

Nal'ibali

We are 10 years old!

This year, the Nal'ibali reading-for-enjoyment campaign is celebrating its 10th anniversary! In 2012, Nal'ibali was launched as a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign. Its aim was to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa so that reading, writing and sharing stories – in all of the South African languages – would become part of everyday life. To make that vision a reality, Nal'ibali has produced many wonderful stories for children in all of the South African languages. These stories are shared in our bilingual supplement, as printed books and radio stories, on our website and via social media, so that every child can enjoy a story every day!

Every child from 0 years onward

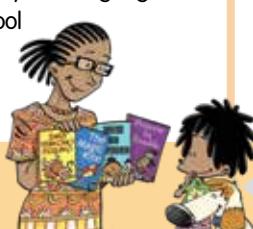
Even babies can – and should – enjoy a story every day. Children learn to read by first being read to and then learning how to do it for themselves. The more you read aloud and talk to babies, the more words they hear. Sharing books with pictures, rhymes and stories helps teach them vocabulary and language – and gets their brains thinking! These are skills critical for school success, and it is up to us as adults and caregivers to model the behaviour of reading from an early age.



Every day for just 15 minutes

Taking time out from a busy day to read to your children shows them how important they are to you. Reading to your children every day:

- ★ makes it an enjoyable habit and helps them become lovers of books and life-long readers.
- ★ means you are making time for them. The memory of satisfying story times with you will stay with your children throughout their lives.



Enjoy stories as a family

One of the wisest investments we can make in our children is listening and talking to them and doing things together. These things happen naturally when families spend even a short time together each day, telling and reading stories together.

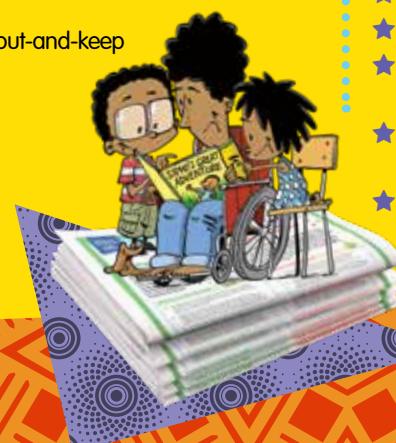
4 easy wins

1. Read in their mother tongue.
2. Read what they love.
3. Read printed books.
4. Read together.



What's inside this BUMPER edition?

- ★ Start your family's reading journey today! (page 2)
- ★ Ways to celebrate World Read Aloud Day (page 2)
- ★ A new poster! (page 3)
- ★ A special Nal'ibali World Read Aloud Day cut-out-and-keep book (pages 5, 6, 27 and 28)
- ★ 10 World Read Aloud Day stories in English (pages 7–16) and in Xitsonga (pages 17–26)
- ★ A new Story corner story (pages 30 and 31)



Hi na 10 ra malembe hi vukhale!

Lembe ieri, pthumba ra Nal'ibali ro hlayela ku tiphina ri tlengela lembe ra vu10 ri sungurile! Hi 2012, Nal'ibali yi simekiwile tanhi pthumba ro hlayela ku tiphina. Xikongomelo xa rona a ku ri ku tlonthla na ku simeka ntolovelwa ku hlaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro leswaku ku hlaya, ku tsala na ku avelana mitsheketo – hi tindzimi hinkwato ta laha Afrika-Dzonga – swi va xiphemu xa vutomi bya masiku hinkwawo. Ku endla xivono lexi xi humelela, Nal'ibali yi humesile mitsheketo yo hlamarisa yo tala ya vana hi tindzimi hinkwato ta Afrika-Dzonga. Mtsheketo leyi ku avelaniwa yona eka xitatisi xa hina xa hi tindzimi timbirhi, tanhi tibuku leti kandziyiweke na mitsheketo ya le ka xiyanimoya, eka webusayiti ya hina na le ka vuhangalasamahungunyngi bya vanhu, leswaku n'wana un'wana na un'wana a tiphina hi ntsheketo masiku hinkwawo!

N'wana un'wana na un'wana kusukela eka 0 wa malembe kuya emahlweni

Hambi tincece ti nga swi kona – naswona tifanele – ku tiphina hi ntsheketo siku rin'wana na rin'wana. Vana va dyondza ku hlaya hikuva va rhanga hi ku hlaveriwa kutani va dyondza ku tlhayela vona hi vox. Loko u hlayela ehenhla hi mikarhi na ku vulavula na vana, va nyanya ku twa marito yo tala. Ku avelana tibuku ta swifaniso, swinsin'wana na mitsheketo swi va pfuna ku eka ntivomarito na ririm – naswona swi endla ku ri byongo bya vona byi anakanya! Lebyi l'uswukoti bya nkoka eku humeleti ka vona exikolweni, naswona swi le ka hina tanhi hi vatswatsi na vahlaysi ku vumba mahanyelo yo hlaya ku suka eka malembe ya le hansi.

Masiku hinkwawo ku ringana timinetse ta 15

Ku tinyika nkarhi eka siku ra migingiriko ku hlayela vana swi komba hilaha va nga na nkoka hakona eka wena. Ku hlayela vana va wena masiku hinkwawo:

- ★ swi endla leswaku ku va ntolovelwa lowu va tiphina hawona naswona swi va pfuna va rhandza tibuku na ku va vahlaysi evuton'wini bya vona.
- ★ swi vula leswaku u tinyika nkarhi wa vona. Ku tshamela ro tsundzuka ku eneteka hi mikarhi ya mitsheketo na wena swi ta tshama swi ri kona eka vana va wena evuton'wini bya wena.

Tiphineni hi mitsheketo tanhi ndyangu

Ndlela yin'wana ya vutlharihi bya ku vekisa loku hi nga ku endlelaka vana va hina i ku va yingisela na ku vulavula na vona na ku endla swi swi. Leswi swi humelela hi ntumbuluko hikuva mindyangu yi tirhisa hambi nkarhi wu ri wutsongo ku va va swi swi siku rin'wana na rin'wana, va tsheketaa na ku hlaya mitsheketo swi swi.

4 wa ku hlula ko olova

1. A va hlayi hi ririmri ra manana.
2. A va hlayi leswi va swi rhandzaka.
3. A va hlayi tibuku to pirintiwa.
4. Hlayani swi swi.



Xana i yini leswi nga endzeni ka nkandziyiso lowu wo HLAWULEKA?

- ★ Sungula riendzo ro hlaya na ndyangu wa wena! (pheji 2)
- ★ Tindlela ta ku tlengela Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla (pheji 2)
- ★ Phositaro leyintshwa! (pheji 3)
- ★ Buku yo hlawuleka ya Nal'ibali ya tsema u hlayisa ya Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla (pheji 5, 6, 27 na 28)
- ★ 10 ra mitsheketo ya Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla hi Xinghezi (mapheji 7–16) na hi Xitsonga (mapheji 17–26)
- ★ Ntsheketo wuntshwa wa le ka Ndhawu ya mitsheketo (mapheji 30 na 31)



IT STARTS WITH
A STORY.
SWI SUNGULA HI
NTSHEKETO.

Celebrate World Read Aloud Day with us!

Each year Nal'ibali creates a special story to share with you for World Read Aloud Day. This year's story, *A party at the park*, was written by South African author Mabel Mnensa and illustrated by cartoonist Rico and features some of the much-loved Nal'ibali characters. Read it with your family this World Read Aloud Day, 2 February 2022!

“Reading together as a family can provide hours of enjoyment. And like all fun things, reading can happen anytime and anywhere! Read a story before bedtime, in the afternoon, while you are waiting for someone or something, or while you're travelling – any time that works for you!”



Siphiwe Hlabangane

Start your family's reading journey today!

Pledge to read the World Read Aloud Day story on 2 February 2022 and choose to keep reading with Nal'ibali for the rest of the year. Here's how to pledge:

- ★ Visit www.nalibali.org/wrad-2022 to sign up your family, reading club or school.
- ★ WhatsApp "WRAD" to 0600 44 22 54 and follow the prompts to enter.
- ★ Download the story in any of South Africa's 11 languages, plus Chichewa, French, Lingala, Portuguese, Shona or Swahili.
- ★ Practice reading it aloud before the big day!
- ★ Encourage your family and friends to pledge as well.

We can do this! Let's get 1 million South African families reading this World Read Aloud Day!

Ways to celebrate World Read Aloud Day

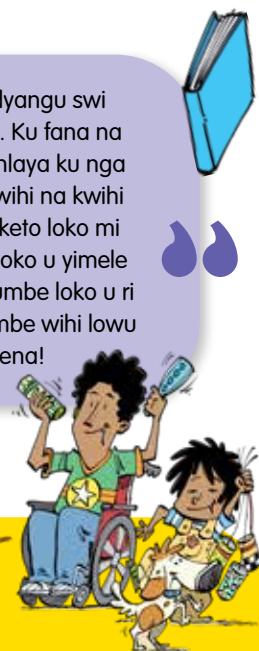
1. Do one or more of the **story activities** suggested for *A party at the park* in the "Get story active!" section on page 29.
2. **At home:** Have a Read Aloud Evening with your family and friends. Read your favourite books aloud to each other and share why you enjoy them so much.
3. **At your school:** Create a Read Aloud Space with a variety of books suitable for different ages. Arrange for volunteers to read aloud to groups of children in this special space throughout World Read Aloud Day.
4. **In the community:** Arrange a story-sharing event at your library or any community space. Invite adults and children to come along and share stories throughout the day. You can find tip sheets in different South African languages to download for free in the "Story sharing" section of the Nal'ibali website: www.nalibali.org.
5. **At work:** Ask your colleagues to donate books that can be given to a local school or reading club. Arrange for staff to spend some time reading aloud during a lunch break, before or after a meeting or after hours.



Tlanelga na hina Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla!

