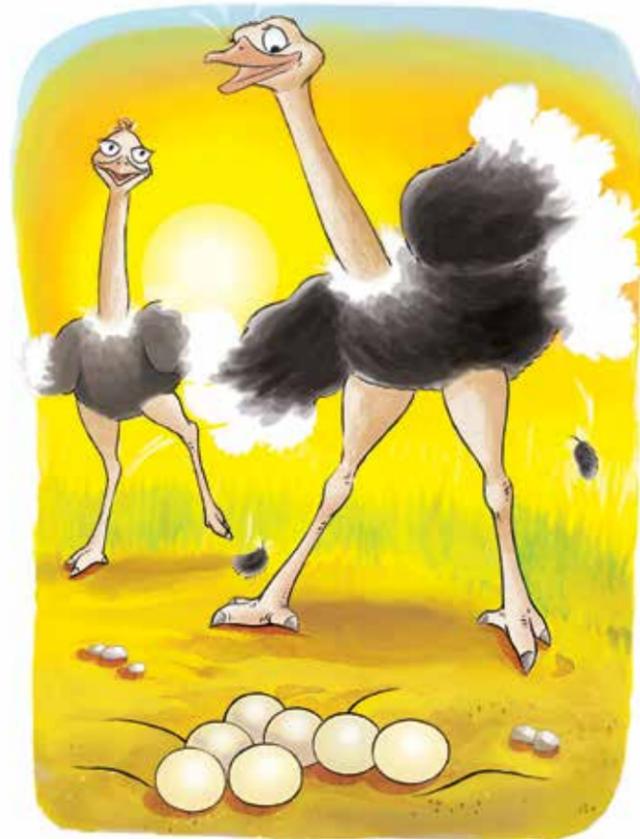
At first he could not see anything. He stretched his short neck as far as it would go and then he saw her. Mrs Ostrich was dancing through the grass, between the bushes playing a game of hide-and-seek with a handsome young ostrich. When she hid behind a bush, she stretched her neck as far as she could to make sure that her husband was still sitting on their eggs.

Mr Ostrich was angry. He got up from the nest to see what was going on, but then he sat down again. He could not leave the eggs. What if they got cold while he was gone? So he spread his feathers over the eggs and just stretched his neck further and further trying to see what his wife was doing.

Every now and then he heard his wife giggle. Every now and then he could see shadows dancing in the field in the moonlight. Each time he saw a shadow, he stretched his neck as far as it would go. But that was all he could do because he had to keep the eggs warm.

At last, the long, long night came to an end as the sun rose. As it did, Mr Ostrich could see his wife coming back to sit on the eggs for the day. He tried to get up, but he felt very stiff. The muscles in his neck were hurting.

At last he stood up. He was just about to tell his wife how angry he was, when he looked down at his feet. They looked so far away from his head. Suddenly he knew what had happened – during that long night he had stretched his neck further and further and further.



He shook his head. He stamped his feet, but no matter what he did his neck stayed long. Nothing that he did would change it. And his wife? She had a long neck too! She also tried to shake her head and stamp her feet, but it did not help. She had stretched and stretched her neck to see if her husband was still sitting on their eggs!

And that is how it happened that Mr and Mrs Ostrich got long necks! And that is why from that night until today every ostrich you see has a long neck too.

Ibali libaliswa kwakhona nguWendy Hartmann ✨ Imifanekiso izotywe nguJiggs Snaddon-Wood

UMnumzana Nciniba wayenobubele, elungile kwaye wayemthanda kakhulu uNkosikazi Nciniba. Wayesoloko emncedisa kuyo yonke into ayenzayo.

Ngenye imini, uNkosikazi Nciniba wazalela amaqanda asixhenxe kwindlwana yakhe eyayikwisigqana esasisemhlabeni. Wavuthulula iintsiba zakhe waze wahlala kumaqanda akhe ukuze awafukame. Kwaqengqeleka iintsuku ezininzi ehleli apho, efukame loo maqanda.

