

Stories of Africa

By Gcina Mhlophe

My grandmother was the first person to tell me stories. She encouraged my imagination to run wild, and I really believed in those laughing crocodiles and flying tortoises that she told me about. I loved her tales about the scary *amaZimzim* – the man-eating ogres – and many more fantastic creatures. Because of the way my grandmother told those stories to me, I learnt at a very young age to love language and to understand its power. But sometimes, when I have to express myself in English, which is the language I now use most often, I find that some things are not possible to say. Then I get frustrated and catch myself wishing that everyone spoke my mother tongue. Yet that never stops me from continuing to tell the wonderful stories of my people and share their imaginative richness with others.

Many of the stories I tell are taken from well-known traditional tales that the people of Africa have been telling to each other since the world began. Some of these stories from my childhood I have found in stories told and written in many other parts of the world. This is proof to me of the way in which people have always tried to make sense of life's mysteries and used stories to explain them to each other.

Is there still room for these ancient stories in our lives today? I say, "Yes!" Because any of these stories can be retold in different ways, so that it is possible for people of different ages and cultures to find what they need in it.

One of my favourite stories is about the woman who went down to the bottom of the sea to look for stories to bring back for the human world. I have told this tale to audiences in different countries all over the world, and so many times I have had the response: "You know, that story has made me realise that to find the answers I am looking for in my life, I need to look deep inside myself. I must search the depths of the ocean that is my own heart and soul." Now what does a storyteller say to that?

Let's keep passing on the magic of Africa!



This article is adapted from the "Author's note" of *Stories of Africa* by Gcina Mhlophe, and published by University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.

Izindaba ze-Afrika

NguGcina Mhlophe

Ugogo wami kwakungumuntu wokuqala ukungixoxela izinganekwane. Wavula umqondo wami wangikhuthaza ukubona izinto ngamehlo engqondo: ngaze ngazibona ngempela lezo zingwenya ezihlekayo nezimfudu ezindizayo ayekhuluma ngazo. Ngangizithokozela ngisho izinganekwane zakhe ngamaZimuzimu esabekayo – abantu ababedla abanye abantu, nezidalwa eziningi ezenza imigilingwane. Ngenxa yendlela ugogo ayengixoxela ngayo lezi zindaba, ngasheshe ngafunda ngisemncane ukujabulela izilimi nokuwaqonda amandla azo. Manje-ke, ngenxa yokuthi sengisebenzisa ulimi lwesiNgesi uma ngibhala, ngike ngixakeke ngingazi ukuthi ngiwubeke kanjani umbono wami ngoba okunye akulula ukukuchaza. Ngenye inkathi ngiyabindeka ngize ngifise sengathi wonke umuntu ubengakhuluma ulimi lwami lwebele. Yize kunjalo, angingeki ngayeka ukuzama ngakho konke ukuxoxa lezi zinganekwane zabantu bakithi ngabelane nomhlaba wonke ngokunotha okukuzona.

Eziningi kulezi zindaba engizixoxayo zithathwe ezinganekwaneni ezaziwayo ama-Afrika ayexoxelana zona kusuka esikhathini sasendulo. Ezinye zalezi zindaba ngizazi ngiseyigane ngizithole ezindabeni ezaxoxwa zabhalwa ezindaweni eziningi emhlabeni. Lokhu kuyangicacela ukuthi ngempela abantu kade babezama ukuchazelana izinto ezidida imiqondo ngokuthi basebenzise izinganekwane.

Ingabe isekhona nje indawo yalezi zinganekwane kulezi zikhathi zanamuhla? Mina ngithi "Yebo!" Ngenxa yokuthi noma yiziphi kulezi zindaba zisengaxoxwa ngezindlela ezehlukene, okuzokwenza ukuthi abantu abadala nabancane, abantu bezinhlanga ezehlukene umhlaba wonke, bathole noma yini abayidingayo kuzo.

Enye yezinganekwane engizikhonze kakhulu ngeyomfazi owahamba waya ekujuleni kolwandle eyofuna izinganekwane khona azoziphakela bonke abantu emhlabeni. Le nganekwane sengayixoxela abantu abaningi kumazwe ngamazwe omhlaba kanti kukaningi bezwakala sebethi: "Uyazi, le ndaba yenza kucace kimina ukuthi uma ngifuna izimpendulo ezithize ngezinkinga engibhekene nazo, kungakuhle ngibheke ekujuleni kwangaphakathi kimi. Kumele ngifune ekujuleni kolwandle olukweyami inhlizyo." Pho-ke umxoxi wezindaba angathini ngalokho?

Asiqhubekeni siwudlulisele phambili lo mlingo wase-Afrika!



Lokhu okushiwo ngenhla kuguqulwe kancane kokungaphansi kwesihlokwana: "Amazwi Omlobi" encwadini ethi *Zimnandi Ngokuphindwa* kagcina Mhlophe eshicilelwe yi-University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.



Drive your imagination

Story Power.
Bring it home.
Walethe ekhaya amandla endaba.



The Nal'ibali bookshelf

Africa Day is celebrated each year on 25 April. It is the day on which we celebrate the start of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in 1963, as well as the freedom fought for by African countries. Here are a few of the latest children's books that celebrate Africa, published by some South African publishers.



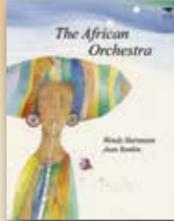
Ishalofu lezincwadi likaNal'ibali

Usuku Lwe-Afrika lugujwa minyaka yonke mhla zingama-25 kuMbasa. Usuku esigubha ngalo ukusungulwa kweNhlango Yobumbano Lwe-Afrika (OAU) ngowe-1963, kanye nenkululeko eyalwelwa ngamazwe ase-Afrika. Nazi ezinye zezincwadi zezingane zakamuva ezigubha i-Afrika, ezishicilelwe abanye babashicileli baseNingizimu Afrika.

The African Orchestra

Author: Wendy Hartmann
Illustrator: Joan Rankin
Publisher: Jacana

With magical illustrations from Joan Rankin, and poetry from masterful storyteller, Wendy Hartmann, the rhyme lyrically captures the magic of the African sounds of nature. From the clicking of crickets to the crackle of the fire, follow the journey that celebrates these sounds, in the rhythm and music of Africa. *The African Orchestra* is also available in Afrikaans, isiXhosa and isiZulu.



Imvunge yeAfrika

Umbhali: Wendy Hartmann
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Joan Rankin
Umshicileli: Jacana

Ngemifanekiso enomlingo evela kuJoan Rankin, kanye nezinkondlo ezivela kumxoxi wezindaba onekhono, uWendy Hartmann, umlozelo ubeka ngobunyonyo umlingo wemvunge yaseAfrika yendalo. Kusukela ekukhaleni kwezinyendle ukuya ekuqhumeni komlilo, landela uhambo olugubha le misindo, ngesigqi kanye nomculo waseAfrika. *Imvunge yeAfrika* iyatholakala nangesiBhunu, isiXhosa nesiZulu.

To stand a chance of winning a copy of *The African Orchestra* send your name, address and the title of the book in the language you would like it in to info@nalibali.org.



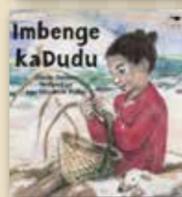
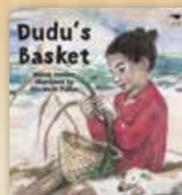
Ukuze ube sethubeni lokuwina ikhophi yencwadi ethi *Imvunge yeAfrika* thumela igama lakho, ikheli lakho kanye nesihloko sencwadi ngolimi ongathanda ukuyithola ngalo ku-info@nalibali.org.



Dudu's Basket

Author: Dianne Stewart
Illustrator: Elizabeth Pulles
Publisher: Jacana

When Dudu finishes weaving her first basket, by the light of the plump full moon, her uncle Jojo tells her that a first basket should always be given away ... This is the story of Dudu's basket and its journey through a number of cultures. It is also available in Afrikaans, isiXhosa and isiZulu.



Imbenge kaDudu

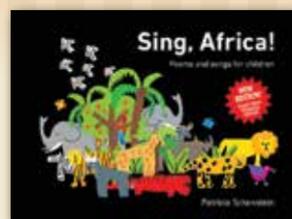
Umbhali: Dianne Stewart
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Elizabeth Pulles
Umshicileli: Jacana

Lapho uDudu eqeda ukuluka imbenge yakhe yokuqala, ekhanyiselwe inyanga enkulu egcwele, umalume wakhe uJojo umtshela ukuthi imbenge yokuqala kumele kuphiswane ngayo ... Le yindaba emayelana nembenge kaDudu kanye nohambo oludlula emasikweni amaningana. Iyatholakala futhi nangesiBhunu, isiXhosa nesiZulu.

Sing, Africa!

Author: Patricia Schonstein
Publisher: African Sun Press

This is a vibrant and magical collection of poems and songs based on themes of Africa, animals, peace and nature. It contains hand-action and counting rhymes and has a strong focus on ecology to stimulate in children a joyful awareness of the world around them. The drawings inside were done by children.



Sing, Africa!

Umbhali: Patricia Schonstein
Umshicileli: African Sun Press

Leli yiqoqo elihlabahlosile futhi elinomlingo lezinkondlo kanye namaculo asekelwe ezindikimbeni zase-Afrika, izilwane, ukuthula kanye nemvelo. Iqukethe okulingiswa ngezandla kanye nemilozelo yokubala egxile kakhulu ekuphilisaneni kwendalo ukuze kokhelwe ezinganeni ukwaziswa ngendlela ethokozisayo ngomhlaba ozizungezile. Imidwebi engaphakathi yenziwe yizingane.

To stand a chance of winning a copy of *Sing, Africa!* send your name, address and the title of the book to info@nalibali.org.



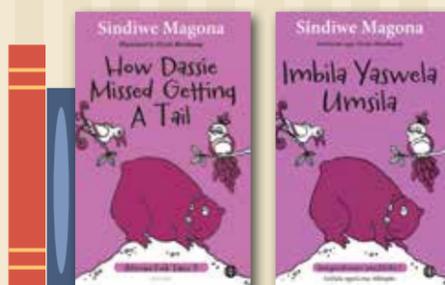
AFRICAN SUN PRESS
www.afsun.co.za

Ukuze ube semathubeni okuwina ikhophi ye-*Sing, Africa!* thumela igama lakho, ikheli kanye nesihloko sencwadi ku-info@nalibali.org.

How Dassie Missed Getting a Tail

Author: Sindiwe Magona
Illustrator: Nicole Blomkamp
Publisher: David Philip

All was well in the big, big forest. The king of the animals was very happy; his subjects were happy and they served him very well indeed. They served him so well that the king asked himself what he could do to make his people happier still. But one of the animals misses out on this opportunity. This story is available in all eleven official languages.