Lembe na lembe Nal'ibali yi endla ntsheketo wo hlawuleka ku avelana na wena hi Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla. Ntsheketo wa lembe ieri, *Ntlangu ephakini*, wu tsariwile hi mutsari wa laha Afrika-Dzonga Mabel Mnensa na ku kombisiwa hi n'watikhathuni Rico naswona wu katsa swimunhuhatwa leswo rhandzeka swinene swa Nal'ibali. Wu hlayi na ndyangu wa wena hi Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla, 2 Nyenyanana 2022!

“Ku hlaya swin'we tanhi ndyangu swi nga nyika tiawara to tiphina. Ku fana na hinkwaswo swo tsakisa, ku hlaya ku nga va kona nkahi wihi kumbe wihi na kwih kumbe kwih! Hlayani ntsheketo loko mi nga si ya etlela, nindzenga, loko u yimele un'wana kumbe xin'wana, kumbe loko u ri eriendzweni – nkahi wihi kumbe wihi lowu wu nga kahle eka wena!



Sungula riendzo ro hlaya na ndyangu wa wena namuntsha!

Tibohi ku hlaya ntsheketo hi Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla hi 2 ta Nyenyanana 2022 kutani u hlawa ku ya emahlweni u hlaya na Nal'ibali lembe hinkwaro. Hi leyi ndlela yo tiboha:

- ★ **Vhakela** www.nalibali.org/wrad-2022 ku tsarisa ndyangu wa wena, ntlawo hlaya kumbe xikolo.
- ★ **Rhumela Whatsapp "WRAD"** eka 0600 44 22 54 kutani u landzelela swileriso.
- ★ **Dawuniloda** ntsheketo hi ririm ihi kumbe rihi ra tindzimi ta 11 ta laha Afrika-Dzonga, ku katsa na Xichewa, Xifurwa, Lingala, Xiphutukezi, Xishona kumbe Xiswahili.
- ★ **Titoloveti** ku wu hlayela ehenhla loko sikunkulu ri nga si fika!
- ★ **Hloholotelia** vandyangu na vanghana ku ri na vona va tiboha.

Hi ngo swi endla leswi! A hi kumeni 1 miliyono ya mindyangu ya Afrika-Dzonga leswaku va hlaya hi Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla!

Tindlela to tlanelga Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla

1. Endla wun'we kumbe yo tala ya **micingiriko ya ntsheketo** lowu ringanyetiweke eka *Ntlangu ephakini* eka xiyege xa "Endla Ntsheketo wu nyanya!" eka pheji 29.
2. **Ekaya:** Vanani na Vusiku bya ku Hlayela Ehenhla na ndyangu na vanghana va wena. Hlayelelanani ehenhla tibuku leti mi tirhandzaka na ku avelana leswaku hikokwalahokayini mi tiphina ha tona swinene.
3. **Exikolweni:** Endlani Xivandla xo Hlayela Ehenhla hi tibuku to hambarahambana leti nga ringanelo vukhale byo hambarahambana. Lulamisa vanhu lava tinyikeleku ku hlayela ehenhla eka ntlawo ya vana eka tindhawu to hlawuleka esikwini hinkwaro ra Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla.
4. **Emugangen:** Lulamisa xiendleko xa swa ku avelana ntsheketo eka layiburari kumbe ndhawu ya le mugangen. Rhamba vanhu lavakulu na vana ku ta va ta avelana mitsheketo swin'we esikwini hinkwaro. U nga kuma mahal switsundzuxo hi tindzimi ta laha Afrika-Dzonga swa hilaha u nga dawunilodaka hakona mahal eka xiyege xa "Ku avelana ntsheketo" eka webusayiti ya Nal'ibali ya www.nalibali.org.
5. **Entirhweni:** Kombela vatirhikuloni ku nyikela tibuku leti nga nyikiwaka xikolo xa kwala mugangen kumbe ntlawo wo hlaya. Lulamisela vatirhi ku va na nkahi wo hlayela ehenhla hi nkahi wo dya, enhlengeletanini kumbe endzhaku ka nkahi wo tirha.



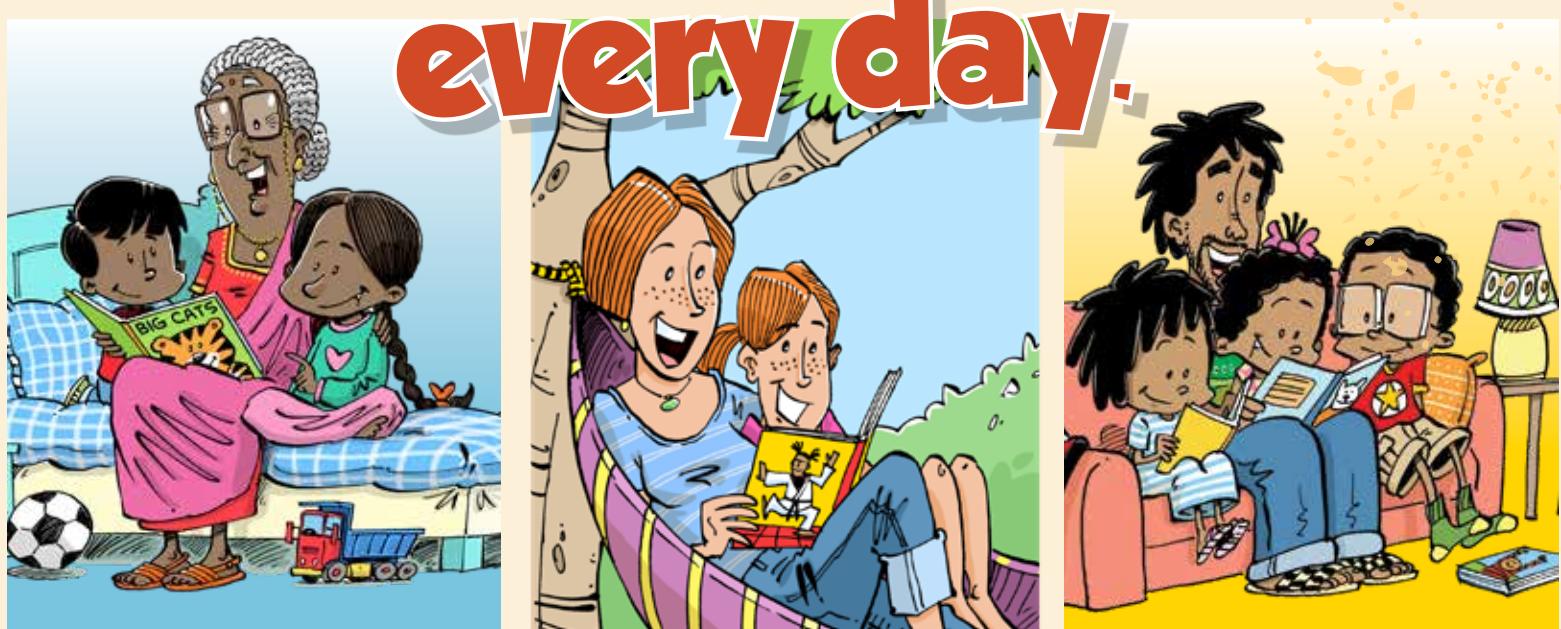
Afrika-Dzonga laha A South Africa where



n wana un wana na un wana
a tiphinaka hi ntsheketo
siku na siku.

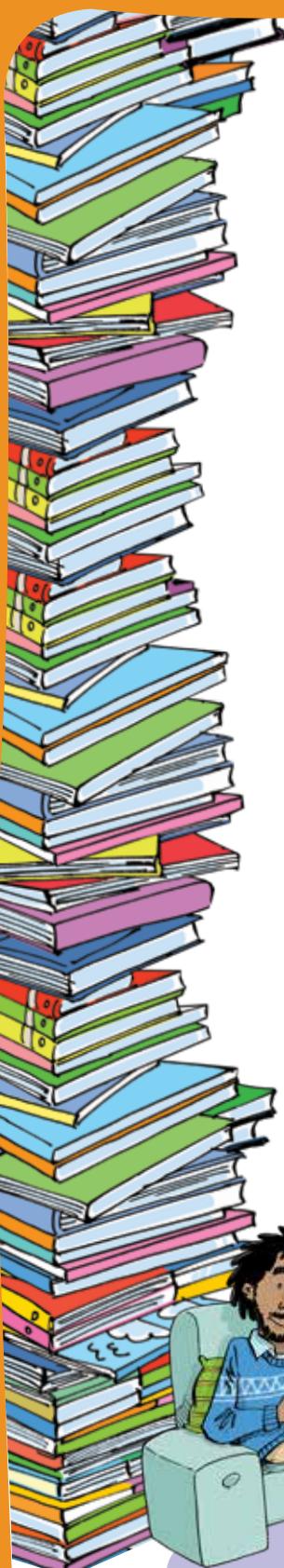


every child enjoys a story
every day.



