

It starts with a story...

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.

Lapho bengafuni ukufunda ...

Siyazi ukuthi uma izingane zethu zifunda kakhulu, ziya zithuthuka ekufundeni futhi ziya ngokuthokozela ukufunda. Ngakho, sihlizeka ngezincwadi eziningi ezihlaba umxhwele zokwenza ukuthi izingane zifunde kusukela zincane, nawe zifundele njalo bese uzikhuthaza futhi njalo uma zifunda noma zibuka izincwadi.

Kodwa ungenzenjani uma usukwenzile konke lokhu kodwa ingane yakho noma ikwazi ukufunda, ikhetha ukungafundi? "Uyenza" kanjani ukuthi ikwazi ukufunda futhi, noma ukuthi ifunde okokuqala? Nazi ziphakamiso ezimbilwa – ezinye zazo zivela ezinganeni ezake zayeka okwesikhashana ukufundela ukuzithokozisa zaphinde zaqhubeka futhi!

- ★ Kunzima ukufunda kwezinye izingane, ngakho-ke mancane amathuba okuthi zikhetha ukufundela ukuzithokozisa. Ukuzisiza ukuthi zithole ukuzithokozisa esingakuthola ekufundeni, zama ukuthola okungase kufundwe okungezihloko ocabanga ukuthi zingazihlaba umxhwele. Izincwadi namaphephabhuku okunezithombe eziningi kunamagama, esikhathini esiningi kungenza ukufunda kungabi sengathi umsebenzi. Fundani ndawonye ngesikhathi ingane yakho esakuthanda ngaso ukufunda – bese uyiyeka lapho incwadi noma iphephabhuku ukuze ingane izikhethale ukuthi ikubuke lokho ekuhambeni kwesikhathi.
- ★ Ukufundela izingane kakhulu njalo nje – noma ngabe zingakanani – kwenza izincwadi nokufunda kube yingxenywe yempilo yazo yansuku zonke. Yindlela ekhale yokuchitha isikhathi sokuphumula ndawonye futhi kuvumela izingane zakho ukuthi zizizwele izindaba ngaphandle kokuzifundela zona. Ukugculiseka ezikuthola esikhathini esichithwe ndawonye kwabelwana ngezindaba, kuvamise ukuthi kwanele ukuthi zingaba abafundi zona uqobo.
- ★ Ukucefezela umuntu akuzange kwasebenza! Ukungazizwa kahle ngokungafundi akukaze kukhuthaze izingane ukuthi zifunde – kunalokho, kuzenza ukuthi zikuzonde ukufunda. Ngcono-ke wenze ukuba izingane zakho zikubone ukhetha ukufunda ngesikhathi sakho sokuthatha ikhethu bese ubeka okungafundwa okuhlaba umxhwele ezindaweni lapho ezizokuthola khona ekhaya lakho!
- ★ Vakashela umtapo wezincwadi noma isitolo sezincwadi bese uyekela izingane zakho ukuthi zikhetha izincwadi ezifuna ukuzifunda. Ukufunda okuthile kungcono kunokungafundi nhlobo, ngakho ungakhathazeki uma izincwadi ezifundwa izingane zakho zibukeka zilula kakhulu kuzo, noma uma zingezihloko ongacabangi ukuthi zibalulekile. Ukuhlonipha lokho ezikhetha ukufunda kusiza ukuthi zikhule njengabafundi.



For more information on reading with your children, visit our "How to guides" on www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi.

Ukuze uthole eminye iminingwane mayelana nokufunda nezingane zakho, vakashela ku-"How to guides" ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi.



Drive your imagination

Story Power.
Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.
Noma kuphi. Noma nini. Noma nobani.

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!



Abavelele ezindabeni

Ukuxoxa ngezindaba

Sikwethulela amaxusa oMkhankaso weFUNda Leader abanentshisekelo ngamandla ezindaba kanye nokufunda!

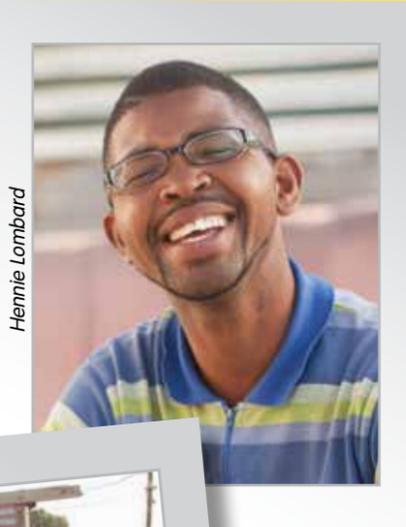
Mzwandile Lugogo, founder of Imbewu Yobomi

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, umsunguli we-Imbewu Yobomi

Ngizibiza njengongoti waselokishini – umuntu owazi konke ngomphakathi. Ngiyazi ngezinto abantu abasha ababhekana nazo. E-Imbewu Yobomi, sixoxa izindaba, siyafunda, siyabhala, senza imidlalo yeshashalazi, sidlala nezigubhu – futhi senza nokudlinza ngokuthile buthule (*meditation*)!

Ukuxoxa izindaba kokhela amakhono ami okulalela futhi kwangenza ngazethemba. Ngenxa yokuxoxa izindaba, sengibe umuntu ocabanga ngobuciko, futhi ngikhuluma nakakhulu kanti ngiyakwazi nokumelana nezimo ezahlukene futhi.

Kumele sibe ngamaFUNda Leader ukuze sithuthukise imfundo eyisisekelo eNingizimu Afrika. Ingane ikhuliswa umphakathi futhi sonke singenza umehluko. Singaphendula lesi sizwe sibe ngabanxanele incwadi!

UMzwandile 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, osebenza ngokuzinikela emtatsheni wezincwadi

Ngaqala lapha emtatsheni wezincwadi ngoba babefuna umuntu ozoxoxa izindaba nozodlala nezingane. Ngangingaqeqeshiwe, kodwa ngakwazi ukuqhuba izinhlelo zokusabalalisa usizo zomtapo wezincwadi. Ngaba yivolontiyi iminyaka eyishumi. Kwangishintsha kakhulu njengomama futhi kwangisiza ukuthi ngifunde ukuthi ngingayisiza kanjani indodakazi yami ekhaya. Ukufunda kusiza izingane ukuthi zikhule futhi kuzisiza ukuthi zibone ukuthi yini ezingayithola. Sengikhulakuhlile manje, kodwa ngisakuthanda ukufunda!

UZoliswa 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, umlingisi

Njengomlingisi, izindaba kanye nokuzenza zibe nomuzwa othile kuyinto engiyithanda kakhulu. Selokho kwathi nhlo ngikhumbula ngifunda izindaba futhi ngixoxelwa izindaba ngabazali bami. Ezinganeni zami, ukuxoxa izindaba nokufunda kwakuyingxenye enkulu yempilo yazo yobungane.

Indodakazi yami yayisesikoleni lapho uthishanhloko wayeqinisekisa khona ukuthi wonke umuntu wayefunda kulesiya sikole imizuzu eyishumi ngosuku – wonke umuntu, kusukela ezinganeni ukuya kothisha ukuya kwabasebenza emagcekeni, babefunda nsuku zonke. Ngisazinikela esikoleni sami samazinga aphezulu sakudala, ngisiza izingane ngezincwadi zakumatikuletsheni noma nganoma yini engingasiza ngayo. Kulula kanjalo empeleni – ukusiza izingane nje ukuthi zifunde nakakhulu!

UDenise 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, umdwebi wopopayi nokuhlekisayo

Ngingumdwebi wezithombe zopopayi kanye nezinto ezihlekisayo ngakho ngidweba izithombe ezihlekisayo ukuze ngiziphilise. Ngidwebela noNal'ibali okuthile. Ngaba nenhlanhla kakhulu – abazali bami bangenza ngafunda kakhulu kangangoba ngaze ngafuna ukuqala ukuzenzela izincwadi zami. Ngangifuna ukudwebela izincwadi zami futhi, ngaqala kanjalo-ke.

Esinye seziphos ezinkulu ongazinikeza ingane uthando lokufunda kanye nokufunda okuthile. Ukuxoxa izindaba kanye nezincwadi kuyisinyathelo esihle kakhulu sokwenza ukuthi izingane zicabange ngezinto ezinkulu. Ukusebenzela izingane kanye nokwazi ukufunda kuyithuba lokunikela ngokuthile.

URico Schacherl

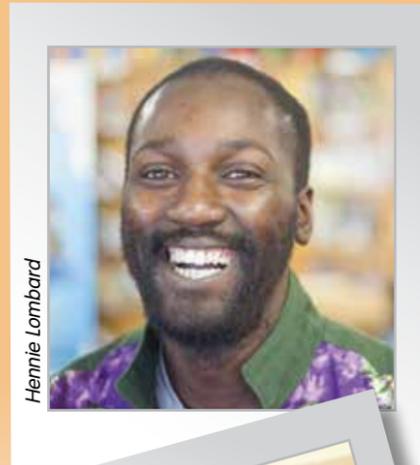
Bulelani Futshane, founder of Township Roots

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, umsunguli weTownship Roots

ETownship Roots asigxilanga kuphela ekuthuthukiseni amazanga okwazi ukufunda nokubhala emiphakathini empofu, kodwa nasekusizeni abantu abasha ukuthi babone impilo nangaleyana kwemiphakathi empofu abazithola bekuyo.

Angizange empeleni ngibe nethuba lokuthi ngifundelwe lapho ngiseyingane, kodwa ngangikuthanda ukulalela izinganekwane futhi ngangizithokozela kakhulu. Zangisiza ukuthi ngisabalalise indlela engicabanga ngayo, nengizakhela ngayo izithombe zomqondo. Izindaba zikamama wami zazingithathisa uhambo, uyazi? Ngesinye isikhathi lwalwethusa kanti ngesinye isikhathi lwalunomlingo.

Ngenxa yezindaba bengikwazi ukubona impilo engale kwendawo ebengizithola ngikuyo. Ngenxa yezindaba bengikwazi ukufunda nokunye ngamanye amasiko kanye nokuqonda ukubaluleka kwemvelo. Ngesikhathi ngikhula ngiba mdala, ngaqala ukubona umthelela wokuxoxa izindaba emakhonweni ami olimi nokuthi kwalandisa kanjani inani lamagama engiwaziyo. Izindaba zangisiza ukuthi ngikwazi ukusho lokho engifisa ukukusho ngolimi lwami lwasekhaya kanti ngangifuna ukuba umuntu okhuluma isiNgisi ongcono futhi. Futhi ngabe sengizibandakanya nezingxoxompikiswano – kanti konke kwaqala ngokulalela izindaba.