Imbila Yaswela Umsila

Umbhali: Sindiwe Magona
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Nicole Blomkamp
Umshicileli: David Philip

Konke kwakuhamba kahle ehlathini elikhulu kakhulu. Inkosi yezilwane yayijabule kakhulu, kanti nabantu bayo babejabule kakhulu, futhi beyisebenzela kahle impela. Babeyisebenzela kahle kangokuthi inkosi yaze yazibuza ukuthi ingenzenjani ukuze ijabulise abantu bayo kakhulu kunakuqala. Kodwa sisodwa isilwane esaphuthelwa yileli thuba. Indaba itholakala ngazo zonke izilimi ezisemthethweni eziyishumi nanye.



Drive your imagination

Maggie, Mango and Scottie

Author: Patricia Schonstein
Illustrator: Leigh Banks
Publisher: African Sun Press

Maggie, the Victorian doll, is tired of sitting all day in the toy shop window. When the shopkeeper isn't looking, she creeps out with her friends, Mango and Scottie. They catch a taxi into deepest Africa, where they have a wonderful adventure. "Earth Notes" at the end of the story give short descriptions of the animals, birds and insects that Maggie and her friends encounter on their adventure.



Maggie, Mango and Scottie

Umbhali: Patricia Schonstein
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Leigh Banks
Umshicileli: African Sun Press

UMaggie, udoli wohlobo lwesikhathi sikaVictoria, ukhathele ukuhlala usuku lonke efasiteleni lesitolo samathoyizi. Lapho umnikazi wesitolo engabhekile, unyanya nabangani bakhe, uMango noScottie. Bathatha itekisi baye maphakathi ne-Afrika, lapho bethokozela khona ebebengakulindele. "Amanothi Asemhlabeni" ekupheleni kwendaba anikeza incazelo emfushane emayelana nezilwane, izinyoni kanye nezinambuzane oMaggie nabangani bakhe abatholana nazo kulolu hambo olunabangakulindele.

Stories of Africa and Our Story Magic

Author: Gcina Mhlophe
Illustrators: Various
Publisher: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press

Stories of Africa and Our Story Magic are collections of enchanting tales, steeped in the richness of the African oral tradition. Each book features well-known and original stories told by South Africa's renowned storyteller, Gcina Mhlophe. The stories are beautifully illustrated by a variety of local artists. Although these books have been available for some time in English, they are now also available in all eleven official languages.



Zimnandi Ngokuphindwa kanye nethi Umlingo Wezindaba

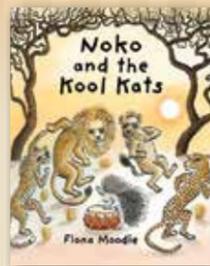
Umbhali: Gcina Mhlophe
Abadwebi bemifanekiso: abadwebi abahlukene
Umshicileli: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press

Izincwadi: Zimnandi Ngokuphindwa kanye nethi Umlingo Wezindaba amaqaqo ezinganekwane ezihlaba umxhwele, ezijuliswe ukunotha kosiko lwase-Afrika lokuxoxa izindaba. Incwadi ngayinye inezindaba ezazwayo zoqobo ezixoxwa umxoxi wezindaba waseNingizimu Afrika odumile uGcina Mhlophe. Imifanekiso emihle yezindaba yenziwe abadwebi abehlukene bakuleli. Noma lezi zincwadi sekunesikhathi zitholakala ngesiNgisi, seziyatholakala manje nangazo zonke izilimi ezisemthethweni eziyishumi nanye.

Noko and the Kool Kats

Author: Fiona Moodie
Illustrator: Fiona Moodie
Publisher: Tafelberg

It is the end of a long, hot day. The village friends had been in the fields planting mielies, and are now on their way home. But there is a big surprise waiting for them. There, on the road near the village, a great big bus is stuck in the sand. It is the Kool Kats rock band's bus!



Noko and the Kool Kats

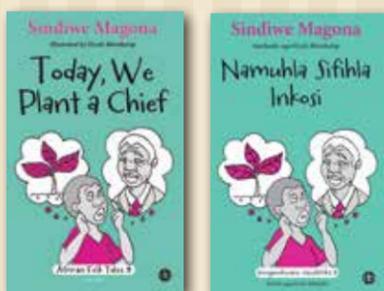
Umbhali: Fiona Moodie
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Fiona Moodie
Umshicileli: Tafelberg

Kusekupheleni kosuku olude olushisa kakhulu. Abangani basemzini kade besemasimini betshala ummbila kanti manje sebesendleleni ebuyela ekhaya. Kodwa kunokukhulu okungalindelekile okubalindile. Laphaya, emgwaqweni oseduze nomuzi, kunebhasi elikhulu elibhajwe esihlabathini. Ibhasi le-The Kool Kats, ibhendi yomculo i-rock!

Today, We Plant a Chief

Author: Sindiwe Magona
Illustrator: Nicole Blomkamp
Publisher: David Philip

Nyaniso hates Sunday School. He knows all the Bible stories that the Sunday School teacher tells them. He heard those stories long before he was old enough to go to Sunday School – from his grandmother. Nyaniso used to like going to Sunday School, but that was before Lunga arrived ... This story is available in all eleven official languages.



Namuhla Sifihla INkosi

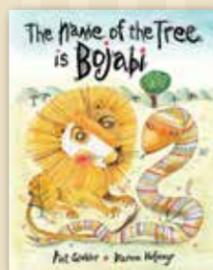
Umbhali: Sindiwe Magona
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Nicole Blomkamp
Umshicileli: David Philip

UNyaniso uyawuzonda uSontosikole. Uzazi zonke izindaba abazixoxelwe nguthisha kaSontosikole. Wayezwe lezo zindaba kudala engakabi mdala ngokwanele ukuthi angaya kuSontosikole – ezizwa ngogogo wakhe. UNyaniso wayekuthanda ukuya kuSontosikole, kodwa lokho kwakungaphambi kokufika kukaLunga ... Le ndaba itholakala ngazo zonke izilimi ezisemthethweni eziyishumi nanye.

The Name of the Tree is Bojabi

Author: Dianne Hofmeyr
Illustrator: Piet Grobler
Publisher: Human & Rousseau

The animals are so, so hungry. Then they see a beautiful tree, covered in ripe fruit smelling of the sweetest mangoes, fat as melons, juicy as pomegranates ... But wrapped around the tree is the largest python they have ever seen. And Python will only let the animals eat of the fruit if they can tell him the name of the tree. What could it be? Only the King of the Jungle knows, and he is far, far away ...



The Name of the Tree is Bojabi

Umbhali: Dianne Hofmeyr
Umdwebi wemifanekiso: Piet Grobler
Umshicileli: Human & Rousseau

Izilwane zilambe kakhulu. Zibe sezibona isihlahla esihle, esigcwele iphunga lezithelo ezivuthiwe, umango omnandi kakhulu, omkhulu sengathi amakhabe, onojuzi sengathi amahalananda ... Kodwa kuthandele esihlahleni inhlwathi enkulu ukudlula zonke ezake zayibona. Kanti njalo uNhlwathi uzovumela izilwane ukuthi zidle isithelo uma zingase zikwazi ukumtshela igama lesihlahla. Ngabe lithini? YiNkosi Yezilwane kuphela eyaziyo, kanti ikude kakhulu ...



Get creative!

Here are some fun activities to grow your children's creativity and encourage them to have fun with reading and writing.

- ✿ After you've read *Kasanko's dream*, talk about some of these things with your children.
 - ☉ How did Kasanko, King Dabulamanzi and Senzo each behave in good ways in the story?
 - ☉ Who do you think the real hero of the story is? Why?
 - ☉ Who of all the characters would you want as a friend? Why?
- ✿ Can you retell the story *I will help you* in your own way? Begin with, "Once upon a time there was a mother heron ..." and then let everyone have a turn to add a piece of the story. Add your own interesting details and words to the story as you retell it.
- ✿ Suggest that your children use scrap materials, Plasticine or playdough, glue and paint to recreate the glass mountain, magic dassie and the purple flowers he was sitting on from *The glass mountain*. Encourage them to think of ways to make the mountain look as if it is made of glass.
- ✿ 25 May is Africa Day and 1 June is International Children's Day. Celebrate these days together by encouraging your children to make their own "Children of Africa" poster (like the one on page 13) with their friends. They will need a large sheet of paper or cardboard, smaller pieces of paper or photographs, glue, scissors, kokis and/or pencil crayons. Let them start by finding photographs of themselves or drawing pictures of themselves on small pieces of paper. Next, they should arrange the photographs or pictures on a large sheet of paper so that there is space to write under or next to each photograph/picture. After they have pasted down the pictures or photographs, let them take turns writing a few interesting facts about each other.
- ✿ We are all Africans and together our memories create the story of Africa! Make your own memory cards to capture your stories. You will need pieces of cardboard that are about the size of a quarter of an A4 page, sheets of paper the same size, pencil crayons or crayons, scissors and glue. Start by spending some quiet time in which you each think of a memory that is special and important to you. Now think about six to eight moments in that memory that will help you tell the story of that memory. Draw a picture on a sheet of paper for each of these moments. Paste the pictures on the cardboard to create memory cards. Let everyone have a turn to show their memory cards one at a time as they tell the story of their memory.
- ✿ Together with your children, have fun with poetry puzzles. Cut out words from magazines or newspapers, or write down some of your favourite words (including ones you have made up!) on slips of paper. Lay them out in front of you and then arrange some or all of the words in different combinations to create as many different poems as you can!

Veza ubuciko bakho!

Nansi eminye imisebenzi ethokozisayo yokwandisa ubuciko bezingane zakho kanye nokuzigqaguzela ukuthi zizithokozise ngokufunda nokubhala.