Contact us in any of these ways:

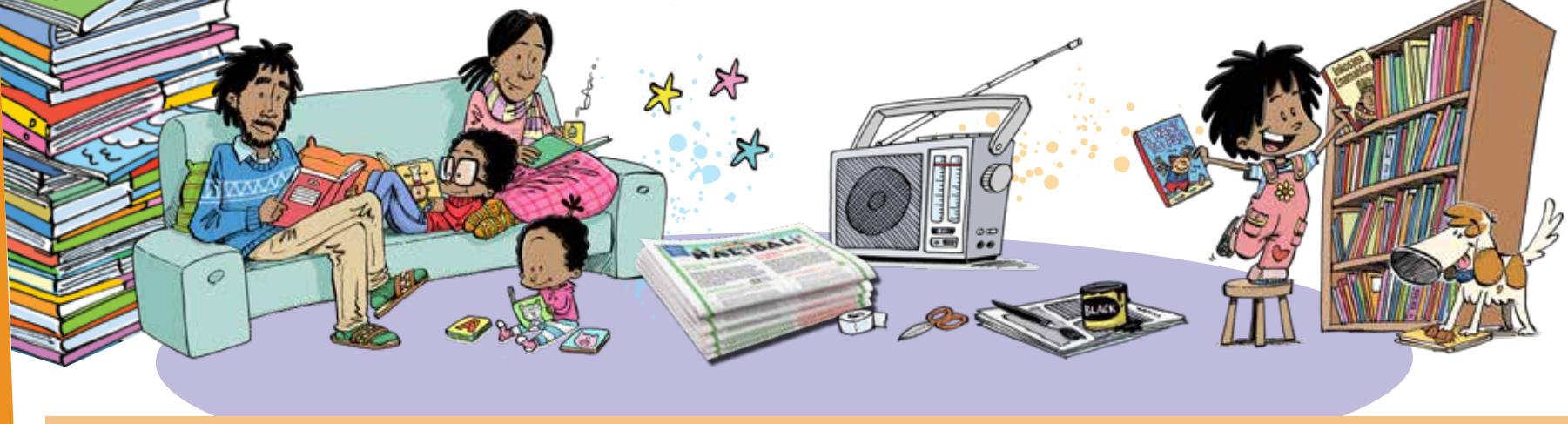
Tihlanganisi na hina hi yin'wani ya tindlela leti:



Build your family's book collection

Visit our website, www.nalibali.org, to find stories to read in your home language. You can also listen to audio stories that you can download for free. Plus our website is zero-rated, which means you can access it at no data charge!

- ★ Get a free copy of our bilingual newspaper supplement at a post office (go to <https://www.nalibali.org/story-resources/supplement-distribution> to find one near you) or in one of the newspapers mentioned at the bottom of pages 1 and 32. Each supplement has three stories: two cut-out-and-keep books and a longer Story corner story.
- ✓ Paste the Story corner stories onto sheets of cardboard (for example, an old cereal box) and cover them in plastic to make them last longer.
- ✓ Fold and cut out the cut-out-and-keep books, then sew or staple each book so that it lasts longer.
- ✓ Store your cut-out-and-keep books and story cards in a box or a cloth or plastic bag.
- ★ Have a braai or cake sale to raise money to buy books. Then buy books at second-hand bookshops and flea markets.
- ★ Ask your family and friends to give books as gifts.
- ★ Swap books with family and friends.
- ★ Write your own stories for and with children. Then bind the pages to make a book.
- ★ Look for stories in newspapers and magazines. Cut them out and make story cards.



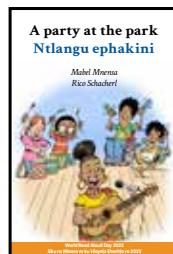
Create TWO WRAD storybook collections

1. Take out pages 7 to 26 of this supplement.
2. Pages 7 to 16 make up one book in English.
3. Pages 17 to 26 make up one book in Xitsonga.
4. Fold the pages of each book in half along the green dotted line.
5. Cut along the red dotted lines.
6. Sew or staple each book to keep the pages together.



Create ONE cut-out-and-keep book

1. The sheet with pages 5, 6, 27 and 28 makes up one book.
2. Follow the instructions below to make the 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.



Aka nhlengelo wa tibuku ta ndyangu

Vhakela webusayiti ya hina, www.nalibali.org, ku kuma mitsheketo leyi u nga yi hlayaka hi ririmu ra manana ra wena. U nga tlhela u yingisela mitsheketo yo yingidela leyi u nga yi dawunilodaka mahala. Nakambe webusayiti ya hina i ya mahala, leswi vulaka leswaku u nga yi fikelela ku ri hava nkoxo wa data!

- ★ Kuma kopi ya hina mahala ya phephahungu ra hi tindzimi timbirhi ra xitatisi eposweni (yana eka <https://www.nalibali.org/story-resources/supplement-distribution> kuma leyi nga kusuhi na wena) kumbe eka rin'wana ra maphephahungu lama nga boxiwa ehansi ka mapheji ya 1 na 32. Xitatisi xin'wana na xin'wana xi na mitsheketo yinharhu: tibuku timbirhi ta tsema u hlayisa na ntsheketo wo leha eka ntsheketo wa Ndhawu ya mitsheketo.
- ✓ Namarheta mitsheketo ya le ka Ndhawu ya mitsheketo eka khadibodo (xikombiso, bokisi ra khale ra tisirili) kutani u yi khavhara hi pulasitiki leswaku yi hlayiseka nkarhi wo leha.
- ✓ Petsa na ku tsema tibuku ta tsema u hlayisa, kutani u rhunga kumbe u stepulara buku yin'wana na yin'wana leswaku yi hlayiseka nkarhi wo leha.
- ✓ Hlayisa tibuku ta tsema u hlayisa na makadi ya mitsheketo eka bokisi kumbe lapi kumbe bege ya pulasitiki.
- ★ Vana na burayi kumbe ku xavisa makhekhe ku tlakusa nkwama wa mali yo xava tibuku. Kutani xava tibuku eka vhengele leri xavisaka tibuku leti tirhisiweke eka timakete ta swimawusa.
- ★ Kombela vandyangu na vanghana va wena ku nyikela tibuku tanahi tinyiko.
- ★ Cincanani tibuku ni vandyangu na vanghana.
- ★ Tsala mitsheketo ya wena ya vana na vana. Kutani u khomanisa mpaheji ku endla buku.
- ★ Lavani mitsheketo eka mpahephahungu na timagazini. Yi tsemeti kutani u endla makadi ya ntsheketo.

Endla nhlengelo wa tibuku ta mitsheketo TIMBIRHI TA WRAD

1. Humesa mapheji ya 7 ku fika eka 26 eka xitatisi lexi.
2. Mapheji ya 7 ku fika eka 16 ya endla buku yin'we ya Xinghezi.
3. Mapheji ya 17 ku fika eka 26 ya endla buku yin'we ya Xitsonga.
4. Petsa mapheji ya buku yin'wana na yin'wana hi le xikarhi eka ntla wa mathonsi ya rihlaza.
5. Tsemeta eka ntla wo tshwuka wa mathonsi.
6. Rhunga kumbe u stepulara buku yin'wana na yin'wana ku khomanisa mapheji swin'we.

Endla YIN'WE ya buku ya tsema u hlayisa

1. Phepha ra mapheji ya 5, 6, 27 na 28 ma endla buku yin'we.
2. Landzelela swileriso leswi nga laha hansi ku endla buku.
 - a) Petsa phepha hi le xikarhi eka ntla wa mathonsi ya ntima.
 - b) Petsa hi le ka hafu nakambe hi le ka ntla wa mathonsi ya rihlaza.
 - c) Tsemeta hi le ka ntla wa mathonsi yo tshwuka.



"Sweswi hi lava xikcekece," ku vula Tin.
"Josh! Pick joshi!" shouted Neo.
"Is there a josh out there? Where is josh? Let's get him up here," laughed Tin.
Josh put up his hand. Two men lifted his wheelchair onto the stage.
"Welcome, josh," said Tin. "Try out these two shakers."
Josh shook one and then the other. They made different sounds.
"That's great," said Tin. "NOW, LET THE ..."
But before she could finish, there was a loud clanging noise. Everyone looked around to see what it could be.

"Ha ku amukela, josh," ku vula Tin. "Ringela swikcekece leswimbihi."
"Xana ku na josh kwalaho? Xana u kwih! josh? A ti halein," ku hela Tin.
"Josh! Teeka joshi!" ku huwelela Neo.
"Josh a yimisa volo ra yena. Vavununa vambithi va nwi tlakula hi whilichere yakwe a ya exifelini.
josh a yimisa volo ra yena. Vavununa vambithi va nwi tlakula hi whilichere
"Leswi swi kahle," ku vula Tin. "Sweswi,
Kambe loko a ngaga si hetia, a ku if
na huvwa ya tinsimbli. Un'wana na u
n'wana a languta emathlelo ku vona
leswadu xana i yih."



na filkunu. Nakambe a ku n na filkohlo lefi Neo na Hope a va fa fi filfisa.
na swipalo swa plasifik. Swikokoi a swi khavisiwile hi maphepha yo vangama
khandzuya xifeli. Tin u va tekile a va yisa eka swikokoi swa mune swa kofli leswi naga
Neo na Hope hi vona va naga yimisa mavoko ro singula. Loko va n kathi va

"Xosungula, ndzi lava vachayi va mihdzhumba vanbifhi."
ntsenda louw naga ponisaka nofho lowu! Tin a nwayifela loko a languta ntshungu.
A ku na ntlangu loko bende y naga n kona. Ndzi ta kombeda ku puniva. I ntlawa
Tin a languta emathlelo. "Xana yi kwili bende?" Hayikhona, a ndzi va voni heho.
"Ina, ina!" ku huwelela ntshungu.

"Ah yeni, hinkwethu!" ku huwelela Tin. "Hi tlanguenii Kumbe mi lava We Can
Band yi ta mi punca?"

Hope to use.
Highly coloured paper and buttons. There were also drumsticks for Neo and
took them to four large coffee tins with plastic lids. The tins were decorated with
Neo and Hope had their hands up first. As they climbed onto the stage, Tin
drummers."

"Yebu, yes!" shouted the crowd.
"Come on, everyone!" shouted Tin. "Let's celebrate! Or do you need the We Can
Band to help you?"
Tin looked around. "Where is the band? Oh no, I don't see them anywhere. It's
not a party without a band. I'm going to need some help. Only a team can save
this dream!" Tin smiled as she looked at the crowd. "First, I'm going to need two
drummers."

"Ah yeni, hinkwethu!" ku huwelela Tin. "Hi tlanguenii Kumbe mi lava We Can
Band to mi punca?"

A party at the park Ntlangu ephakini

Mabel Mnensa
Rico Schacherl



Neo, Josh, Hope and Gogo are listening to the radio when they hear an exciting announcement: Tin and the We Can Band will be putting on a show at the park. Artists from all over Africa, Bella and even Noodle are at the park. But where is the We Can Band? Neo, Hope, Josh, Bella and Noodle are in for a wonderful surprise.