UBulelani 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.



USEMSAKAZWENI UNAL'IBALI!

Lalela kulezi ziteshi zomsakazo ukuze uthokozele ukulalela izindaba ohlelweni lomsakazo lakwaNal'ibali!

Ku-Ikwekwezi FM ngoMsombuluko, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-9.45 ekuseni

KuLesedi FM ngoMsombuluko, ngoLwesibili nangoLwesine ngo-9.45 ekuseni

KuLigwalagwala FM ngoMsombuluko ukuya kuLwesithathu ngo-9.10 ekuseni

KuMunghana Lonene FM ngoMsombuluko, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-9.35 ekuseni

KuPhalaphala FM ngoMsombuluko ukuya kuLwesithathu ngo-11.15 ekuseni

KuRSG ngoMsombuluko ukuya ngoLwesithathu ngo-9.10 ekuseni

KuSAfm ngoMsombuluko, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-1.50 ntambama

KuThobela FM ngoLwesibili nangoLwesine ngo-2.50 ntambama, ngoMgqibelo ngo-9.20 ekuseni nangeSonto ngo-7.50 ekuseni

KuUkhozi FM ngoLwesithathu ngo-9.20 ekuseni nangoMgqibelo ngo-8.50 ekuseni

KuUmhlobo Wenene FM ngoMsombuluko ukuya kuLwesithathu ngo-9.30 ekuseni

KuX-K FM ngoMsombuluko, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu ngo-9.00 ekuseni





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 indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

Nanka amacebo okusebenzisa izincwadi ozisika uzikhiphe bese uzigcina, *UNhloyile*, (ikhasi lesi-5, lesi-6, le-11 nele-12), kanye nethi *Imbuzi kaLazola elahlekile* (ikhasi lesi-7, lesi-8, lesi-9 nele-10), kanye nendaba yeKhona Lezindaba ethi *Yayithola kanjani intshe intamo ende* (ikhasi le-15). Khetha imiqondo ehambisana kangcono neminyaka kanye nalokho okuthandwa yizingane zakho.

UNhloyile

UMbali uthokoziswe kakhulu ukulahlekelwa yizinyo lakhe lokuqala ngoba uyazi ukuthi lokhu kuchaza ukuthi uzovakashelwa unhloyile, uferi wamazinyo! Kodwa konakala izinto ngesikhathi udadewabo kaMbali eseba nomona ngenani lemali unhloyile ayishiyela izinyo likaMbali. Izingane ezineminyaka eyisi-6 noma ngaphezulu yizo ezingayithokozela le ndaba emayelana nokuba qotho. Nezingane ezincane, kungenzeka uthande ukuzikhombisa izithombe ngesikhathi uyixoxa kabusha indaba ngendlela elula nje ngamazwi akho.

★ Ngemva kokufunda indaba kakhulu, zama ukuxoxa ngeminye yale mibuzo nezingane zakho.

- ☉ Ucabanga ukuthi kungani uZoleka entshontshe olunye uhlamvu lwama-R5?
- ☉ UMbali wayethokoze kakhulu ngezinhlamvu ezimbili zama-R5, ngakho-ke ngabe ucabanga ukuthi kunendaba ukuthi uZoleka uthathe uhlamvu lwesithathu?
- ☉ Ngabe zikhona ezinye izinto ezenziwe uZoleka ocabanga ukuthi bezingafanele?
- ☉ Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi beyifanele indlela ajeziswe ngayo uZoleka?
- ☉ Ngabe zikhona ezinye izindaba ozifundile noma ozizwile lapho bekunomlingiswa obengeqotho? Kwenzekeni kulezo zindaba?

★ Akukho izithombe zikanhloyile kule ndaba! Khuthaza izingane zakho ukuthi zidwebe izithombe ezizohambisana nesigaba esisekhasini lesi-7 lapho unhloyile evakashela khona igumbi lokulala lamantombazane.

Imbuzi kaLazola elahlekile

ULazola uyayithanda imbuzi yakhe, uSpotty, kakhulu, kodwa nango-ke eselahleka uSpotty. ULazola umfuna yonke indawo, kodwa akamitholi.

★ Bhokani nindawonye isithombe esisekhasini le-15 lencwadi yezindaba futhi. Ngabe ningazithola lezi zindawo: ikhaya likaLazola, umuzi kaMama uMary, isitolo, isihlahla lapho uLazola abona khona intombazane ekuzwingi kanye nendawo eseduze nomfula lapho owesifazane ayetheza khona?

★ Khuthaza izingane zakho ukuthi zizenzele izindaba zazo ezimayelana nezilwane ezingumngani noma zasepulazini ezilahlekile. Yenza isiphakamiso sokuthi zibhale phansi izindaba zazo – noma wena uzibhalele phansi izindaba zazo.

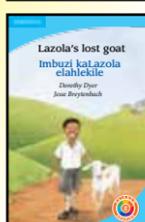
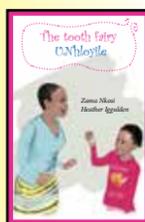
Yayithola kanjani intshe intamo ende

Ngabe bewazi ukuthi kudala, endulo izintshe zazinezintamo ezimfushane? Lokho okwenzeka ngobunye ubusuku ngenkathi uNkosikazi uNtsho wayezikhiphile eyodansa kanti uMnumzane uNtsho yena wayegade amaqanda abo, kwashintsha izimpilo zabo unomphela.

- ★ Vumela izingane zakho ukuthi zisebenzise ubumba noma iPlasticine, izinduku kanye nezimpaphe noma amahlamvu, ukuze zakhe izintshe zazo.
- ★ Xoxani nonke ngendlela enicabanga ukuthi uNkosikazi uNtsho wayebukeka ngayo ngesikhathi edansa bese nidansela iculo enilithandayo kanjalo!
- ★ Mema izingane zakho ukuthi zidwebe isithombe sengxenye eyiyithandayo yendaba. Bese wenza isiphakamiso sokuthi zikopishe amagama asendabeni ahambisana nezithombe zazo.

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.



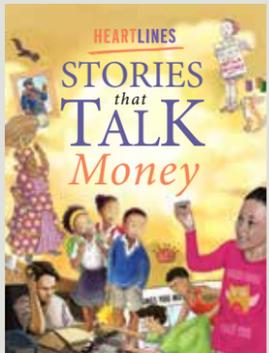
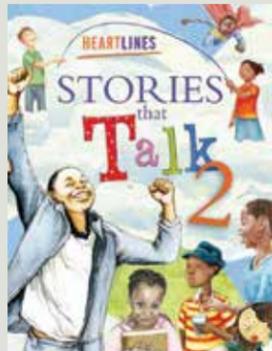
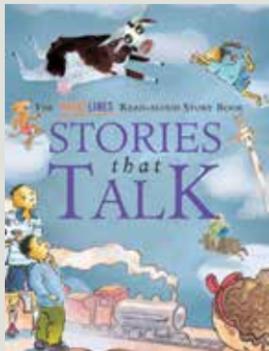
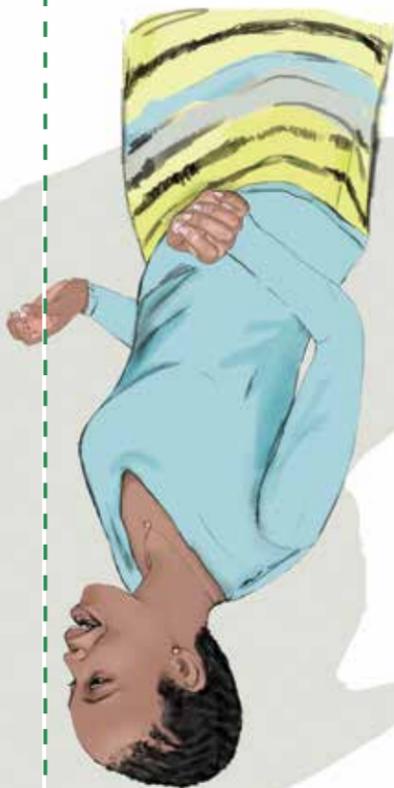
Zenzele ezakho izincwadi EZIMBILI ozozisika uzikhiphe bese uzigcina

1. Khipha ikhasi lesi-5 ukuya kwele-12 alesi sihhasiselo.
2. Iphepha elinamakhasi 5, 6, 11 kanye nele-12 lenza incwadi eyodwa. Iphepha elinamakhasi 7, 8, 9 kanye nele-10 lenza enye incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa iphepha ngalinye ukuze wenze incwadi. Landela imiyalelo engezansi ukuze wenze incwadi ngayinye.
 - a) Songa iphepha libe nguhhafu ngokulandela umugqa wamachashazi amnyama.
 - b) Lisonge libe nguhhafu futhi ulandele umugqa oluhlaza okotshani.
 - c) Sika ulandele umugqa wamachashazi abomvu.

bukani ukuthi unginkeni unhloyile? kumemeza yena. “Kwaze kwakuhle lokho, ntombazane yami. Ngabe uqinisekile ukuthi azikho ezinye izinhlanvu zemali azishiyile?” kubuza uMama. “Ngqinisekile, Mama, Ngibhekile. Zimngi ezimbili! Ngabula kakhulu,” kusho uMbali. UMama akabukekanga gbulile kanti uZoleka yena wayethule du. UMama wabuka uMbali ngesikhathi efaka imali esikogokogweni sakhe. “Ngabe uqinisekile ukuthi awutumi ukuthenga lutho, Mbali?” kubuza uMama. “Cha, Mama, ngizoyonga imali ukuze ngizithengele izicathulo zokudlala ibhola likanobhutshuzwayo uma sengiya esikoleni,” kusho uMbali ngeqholo.



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. Ekuseni, uMbali wavuka enesasasa wase ebheka ngaphansi komqamelo wakhe. Wabona izinhlanvu ezimbili zemali engamrandi amahlanu ezikhazimulayo. “Zoleka, Mama, zoloka, 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.