- ✿ Ngemva kokufunda *Udumo lukaKasanko*, xoxani ngezinye zalezi zinto nezingane zakho.
 - ☉ Ngabe, ngamunye kubo, oKasanko, iNkosi uDabulamanzi kanye noSenzo baziphathe kahle kanjani endabeni?
 - ☉ Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi ngubani iqhawe langempela lendaba? Ngobani?
 - ☉ Ubani kubo bonke abalingiswa ongamfuna njengomngani? Ngobani?
- ✿ Ngabe ungakwazi ukuxoxa kabusha indaba ethi *Ngizokusiza* ngendlela yakho? Qala ngokuthi "Kwesukesukela, kwakukhona umama uNdwandwe ..." bese uvumela wonke umuntu ukuthi athole ithuba lokwengeza isiqephu esithile sendaba. Yengeza eyakho imininigwane ehlaba umxhwele kanye namagama endabeni ngesikhathi uyixoxa kabusha.
- ✿ Phakamisa ukuthi izingane zakho zisebenzise izinsimbi ezingasasebenzi, iplastisini noma inhlama yokudlala, iglu kanye nopende ukuze zakhe kabusha intaba eyingilazi, imbila enomlingo kanye nezimbali ezinsomi eyayihleli kuzo endabeni ethi *Intaba eyingilazi*. Zigqagquzele ukuthi zicabange ngezindlela zokwenza intaba ibukeke sengathi yenziwe ngengilazi.
- ✿ Ngomhla zingama-25 kuNhlaba Usuku Lwe-Afrika bese mhla lu-1 kube Usuku Lomhlaba Lwezingane. Gubhani lezi zinsuku ndawonye ngokugqaguzela izingane zakho ukuthi zizakhele awazo amaphosta akhombisa "Izingane ze-Afrika" (afana nale esekhasini le-13) kanye nabangani bazo. Bazodinga iphepha elikhulu noma ikhadibhodi, amaphepha amancane noma izithombe zazo, iglu, isikele, amakhokhi kanye/noma amakhrayoni amapensela. Zivumele ukuthi ziqale ngokuthola izithombe zazo noma ukuthi zidwebe imifanekiso yazo emaphepheni amancane. Emva kwalokho, mazihlele izithombe noma imifanekiso yazo edwetshiwe epheneni elikhulu ukuze kube khona isikhala sokubhala ngaphansi noma eceleni kwesithombe /umfanekiso. Uma sezinamathisele imifanekiso noma izithombe, zivumele ukuthi zishintshane ngokubhala okumbalwa okungamaqiniso omunye abhale ngomunye.
- ✿ Sonke singama-Afrika kanti sindawonye, lokho esikukhumbulayo kwakha indaba ye-Afrika! Yenza awakho amakhadi enkumbulo ukuze ubhale izindaba zakho. Uzodinga izingcezu zamakhali bothi ezicishe zibe yisilinganiso sekota lekhasi elingu-A4, izingcezu zamaphepha ayisilinganiso esifanayo, amakhrayoni amapensela noma amakhrayoni, isikele kanye neglu. Qala ngokuba nesikhathi sokuthula ocabanga ngaso ngenkumbulo ekhethekile futhi ebalulekile kuwe. Manje cabanga ngezikhathi eziyisithupha ukuya kwezizishiyagalombili zakuleyo nkumbulo ezikusiza ukuthi uxoxe indaba yaleyo nkumbulo. Dweba isithombe epheneni senkumbulo ngayinye. Namathisele izithombe emakhali bothini ukuze wakhe amakhadi enkumbulo. Vumela wonke umuntu ukuthi abe nethuba lokukhombisa ikhadi lakhe lenkumbulo ngalinye ngesikhathi esisodwa exoxa indaba yenkumbulo yakhe.
- ✿ Ndawonye nezingane zakho, zithokoziseni ngamaphazili ezinkondlo. Sika ukhiphe amagama emaphephabhukwini, emaphephandabeni noma ubhale phansi amanye amagama akho owathandayo (abandakanya nalawo ozenzele wona!) ezicucwini zamaphepha. Endlale phambi kwakho bese uhlela amanye noma wonke amagama abe yizihlanganisela ezahlukene ukuze wenze izinkondlo eziningi ngendlela ongakwazi ukwenza ngayo!

NAL'IBALI ON RADIO!

Tune in to your favourite SABC radio station and enjoy listening to children's stories! To find out the days and times that Nal'ibali is on the radio, go to www.nalibali.org/audio-downloads/.

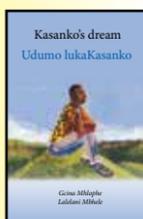


USEMSAKAZWENI UNAL'IBALI!

Lalela isiteshi sakho somsakazo sakwa-SABC osithandayo bese uthokozela ukulalela izindaba zezingane! Ukuze uthole izinsuku kanye nezikhathi angena ngazo emsakazweni uNal'ibali, iya ku-www.nalibali.org/audio-downloads/.

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 sithasiselo.
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 angezansi 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.



Drive your imagination

“Ukuba mina bengingwe, bengizokwenza kahle kakhulu lokho. Wena tshela iNkosi ukuthi ayikusize kulo msebenzi ngokukunika amalitha ayikhulu ezinyembezi, nezikhwama ezizikhulu ezinezinwele zabantu ozozihlanganisa nezinsimbi zokwaka lo muntu.”

Wawumhle kakhulu lo mgondol’Iva kufanele ikhishwe ngeinye iva. UKasanko wayixhawula le ndoda wabonga kakhulu. “Waze wangisiza bengingazi ukuthi kanti uhla kanphe kangaka. Usuyisindisile impi lo yami. Ngizokwenza njengoba ungitshelile mgani wami.”

UKasanko wagijima, wanikele ekhaya, eshaya indoda egulayo imangele. Watika ekhaya wageza, washintssha izingubo ayezigqokile wagoka ezinye, walungisela ukuya esigodlweni seNkosi. INkosi yamamukela ngezandla ezifudumele yahlala phansi isilindelele ukuzwa ukuthi usehambe ibanga elingakanani nokwenza umuntu. UKasanko wathi eNkosi: “Nkosi yami ehloniphekileyo bengisebenza ubusuku nemini ngingatholi kuphumula ngakha lo muntu omfunayo. Sengizopeda kodwa angikwazi ukwupeda kahle lo msebenzi wami ngoba ngiswele nje izinto ezimbili.”

“Ngitshelile wena ukuthi ukhala ngani, ngizokutshela ukuthi uzoyitholaphi leyo nto okhala ngayo,” kusho iNkosi uDabulamanzu ngokuthokoza.

“Into engiyidingayo akulula neze ukuyithola,” kusho uKasanko, ngoba ukuzwe umuntu aphile kahle, ngidinga izikhwama ezizikhulu ezizwele izinwele zabantu ukuze amalunga omzimba wakhe anyakaze kahle.”

“Yebo uzozithola izinwele,” kusho iNkosi. “Yini enye oyidingayo Kasanko, khuluma nje ukhululeke.”



Kasanko had always liked Senzo. He called the man over to come and sit beside him. Soon, he found himself pouring out all his troubles. Senzo listened quietly to his story, and sat frowning in thought for a long while. Then he said, “If I were you, Kasanko, this is what I would say to the King. I would tell him that in order to complete your task and make a living iron man, there are certain things you need. To make the joints move and the tongue speak – 50 bags of human hair. To make the heart beat and the mind think – 100 litres of human tears.”

Kasanko couldn’t contain his joy. What a brilliant solution! Match one crazy idea with another! He shook Senzo’s hand, hugged him, kissed him and thanked him over and over again. “Oh you in your madness are the smartest of us all. You have just saved my life! Thank you, Senzo, my friend. Thank you.”

Kasanko rushed off home, quickly changed his clothes and got ready to go to the Great Palace to see the King. For the first time in days there was a smile on his face, and he even had an appetite for the food his wife had prepared for him. At the Palace, the King welcomed him and sat down to hear what progress had been made on the creation of his living man. Kasanko cleared his throat and said, “My respected King, I have been working day and night to make you your living iron person. I am nearly there, but to finish the job, I need two things from you.”

“Whatever they are, tell me and I will make sure you get them immediately!” cried King Dabulamanzu, beside himself with excitement.

“What I require is not simple,” cautioned Kasanko. “But without these things, I cannot bring this iron man to life. To make the joints move and the tongue speak, I need 50 bags of human hair.”

“Easy, easy,” cried the King. “What else do you need, Kasanko, speak freely.”

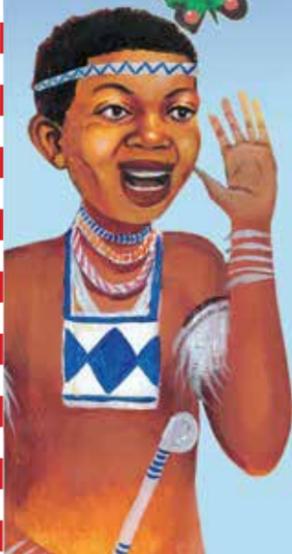
“To make the heart beat and the mind think, I need 100 litres of human tears.” The King’s smile faded. He called his servants and told them what Kasanko needed. He ordered them to shave the heads of as many people as was necessary to fill 50 bags with hair. The servants were puzzled, but they went to obey the King’s orders.



Stories of Africa and Our Story Magic

by Gcina Mhlophe

The English versions of *Stories of Africa* and *Our Story Magic*, colourfully illustrated by artists from KwaZulu-Natal, continue to offer a feast of enjoyment for young and old readers alike. Steeped in the imaginative richness of African oral tradition and featuring well-known and original tales told by the popular Queen of Storytelling, Gcina Mhlophe, they are now available in translation in isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sepedi, Tshivenda, Xitsonga, Setswana, SiSwati, Sesotho, isiNdebele and Afrikaans.



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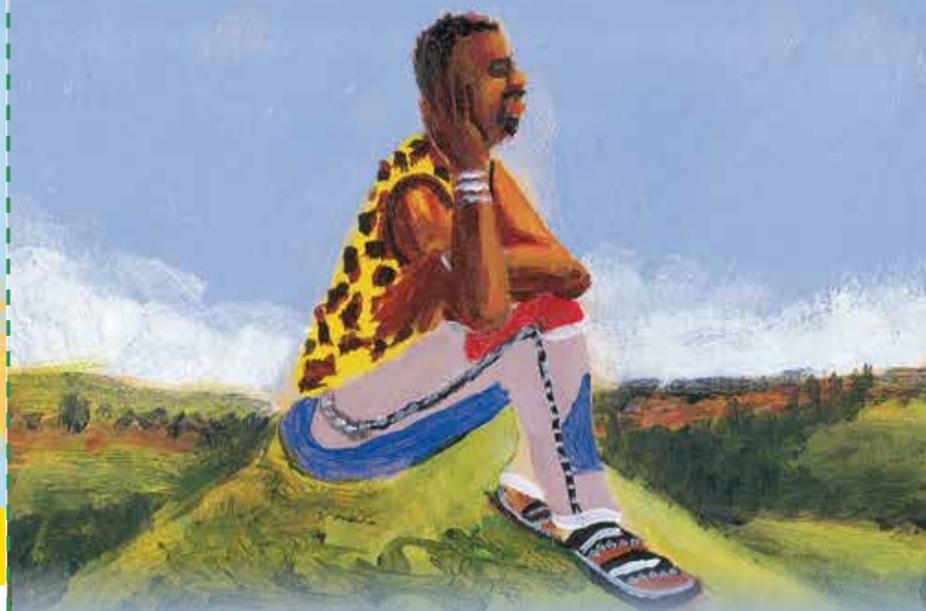
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Kasanko’s dream Udumo lukaKasanko