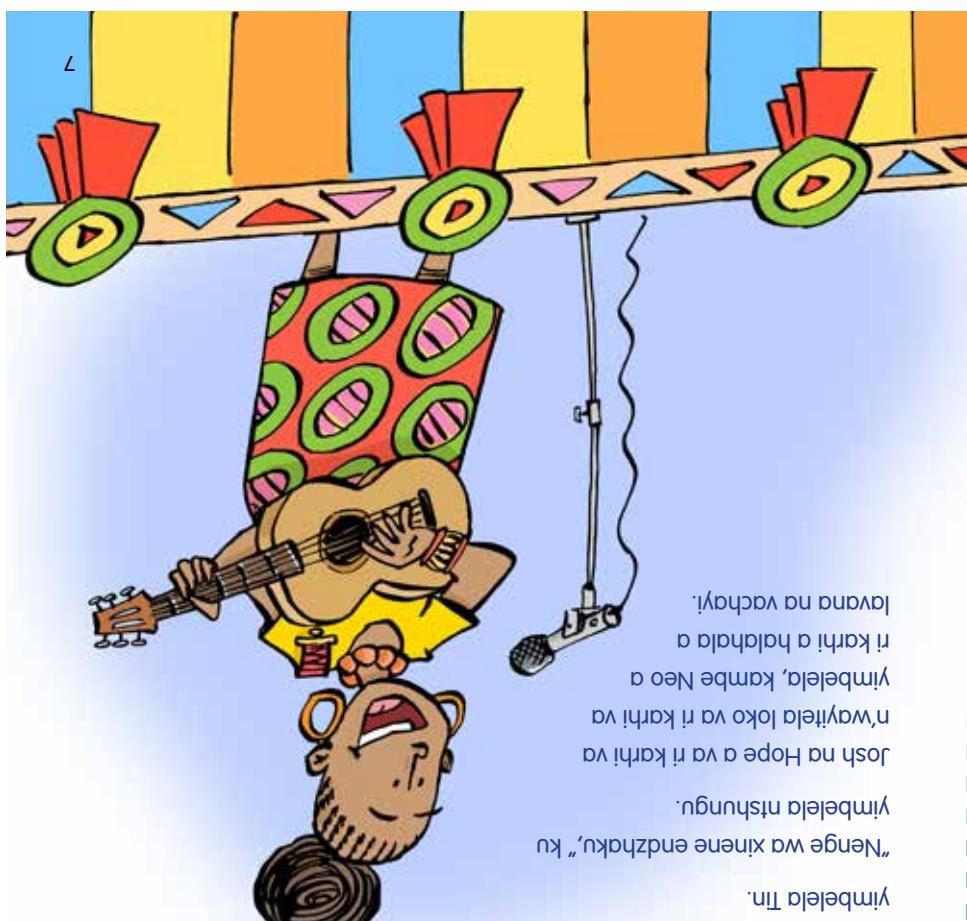


Neo, Josh, Hope na Gogo va le ku yingiseleni ka xiyanimoya loko va twa xitiviso xo tsakisa: Tin na We Can Band va ta va va ri karhi va chaya ephakini. Titlambhi hinkwato ta Afrika, Bella hambi a ri Noodle va le phakini. Kambe We Can Band yi kwih? Neo, Hope, Josh, Bella na Noodle va kona ku endla xo hlamarisa xo tsakisa.

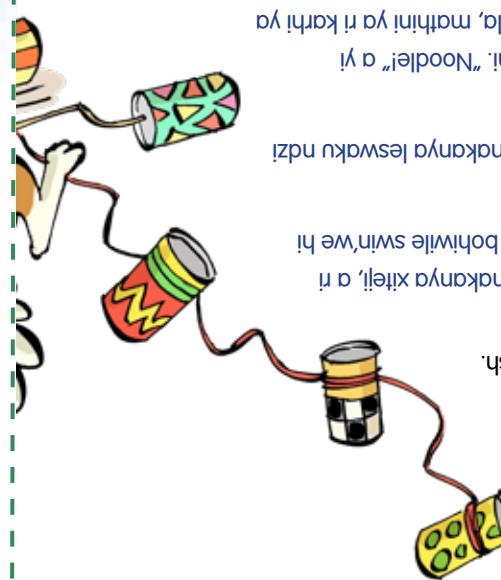
Nalibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi



Nalibali i pfhumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku tlhontlha ni ku simeka ntolovelwo wo hlaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela www.nalibali.org kumbe www.nalibali.mobi



7
Yile ku ya yima ekusuchi na Neo, Hope na Josh.
Tin u pfulule Bella ku khandzilya xifeli kutani hinkwavo va chuchile swinari
u lava na wena u tikkatsa na hina, "a vula, a ri karhi a kombelela Bella.
"A swi na mhadka," ku vula Tin hi ku hileka, "Ndzi andakanya leswaku Noodle
bandana endzhakau ka yena.
Vitanga. Noodle a tsutsumma a kongoma exieliini, "Noodie" a yi
Bella a tsutsumma a kongoma exieliini, "Noodie" a yi
"Swinali," ku huwelela Tin. "A ndzi andakanya leswaku ndzi
niambhuhu endzhakau ka yena.
Endzhakau Noodle a tsutsumma a temakanya xileli, a ri
and slodd next to Neo, Hope and Josh.
body. Then Bella and Noodle went
tin chimes from around the
and together they untangled the
Thin helped Bella onto the stage
at Bella.
Band. And I think he wants you to join us too," she said, pointing
"It's fine," said Tin laughing. "I think Noodle wants to be part of the We Can
Band. Bella ran towards the stage, "Noodie!" she called. Noodle ran to Bella, the
"The chimes!" shouted Tin. "I thought I had lost them."
behind him.
Then Noodle ran across the stage, dragging fins tied together with string
behind him.



"The chimes!" shouted Tin. "I thought I had lost them."
Then Noodle ran across the stage, dragging fins tied together with string
behind him.
"It's fine," said Tin laughing. "I think Noodle wants to be part of the We Can
Band. Bella ran towards the stage, "Noodie!" she called. Noodle ran to Bella, the
"The chimes!" shouted Tin. "I thought I had lost them."
behind him.
Then Noodle ran across the stage, dragging fins tied together with string
behind him.

Neo, Josh and Hope were all at Gogo's house. They were talking and laughing loudly.

"Shhhh!" said Gogo. "I can't hear what they are saying on the radio. Come, let's all listen to my favourite show."

Everyone kept quiet and listened. Suddenly they heard the announcer mention the name of their park.

"Wow! Our park is famous!" said Neo.

"... and Tiniso, also known as Tin, will be putting on a show at the park this afternoon with the We Can Band. Artists from Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Malawi will also be performing. Everyone is welcome to join the party!" said the announcer.



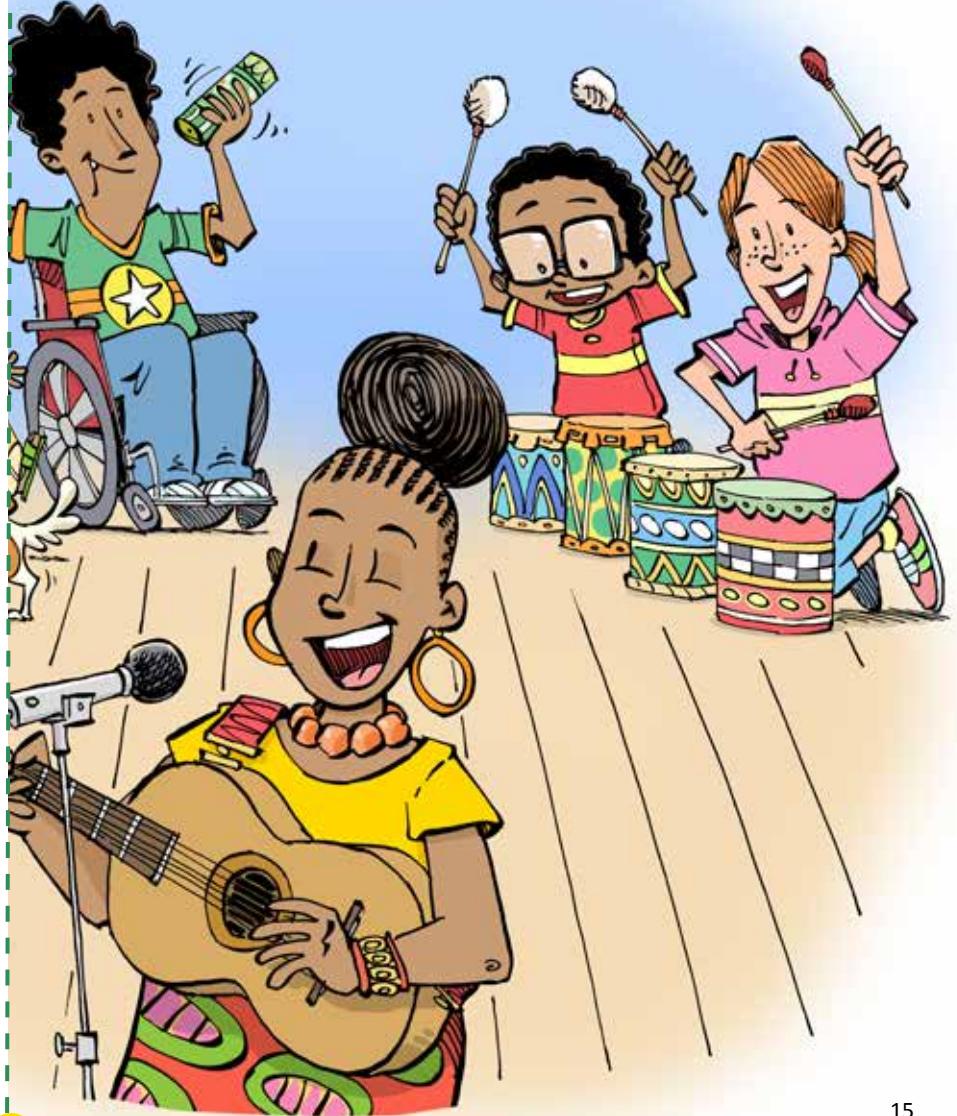
Neo, Josh na Hope hinkwavo a va ri emutini wa Gogo. A va ri karhi va vulavula na ku hlekela ehenla.