“Nkosikazi Nciniba endimthandayo,” kwatsho umyeni wakhe ngobubele ngenye injikalanga, “ziqengqelekile noko iintsuku ufukame la maqanda ethu. Iintsiba zam zimnyama njengobusuku. Ngoko ke, soze kubekho nabani na ondibonayo ebusuku, kungoko ke ndicebisa ukuba khe kufukame mna ebusuku. Ndiza kukugcinela la maqanda eshushu. Ngoku uza kukhe nawe ube nexesha lokuzihoya. Ungazonwabisa ubusuku bonke kude kuphume ilanga langomso.”

UNkosikazi Nciniba kwamvuyisa kakhulu oko. Wayefuna ukukhe olule imilenze yakhe. Waphakama waze uMnumzana Nciniba wahlala ngobutataholo phezu kwaloo maqanda, wawafukama. UNkosikazi Nciniba wavuthulula iintsiba zakhe ebonisa indlela onwabe ngayo. Emva koko waya kudanisa edlelweni elikufutshane nendlwane leyo yabo.

UMnumzana noNkosikazi Nciniba babeyikhethe ngobulumko indawo yokwakha indlwane yabo. Babesazi ukuba kuloo ndawo kwakuza kuba nzima ukubona uNkosikazi Nciniba xa efukama amaqanda abo emini. Uyabona ke, ngezo ntsuku iinciniba ezi zazineentamo ezimfutshane oku kweempangele. Ngoko ke, xa ukude naxa ejonge phantsi umama uNciniba, wayekhangeleka ngathi sisidulana nje esisemhlabeni. Babekhethe idlelo elalinengca emfutshane, kuba babefunde kwakudaladala ukuba kwingca ende bangahlaselwa lula, nangaphambi kokuba baqaphele ukuba basengozini. Ngenxa yokuba bayikhethe ngobunono nobulumko le ndawo, babekwazi ukuyibona yonke into.

Kananjalo uMnumzana noNkosikazi Nciniba babesazi ukuba bangawagcina njani na ekhuselekile amaqanda abo kwimililo eyayitshisa loo madlelo kumaxesha athile. Babeyiqhwaye, bayixhwithela kude ngenyameko ingca, ukuze kubekho isangqa sentlabathi esingqonge indlwane yabo. UMnumzana noNkosikazi Nciniba babonwatyiswe kakhulu yindlwane yabo entle nekhuselekileyo, nenamaqanda abo asixhenxe.

Kodwa njengokuba ngoku yayinguMnumzana Nciniba owayefukama ebusuku, kwabakho into enye emkhathazayo. Umfazi wakhe wasuka wonwaba kakhulu apho edlelweni. Wayejikeleza, edanisa, kubhabhe zintsiba zakhe, kwaye kwakukhangeleka ngathi akayedwa kolu lonwabo lwakhe.

“Ingaba wenza ntoni ke ngoku?” yabhadula njalo ingqondo kaMnumzana Nciniba. Akafanelanga kujikeleza edanisa ngoluya hlobo. Ungumama ngoku kwaye unamaqanda ekufuneka ewafukamile. Kodwa njengotata olungileyo washukumisa nje umzimba wakhe, wogquma kakuhle loo maqanda ukuze awafukame. Wahlala apho ke ezolile, elindile kobo busuku bude, lo gama umfazi wakhe owonwabileyo, edlala edlelweni.

Ngobunye ubusuku, inyanga eyayikhanya yenza kwakho izithunzi edlelweni. Ezi zithunzi zakhangeleka ngathi ziyadanisa. UMnumzana Nciniba wayephelile kukozela. Amehlo akhe ayeqalisa ukuvaleka ukuva kwakhe intsini yomfazi wakhe, ehleka. Wavuka wathi qwa kwangaloo mzuzu akuva eso siqhazolo. Waphakamisa amehlo.