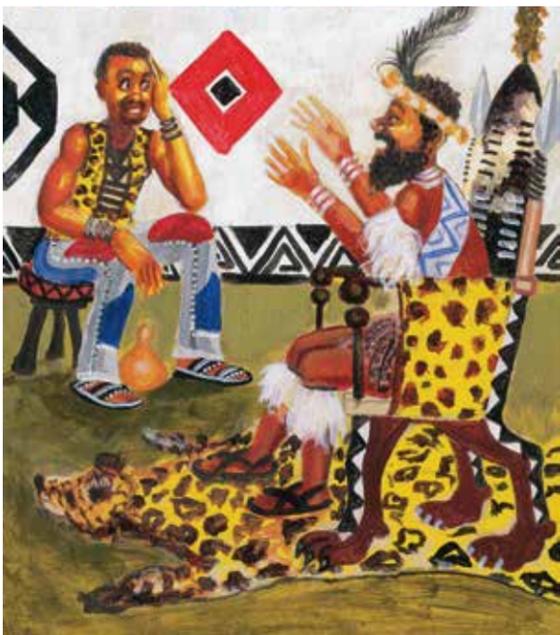
Gcina Mhlophe
Lalelani Mbhele

“Yehisa umoya Baba,” kusho unkosikazi wakhe naye edidekile. “Nkosi icabanga ukuthi ungayenza kanjani into efana naleyo?” “Uyazibona lezi zinsimbi ezingaphandle, yizona okufanеле ngakhe ngazo umzimba walo muntu. Angazi ukuthi ucabanga ukuthi lokho ngizokwenzeka kanjani. Uma ngihluleka ngizofa nokufa.” Lesi senzo seNkosi sasimthukuthelisa kakuhlu kodwa lokho kwakufanеле akudlulise, acabange ukuthi yikuphi okufanеле akwenzе. Wahlala phansi wacabanga ukuthi uzogalaphi. Ngokuphazama kweso wabona enye indoda iza kuye. Le ndoda kwase kuphеле iminyaka eminingi igula ngenqondo. KwakunguSenzo. Yayingakaze ibashaye abantu, ngaleyo ndlela akekho umuntu owayezithupha ngayo. UKasanko wayeyithanda le ndoda, wayibiza wathi mayihale eduze kwakhe. Wayeqala ngqa ukuxoxela omunye umuntu ngenkinga yakhe. Le ndoda yayilalele ngesikhulu isizotha, yezwakala ithi:



Once there lived a man called Kasanko, who was a very well-liked and respected ironmonger. He made all sorts of wonderful things out of iron – tools and special metal boxes, unusual bracelets, necklaces and rings. Most of all, he enjoyed making things that others could not make. Kasanko took great pride in his work and everything he made was so special to him that he sometimes found it hard to part with his things. His work was always in demand and he was often asked to make special items for the King.

Whenever King Dabulamanzi called him to the Great Palace, Kasanko was never sure what to expect. The King often got bored and sometimes, just to amuse himself, he would ask people to do the most impossible things for him. When they failed, he chased them out of his Kingdom. So far, Kasanko had escaped this fate. He was one man the King really respected, so people said.

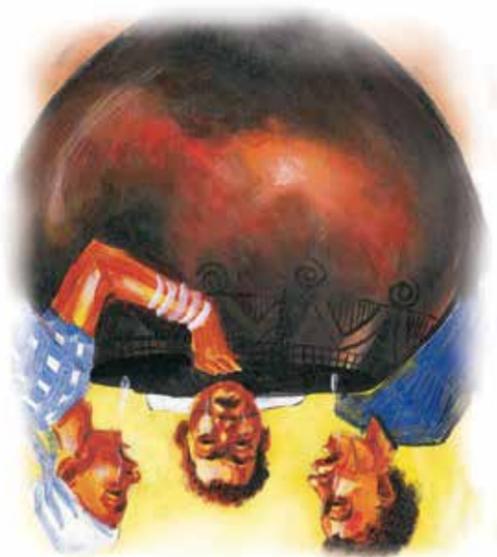


Yinye kuphela into ababengayikhohlwa nakancane, wumyalelo owawuwela eNkosini wokugcwalisa amalitha ayikhulu ngezinyembezi nokuyinto okwakungelula neze ukuba yenzeke. Kwabathokozisa nokuthi iNkosi yagcina isibonile ukuthi umyalelo wayo wawungubuwula kangakanani – yagcina isibayekile bazenzela izinto ezibalulekile nezakha isizwe.



Cosi, cosi, iyaphela

“You can go home now, Kasanko. The bags of hair will be delivered to your house in the next few days and the 100 litres of tears will soon follow.” And so the King made his promise. But Kasanko could see that Dabulamanzi was not as excited as before. Kasanko said goodbye and left. A few days later, the 50 bags of hair arrived on Kasanko’s doorstep. The King’s soldiers had gone from village to village shaving everybody – men, women and children – on the King’s orders. Then the news spread all over the kingdom that the King needed 100 litres of tears to help make a living iron man. Big clay pots were brought for people to cry into. As commanded, everyone walked around looking very sad. Some people managed to cry as instructed, but others just could not cry on command. So the King ordered his soldiers to beat the people up and make them cry. Yes, thousands of people were reduced to tears by the painful beatings. This soon had them fighting back. Even the soldiers hated the stupidity of what they were being ordered to do. In the end, it did not help very much anyway, because it was almost impossible to collect the tears. People wiped their tears away from habit. Or the hot African sun dried the tears on their cheeks as fast as they flowed.





Endleni, uyama ukuze adlale nabangani bakhe emfuleni.

On the way, he stops to play with his friends in the river.

Ngosuku oliandelayo, uGogo wathumela uLungile estolo ukuyothenga isinkwa.



The next day, Gogo sends Lungile to the shop to buy bread.

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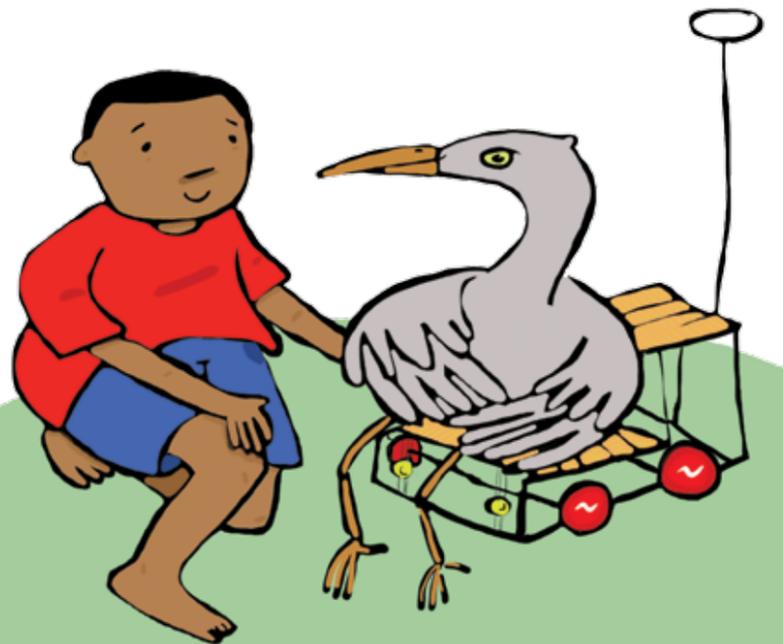


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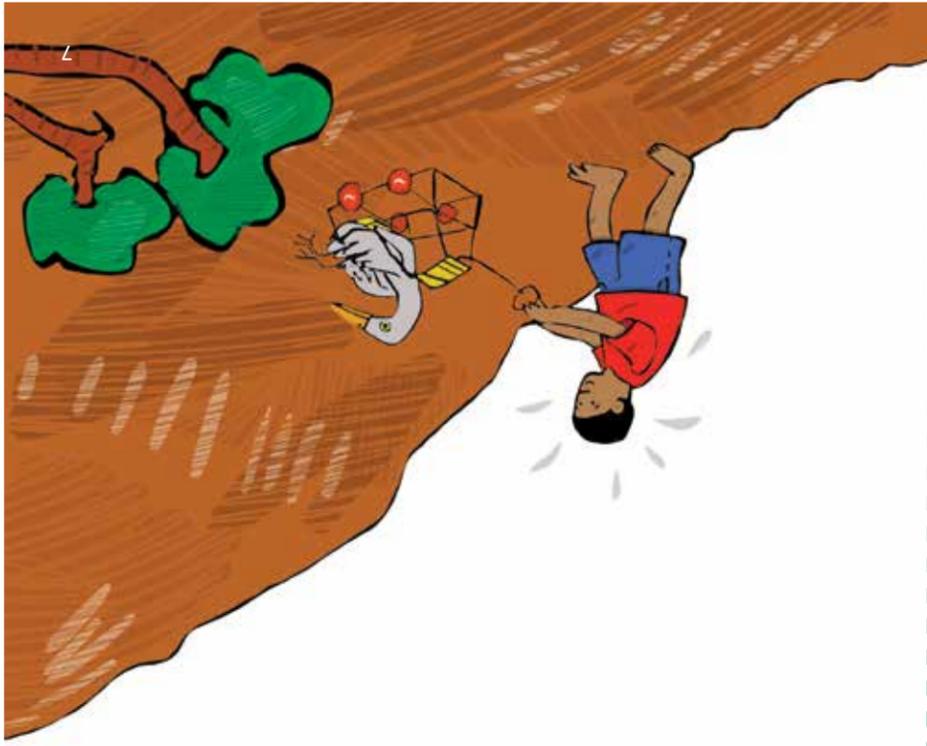
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I will help you Ngizokusiza