"Xiiii" ku vula Gogo. "A ndza ha twi na leswaku va ri yini eka xiyanimoya. Tanani, hinkwerhu a hi yingiseleni nonganoko lowu ndzi wu rhandzaka."

Hinkwavo va miyela va yingisela. Hi nkarhi walowo va twa muhaxi a vula vito ra phaka ya bona.

"Yooo! Phaka ya hina yi dumile!" ku vula Neo.

"... na Tiniso, loyi a tilhelaka a tiveka hi ra Tin, va ta va va ri karhi va endla nkombiso ephakeni ndzhenga wa namuntiha na We Can Band. Tinqambhi ta le Zimbabwe, Nigeria na Malawi va ta va va ri karhi va chaya. Un'wana na un'wana u amukelekile ku tikatsa entlangwini!" ku vula muhaxi.



Nal'ibali is here for families!

Join Nal'ibali's family-reading journey and receive additional stories as well as tips and ideas on how to read with your children throughout the year.

10th Anniversary edition

Talking about books and stories

Reading aloud gives us a chance to talk to our children about books and stories. Talking about stories is just as important as reading the words to them! Talk about:

- *the pictures and characters
- *what is happening in a story.

Here are a few things that you could talk about. Remember that the idea is always to enjoy books together and not to "test" your child's understanding of what you have read.

***What do you think will happen next?** Ask this question at different points in the story. It helps build children's ability to make informed predictions – a skill that good readers use all the time.

***Look at this. What do you see?** Spend time looking carefully at and enjoying the illustrations in picture books.

**Point to different parts of the picture.

**Talk about what you see.

**Ask a child to find people or things in the picture.

***Talk about the way words are written. Are they big or small? Why?

***What does this story make you think about or feel?** Stories can help children to understand and cope with things that happen in their own lives. Say things like:

**This story reminds me of how important it is to treat people well. What does it remind you of?
**It made me feel happy when the people in the village saved the animals. How did you feel?

***Why do you think this happened?** Ask your children questions to help them work out why certain things happened in the story and why a character felt or acted in a certain way.

***What do you think about...? How did...make you feel?**

**Did you enjoy the story?

**Who is your favourite character?

**Which part of the story did you like most/the least?

**How did the story make you feel?

**What do you think about the ending of this story?

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ENGLISH

World Read-Aloud Day Story Collection



When you enjoy a story with your child every day, it:

- ★ shows them that you think books and reading are important.
- ★ gives you things to talk about as a family.
- ★ builds a strong bond between you.
- ★ helps them see that reading is an enjoyable and rewarding activity.
- ★ shows them how we read and how books work.
- ★ lets them enjoy stories that they cannot yet read on their own.
- ★ encourages them to learn to read for themselves, and then to keep reading.
- ★ helps develop literacy and emotional skills so that they can cope well at school and in society.

A gold star and a kiss for Thoko

written and illustrated by
Niki Daly

Friday was always the big day of the "Star Awards".

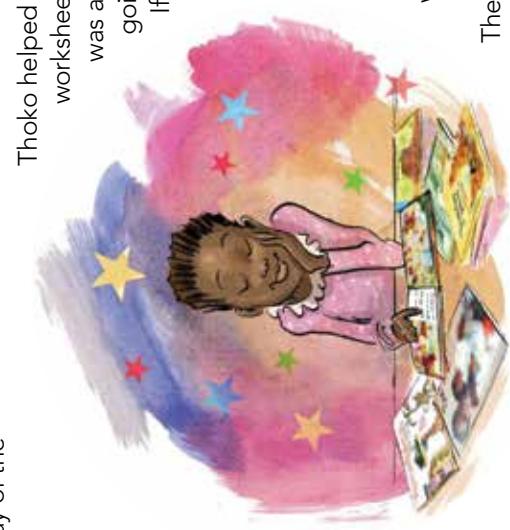
So far, Thoko had earned a yellow star for her maths sums, a red star for her neat writing and a blue star for "clean hands".

Green stars were for helping Mrs McKensie carry her big bag from her car to the classroom. You got a gold star for reading. Gold stars rocked!

Stars were always awarded just before the school bell rang and everyone rushed out to meet their mums, dads, grannies or aunts in the playground. Everyone, except Thoko, who lived close by and could walk home. Thoko lived with her mama at the back of her Gogo's dressmaking shop.

Friday was also great because Thoko got money to buy a treat on her way home. And this Friday was an extra lucky Friday because Thoko reached the car park just in time to help Mrs McKensie carry her big bag to the classroom. Maybe she'd win a green star. A gold star for reading would be better, of course.

Lately, Thoko had made a special effort with her reading – to read with expression, to pause after a comma and to stop at a full stop to catch her breath. The best reader was Brendan, who the children called "Greedy Eyes" because he devoured so many books.



Thoko helped Mrs McKensie hand out worksheets. Friday's worksheet was all about time – and it was going far too slowly for Thoko. If only she could make all the hands on the drawn clocks spin and stop at Star Awards Time! During music, she couldn't wait for the last line of a new song to end. Waiting for the Star Awards was painful.

The final period of the school day was a free one, so Thoko decided to read. And while she read, she forgot all about time – first one book, then another and another. By the time she had added the titles to her reading list, Mrs McKensie was ready to announce the star winners.

Shane, Rhapelang, Corne and Taitum all got yellow stars. Gift, Gaswin, Aydon, Chleo and Kay-Lee got red stars. Roche, Shauniq and Miscka got green stars. And Dana Rose, who had managed to wash green glitter off her fingers during break, received a blue star. Then Thoko heard her name called.

"Thoko and Brendan," announced Mrs McKensie, looking through the reading lists. Brendan had read five books and Thoko had read six! She felt like melting with happiness as Mrs McKensie placed a gold star on her forehead.

"Clang-a-lang!" went the school bell and Thoko

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"Well, let's have a paper aeroplane competition," said Afrika and took out a drawing of his paper aeroplane. "Wow, that's so cool," Josh said. "One day I want to be a pilot. But wait! I will show you how to fly. Do what I do," he shouted.

Josh lifted his arms and then he sang:
*"Sway left, sway right, sway left,
Lift your arms and close your eyes.
Left, right, up, down. We will fly all around."*

Afrika, Neo, Bella and Hope soon joined in. As Josh turned around and around in his wheelchair, the others ran around with their arms stretched out singing and laughing. And of course, Noodle joined in. They only stopped once they were all out of breath.



"Now you know that you don't have to be in a real aeroplane to be able to fly," said Josh.

"Wait! Neo, stop! Where are you going?" asked Afrika.

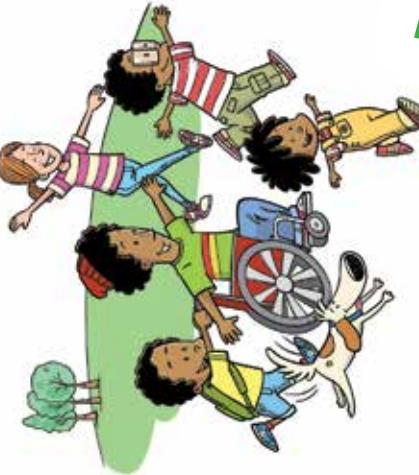
"Home," laughed Neo. "I'm hungry!"

"Me too," said Bella.

"Woof!" said Noodle.

Hope looked at her watch. "We're late for lunch," she said. "We'd better run."

"No," said Josh. "Let's fly!" They all laughed, put their arms out ... and flew home.



"I'm sending mine to Zimbabwe!" said Neo.

"Mine's going to England!" Bella and Hope shouted at the same time.

"Brazil!" said Afrika.

"Japan!" said Josh.

The children laughed as they watched their planes fly across the sky. Noodle ran around barking and tried to catch the paper planes!



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Fly, everyone, fly!

Story by Sihle Nontshokweni Illustrations by Magriet Brink and Leo Daly

Afrika, Dintle and Mme wa Afrika were on a bus on their way to visit Gogo. "Yay! Holidays at last!" said Afrika as he bounced up and down in his seat.

"Shhhh! You'll wake your sister," whispered Mme wa Afrika.

"Sorry, Mama," whispered Afrika.

Afrika tried to sit still, but he couldn't. "I wish this old bus was an aeroplane," he said as he put his arms out and pretended they were aeroplane wings. "If we were flying, we would have been at Gogo's house long ago."

"I know," said Mama, "but please put your arms down before you poke your fingers in someone's eye."

"Eish, this bus is so slow," sighed Afrika. "We'll never get there."

It took hours, but at last the bus stopped and they could see Gogo waving to them. "I was so excited that I got here early," said Gogo as she hugged and kissed them all.

"We were on this bumpy, noisy, old bus for so long, Gogo," said Afrika.

"I know," smiled Gogo. "Now, let's get you all home. I have tea and cake waiting and Neo and Mbali will be home soon." That made Afrika smile all the way to Gogo's house.



As Gogo cut the cake she said, "When I was young we didn't have buses. Now there are cars, taxis, buses, trains ... and aeroplanes," said Neo as he walked into the room with Mbali. Afrika jumped up to greet his friends. He was so happy to see them again.

Mbali looked around. "Yum, yum," she said pointing at the cake. Gogo laughed and gave them each a slice. "Josh, Hope and Bella will visit tomorrow," she said.

"And Noodle," said Mbali. "And Noodle," agreed Gogo.



"Molo, Thoko!" they said. "How was school?"

"Look!" said Thoko. Mama and Gogo looked while Thoko pointed to her forehead.

"Look at what, Thoko?" asked Gogo.

"My gold star!" said Thoko impatiently.

"What gold star?" asked Mama.