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

HEARTLINES
The Centre for Values Promotion

Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children’s potential through storytelling and reading. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi

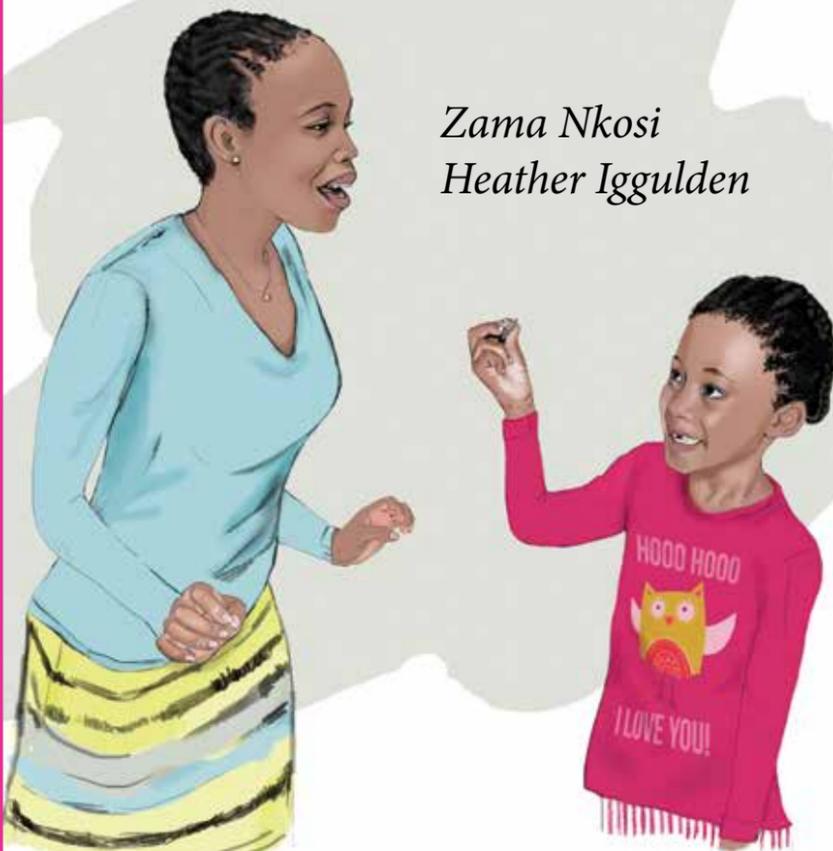


UNal’ibali umkhankaso wokufundela ukuzithokozisa kazwelonke wokokhela lokho okungenziwa izingane ngokuxoxa nokufunda izindaba. Ukuze uthole eminye imininingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi



The tooth fairy UNhloyile

Zama Nkosi
Heather Iggulden



UZoleka wayethule kakhulu, engakhulumi okutheni, okwakhuyinto eyayingafani neze naye. “Ngabe konke kuhamba kahle, Zoleka?” kubuza uMama. “Yebo,” kuzwakala izwi elisholo phansi. “Kulungile-ke, nilale kahle mantombazane,” kusho uMama. “Nilale ningavuki ukuze unhloyile akwazi ukwenza umsebenzi wakhe.”

Ngenkathi amantombazane esale, unhloyile wanyonyoba wangena egumbini lokulala, wathatha izinyo ngokuthula, wafaka imadlana ngaphansi komqamelo, wase enyamalala nobusuku.

UZoleka wavuka ngesikhathi linyakaza. Wanyonyoba waya embhedeni kaMbali. Buthule, waphakamisa icala elilodwa lomqamelo kaMbali buthule. Kwakungekho lutho.

Wanyonyoba waya ngakwelinye icala lombhede. Waphakamisa elinye icala lomqamelo ngokucophelela. Wabona ukuthi kwakungekho lona uhlamvu olilodwa nje, kungezona ezimbili, kodwa kwakuyizinhlamvu ezintathu ezinkulu, ezikhazimulayo zamarandi amahlanu. Yena wayenikwe ngumhloyile izinhlamvu zemahle engamarandi amahlanu ezimbili.

UZoleka wazizwa enomona. Babungekho ubulungiswa lapho. Kodwa uma wayethatha uhlamvu olilodwa lwaleyo mali, akelkho umuntu owayezokwazi ngalokho. Ngakho-ke, ngaphambi kokuthi abuye acabange ngalokho, wathatha olunye lwezinhlamvu wase ebuyela embhedeni wakhe. Walutumbatha waqinisa uhlamvu lwemali esandleni sakhe ngesikhathi ezama ukuphinde alale.

“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.

“Leli yizinyo elixega ngempela,” kusho uMbali ngenkathi enyakazisa izinyo. “Impela!”

“Nawe uyazi ukuthi kusho ukuthini lokho, angithi?” kusho udadewabo omdala, uZoleka.

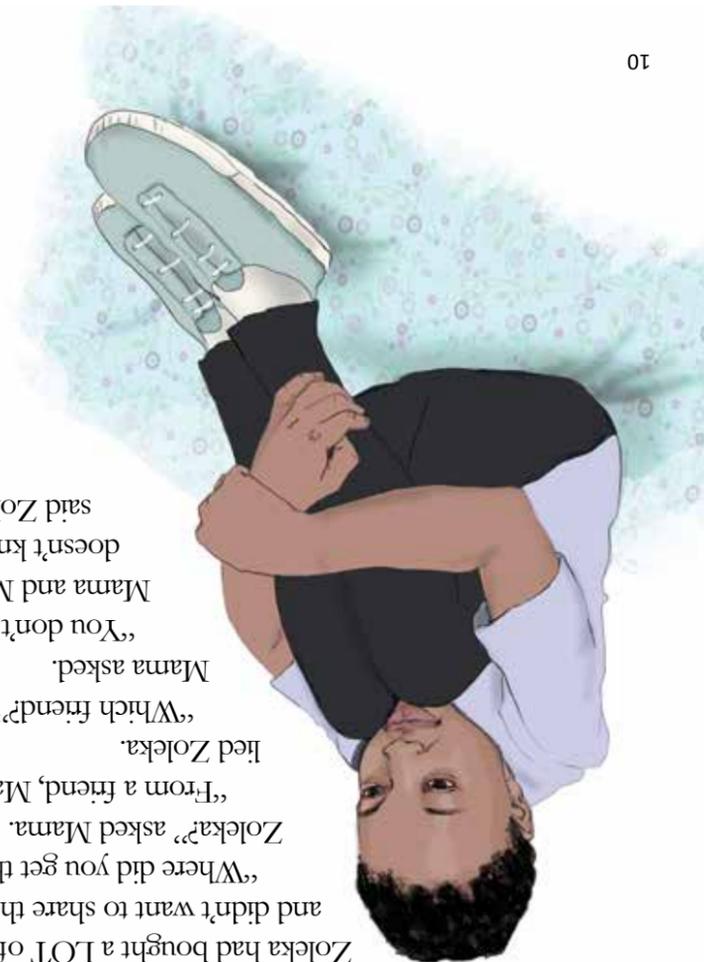
“Unhloyile!” kumamatheka uMbali.

UMbali wayezwe kakhulu ngonhloyile, uferi wamazinyo, lapho uZoleka elahlekelwe izinyo lakhe esikhathini okungekudala sedlule. UMbali wayazi ukuthi uma ufihla izinyo lakho ngaphansi komcamelo wakho, unhloyile uzofika ebusuku, athathe izinyo lakho, bese ekushiyela imadlana.

Ezinsukwini ezimbili ezalandela lezo, ukuphela kwento uMbali ayecabanga ngayo kwakuyizinyo lakhe. Wayelithinta ngolimi lwakhe njalo uma ethola ithuba. Wayelinyakazisa ngeminwe lapho kungekho muntu obhekile. Wayelidonsa aphinde alidonse, kodwa lalingaphumi.

“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. 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, Mama and Mbali also doesn’t know her,’ said Zoleka.



UZoleka wacabanga ngesikhathi sonke ayesichithile onga imali. Njalo lapho eholelwa ngokuhlaza igceke likaMama uNgoma, wayefaka imali yakhe esikoqokoqweni sakhe. Lapho kuphuma amazinyo akhe, nonhloyile emnika imali, wayeyifaka esikoqokoqweni sakhe. Ngenkathi uGogo ebavakashela ngoKhisimusi odlule wase ebanika imali yangempela eyiphepha, naleyo mali wayifaka esikoqokoqweni sakhe. Ngemva kokusebenza kanzima kangaka, wayesezolahlekelwa yikho konke.

“Yebo, Mama,” kusho uZoleka kalusizi. “Ngiyaxolisa, Mama.

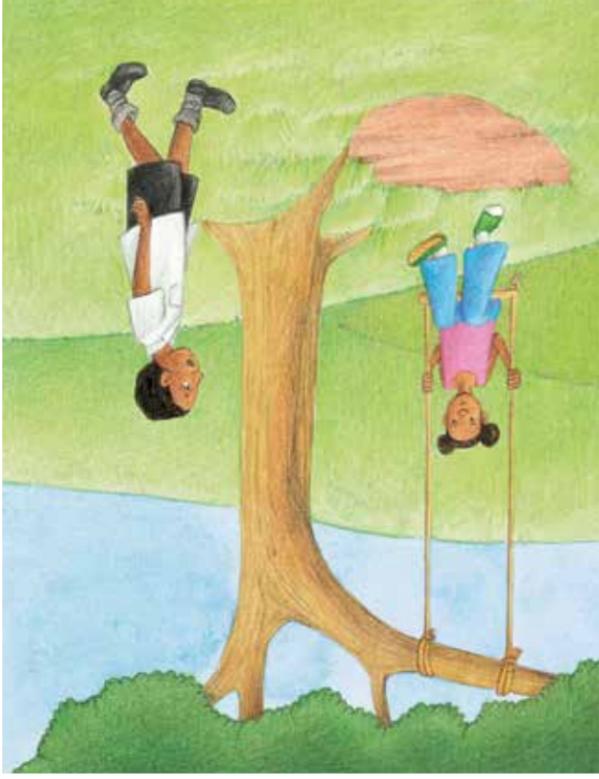
Ngiyaxolisa, Mbali. Angeke ngiphinde ngiyenze leyo nto.”

“Kulungile, Zoleka. Ngiyakuthanda, futhi ngizokusiza ukuthi usebenze kanzima ukuze uthole imali ozoyifaka esikoqokoqweni futhi,” kusho uMbali.

Bawolana odade, kanti kwamthokozisa kakhulu uMama ukuthi uZoleka ufunde isifundo sakhe nokuthi uMbali umxolele.