Andrea Abbott
Olivia Villet
Fathima Kathrada

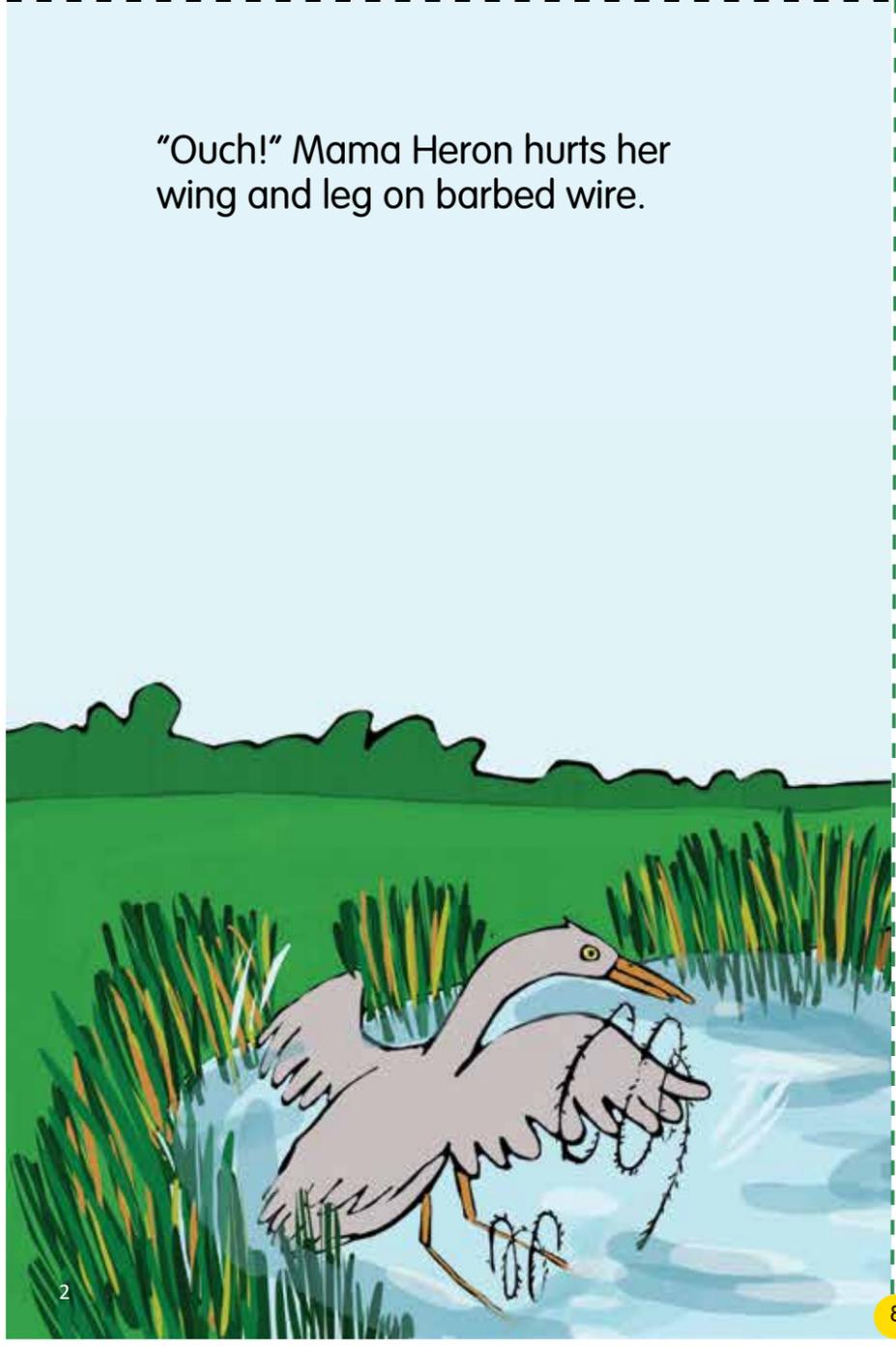




"I will help you," says Lungile.
 "Thank you, Lungile!"
 "Ngizokusiza," kusho uLungile.
 "Ngiyabonga, Lungile!"



Eishi! The money is gone.
Ewu! Ilahlekile imali.



"Ouch!" Mama Heron hurts her wing and leg on barbed wire.



"Thank you, Mama Heron."
 "Ngiyabonga, Mama uNdwandwe."

“Ungabuyi ekhaya uze uthole leyo mali!” kumemeza uGogo.



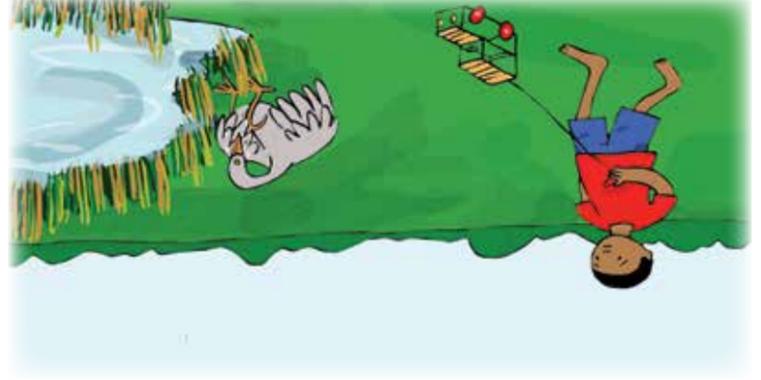
“Don't come home until you find that money!” shouts Gogo.

Mama Heron's sharp eyes see the coins shining in the water.



Amehlo kaMama uNdwandwe abukhali abona izinhlamvu zemali zikhazimula emanzini.

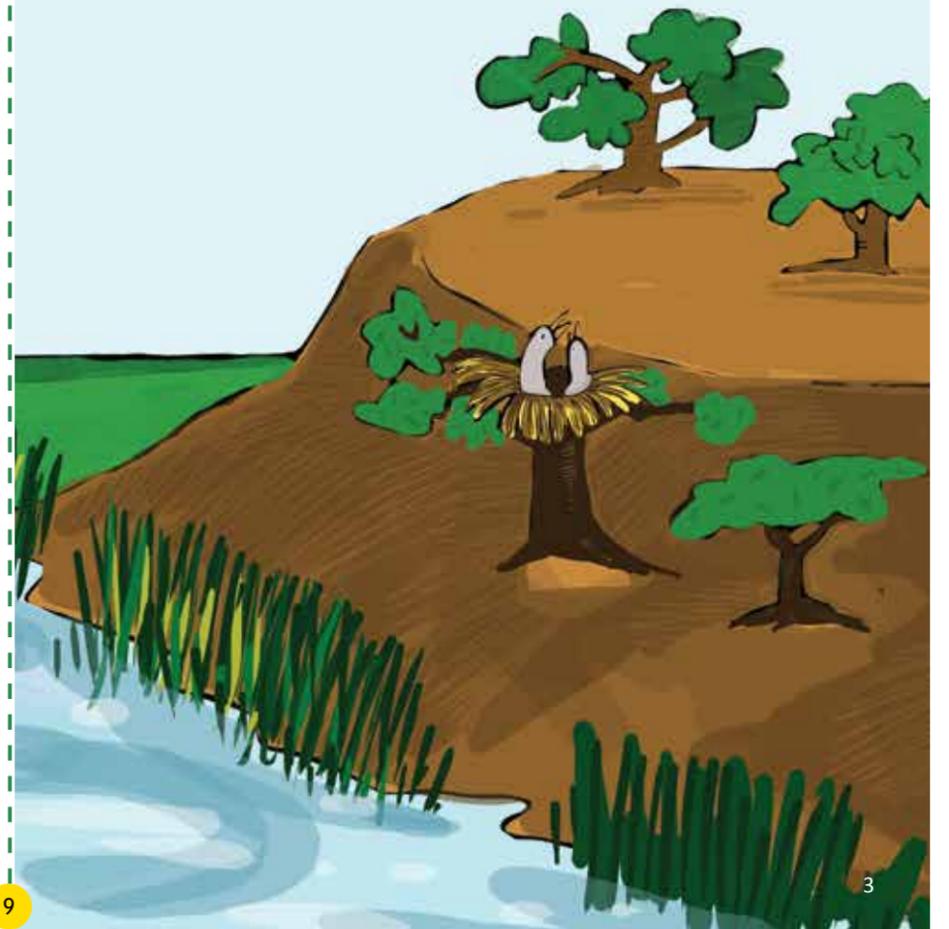
“Ukhalelani, Mama uNdwandwe?” kubuza uLungile.
“Angikwazi ukuya ekhaya ezinganeni zami,” kusho yena.



“I can't get home to my children,” she says.

“Why are you crying, Mama Heron?” asks Lungile.

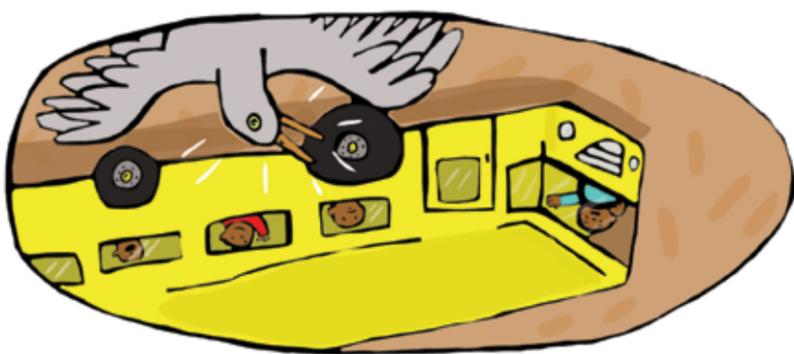
“Awe!” UMama uNdwandwe ulimaze iphiko kanye nomlenze wakhe ocingweni oluhlabayo.





“Ngicela ungisize:”

“Please help me:”



“Ukhalelani, Lungile?” kubuza uMama uNdwandwe.



“Why are you crying, Lungile?” asks Mama Heron.

“I am hurt. I can't get home to my children,” she says.

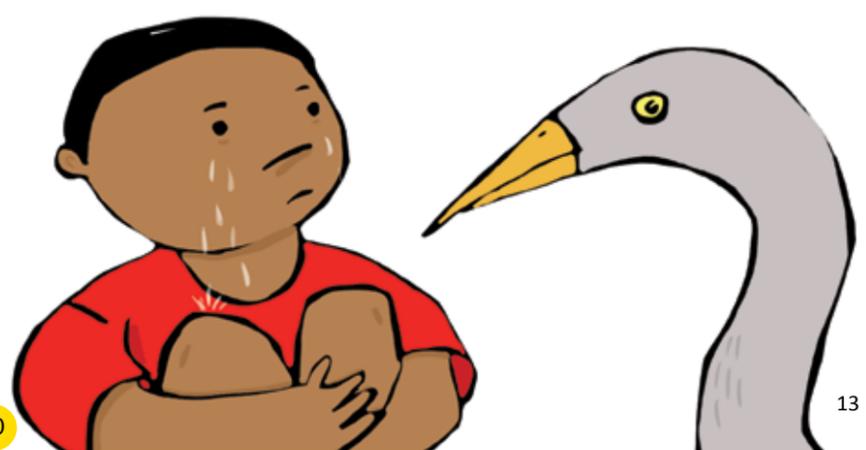
“Ngilimele. Angikwazi ukufika ezinganeni zami ekhaya,” kusho yena.

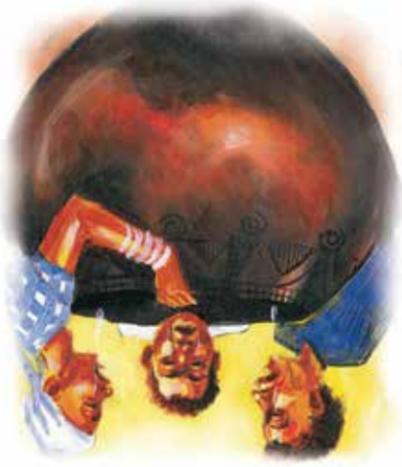
“I lost the money Gogo gave me to buy bread. We have no supper now.”

“I will help you,” says Mama Heron.

“Ngilahle imali engiyinikwe uGogo ukuba ngiyothenga isinkwa. Asinaso isidlo sasemini manje.”

“Ngizokusiza,” kusho uMama uNdwandwe.





ammasosha ayo esizweni sayo
ukuze ashaye abantu bakhale.
Abanye babekhala zize zome
kodwa abanye babephindisela
bashaye nabo emasosheni. Ngisho
namasosha ayengayithandi
le nto ayeyenza. Ekuqineni
leli cebo alisebenzanga ngoba
kwakubonakala ukuthi akulula
ukugqqa lezo zinyembezi
ezazidingeka. Kwagcina
kungapnumanga namalitha
ayishumi alezo zinyembezi.

babengayingeni leyo.
UKasanko yagcina isithumle
amasosha ayo esizweni sayo
ukuze ashaye abantu bakhale.
Abanye babekhala zize zome
kodwa abanye babephindisela
bashaye nabo emasosheni. Ngisho
namasosha ayengayithandi
le nto ayeyenza. Ekuqineni
leli cebo alisebenzanga ngoba
kwakubonakala ukuthi akulula
ukugqqa lezo zinyembezi
ezazidingeka. Kwagcina
kungapnumanga namalitha
ayishumi alezo zinyembezi.