"This one," said Thoko, running a finger across her forehead. But all she felt was smooth skin! The gold star was gone!

Thoko burst into tears as she explained how she had received a gold star for reading.

"Where did you have it last?" asked Mama.

"At school," replied Thoko.

"And what did you do after school?" asked Gogo.

In tears, Thoko went over her route from school.

raced through the school gates. She couldn't wait to show Mama and Gogo her gold star. When she reached Mrs Ismail's spicy doughnut stand, her face was hot from running. Mrs Ismail's little daughter, Sharifa, was pretending to be a shopkeeper. She handed Thoko a spicy doughnut in a paper bag and smiled sweetly. "Thank you," said Thoko and sped off.

"Mama! Gogo!" she called, bursting through the front door. "Look what I got?"

Gogo looked up from her sewing and Mama peeped around a corner.

"Molo, Thoko!" they said. "How was school?"

"Look!" said Thoko. Mama and Gogo looked while Thoko pointed to her forehead.

"Sharifa's too small to understand what is fair. But you are old enough to be thoughtful. Let her keep your gold star," she said. Thoko thought for a while.

The corners of the gold star had curled up, and it looked as if it was about to fall off again. "Okay," said Thoko, "Sharifa can keep it." But inside, she still felt sad.

Gold stars were not that easy to win.



Then at bedtime, Gogo brought Thoko something special she had made – a glittery gold star on a hairclip. "That's for being such a good reader," said Gogo. Then she kissed Thoko on the forehead and whispered, "And that's for being such a kind, thoughtful girl." Thoko touched her forehead and thought a little more as she drifted off to sleep: "Gold stars get curly corners and fall off. Kisses last forever!"

"Well, it's only a paper star," said Mama. "But it wasn't. It was a very special gold star," said Gogo.

Gogo helped Thoko retrace her steps around the corner and along the road back to school. And there at Mrs Ismail's doughnut stand they found Thoko's gold star – stuck to the forehead of Mrs Ismail's little girl! When Mrs Ismail heard Thoko's sad story, she said, "Sharifa darling, that gold star you picked up belongs to Thoko." But little Sharifa had fallen in love with Thoko's gold star. And when Mrs Ismail tried to remove it, she screamed so loudly that passers-by thought she was being murdered.

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How stories began

Story by Wendy Hartmann

Illustrations by Tamsin Hinrichsen



A long time ago, a woman lived with her family in a village in the Kingdom of Zululand. Every Sunday the family went down to the big ocean. The children dug in the sand and played in the waves. The woman made food over a fire while her husband looked for wood washed up by the sea to carve beautiful things: birds, people and all kinds of animals.

During the week the whole family worked hard and in the evenings they sat around the fire. It was too dark for working or playing or carving and it was too early to go to sleep. And this was when the children asked their mother to tell them a story.

"Mama," they begged, "we want stories. Please tell us one."

But no matter how hard she tried to think of a story, she could not. Neither she nor her husband had any stories to tell.

One day, the woman decided to ask her neighbours for help.

"Do you have any stories?" she asked them. "No-o-o," they shook their heads, "we don't."

There were no stories. There were no dreams ... and there were no magical tales.

Her husband suggested, "Wife, I think you must go look for stories. I will take care of our children and the house. Find some stories and bring them

back." So the woman kissed her family goodbye and left. She decided to ask every creature she passed if they had a story to share.

The first animal she met was the hare.

He came thump-thumping along on his big feet.

"Hare!" she called. "Do stories?"

"Stories?" asked Hare. "Oh, I have hundreds, thousands, no ... millions of them."

"Hare, please give me some stories so that I can make my children happy."

"Ummmm..." said Hare. "I don't have the time. In any case ... stories in the daytime? ... No!" And thump, thump, thump off he went.

Later she saw an owl. When she asked him for stories he fluffed his feathers angrily.

"Whoooo ... are ... yoooo to wake me? I have no stories. Go to the great fish eagle. He is

the one who is awake in the day. Ask him."

So the woman walked to the mouth of the Tugela River where the fish eagle hunted. When she saw him she called his name.

The great fish eagle screeched back at her. "KOW! kow-kow-kow! Why are you disturbing my

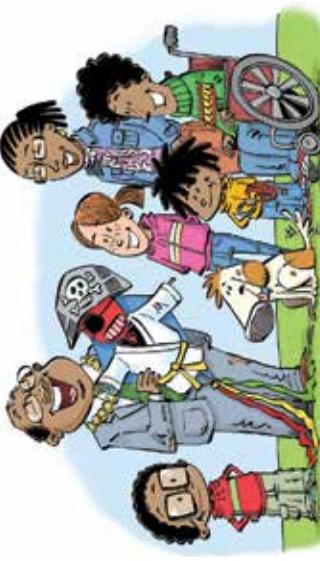
They dressed the creature in Hope's karate clothes and Neo's pirate hat and eye patch. Josh tied the creature onto his kite. And then they were ready!



Neo, Josh, Hope, Bella and her mom raced over to help. They found the mayor on the ground next to the creature with Noodle still barking at it. The children helped to calm Noodle down while Bella's mom helped the mayor up.



Then Hope explained her plan and how it had gone wrong. The mayor listened, and when Hope had finished, he just looked at her ... and then he started laughing. "Well, now you can write your own scary creature story," the mayor suggested.



The children hid behind the bush and loosened the kite's string. A strong gust of wind took the creature off into the sky. Up, up, up it went, racing across the sky away from them. In the meantime, Bella and her mom had arrived at the park to walk Noodle. When Noodle saw the creature dangling in the sky, he started barking and pulling on his leash. Bella tried to hold onto Noodle's leash, but he pulled so hard that she had to let go. Off went Noodle across the park. Bella and her mom chased after him.

Then the creature started to float down towards the mayor's head as he was making his speech! Noodle was running towards him still barking at the creature – and Bella and her mom were not far behind.

Josh pulled on the kite's string, trying to get the creature up higher into the sky, but it was too late. Noodle leapt up at the creature, knocking over the mayor. Bits of paper with the mayor's speech on it flew all over the park, and people started running in all directions.



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WORLD READ ALOUD DAY 2020



A day to remember

Story by Lorato Trok
Illustrations by Rico
Translated by Lorato Trok



"Hurry up, Neo, we don't have much time!" said Hope putting down her heavy bag. Hope and Josh were waiting for Neo. They were all going to the park as part of Hope's plan!

Hope had started hatching a plan after reading the new book her mother had bought her. It was about a girl who had bravely saved her village from a scary creature. Hope had enjoyed the book so much that she had finished it in a day and had even dreamt about the scary creature that night!

"I hope that what you've planned for us will be fun. Why are you in such a hurry?" Neo asked Hope as he shut the front door. Neo was wearing his favourite pirate hat and eye patch.

"I'm as clueless as you are, Neo. Hope just asked me to bring my kite to the park," said Josh pointing to his kite.

"Trust me, you'll enjoy this!" said Hope as she walked off ahead of her friends. Neo and Josh followed, trying to keep up.

When they got to the park, they saw the mayor surrounded by a large crowd of people. "What's going on?" Josh asked a woman standing nearby.

"Well, for a long time, the mayor got lots of complaints because there wasn't enough shade

in the park," she said. "So, he made sure that lots of new trees were planted and today he's here to celebrate this with everyone."

"Oh no! The park is too full for my plan to work," said Hope, disappointed.

"What plan?" asked Neo and Josh at the same time, looking at each other.

"Do you remember the story I read about the brave girl who saved her village?" asked Hope. "Well, I was hoping we could make a scary creature, tie it to Josh's kite and then fly it over the park. But now look!" said Hope pointing to the happy people standing around the mayor.

Neo saw how sad Hope was. "Nice plan, Hope!" he said. "Let's go over there behind that big bush. No one will see us there." Josh and Hope nodded in agreement and off they went.

"Josh, you go and find some sticks. Neo, take off your pirate hat and eye patch," instructed Hope as she took her karate clothes and a balloon out of her bag.

Josh found some thin sticks next to a dustbin and the three friends sat behind the bush using string from Hope's bag to tie them together in a cross-shape for the creature's body. Then Hope blew up the balloon and tied that on for the creature's head.



hunting?"
"Oh, wise Fish Eagle," said the woman, "I'm searching for stories. Do you know where I can find some?"
"Yes," said Fish Eagle, "I know who can help you. Go to where the rocks join the sea. Stand there and call for the giant sea turtle."

"Yes," said Fish Eagle, "I know who can help you. Go to where the rocks join the sea. Stand there and call for the giant sea turtle."

"For you and for your people, we give the gift of stories. Whenever you want a story, hold this up to your ear and listen," they said.
"But remember this," whispered the king in her ear, "your very first story began with your journey down here."

When at last the woman returned to the shore, her husband, her children and all the people of the village were waiting. They had made an enormous fire that crackled and spat in the darkness.

"And now," they called out to her, "tell us a story. Tell us a story!"

The woman smiled. She held the shell and said, "Yes ... Nal'ibali ... here is the story. Ssshhh. Now listen." And that was how the first story was told. After that the woman held the shell to her ear and told more and more stories. And if this is the first story that you have heard, just remember, there are many, many more to come.

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It starts with a story...



Sisanda's gift

Story by Gcina Mhlophe

Illustrations by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood



Every day when eight-year-old Sisanda gets home from school, she changes out of her uniform, eats her lunch and plays a game of umlabalaba with her grandfather. They have so much fun flying their "cows" around the board that she doesn't want to stop. But then he reminds her that she wants to become a bank manager one day when she grows up.

"How will you do that if you don't go to high school?" jokes her grandfather. Sisanda just laughs. "I will go to high school and university too. That's why I work so hard at school!"