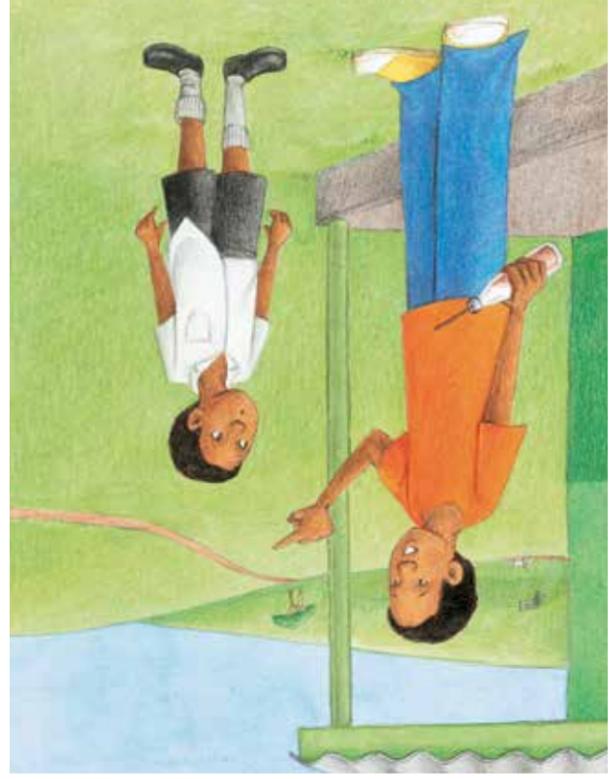


“Ngabe uke wayibona imbuzi yami?”
ebuza intombazane ekuzwini.



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

“Ngiyibone yehla ngomgwapo iya
emasimini,” kusho umfana.



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

CAMBRIDGE

Lazola's lost goat is from the Rainbow Reading series by Cambridge University Press. Rainbow Reading is a graded series for primary schools. It provides a wealth of original stories and factual texts, which will help learners to develop the reading skills and vocabulary they need to meet the requirements of the curriculum – in all learning areas. Rainbow Reading consists of 350 titles which are grouped by level and theme. For further information, visit www.cup.co.za



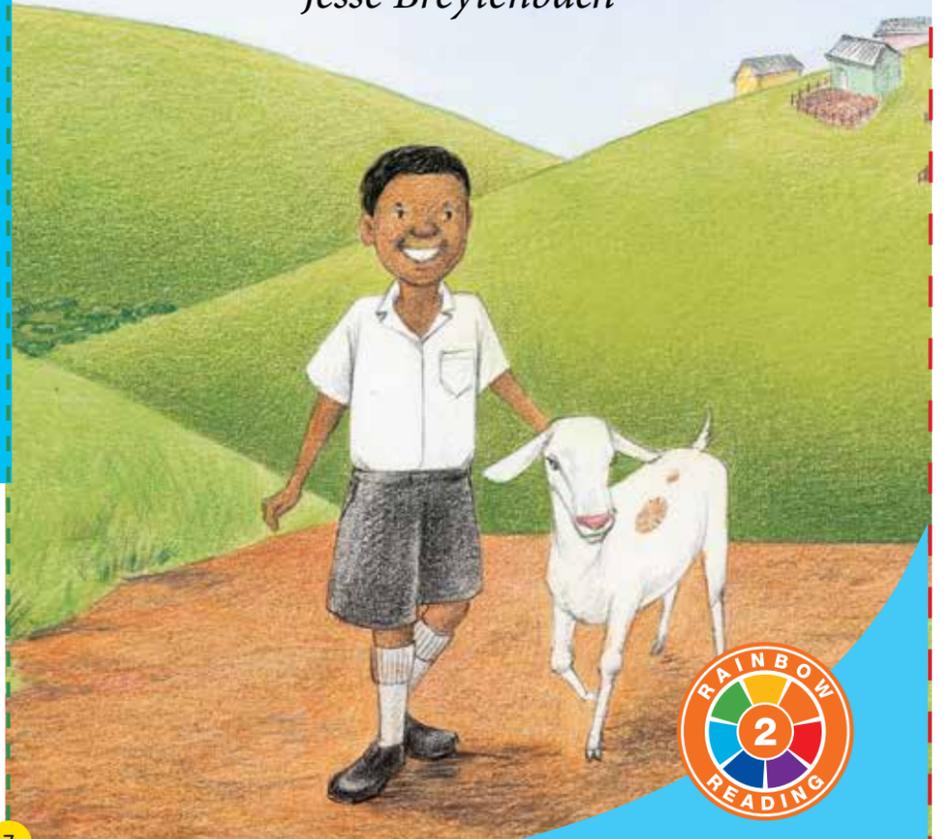
Cambridge University Press
P O Box 50017, V&A Waterfront, 8002
Tel 021-4127800 | Fax 021 4198418
Email info@cup.co.za

 **CAMBRIDGE**
UNIVERSITY PRESS
www.cup.co.za

Lazola's lost goat

Imbuzi kaLazola elahlekile

Dorothy Dyer
Jesse Breytenbach



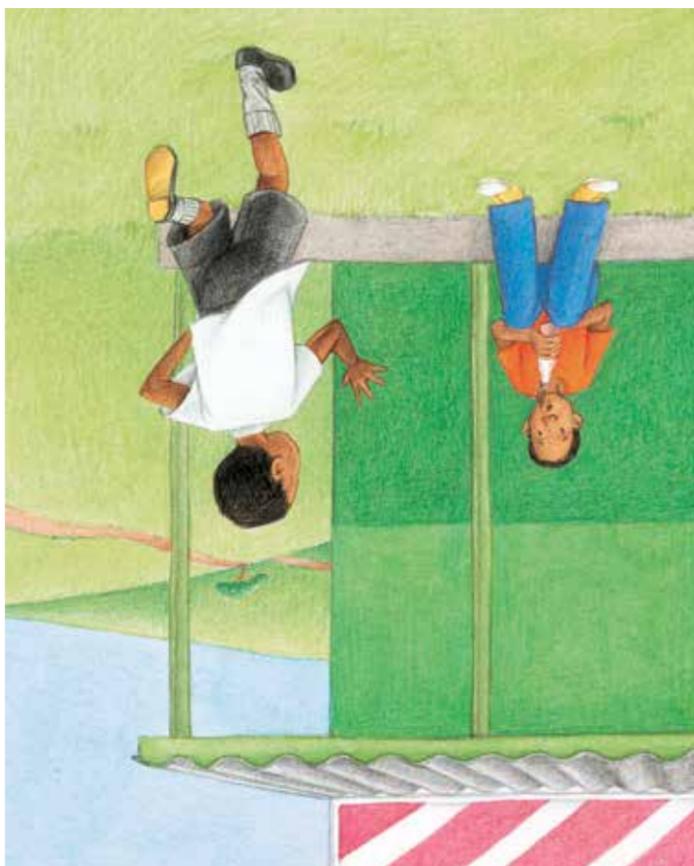
Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children's potential through storytelling and reading. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi



UNal'ibali umkhankaso wokufundela ukuzithokozisa kazwelonke wokokhela lokho okungenziwa izingane ngokuxoxa nokufunda izindaba. Ukuze uthole eminye imininingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi

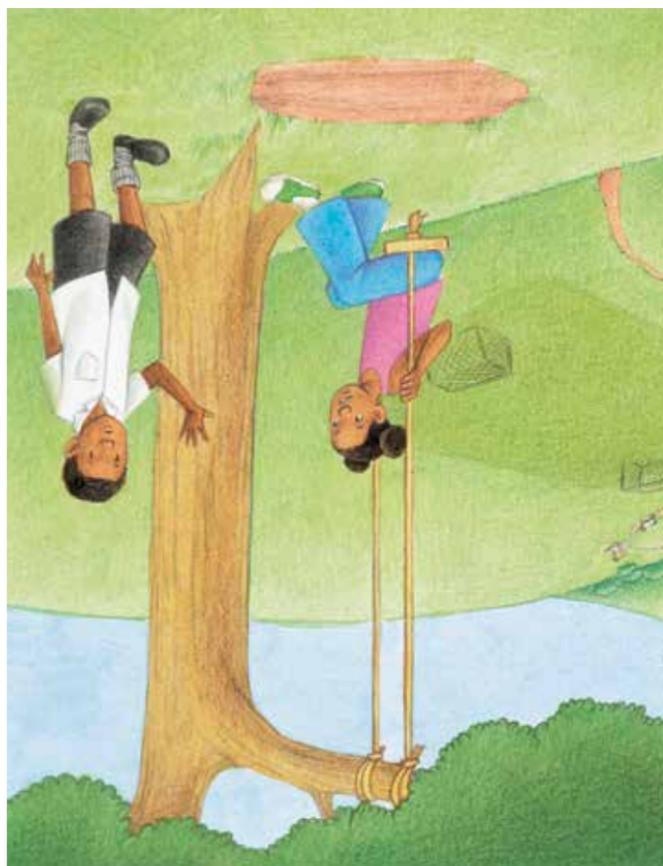


“Ngabe uyibonile imbuzi yami?” ebuzela umfana owayengaphandle kwesitolo.



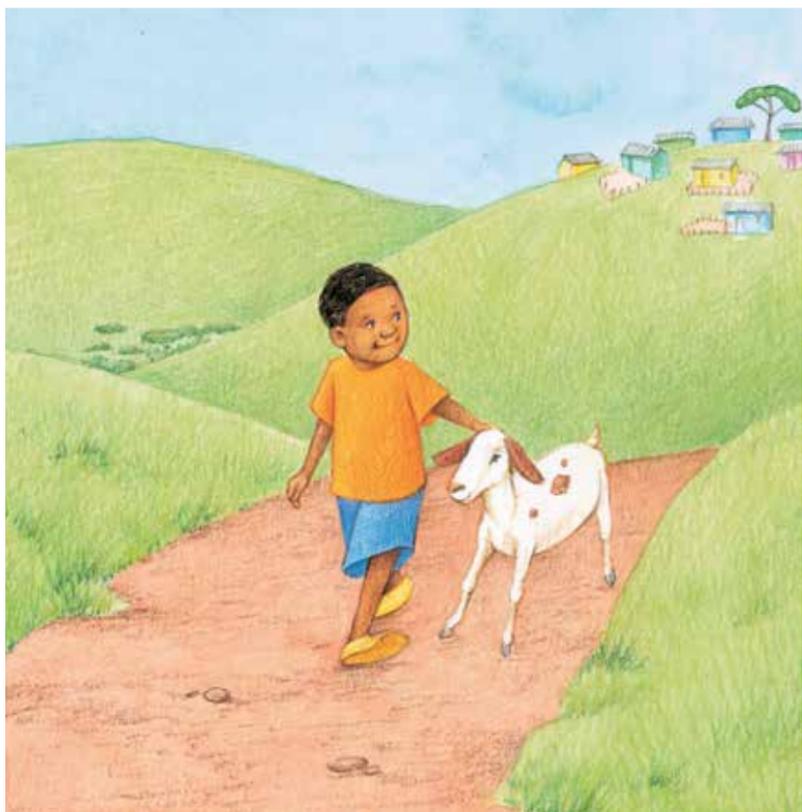
“Have you seen my goat?” he asked a boy outside the shop.

“Ngiyibone yehla iya ngasemfuleni, kusho intombazane.