UKasanko waqaphela ukuthi iNkosi yayingasenceme njengasekugalemi.
Wavalelisa waphuma wazihambela. Nangempela abantu babanjwa
ngendluzula bagandwa izinwele zabo. Ngosuku olilandelayo, izisebenzi
zafika nezikhwama ezizigwile izinwele. Izindaba zokuthi iNkosi idinga
amalitha ayikhulu ezinyembezi zokwakha umuntu zasabalala nezwe lonke.
Bonke abantu babebukeka benokudangala. Abanye babekhala kanti abanye
babengayingeni leyo.

Kasanko was very proud of his school and the achievements of its talented pupils. And remember “crazy” Senzo? Well, he became one of Kasanko’s closest friends. He was known from then on as Senzo the Wise, and treated with a lot more respect by everyone.

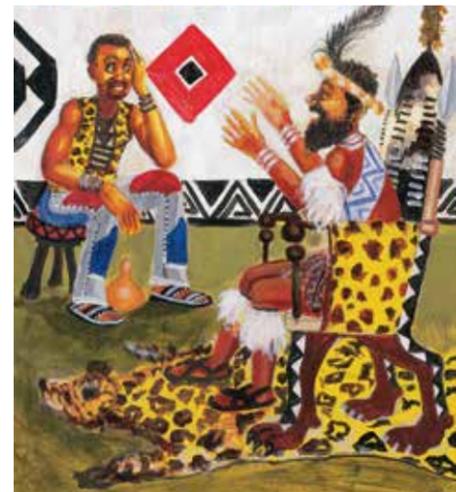
As for King Dabulamanzi, he learnt to respect his people. He stopped dishing out impossible commands that no one could carry out and became one of the most popular kings of all time.



Cosi, cosi, iyaphela.
Here I rest my story.



“You see all that scrap iron outside? Well that is for the body. How he expects me to do the rest he did not say. But if I fail, I am a dead man.”
Kasanko was furious with the arrogant King. He kept his anger to himself, however, while he tried to work out what to do next. Days went by, but his usually clever imagination did not come to his rescue. His wife was desperately worried about him.
One day, Kasanko went walking alone in the hills. He sat down on a hilltop to rest, grateful for the cool breeze on his hot face as he tried to think of some way out of his dilemma. All at once, he saw someone coming up the path towards him. It was a man called Senzo, who the people of the village called “crazy Senzo”. This was because he talked to himself, laughed out loud at nothing, and sometimes did strange things. But since he never harmed anyone, everyone left him alone. Sometimes, people said, he could help you laugh on a sad day.



Kwakukhona indoda ogama layo kwakunguKasanko. Yayihlala nenkosikazi yayo kanye nendodana yabo. UKasanko wayewukhonzile kakhulu umndeni wakhe. Abantu babeyihlonipha kakhulu le ndoda eyayidume ngokushisela. Yayingacini ngokwenza amageja, izimbazo, izihlalo kanye nezinkezo ezinhle nje kuphela kodwa yayenza imigexo namasongo angajwayelekile neze. Yayithanda ukwenza izinto ezazibehlula abanye abantu, ivame nokwenzela iNkosi izipho ezinhle ezithokozisa inhliziyi. UKasanko wayengenaso isizungu lapho esebenza endaweni yakhe lapho ayenza khona zonke lezi zinto ezithandwa kangaka ngabantu. Abangane bakhe babefika nsuku zonke bazoxoxa naye futhi babezithokozisa nangamahlanya, kube mnandi kube njeyaya. Babeke baxoxe futhi ngenkosi yendawo eyayesatshwa kakhulu.

Kuthiwa iNkosi uDabulamanzi njalo yayibiza abantu ibatshela ukuthi abenze izinto ezizoyihlekisa. Kwakuthi uma behluleka wukwenza lezo zinto, ibaxoshe embusweni wayo. KwakunguKasanko kuphela owayehlonishwa yiNkosi futhi abantu babekubona lokho. Kwakuthi uma uKasanko esebenza, alekelelwe yindodana yakhe uZamani owayesefunde ukwenza izinto eziningi ezazenziwa ngubaba wakhe.

Lokho kwakumthokozisa kakhulu uKasanko ngoba wayengavilaphi, ekukhonzile nokusabela. NoZamani kangako eyokudlala nabangani bakhe. Phela wayefisa ukuthi wayesehamba ezinyathelweni zikababa wakhe engasayingeni wayengavilaphi, ekukhonzile nokusabela. NoZamani ngelinye ilanga, kwafika isithunywa seNkosi kuKasanko sizombikela ukuthi wayedingeka komkhulu ekuseni ngosuku olilandelayo. UKasanko wayengazi ukuthi ngabe sekwenzenjani. Ngosuku olilandelayo, uKasanko wavuka ekuseni ngovivi wamkela esigodivini. UKasanko yayisimlindlele. Yamnika okuphuzwayo yamishela ukuthi ifuna ayenzele into edinga obukhulu ubuchwepheshe. UKasanko yaphumelela naye ngaphandle, baya endaweni eyayinqwaba yezinto zensimbi ezaziphukile, imikhonto, imimise nezinhlobonhlobo zezikhali zokusabela ezindala ezazingasasentshisa. Yatshele uKasanko ukuthi ifuna azithathe zonke lezi zinto, akhe umuntu ophiliyo ngazo. Lo muntu kufanele afane nabantu abaphilayo, akhulume, abe namaphaphu okuphetumula – umahluko kwakuzoba ngumzimba wakhe nje kuphela okwakuzoba ngowensimbi. Kwathi lapho iNkosi ibona ukwethuka nokumangala kuKasanko yahlaka yathi kuye: “Ngicela ungethuki neze Kasanko. Angisihongo ukuthi bulala umuntu – ngithe ngakhele umuntu kuphela.” Yaphubeka iNkosi yathi: “Ungangitshele ukuthi ungenzela lesi sicelo. Sengethembelwe kuwe kuphela kule ndawo. Ikhono lakho liyaziwa kakhulu futhi nabantu bayakuhlompheka, ungangethoxi.”



One day the King's messenger arrived to summon Kasanko to the palace, instructing him to be there first thing the following morning. Kasanko wondered what awaited him. He rose early the next day, and went to the Great Palace, where King Dabulamanzi was waiting for him. He told Kasanko that he wanted him to do something very special for him. The King then led him outside, to a large pile of broken iron chairs, spears, knives and all kinds of old tools that were no longer used. He told Kasanko that he wanted him to take these things away, and out of them, make a person. Yes, a person – with a mind to think, a voice to speak and lungs to breathe. In every way just like a human, except that he would have an iron body which would never grow old.



Kasanko stood shocked and dismayed by the King's request. “I must tell you right now that I can't perform this task for you. It is impossible, O King, to make a living person out of iron. So you might as well kill me right now!”

But the King just laughed at his words and said: “Oh you are so modest Kasanko! Of course you can do this thing. I know your special talent. You can do anything you put your mind to. I am counting on you – so please, don't disappoint me.”

Kasanko tried to protest further. But the King would not listen to anything he said. Instead, he ordered his servants to carry the big pile of scrap metal off to Kasanko's home. The whole village stared in open-mouthed amazement as the royal party arrived bearing the mountain of old iron junk. Kasanko's wife took one look at her husband's distraught face and knew that something very bad was happening.

“If I was a child, I would throw myself on the ground and cry!” Kasanko told her. “The King has gone too far this time. He has ordered me to make a living being out of scrap metal – one who can think, speak and breathe like a human. Am I God, I ask myself?”

“Please, Baba, calm down, calm down,” begged his wife. “How does the King expect you to do this impossible thing?”



King Dabulamanzi was furious. He just didn't know what more he could do to squeeze the necessary tears out of his subjects. How could he tell Kasanko that he had failed to keep his part of the bargain? He was greatly tormented by the thought that he would not receive his living iron man, the miracle he had so desperately desired.

Then it dawned on the King what was really going on. He realised that Kasanko was asking the impossible from him, just as he had asked the impossible from Kasanko. The ironmonger had matched one crazy idea with another. There was nothing the King could do except swallow his pride and tell Kasanko to forget the whole thing.

All that night the King lay sleepless, thinking many troubled thoughts. The next day, he went straight to Kasanko's house and humbly apologised to him.

“You have made me realise, Kasanko, what a cruel and thoughtless King I have been to my subjects. I have given impossible commands and harshly punished those who failed to carry them out. How can I begin to ask for forgiveness from you and the many others that I have hurt? To make it up to you, you may ask me for anything that your heart desires. Anything.”

“It has always been my dream that this village of ours would become a centre of excellence, known far and wide for the quality of its crafts,” Kasanko told him. “What my heart desires most of all is to start a school where I can pass on my skills to others and teach them to put the best of themselves into the beautiful things they make.”

“I will see to it that you get everything you need,” promised the King. And he was as good as his word. In time, Kasanko's village became famous throughout the land for the excellent crafts it produced.

From far and wide people sent their children to Kasanko's school to learn the skills of weaving, pottery, carving, and ironmongery.



Yayingakwazi ukutshela uKasanko ukuthi iyehluleka wukuthola izinyembezi futhi yayihlushwa nawukuthi ngeke esatholakala lo muntu emdinga kangaka. Yayingasalali ebusuku icabanga. Ngaphezu kwalokho iNdlovukazi kanye nezingane zeNkosi zaziythukuthetele nazo, zingasayikhulumisi ngisho nokuyikhulumisa. INdlovukazi yayishaywa amahloni ngezenzo zeNkosi nangendlela eyayingahloniphi ngayo isizwe sayo. Ngempela kwaphoqeka ukuthi iNkosi ihlale phansi ijule ukucabanga. Yaze yagcina isithathe isinqumo sokuthi kungcono ibonane noKasanko imtshale ukuthi ayisamdingi lowo muntu eyayimfuna. Izinsimbi lezo okwakuzokwakhiwa ngazo umuntu, yazipha uKasanko ukuze azisebenzise uma ezidinga.



UKasanko wathokoza kakhulu uma ezwa lezi zindaba. Yena nomndeni wakhe base bezothola ukuphumula bengasacabangi ngalo muntu owayedingwa yiNkosi. Kuningi okwafundwa nguKasanko ngalesi sigameko. Wazimisela ngokwenza izinto ezintsha ezingakaze zenziwe ngomunye umuntu. Wayebonakala ecwebezela izindandatho namasongo akhe, asebenzise imithi kanye nembewu, akuthake nezinye izinto ukuze enze imibala yokuhlobisa izinto ayezakha. Wayezenzela nopende wokupenda impahla yakhe yasendlini.