Sisanda is quite tall for her age – she takes after her father. Her round face and beautiful smile are her mother's. Both her parents get up early each morning to go to work at the game reserve close by. By the time Sisanda and her friends start school, coachloads of tourists are already arriving to spot Africa's finest animals. For her last

birthday, Sisanda had a special treat – her parents got permission for her to have a party at the game reserve. The giraffes at the reserve were curious about this group of people. They stretched out their long necks for the best view of the party and they even seemed to want some of the birthday cake! Sisanda loved the giraffes. All animals were special to her, but it was the quiet and gentle giraffes that stole her heart. She could spend all day watching them.

One Friday, Sisanda's father came home from work early. He looked very upset. "What's wrong, Baba?" Sisanda asked.

"Today a swarm of bees stung a mother giraffe," explained Sisanda's father.

"Her head was so swollen from all the stings that her beautiful eyes were closed. We tried everything to help her, but it was no use – she died. And the saddest part of all is that she had a young calf that still needs her."

"Oh no!" said Sisanda starting to cry. "I wish there was something I could do. The baby giraffe must be crying just like me." Sisanda cried and cried. Her mother tried to comfort her. She even read Sisanda an extra story at bedtime to help her forget how sorry she felt for that baby giraffe. Eventually, Sisanda drifted off to sleep to the sound of her mama's voice.

The next morning Sisanda woke up with an idea!



Afrika, very impressed. "What's your name?"

"I'm Asanda," she said.

"I'm Afrika. How did you learn to do that?" Afrika asked.

"I first tried walking with books on my head, when you walk." She put the coldrink bottle back on top of Afrika's head. "Walk slowly now, with your nose in the air, like a prince."

Afrika walked around Asanda very slowly, keeping his head still with his nose in the air. And the bottle stayed on!

"Look, Ma! Look at me ..." said Afrika, but he couldn't see his mother! Someone bumped into Afrika and the coldrink bottle fell off his head. But he had forgotten about the bottle – he wanted to know where his mother was!

"Where are you, Mama?" he called. There was no answer. "Mama!" he called a little louder. Still no answer.

"My mother is lost!" said Afrika to Asanda. "We were on our way to the book stall on the corner, but now she's gone!"

"I'm going to the book stall too! I'm going to buy a storybook with the money I've saved. Maybe your mama is at the book stall. Let's go find her!" suggested Asanda.

Together Asanda and Afrika walked through the crowds of people. All of a sudden Afrika heard his name! "Afrika! Afrika! Where are you?"

"That's my mother's voice," said Afrika.



"Yes, if you like it," said Mama. Then it was time to go. "Look, Asanda! I'm taking my book home on my head!" Afrika said, balancing his new book on his head. "Don't forget to keep your nose in the air, like a prince!" laughed Asanda.



"Shame, she is lost! I can hear she's upset. It sounds as though she's near the book stall. Come, let's run, Asanda!"

Together the children ran to the book stall, and there, right in front of it, were Mme wa Afrika and Dintle. Mama opened her arms and Afrika ran straight into them.

"Hello, Mama, are you alright?" asked Afrika.

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Where are you?

Story by Ann Walton
Illustrations by Rico

"We're going shopping! We're going shopping!"

Afrika jumped up and down in front of Dintle. His mother, Mme wa Afrika, smiled at him, and Dintle clapped her hands.

"Yes," said Mme wa Afrika, "so put your shoes on. We have to hurry. We still have to walk to the bus stop."

At the bus stop, there were a lot of people waiting for the bus. And when they all got onto the bus, everyone was a bit squashed. Mme wa Afrika held Dintle on her lap. Then a lady sat down next to her. Afrika sat on the other side of his mother, squashed against the window. But he didn't mind at all because it meant that he could look out of the window.



"Can you do that, Mama?" Afrika asked his mother.

"Do what?" asked Mme wa Afrika.

"Carry things on the top of your head like that," said Afrika.

"Of course I can. It's easy," said his mother. Afrika watched the lady walk away until she disappeared into the crowds of people standing in between the market stalls.

"I bet I can carry things on my head too!" Afrika said to himself. He saw an empty plastic colddrink bottle on the ground. He picked it up and put it on his head, but he had to hold onto it because it kept falling off.

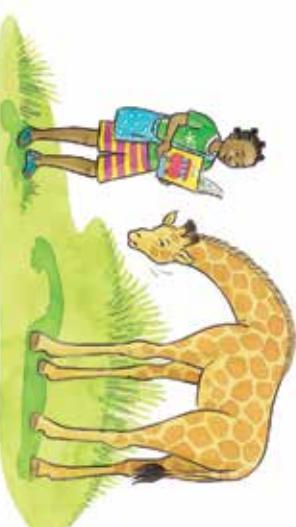
"Eish!" said a girl right next to him. "I'll show you how to do that!"

She took the colddrink bottle, put it on her head, and with her nose in the air, she walked around Afrika like a proud princess.

Finally the driver called out, "Last stop!" "Come on, Afrika. This is where we get off," said his mother.

After they got off the bus, Mme wa Afrika tied Dintle on her back. "Stay close to me," she told Afrika. "This is a very busy place."

It was busy. There were people carrying bags and pushing trolleys full of shopping. There was also a lady with her shopping balanced on her head.



"Can I go to work with you today?" she asked her baba. "I have a gift for the baby giraffe." Her parents looked at each other, smiled and said, "Yes, of course you can come with us." It was a warm but cloudy day. Everything in the reserve seemed unusually quiet.

"I think the sun isn't shining today because it's sad about the baby giraffe," said Sisanda. A great big elephant gazed at the family.

"Maybe he's wondering why a little girl is going to work with her parents," said Sisanda's mother.

Slowly the little giraffe grew stronger. People at the game reserve were taking really good care of him and all the love from his new friend, Sisanda, worked like magic.

One day the reserve manager asked Sisanda to give her new friend a name.

"I think Thokozani is a good name," said Sisanda.

The next day the reserve manager phoned Sisanda's teacher. He invited all Sisanda's classmates to come and meet Thokozani. The handsome giraffe had grown taller and stronger in the three months since Sisanda's first visit. On the day of the outing, forty Grade 3 children waited eagerly for the reserve gates to open. Then Sisanda proudly led everyone to Thokozani. Some of the children looked at the tall giraffe in amazement. Others giggled nervously. Their teacher, Miss Khanyile, just smiled.

"Your friend is beautiful, Sisanda. You have been so kind to him," she said gently.

"What is his name?" asked one of the boys.

"Thokozani," answered Sisanda. "Thokozani means 'rejoice',"

explained Miss Khanyile. The children sat down and listened while Sisanda read the story she had read to Thokozani on the day they had first met.

The reserve manager took photos. Some tourists passing by took photos too. Even a

photographer from a local newspaper clicked away.

He promised that a photo of them would be in the local newspaper very soon. Everyone cheered.

What a gift! Reading to heal a friend.



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Neo and the big, wide world

Story by Vianne Venter
Illustrations by Rico

Neo looked out the window of his room at the grey view of the grey street with all the wet, grey people hurrying through the grey, pouring rain. He couldn't go outside, and he had already read all his books to Mbali.

Just then, Gogo came in with her hair all twiggy from the wind outside. She was holding something. Neo could see that it was flattish, and square-ish, and very colourful ... and it could open up – just like a treasure box!

"This was my favourite book when I was as young as you," Gogo told Neo. "It was my door to the big, wide world."

Then, she opened the book.

On the first page was a picture of a magical place, far away from the grey, grey day. The veld was green and gold and brown, with a great, big, blue sky above, and a warm, yellow sun, baking down.

"Wow! Is that real?" Neo gasped.

Gogo smiled. "Don't you know? All stories are real, if you believe in them," she said. Then she pointed to the place on the page where a little boy, just about Neo's size, was walking across the veld.

As Gogo read, Neo closed his eyes and slipped away, over the hills ... across the great, brown earth ... off into the big, wide world.

He heard the voices of the veld.

"Come out! Come out!" sang a little bird.
"It's a beautiful day!" chirped the cicadas.

"Come away, come play," whispered the wind in the long grass. Neo remembered about the grey, pouring rain, and wondered if he should be out here.



From up in the branches, Neo could see to the very edge of the world. And there was so much somewhere out there, that it almost scared him to think of it.

But the tree held him safe, and whispered,

"Go and explore. Don't be afraid. It's a

wonderful, big, wide world out there."

So, Neo climbed down and went on his way

across the veld.

Soon, he came across a mound of hard sand with little holes, like tiny doorways. He

could hear a million busy voices inside, and

the patter of six million tiny feet running about.



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The whistle blew and the players ran onto the field for the second half. The match continued in the same way as things had gone in the first half ... until there was only one minute left!

Neo had the ball. He looked around to see if there was anyone from the Diamond's team near him. No, he was alone. He ran forward, dribbling the ball. Suddenly a Diamond's player appeared. Neo looked him straight in the eyes as he kicked the ball

between the other player's legs. The spectators screamed with excitement.

Another Diamond's player moved towards Neo to tackle him. Quickly, Neo passed the ball to Priya. Everyone held their breath as Priya took the ball and kicked it hard. LADUMA! The Diamond's goalie had not even seen the ball coming! Priya had scored a goal.



And not a second too soon. Just as she turned around to celebrate the goal, the referee blew the final whistle! Maqhawe had won the game!

Neo was so pleased that he ran towards Priya and lifted her up!



Together they ran to their teammates and coach at the side of the field, and they all dabbed. Then Priya and Neo rushed over to Neo's dad. Rahul was blowing his vuvuzela loudly. "That was an ice-cream deserving performance, Priya and Neo," said Neo's dad. "Would our two heroes like that?" "Yes! We like ice-cream," Mbali answered for them. They all laughed.

Neo picked up Mbali and carried her as they went to buy ice-cream. He might not have scored the two goals he had wanted to, but he had helped his best friend score the winning goal! And Priya? She was happy because that was her first-ever goal for Maqhawe. The sound of Rahuls vuvuzela was like sweet music being played just for her.



The final minute

Story by Zukiswa Wanner

Illustrations by Rico

"I am going to score two goals today, Dad," said Neo as he put on his soccer boots.