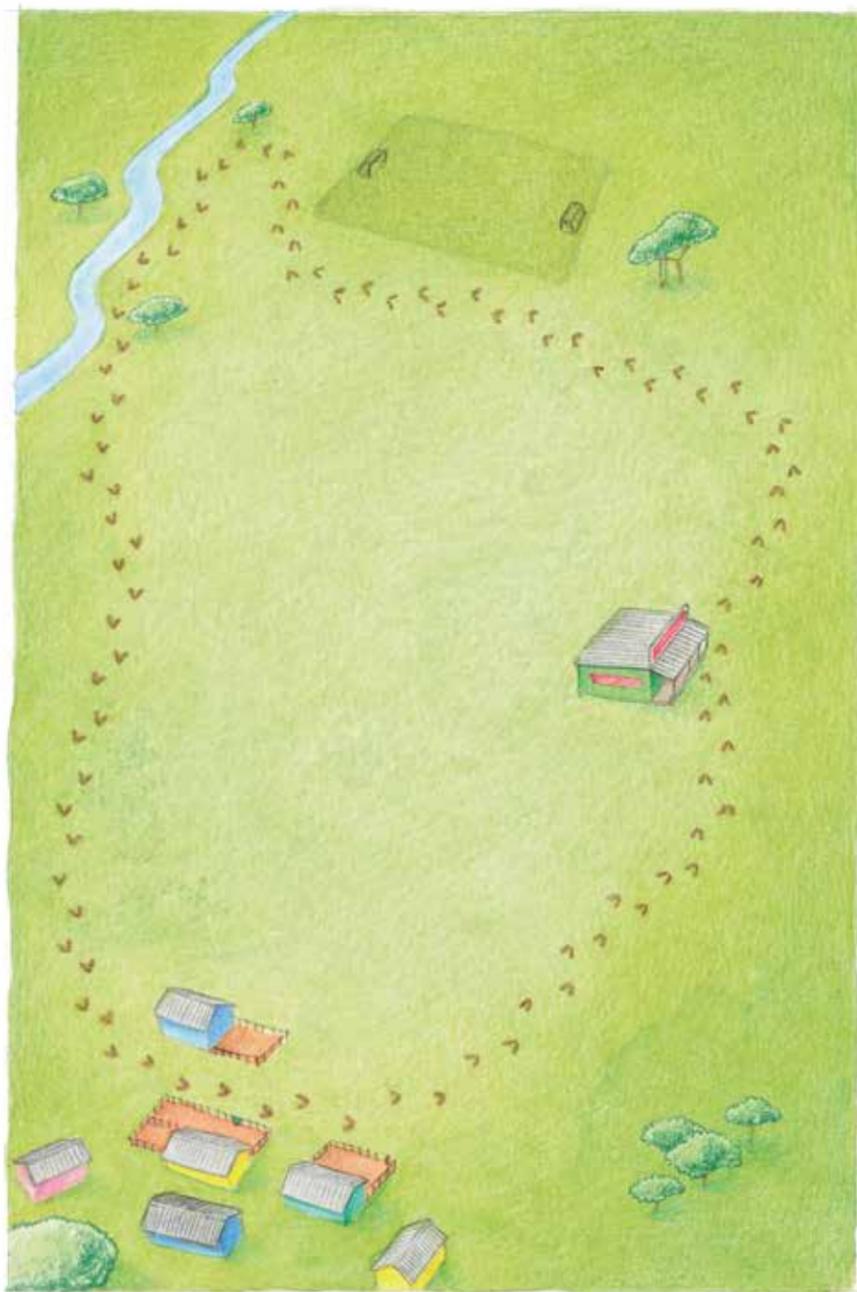


“I saw her run down to the river,” said the girl.

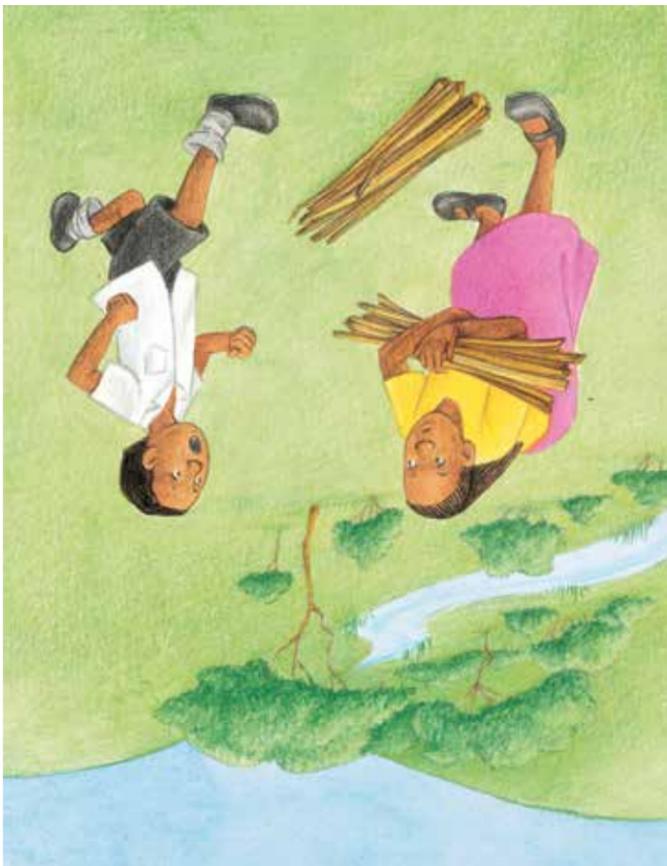
This is Lazola and his goat, Spotty. Lazola loved Spotty.



NguLazola lo kanye nembuzi yakhe, uSpotty. ULazola wayemthanda uSpotty.

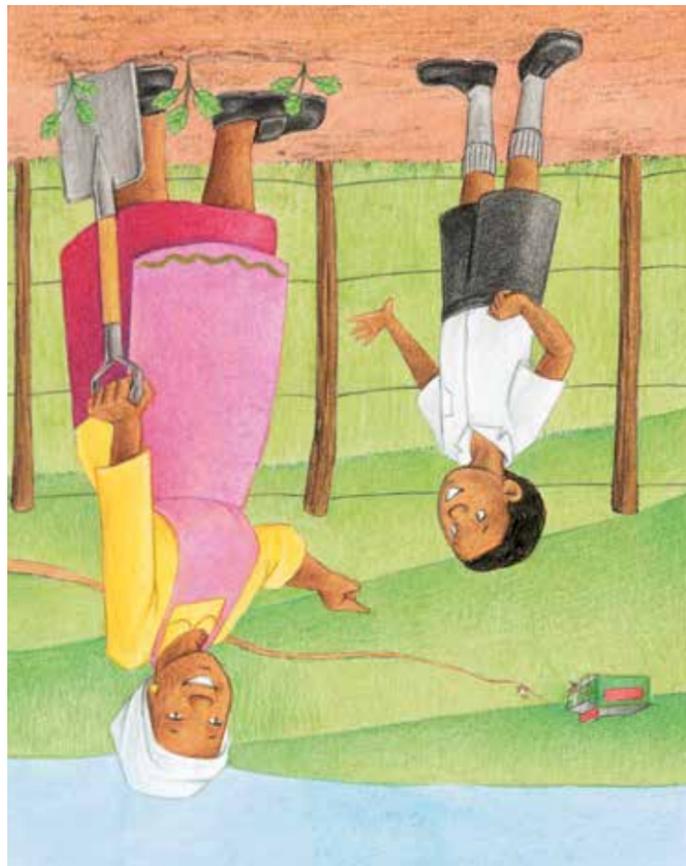


“Ngabe uke wayibona imbuzi yami?” wabuza owesifazane owayetheza izinkuni eduze nomfula.



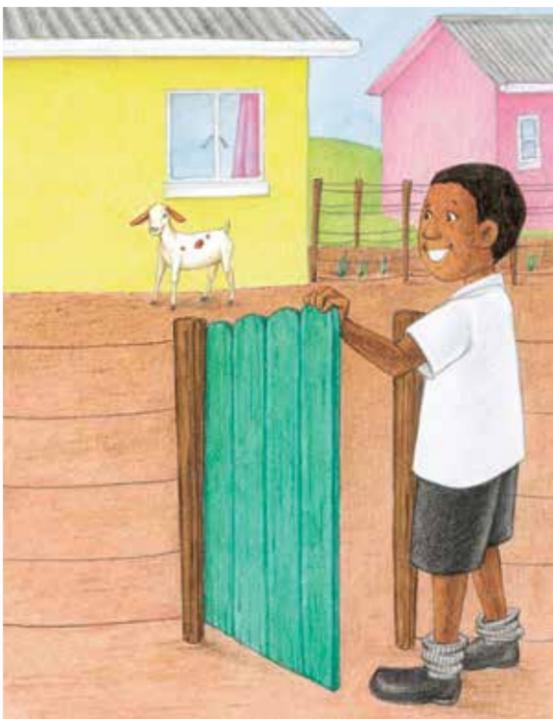
“Have you seen my goat?” he asked a woman collecting wood near the river.

“Ngiyibone yehla ngomgwapo,” kusho uMama uMary.



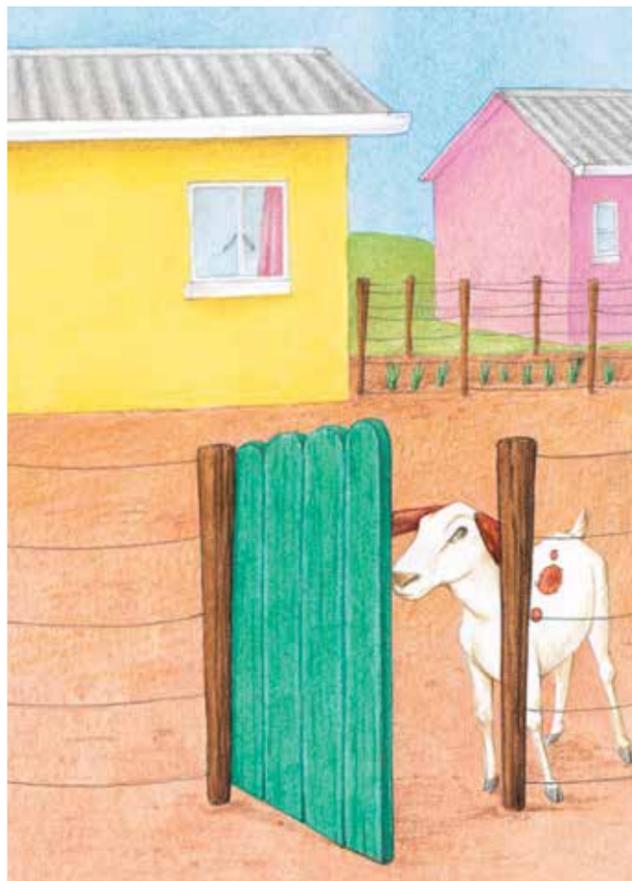
“I saw her walk down the road,” said Ma Mary.