Ezinye izinto ayezenza uKasanko, abantu babengakaze bazibone kanti nendodana yakhe, uSenzo, yayisifunde okuningi kuyena. Emva kweminyaka embalwa, uKasanko watshela indodana yakhe ukuthi kungaba yisu elihle uma izowuqhuba lo msebenzi wakhe. Kwakumthokozisa kakhulu ukubona ubuhle bezinto ababezenza. Abantu babethumela izingane zabo ekhaya likaKasanko ukuze zifunde konke okwakwenziwa yilo mndeni owawusudume izwe lonke.

Children of Africa

To celebrate Africa Day on 25 May and International Children's Day on 1 June, here is a special poster of the Nal'ibali children for you to cut out and keep.

Izingane zase-Afrika

Ukuze ugubhe Usuku Lwe-Afrika mhla zingama-25 kuNhlaba kanye noSuku Lwezingane Lomhlaba mhla lu-1 kuNhlanguana, nanka amaphosta akhethekile ezingane zakwaNal'ibali ozowasika uwakhiphe bese uwagcina.

Name: Neo
Age: 8 years
Brothers/sisters: Mbali
Languages: IsiZulu, IsiXhosa, English
Favourite colour: red
Favourite snack: ice cream
Favourite books: stories about pirates
Favourite activity: playing soccer



Igama: uNeo
Iminyaka yobudala: iminyaka eyisi-8
Odadewabo/abafowabo: uMbali
Izilimi: isiZulu, isiXhosa, isiNgisi
Umbala awuthandayo: obomvu
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: u-ayisikhilimu
Izincwadi azithandayo: izindaba zezigcwelegcwele zasolwandle
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: ukudlala ibhola likanobhutshuzwayo

Name: Dintle
Age: 9 months
Brothers/sisters: Afrika
Languages: Sesotho
Favourite colour: doesn't have one yet
Favourite snack: strawberry yoghurt
Favourite books: books with pictures of babies and animals
Favourite activity: splashing in water



Igama: uDintle
Iminyaka yobudala: izinyanga eziyi-9
Odadewabo/abafowabo: u-Afrika
Izilimi: iSesotho
Umbala awuthandayo: akakabi nawo
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: iyogathi yestrobheri
Izincwadi azithandayo: izincwadi ezinezithombe zabantwana kanye nezilwane
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: ukushaya amanzi

Name: Bella
Age: 5 years
Brothers/sisters: none
Languages: IsiXhosa, English
Favourite colour: green
Favourite snack: bananas
Favourite books: stories about animals, queens and witches
Favourite activity: reading to her dog, Noodle



Igama: uBella
Iminyaka yobudala: iminyaka emi-5
Odadewabo/abafowabo: akanabo
Izilimi: isiXhosa, isiNgisi
Umbala awuthandayo: oluhlaza okotshani
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: ubhanana
Izincwadi azithandayo: izindaba ezimayelana nezilwane, izindlovukazi kanye nabathakathi
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: ukufundelainja yakhe, uNoodle

Name: Mbali
Age: 2 years
Brothers/sisters: Neo
Languages: IsiZulu
Favourite colour: pink
Favourite snack: pink cupcakes
Favourite books: rhymes
Favourite activity: dressing up



Igama: uMbali
Iminyaka yobudala: iminyaka emi-2
Odadewabo/abafowabo: uNeo
Izilimi: isiZulu
Umbala awuthandayo: ophinki
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: amakhekhe asankomishi ophinki
Izincwadi azithandayo: imilolozelo
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: ukugqoka njengomuntu othile

Name: Hope
Age: 10 years
Brothers/sisters: none
Languages: English, Afrikaans, IsiZulu
Favourite colour: purple
Favourite snack: cheese and tomato rolls
Favourite books: novels about children the same age as her
Favourite activity: doing karate



Igama: uHope
Iminyaka yobudala: iminyaka eyi-10
Odadewabo/abafowabo: akanabo
Izilimi: isiNgisi, isiBhunu, isiZulu
Umbala awuthandayo: onsoni
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: amaroli kashizi kanye notamatishi
Izincwadi azithandayo: amanoveli ngezingane ezingangaye
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: umkhalambazo (i-karate)

Name: Afrika
Age: 7 years
Brothers/sisters: Dintle
Languages: Sesotho, English, IsiXhosa
Favourite colour: brown
Favourite snack: watermelon
Favourite books: books about how to make things
Favourite activity: building things, and anything to do with science



Igama: u-Afrika
Iminyaka yobudala: iminyaka eyisi-7
Odadewabo/abafowabo: uDintle
Izilimi: iSesotho, isiNgisi, isiXhosa
Umbala awuthandayo: onsundu
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: amakhabe
Izincwadi azithandayo: izincwadi ezimayelana nokwakha izinto
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: ukwakha izinto kanye nokwenza noma yini ephathelene nesayensi

Name: Josh
Age: 12 years
Brothers/sisters: none
Languages: Afrikaans, English, Sesotho
Favourite colour: blue
Favourite snack: salt and vinegar chips
Favourite books: teen novels and books about aeroplanes
Favourite activity: building and flying kites



Igama: uJosh
Iminyaka yobudala: iminyaka eyi-12
Odadewabo/abafowabo: akanabo
Izilimi: isiBhunu, isiNgisi, neSesotho
Umbala awuthandayo: oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka
Ukudla kokubamba umoya akuthandayo: amashibusi anosawoti noviniga
Izincwadi azithandayo: amanoveli amabhungu namatshitshi kanye nezincwadi ezimayelana nezindiza
Umsebenzi athanda ukuwenza: ukwakha kanye nokundizisa amakhayithi

The glass mountain



Retold by Kai Tuomi ✨ Illustrations by Natalie and Tamsin Hinrichsen

A long time ago, the place at the foot of Table Mountain that we now call Cape Town, was dry and empty. At that time, it was said that Table Mountain was made of glass and that a magic dassie who granted wishes, lived at the very top.

Men and women came from all across South Africa and tried to climb the glass mountain to get to the magic dassie, but the sides of the mountain were very slippery and no matter how hard they tried, no one could make it to the top.

One day, a young boy called Khwezi arrived in Cape Town. He wanted to get to the top of the mountain. That night, he went into the veld and found Leopard.

"Leopard," Khwezi said, "I need to ask you a favour. If you help me, I promise that I will fill this dry, empty land with plants and animals. You will never go hungry again."

Leopard looked hungrily at the boy. "Why should I help you? I could just eat you, you know," said Leopard licking his lips. And then Leopard thought some more about Khwezi's offer and said, "Actually a land filled with plants and animals sounds wonderful. I accept. What do you need?"

"You are very good at climbing, and with your sharp claws, we should be able to get to the top of the glass mountain," said Khwezi, getting onto Leopard's back.

They walked through the veld, across the dry land, all the way to the glass mountain.



At the bottom of the mountain, Leopard dug his claws into the slippery glass sides, and started to climb up. It took a long time and they had to climb very slowly. When they were about halfway up, Leopard sighed. "I'm too tired to carry on," he said, lying down against the glass. "It's impossible to get to the top, even with my claws."

Vulture, who was a big scary bird, circled in the sky above them.

"I have an idea," said Khwezi, "let's lie here and pretend to be dead."

So they lay down on the glass and pretended to be dead. Soon, Vulture landed, thinking he had found something good to eat.

"How tasty," said Vulture. "What good luck!"

"Hiya!" shouted Khwezi, jumping from Leopard's back and grabbing hold of Vulture's claws. He held on tightly. Vulture shrieked in surprise and flew into the sky, carrying Khwezi off with him. Leopard watched them go and then slid slowly back down the side of the mountain.

"What do you want with me?" asked Vulture, struggling to fly.

"Vulture," said Khwezi, "could you fly me up to the top of the mountain? If you do, I will fill this dry, empty land with plants and animals. Then you will never go hungry again."

"That sounds wonderful," said Vulture, "and I am very hungry. Okay, I'll try and fly you to the top of the glass mountain."

So Vulture flew Khwezi up through the clouds. It took a very long time, but in the end they reached the top of the mountain. Khwezi jumped from Vulture down onto the flat top of the glass mountain.

"Hello," said a silky voice.

Khwezi saw a golden dassie sitting on a cushion of small purple flowers, eating a long piece of yellow grass.

"You must be the magic dassie," said Khwezi.

"I am," said the dassie. "What is your wish? I could make you the richest person in the world, or maybe you want to be handsome, or famous."

Khwezi thought about all these things and then he thought about Leopard, and Vulture, and all the hungry people living in the place we now call Cape Town.

"No," said Khwezi, "I wish to fill this dry, empty land with plants and animals."

"If you say so," said the magic dassie, blinking.

There was a loud *POP!* and golden sparks filled the sky. Khwezi closed his eyes and when he opened them again, the mountain was no longer made of glass, it was wild and natural and filled with many wonderful plants, much as it is today. He looked out over the land further away, and he saw that it was filled with plants and animals. Vulture swooped past with a big smile on his face. Khwezi looked for the golden dassie, but he had disappeared.



On his way down the mountain, Khwezi found Leopard sleeping in the shade of a tree.

"Well done," said Leopard, half asleep.

Khwezi patted him and carried on walking down the mountain. When he reached the bottom, Khwezi was met by a crowd of people who cheered and lifted him onto their shoulders. Then they had a big party to celebrate. After a long time more and more people came to live in the land around Table Mountain, and they made a city that would later be called Cape Town.

Endulo, indawo ephansi kweTable Mountain esesiyibiza ngokuthi yiKapa manje, yayomile futhi ingenalutho. Ngaleso sikhathi, kwakuthiwa iTable Mountain yayakhiwe ngengilazi kanye nokuthi kwakukhona imbila enomlingo eyayikunika lokho okufisayo, eyayihlala phezulu esicongweni.

Amadoda kanye nabesifazane babevela kuzo zonke izindawo zaseNingizimu Afrika bazame ukuqwala intaba eyingilazi ukuze bayofika embileni enomlingo, kodwa amacala entaba ayeshibilika kakhulu, futhi ngisho babezama kangakanani, akekho owayefinyelela esicongweni.