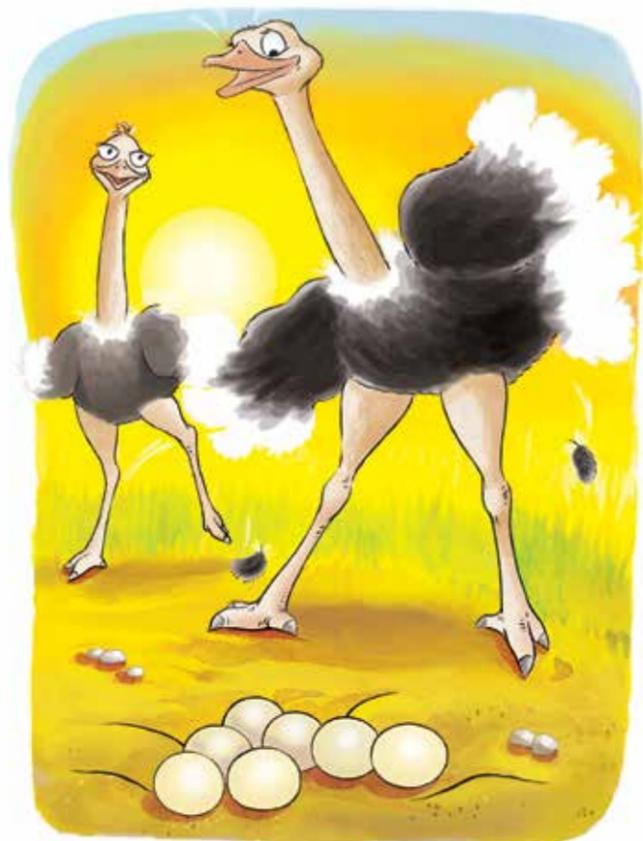
Kuqala zange kubekho nto ayibonayo. Watsala loo ntanyana yakhe imfutshane kangangoko anakho waze wambona umfazi wakhe. UNkosikazi Nciniba wayedanisa engceni apho, phakathi kwamatyholo, edlala undize nenye inciniba eyindoda esencinane nenomtsalane. Xa ezimele ngetyholo, wayetsala loo ntamo yakhe kangangoko anakho ukuqinisekisa ukuba umyeni wakhe usahleli phezu kwamaqanda.

UMnumzana Nciniba wayenomsindo kakhulu. Waphakama kuloo ndlwane, esiya kukhangela ukuba kuqhubeka ntoni na kanye, kodwa waphinda wazinqanda, wahlala phantsi kwakhona. Wayengakwazi ukuwashiya amaqanda odwa kuloo ndlwane. Wayeza kuthini xa athe abanda lo mzuzu engekho? Ngoko ke watweza amaphiko akhe wogquma amaqanda, waze wamana etsalatsala loo ntamo yakhe ukuze abone ukuba umfazi wakhe wenzani na kanye.

Wayemane esiva umfazi wakhe egigitheka. Wayemane ebona izithunzi ezidanisa edlelweni phantsi kokukhanya kwenyanga. Qho xa ebona isithunzi, wayetsala loo ntamo yakhe kangangoko anakho. Kodwa wayephelele ekwenzeni oko kuba kwakufuneka efukamile, egcine amaqanda eshushu.

Ekugqibeleni, obo busuku bude bade bafikelela esiphelweni, lavela ilanga. Ukuvela kwalo, uMnumzana Nciniba wambona umfazi wakhe ebuya, eze kufukama imini yonke. Wazama ukuphakama, kodwa wayengakwazi kuba umzimba wakhe wawugogene. Izihlunu zentamo yakhe zaziqaqamba.

Ekugqibeleni wade waphakama. Wathi xa aza kuxelela umfazi wakhe indlela anomsindo ngayo, wasuka wabona into eyothusayo xa ajonga phantsi ezinyaweni zakhe. Iinyawo zakhe zazikhangeleka zikude kakhulu kunentloko yakhe. Ngoko nangoko, wayiqonda mhlophe into eyenzekileyo – ngobo busuku bude wayolula, wayitsala kakhulu gqitha intamo yakhe.



Wayishukumisa intloko yakhe. Wangqisha, kodwa kuyo yonke into awayeyenza, intamo yakhe yahlala inde injalo. Kwakungekho nanye into anokuyenza ukuze kutshintshe loo meko. Umfazi wakhe yena? Tyhini, naye wayenale ntamo inde! Naye wazama ukushukumisa intloko yakhe engqisha, kodwa zange kuncede oko. Wayeyolule yatsaleka intamo yakhe ngokuyaa ebefuna ukubona ukuba ingaba umyeni wakhe usahleli emaqandeni kusini na!

Nako ke okwenzekayo ukuze uMnumzana noNkosikazi Nciniba babeneentamo ezinde! Yiyo loo nto ukususela ngobo busuku kude kube namhlanje zonke iinciniba ozibonayo zineentamo ezinde nazo.