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



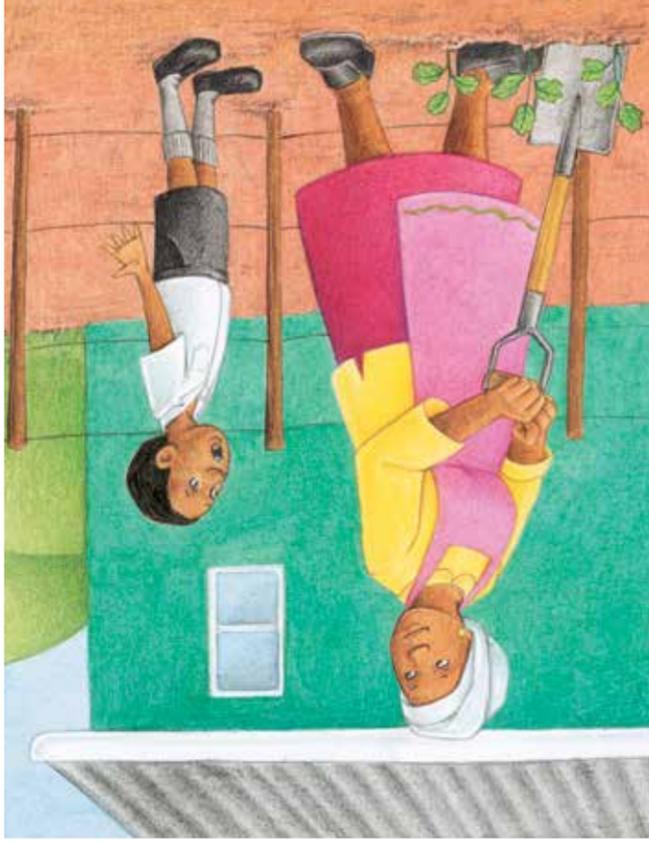
Uma efika ekhaya, wabona bani?
“Spotty!”

One day Spotty ran away.



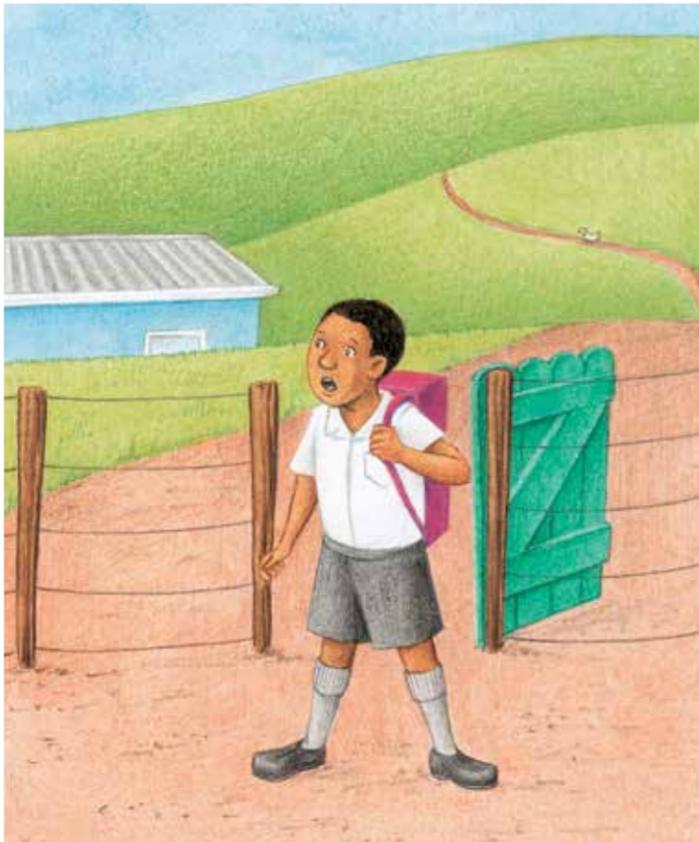
Ngelinye ilanga uSpotty wabaleka ekhaya.

“Ngabe uke wayibona imbuzi yami?” kubuza yena kuMama uMary.



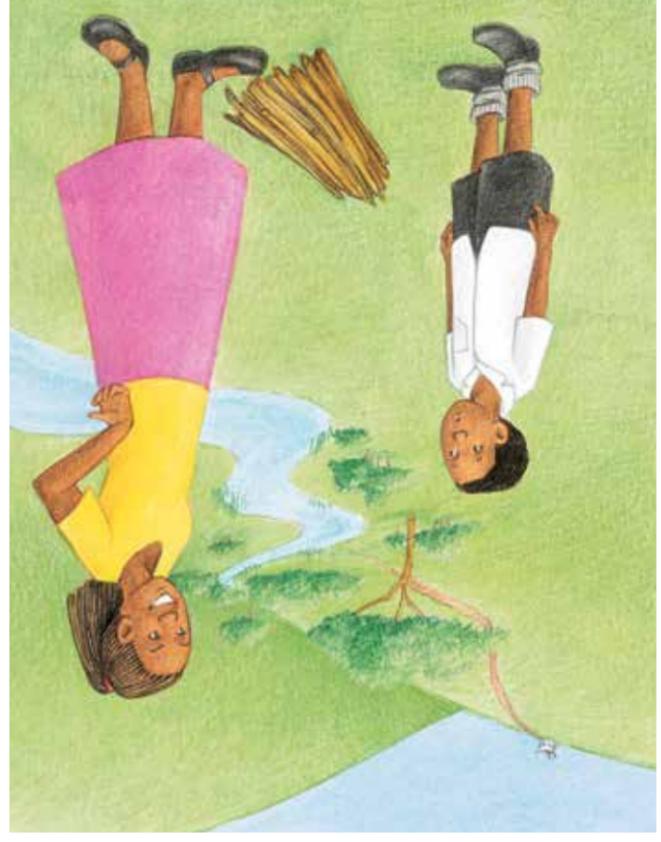
“Have you seen my goat?” he asked Ma Mary.

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



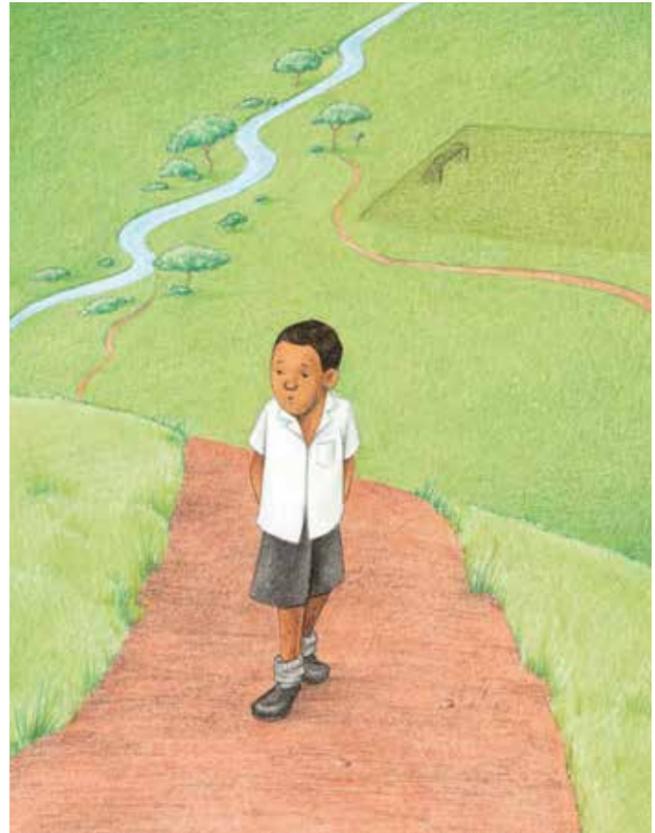
ULazola wayifuna, kodwa akazange ayithole.

“Ngiyibone ikhuphuka iya emzini,” kusho ovesifazane.



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

Lazola walked all the way back to the village.



ULazola wahamba wabuyela emuzini.

Uzoleka wathenga amaswidi amaningi ngalelo
 langa esikoleni. Akavumanga ukwabelana ngawo
 noMbal. “Sebenzisa imali yakho, Mbali. Angifuni
 ukwabelana nawe ngawo,” kusho uZoleka.
 Kazi uyithathephi le mali engaka uZoleka,
 ezibuza uMbal. Kodwa akazange asho lutho ngoba
 udadewabo wayebukeka ethukuthela.
 Ngalobo busuku uMbal watshela uMama
 ngendlela uZoleka ayethenge amaswidi!
 AMANINGI ngayo futhi wayengafuni ukwabelana
 nabanye ngawo.
 “Uwathathephi amaswidi, Zoleka?” kubuza
 uMama.
 “Ngwathathe kumngani wami, Mama,” uZoleka
 egamba amanga.
 “Muphi umngani?” kubuza uMama.
 “Awumazi, Mama kanti noMbal akamazi,”
 kusho 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
 tiptoed over to Mbal’s bed. Quietly, quietly she lifted
 one side of Mbal’s pillow. Nothing.
 She tiptoed 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.”