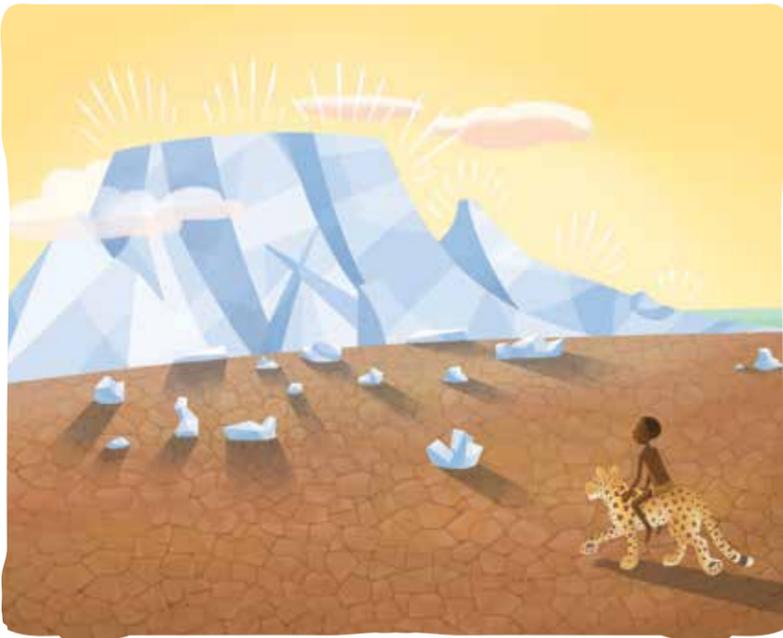
Ngelinye ilanga, kwafika eKapa umfanyana obizwa ngoKhwezi. Wayefuna ukufinyelela esicongweni sentaba. Ngalobo busuku, waya endle wahlangana noNgwe.

“We Ngwe,” kusho uKhwezi, “Kukhona okuhle engicela ungenzele kona. Uma ungangisiza, ngiyethembisa ukuthi ngizogcwalisa lo mhlaba owomile, ongenalutho ngezitshalo nezilwane. Angeke uphinde ulambe futhi.”

UNgwe owayesefile yindlala wabuka umfana wamhalela. “Kungani kumele ngikusize? Uyazi nje ukuthi, ngingavele ngikudle,” kusho uNgwe ekhotha izindebe zakhe. UNgwe wathi ukucabacabanga ngalokho okwakushiwo uKhwezi wase ethi, “Empeleni kumnandi ukuzwa ngezwe eligcwele izitshalo nezilwane. Ngiyavuma-ke. Udingani?”

“Umuhle kakhulu ekucaceni, kanti ngamazipho akho abukhali, kumele sikwazi ukufinyelela esicongweni sentaba eyingilazi,” kusho uKhwezi, ebeba kuNgwe.

Bahamba ehlane, benqamula indawo eyomile, baze bayofika entabeni eyingilazi.



Ngaphansi kwentaba eyingilazi, uNgwe wafaka amazipho akhe ezinhlangothini eziyingilazi ezishelelayo wase eqala ukukhuphuka. Kwathatha isikhathi eside ngoba babekhwela kancane, kancane. Bathi sebephakathi nokucaca intaba, uNgwe waphefumula kakhulu wathi “Sengikhathale kakhulu ukuthi ngingaqhubeka,” washo, elala encika engilazini. “Kuyinto engenzeke ukuthi sifike esicongweni sentaba, nangamazipho ami imbala.”

UNqe, owayeyinyoni enkulu eyesabekayo, wayezula esibhakabhakeni phezu kwabo.

“Nginecebo,” kusho uKhwezi, “ake silale la bese senza sengathi sifile.”

Base belala engilazini benza sengathi bafike. Kungekudala uNqe wehlela kubo, ecabanga ukuthi uthole into emnandi azoyidla.

“Kwaze kwaconsisa amathe lokhu,” kusho uNqe. “Ngaze nganenhlanhla!”

“Hhiya!” kumemeza uKhwezi, egxuma esuka emhlane kaNgwe ebambelela emazisheni kaNqe. Wabambelela waqinisa. UNqe waklewula ngokumangala wase endiza eya esibhakabhakeni, ethwele uKhwezi. UNgwe wababuka behamba baze behla beshona phansi ohlangothini lwentaba.

“Ufunani kimi?” kubuza uNqe, ehluleka ukundiza.

“UNqe,” kusho uKhwezi, “ngabe ungangindizisa ungise esicongweni sentaba? Uma wenzenjalo, ngizogcwalisa le ndawo eyomile, engenalutho ngezitshalo nezilwane. Ngeke uphinde ulambe futhi.”

“Kuzwakala kukuhle lokho,” kusho uNqe, “kanti nami ngilambe kakhulu. Kulungile, ngizozama ukukundizisela ukuyokufikisa esicongweni sentaba eyingilazi.”

Ngakho uNqe wandiza noKhwezi waya phezulu emafini. Kwathatha isikhathi eside, kodwa ekugcineni bafika esicongweni sentaba. UKhwezi wagxuma esuka kuNqe wehlela endaweni eyisicaba phezu kwentaba eyingilazi.

“Sawubona,” kusho izwi elithambile.

UKhwezi wabona imbila esagolide ihleli ekhushinini lezimballi ezincane ezinsomi, lidla umucu omude wotshani obuphuzi.

“Kufanele engabe nguwe imbila enomlingo,” kusho uKhwezi.

“Ngiyiyo,” kusho imbila. “Yini oyifisayo? Ngingakwenza ube umuntu ocele ukudlula kubo bonke abantu emhlabeni; noma mhlawumbe ufuna ukuba muhle, noma ukuduma.”

UKhwezi wacabanga ngazo zonke lezi zinto wase ecabanga ngoNgwe, kanye noNqe, kanye nabo bonke abantu abalambile abahlala endaweni esesiyibiza ngokuthi iKapa.

“Cha,” kusho uKhwezi, “Ngifisa ukugcwalisa yonke le ndawo eyomile, engenalutho ngezitshalo kanye nezilwane.”

“Kulungile uma usho kanjalo-ke,” kusho imbila enomlingo, icwayiza.

Kwezwakala kuthi BHA kakhulu! Kwase kugcwala izinhlansi ezisagolide esibhakabhakeni. UKhwezi wacimeza wase ephinde ewavula amehlo, intaba yayingeseyona ingilazi, yase ingeyasendle, ingeyendalo, igcwele izitshalo eziningi ezinhle, njengoba zikhona namhlanje. Wabuka izwe elikude, wase ebona ukuthi laligcwele izitshalo kanye nezilwane. UNqe wadlula endiza ngokumamatheka okukhulu ebusweni bakhe. UKhwezi wabheka imbila yomlingo, kodwa yase inyamalele.



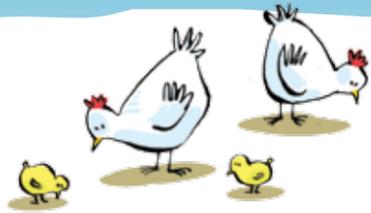
Endleleni yakhe ehla entabeni, uKhwezi wathola uNgwe elele emthunzini wesihlahla.

“Usebenzile,” kusho uNgwe, ozela.

UKhwezi wamumbambatha wase eqhubeka nokuhamba ehla entabeni. Lapho esefika ezansi, uKhwezi wahlangabezwa iqulu labantu elamhalalisela lase limthwala emahlombe alo. Base beba nedili elikhulu lokugubha. Emva kwesikhathi eside kwafika nabanye abantu bazohlala endaweni ezungeze iTable Mountain, bakha idolobha kamuva elabizwa ngokuthi yiKapa.

Nal'ibali fun

UNal'bali uyathokozisa



✿ Use your imagination to tell the rest of this story.

Neo put the book under his pillow and got out of bed. He crept quietly to the front door so that he wouldn't wake anyone up. He opened the door slowly. On the front doorstep was ...

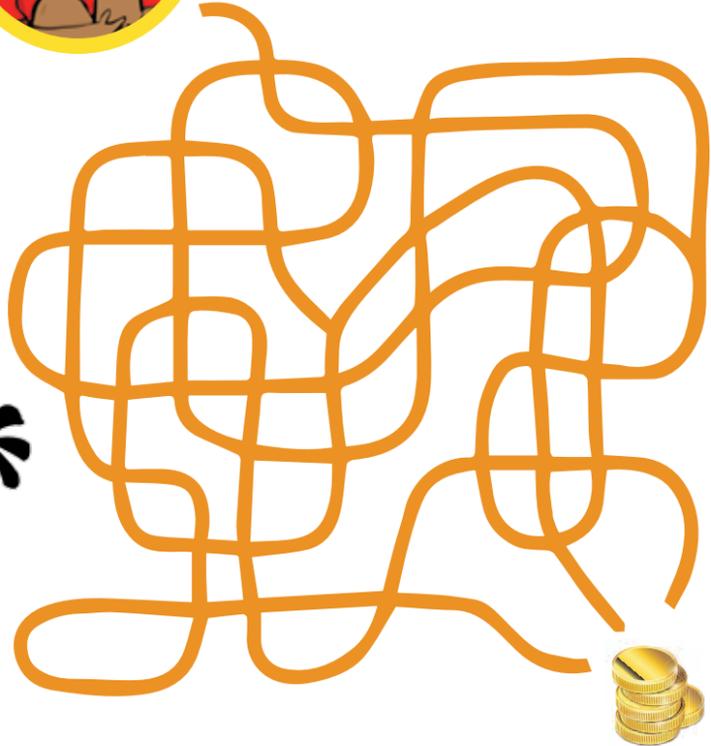
✿ Sebenzisa okubona ngomqondo wakho ukuze uxoxe indaba uze uyofika esiphethweni sayo.

UNeo wabeka incwadi ngaphansi komcamelo wakhe wase ephuma embhedeni. Wanyonyoba ngokuthula waya emnyango ongaphambili ukuze angavusi muntu. Wavula umnyango kancane. Esitebhisweni somnyango ongaphambili kwakukhona ...



✿ Can you help Lungile get to his lost money?

✿ Ngabe ungamsiza uLungile ukuthi athole imali emlahlekelele?



✿ Be a word detective and find these words in the story, "Kasanko's dream".

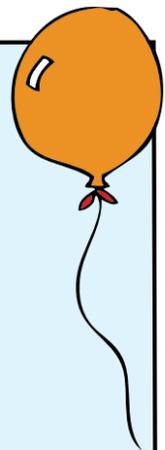
Choose any word:

- that describes Kasanko _____
- that describes Senzo _____
- that describes a feeling _____
- that names a place _____
- that rhymes with "night" _____
- that starts with the letters **pr-** _____
- that ends with the letters **-ness** _____
- with 7 letters _____
- with more than 10 letters _____
- that is new to you _____

✿ Yiba umseshi wamagama asendabeni ethi, "Udumo lukaKasanko".

Khetha noma iliphi igama:

- elichaza uKasanko _____
- elichaza uSenzo _____
- elichaza umuzwa _____
- elisho indawo _____
- elichaza inkosikazi yeNkosi _____
- elichaza ukugigitheka _____
- elichaza isehlakalo _____
- elinezinhlamvu zamagama eziyi-8 _____
- elinezinhlamvu zamagama ezingaphezu kweziyi-10 _____
- elisha kuwe _____



Bookmarks, posters, activity sheets ... Download your free resources from the Nal'ibali "Resource" section on our website: www.nalibali.org.

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Ama-bookmark, amaphosta, amaphepha emisebenzi ... Thwebula izinsiza zakho zamahhala esigabeni esithi "Resource" esizindenilwazi sethu esithi: www.nalibali.org.

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Daily Dispatch

The Herald

Sunday Times

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