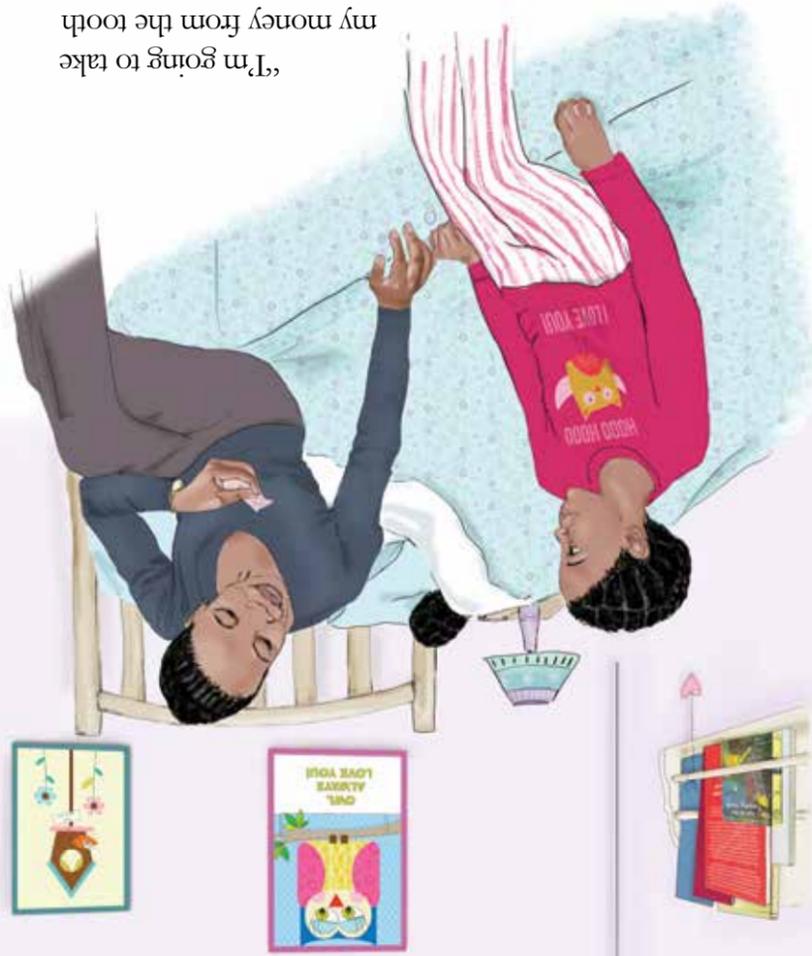
“It’s okay, Zoleka. I love you
 and will help you work hard to get
 money in your piggy bank again,” said Mbali.

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



“Ngizothatha imali yami evela kunhloyile ngiyibekwe esikokogqweni sami, Mama,” uMbali washo ngenkathi unina emfaka embhedeni ngalobo 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.



Kusenjalo eseklasini lezobuciko, lawa izinyo lakhe. Ngemva kokukhombisa uthisha wakhe, uMbali wabuyisela izinyo ngokucophelela ephepheni lokuzesula wase elifaka ephaketheni lakhe, eselindela ukuthi kukhale insimbi.

UMama wavele wazi ukuthi uZoleka ubeqamba amanga.”
“Zoleka, ngizokunikeza elinye ithuba lokugcina lokungitshela ukuthi uwathathephi lawo maswidi,” kusho uMama ngezwi eliqinile.

UZoleka wayazi ukuthi uma izwi likaMama seliqinile kwakukhona okwakusina kumjejeza. Izinyembezi zagcwala amehlo akhe. “Ngithathe imali ngaphansi komqamelo kaMbali, Mama. Ngiyaxolisa!

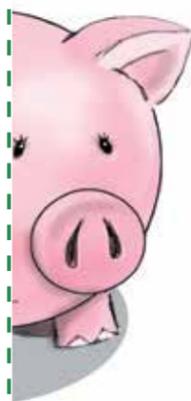
Unhloyile umnike imali engaphezu kweyami. Nami bengifuna ukuzitholela enye yayo,” ekhala.

UMbali wema eceleni, emangazwa yilokho okushiwo udadewabo.

“Zoleka, wenze into embi kakhulu. Leyo mali bekungekaMbali, bekungeyona eyakho. Ubusela lobo, ubusela-ke abukaze baba yinto enhle. Uyakuqonda lokho?” kubuza uMama.

“Yebo, Mama,” kukhala uZoleka. Kwehla izinyembezi ezinkulu, eziyizidudla ezihlathini zakhe.

UMama wasingatha uZoleka. “Ngizothatha yonke imali esesikokoqweni sakho ukuze ngithengele uMbali izicathulo zokudlala ibhola likanobhutshuzwayo. Lokhu kuchaza ukuthi kumele uqale phansi ukonga. Kumele usebenze kanzima kakhulu ukuze ubuyise yonke imali obuyongile. Kwenzeka lokhu uma uthatha imali okungeyona eyakho – ugcina sewulahlekelwe yikho konke,” kusho uMama.



Nal'ibali Othandekayo

Igama lami ngingu-Edith Fezeka Khuzwayo. Ngingumsizi wasemtatsheni wezincwadi emtatsheni wezincwadi waseMurray Park eBelgravia, eGoli. Le ncwadi ngiyibhalela ukunitshela ukuthi uNal'ibali usengisize kanjani ukuthi ngisize izingane zaseJeppetown naseBelgravia.

Eminyakeni emibili edlule ngathola esinye sezithasiselo zenu ephephandabeni. Angikuthandi ukufunda iphephandaba, kodwa njengomsizi wasemtatsheni wezincwadi, njalo ekuseni ngibheka ezinohlonze ephephandabeni ukuze ngazi ukuthi yiziphi izindaba ezisematheni. Kodwa ngalolo suku, ngathola Isithasiselo sakwaNal'ibali ngase ngisifunda! Yilapho engaqala khona ukwazi ngoNal'ibali.

Ngemva kwalokho ngavula iphepha nsukuzonke – hhayi ukuthi ngilifunde, kodwa ukuze ngithole Isithasiselo sakwaNal'ibali. Ngaziqoqa ukuze izingane zibe nezincwadi eziningi zokufunda. Incwadi yokuqala esayifunda yayithi *Ukugunda kukaBhele* nguNola Turkington noJoseph Mugisha. Eyesibili yayithi *INguni elihle* nguMarianne Bester noShayle Bester.

Kwase kufika isikhathi lapho Isithasiselo sakwaNal'ibali sasingasekho ephephandabeni lethu. Sasingazi ukuthi singenza kanjani ukuze sithole ezinye izithasiselo kanti zazisisiza ngezindikimba esasizikhangisa emtatsheni wezincwadi. Ngelinye ilanga kwase kuba khona ozakwethu abakwenye inhlangano abangitshela ukuthi baya emhlanganweni wokucobelelana ngolwazi wakwaNal'ibali. Nganginentshisekelo ekutheni lokhu kuqeqeshwa kungangisiza kanjani ukuthi ngisize izinkulisa kanye nezingane ezisendaweni yethu. Ngenxa yozakwethu, ngaba sethubeni lokuba yingxenye yokuqeqeshwa!

Siyabonga, Nal'ibali! Nisiza izingane ukuthi zenze kahle esikoleni. Izingane zasethimbeni lethu lokufunda iShooting Stars Reading Club esaqala nazo ukusebenzisa Isithasiselo sakwaNal'ibali, zingabafundi abahle manje. Ziza kimi kuHomework Help Desk yethu ngemva kokuphuma kwesikole. Zazikuthola kunzima ukuthi zifundele lokho okwakumele zikufundele umsebenzi wesikole owenzelwa ekhaya, kodwa namhlanje sezizakwazi ukufunda nokuphendula imibuzo. Amaphazili okubheka amagama asesigabeni okuthiwa "okokuzithokozisa kwakwaNal'ibali" ekupheleni kwesithasiselo azisiza ukuthi zakhe amagama. Zithokozela imisebenzi futhi zifunda lukhulu kuyo.

Siyabonga, Nal'ibali – siyakuthanda. Kuningi esingakusho ngawe.

Ozithobayo

U-Edith Fezeka Khuzwayo

Edith Othandekayo

Siyabonga ngenchwadi yakho eyabelana nathi konke okwenzeke empilweni yakho. Kusihlaba umxhwele lokho okwenza emtatsheni wakho wezincwadi kanye nomehluko owenza ezimpilweni zezingane.

Qhubeka njalo nokokhela lokho ezingaba yikho ngokuxoxa izindaba kanye nokufunda!

Ivela ngezilokotho zothando
Ithimba lakwaNal'ibali

Dear Nal'ibali ... Nal'ibali Othandekayo ...

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.

Bhalela uNal'ibali
ku-The Nal'ibali Trust, Suite 17-201,
Building 17, Waverley Business Park,
Wycroft Road, Mowbray, 7700,
noma ku-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

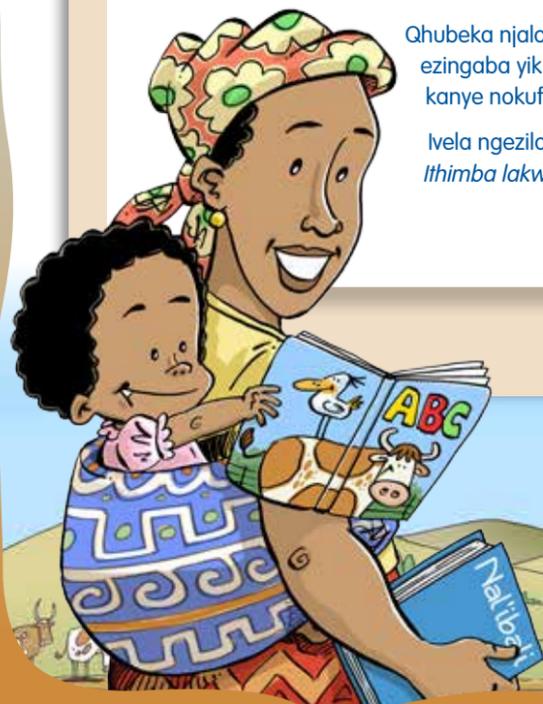
Edith Fezeka Khuzwayo

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.

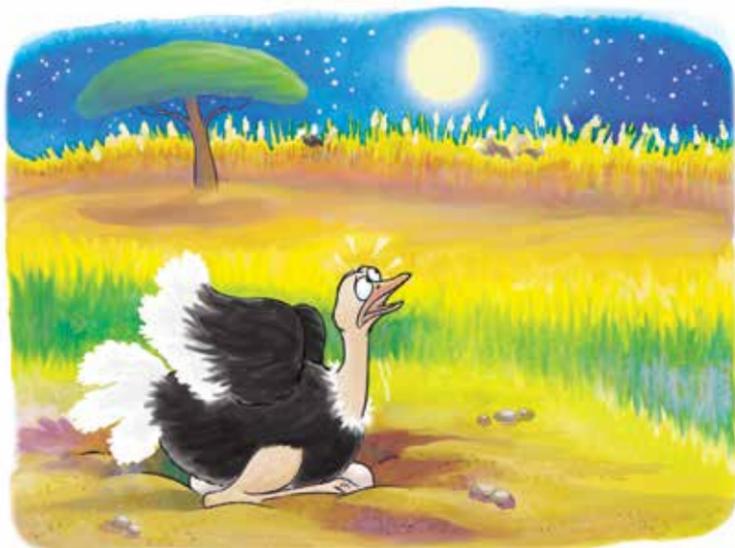
Mr and Mrs Ostrich had chosen the place for their nest very carefully. They knew that in this spot it would be difficult to see Mrs Ostrich as she sat on the nest during the day. You see, in those days ostriches had short necks like a guinea-fowl. So, from a little way away, when her head was down, the 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.



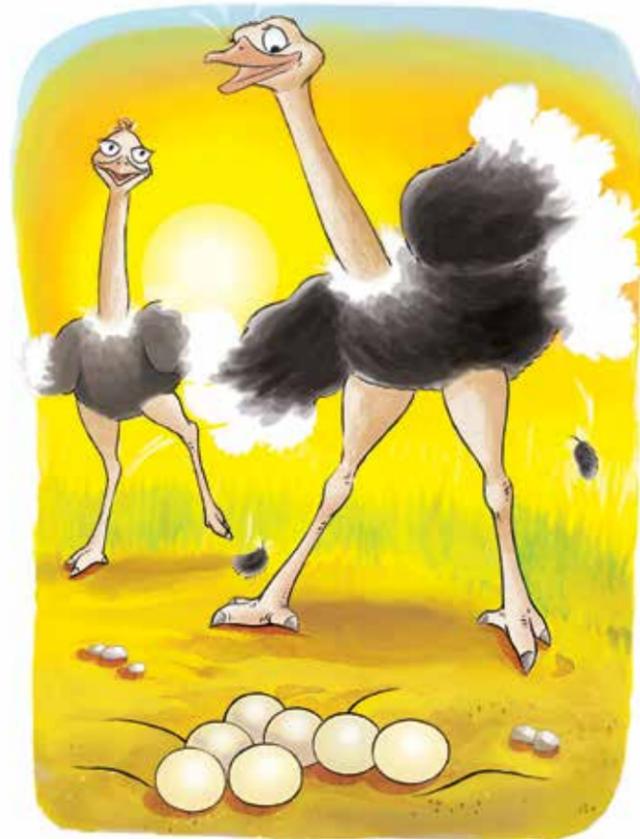
At first he could not see anything. He stretched his short neck as far as it would go and then he saw her. Mrs Ostrich was dancing through the grass, between the bushes playing a game of hide-and-seek with a handsome young ostrich. When she hid behind a bush, she stretched her neck as far as she could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

Ixoxwa kabusha nguWendy Hartmann ★ Imidwebo nguJiggs Snaddon-Wood

UMnumzane uNtshe wayenomusa futhi emnene futhi wayemthanda kakhulu uNkosikazi uNtshe. Wayehlala emsiza ngalezo zinto okwakumele azenze.

Ngelinye ilanga, uNkosikazi uNtshe wazalela amaqanda ayisikhombisa esidlekeni sakhe esasisemgodini ongenalutho. Washaya amaphiko akhe wase ehlala kuwo ukuze awagcine efudumele. Wahlala izinsuku eziningi egade amaqanda.

“Nkosikazi uNtshe othandekayo,” kusho umyeni wakhe ngelinye ilanga ebusuku, “sewufukamele amaqanda ethu izinsuku eziningi. Izimpaphe zami ezimnyama sezimnyama njengobusuku. Angeke ngibonakale ebusuku, ngakho ngizogada amaqanda ethu ebusuku. Ngizokugcinela wona efudumele. Manje usuzokwazi ukuba nesikhathi sakho. Ungazithokozisa kuze kuphume ilanga ekuseni.”

UNkosikazi uNtshe wayethokoze kakhulu. Wayefuna ukulula imilenze yakhe. Wasukuma kwase kuhlala uMnumzane uNtshe ngobukhulu ubudlabha ukuze amboze amaqanda. UNkosikazi uNtshe washaya amaphiko akhe ukuze akhombise ukuthi wayethokoze kangakanani. Wase ehamba eyodansa emasimini ayeseduze nesidleke sabo.

UMnumzane noNkosikazi uNtshe babekhethe indawo yesidleke sabo ngokukhulu ukucophelela. Babazi ukuthi kule ndawo kuzoba nzima ukubona uNkosikazi uNtshe ngesikhathi ehleli esidlekeni emini. Phela ngalezo zinsuku izintshe zazinemiqala emifishane efana neyempangele. Ngakho, uma ukude, lapho ikhanda lakhe liphansi, umama wentshe wayebukeka njengegqunyana eliphansi. Babekhethe le nsimu eyayinotshani obufushane, ngoba kudala babefunde ukuthi esikhotheni esinotshani obude babengahlaselwa ngaphambi kokuba bazi ukuthi kukhona ingozi ekhona. Ngoba babekhethe kahle, babekwazi ukubona yonke into.

UMnumzane noNkosikazi uNtshe babekwazi futhi nokugcina amaqanda abo ephephile emililweni eyayishisa inkundla ngesinye isikhathi. Babekhiphe ngokucophelela utshani ukuze kube nesiyingi esikhulu somhlabathi onobhuqu ozungeze isidleke sabo. UMnumzane noNkosikazi uNtshe babethokoze kakhulu ngesidleke sabo esihle, esiphephile kanye namaqanda ayisikhombisa.

Kodwa njengoba uMnumzane uNtshe wayefukamele ebusuku, kwakukhona enye into eyayimenza akhathazeke. Unkosikazi wakhe wayethokoza kakhulu ensimini laphaya. Wayedansa, amaphiko akhe endizela phezulu, futhi kwakungabukeki sengathi uyedwa.

“Wenzani?” kucabanga uMnumzane uNtshe. Akumele ukuba adanse azungeze kanjeyana. Usengumama manje futhi kumele agade amaqanda. Kodwa njengobaba omuhle kumele anyakazise umzimba wakhe phansi ukuze amboze amaqanda futhi awagcine efudumele. Wase ehlala phansi esemlindelweni omude wobusuku ngesikhathi unkosikazi wakhe edlala emasimini.

Ngobunye ubusuku, inyanga esasiliva yenza amathunzi axakile ensimini. Izithunzi zazibukeka sengathi ziyadansa. UMnumzane uNtshe wayesozela kakhulu. Amehlo akhe ayeseqala ukuvaleka lapho ezwa ukuhleka komkakhe. Kwaphela nobuthongo lapho ezwa lokho. Wabheka phezulu.



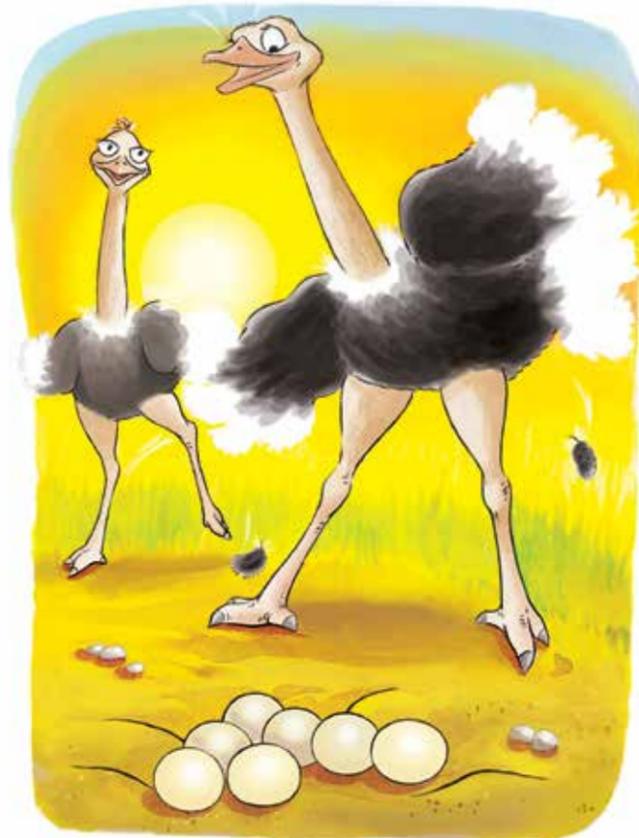
Ekuqaleni akabonanga lutho. Walula umqala wakhe omfushane waya phezulu ngendlela ayengase akwazi ukuthi enze ngayo, wase embona. UNkosikazi uNtshe wayedansa otshanini, phakathi kwezihlahla edlala umacashelana negeza lentshe esencane. Lapho esecashe ngesihlahla, welula intamo yakhe yaya phezulu ngendlela ayengakwazi ukuthi enze ngayo ukuze aqinisekise ukuthi umyeni wakhe wayesahleli phezu kwamaqanda abo.

UMnumzane uNtshe wayethukuthele. Wasukuma esidlekeni wayobheka ukuthi kwakwenzekani, kodwa waphinde wahlala phansi futhi. Wayengakwazi ukushiya amaqanda. Kwakuzokwenzekani uma amaqanda egodola ngesikhathi esahambile? Ngakho welula amaphiko akhe phezu kwamaqanda wase elula intamo yakhe yaya phezulu kakhulu ezama ukubona lokho okwenziwa unkosikazi wakhe.

Njalo emva kwesikhathi esithile wayezwa unkosikazi wakhe egigitheka. Njalo emva kwesikhashana wayebona izithunzi zidansa ensimini kunyezi. Njalo uma ebona isithunzi, wayelula intamo yakhe iye phezulu ngendlela ayengenza ngayo. Kodwa yilokho kuphela eyekwazi ukukwenza ngenxa yokuthi kwakumele agcine amaqanda efudumele.

Ekugcineni, ubusuku obude kakhulu baze baphela lapho sekuphuma ilanga. Ngesikhathi kwenzeka lokho, uMnumzane uNtshe wayembona unkosikazi wakhe lapho esebuya ezohlala phezu kwamaqanda imini yonke. UMnumzane wazama ukusukuma, kodwa wazizwa engakwazi ukusukuma. Zazibuhlungu izicubu zentamo yakhe.

Ekugcineni wakwazi ukusukuma. Wayesathi uzotshela umkakhe ukuthi uthukuthele kanjani, lapho ebheka izinyawo zakhe ezansi. Zazibukeka zikude le nekhanda lakhe. Ekugcineni wazi ukuthi kwenzekeni – ngalobo busuku obude wayelule intamo yakhe yaya phezulu, yaphinde yaya phezulu, yaphinde yaya



phezulu futhi.

Wanikina ikhanda lakhe. Wagxoba phansi ngezinyawo zakhe, kodwa noma wayezama ukwenzani intamo yahlala inde. Ayikho into ayeyenza eyayingashintsha lokhu. Unkosikazi wakhe yena? Naye futhi wayenentamo ende! Naye wazama ukunikina ikhanda lakhe kanye nokugxoba phansi ngezinyawo zakhe, kodwa akuzange kusize lokhu. Wayelule waphinde welula intamo yakhe ukuze abone ukuthi umyeni wakhe wayesahlezi yini phezu kwamaqanda abo!

Kwenzeka kanjalo-ke ukuthi uMnumzane noNkosikazi uNtshe babe nezintamo ezinde! Futhi yingakho kusukela ngalobo busuku ubona yonke intshe inentamo ende futhi.