"And I'll help by adding three goals to that," Uncle," said Priya who had just arrived at Neo's house with her little brother, Rahul. Rahul was carrying his bright red vuvuzela.

Neo's Dad laughed. "Well, I look forward to cheering five times then!"

"And me, Uncle! Can I also cheer?" asked Rahul.

"Of course, my boy," said Neo's dad as he helped Mbali put on her shoes. "Now, let's get going!"

They all got in the car. Neo sat in front. He had sat there many times before. He was sure that if his dad would allow him, as soon as his legs were long enough, he'd be able to drive the car. It looked easy. Rahul and Priya sat at the back on either side of Mbali. They tickled her and she giggled.

Before everyone knew it, they were at the soccer field. They were just in time for Priya and Neo to join their teammates from the Maqhawe Football Club for their warm up. They were playing against the Diamond Football Club today.

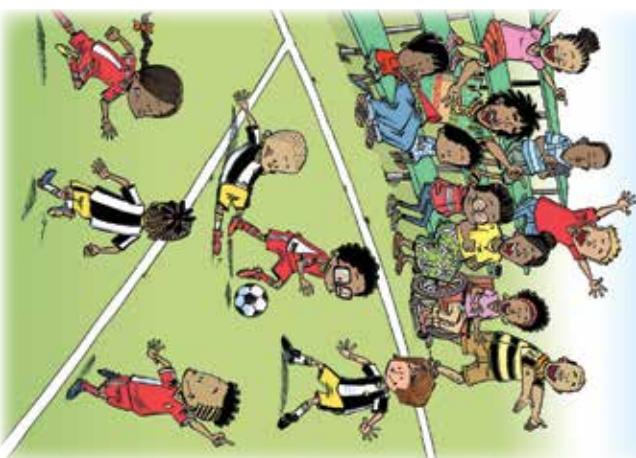


"Remember to make sure that you dull the shine of those Diamonds so much, that after the match they have to change their name to the Coal Football Club," said their coach.

Then it was time for the players to run out onto the field. The referee blew his whistle and the match began.

Things started slowly, but they soon picked up. There was a lot of noise as the families of the children in both teams cheered. The ball would be on Maqhawe's side of the field for a bit, then just as it looked as if they were going to move it into the Diamond's half, one of those players would steal the ball away! The match went on like this until half-time.

"I'm bored! You promised you were going



"Hello! Who are you?" Neo called into one of the doorways.

"Hello!" a tiny voice answered. "We are ants. We tell the stories of the world in here. Do you want to hear some?"

Neo loved stories, so he sat down and listened. The ants told their stories of the veld and the forest, and of the mountains and the cities beyond.

"So many stories?" Neo asked.

"There are as many stories as there are stars in the sky," the ants answered.

Neo waved goodbye, and went on his way across the veld.

Eventually, Neo came to a lot of water that rushed through the valley from morning till night. Neo stepped in to cool his hot legs.

The water splashed at his feet and giggled, "I am a river. I ram from the mountains to the sea. Come, follow me. I'll take you home."

Neo thought how good that would be. So, he followed the river across the valley and between the mountains. Together, they wandered through the afternoon and almost into night, until at last, Neo reached a hilltop.

From there, he could see a little town, washed clean by the rains and gleaming in the

boy goodnight.

Neo thought about the veld and the tree and the ants and the river. And as he watched the gogo, a rainbow lit up the little house in colours so bright it looked like a picture in a storybook. Neo thought of his great adventure inside the pages of Gogo's favourite storybook, and he thought of her and Mbali and home.

So, Neo slipped through the book, into his warm bed, in his cosy room, in his little house. And that is why, whenever the world seems too grey, and his room seems too small, Neo opens a book. He steps through a door between the pages, and goes off into the big, wide world.



light of the setting sun.

Then the river gurgled gently. "Go on, go home. There are people who love you there, waiting to share stories with you."

Neo went down, through the town. He saw the busy streets that rushed through the town, just like rivers. He saw houses, warm in the evening light. Inside them, people were busy, just like tiny ants.

At last, Neo peered through a window where an old gogo, with strong arms and twiggy hair like the branches of a big tree, closed a book and bent to kiss her little



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The best sound in the world

Story by Niki Daly
Illustrations by Rico

Mom, Bella and Noodle rushed down the road and around the corner to Gogo's house. They found Gogo in her kitchen blowing on her hand.

In the backyard the traffic sounded far, far away. They could even hear the sweet tweet-tweet song of a little bird. Bella closed her eyes and stroked Noodle. And then they both jumped!



"**Aaaaarh! Eish! Aaaaarh!**" The most terrible sound was coming from Gogo's house on the other side of the back wall. Quickly, Bella ran to tell her mom what she had heard.

"There are terrible sounds coming from Gogo's house!" shouted Bella over the vrrrrr! of the vacuum cleaner. Mom switched it off.

Vroom! went a car. Toot! went another. Putta, putta! went a motorbike. Clackity-flap-flap! went an old bakkie with its worn out tyres and rusty old body.

Bella started counting the sounds around her. That was four already!

Dugga, dugga, dugga! went a road drill. Grrrrrrrrrr! growled Noodle at the drill. Doeef, doeef, doeef! came the loud music from a taxi.

Hanna, hanna, hanna! went a lady talking loudly on her cellphone. Tuk, tuk, tuk! went her high heels on the pavement as she walked by. Thwack, thwack, thwack! went a jogger running passed Bella. Woof, woof, woof! barked Noodle at the jogger. Twee, tweee, tweee! whistled a boy on a bicycle.

"TWELVE sounds!" said Bella.

But all the noises were starting to make Bella's head spin, so she stopped counting and said, "Come, Noodle, let's go to the backyard where it's nice and quiet."



"Eish! I burnt my hand on that silly hot pot!" cried Gogo.

"Put it under some cold water while I fetch my first aid kit," said Mom, and off she ran back to her house – patta, patta, patta.

Soon Mom was back, carrying a little white box with a red cross on its lid. She put some ointment on Gogo's hand and wrapped it in a bandage.

"Gogo, you can't cook with a sore hand," said Mom. "You and your family must come and have supper with us tonight."

"Thank you," said Gogo. "Please take that silly pot of beans to add to our meal."

At supper time, Gogo and her family arrived. Yum, yum! – that was the sound they made when they smelt Bella's mom's delicious curry made with Gogo's pot of beans. Noodle was even given a tiny bit in his bowl. Chomp, chomp! He ate it all up. Then lap, lap. He drank a whole bowl of water!

"I'm so glad you heard me cry out," said Gogo to Bella.

"I didn't hear anything," said Mom.
"Listen!" said Bella. And then Mom heard it!
Aaaaarh! Eish! Aaaaarh!"
"That's Gogo," said Mom. "Quick! We must go and see what's the matter."



At bedtime, Mom asked Bella, "Do you know what my favourite sound is?" "What?" asked Bella.
"This!" said Mom, giving Bella's tummy a tickle.
Ha, ha, hee, hee, ha, ha, hee, hee!
laughed Bella.



Yeo! Laughter really is the best sound in the whole world. What do you think?

Sparking children's potential through storytelling and reading



Nalibali yi endleriwe mindyangu!

Nghenela pfumba ra ku hlaya hi ndyangu ra va ka Nalibali kutani u tikumela switori leswi engetelekeke ku katsa switsunduxo ni tindela to hlaya ni vana

va wena lembe hinkwaro.

Ku vulavula hi tibuku ni switori

Ku hlavela enhenhenla swi hi nyika nkarti wo vulavula ni vana va hinai hi tibuku ni switori. Ku vulavula hi switori i swa nkoka tanithi ku vla hlavela morito! Vulavula hi:

* svifaniso ni swimunuhuhawta

* leswi endlekaka exitorini.

Hi leswi swilo swingariswingani swo vulavula ha swona. Tsundukal leswaku xikongomelo i ku tiphina hi tibuku swim'we, ku ngari ku "vona" loko n'wana wa wa twisaisa leswi wena u swi hlayeke.

* Xana u ehleketa leswaku ku ta londzela yini? Vutisa xitwutiso lexi hi mikarhi yo hambana exitorini. Xi pfuna ku aka vusvikoti bya vana byo vhumbha hi ku tihisa vutvi – i vusvikoti lebyi vahlayi lavanene va tirnisaka byona nkarti hinkwawo.

* Langula leswi. Xana u vonya yini? Heta nkarti u ri karti u swi languta hi vukhetia naswona u iphina hi svifaniso leswi nga etibukwini ta svifaniso.

** Kombeta eka swiphemu swo hambanahambana swa xitaniso.

** Vulavula hi leswi u swi vonda.

** Kombela vana ku kuma vanhu kumbe swilo exifanisweni.

** Vulavula hi ndleta leyi marito ma tsariweke hayona. Xana i makulu kumbe i matsongo?

Hikwalahokayini?

* Xana xitori lexi xi endlo u ehleketa yini kumbe u titwisa ku yini? Switori swi pfuna vana ku twisia ni ku kota ku languana ni swilo leswi endlekaka evuton'wini bya vana. Vula swilo swo tanithi:

** Xitori lexi xi ndzi tsunduzuka ndleta leyi swi nga swa nkoka hayona ku khoma vanhu kahle. Xana weia xi ku tsunduzuka yini?

* Xana u ehleketa leswaku hikwalahokayini leswi swi endlekile? Vutisa vana va wena swivutiso leswi va pfuna ka luvisida leswaku hikwalahokayini swilo swim'wana swi endlekile ekitorini nleswaku hikwalahokayini ximunuhuhawta xi titwile kumbe xi endle swilo hi ndleta yo karti.



Misava ra ku Hlayela

Ehenhla



Vuhleri byo Tlangela Lembe ra Vu10



Loko u tiphina hi xitori ni vana va wena siku ni siku:

★ swi va komba leswaku u anakanya leswaku tibuku ni ku hlaya i swa nkoka.

★ Xana i mani ximunuhuhawta lexi u xi rhandzeka?

★ Xana i xiphemu xithi xa xitorixeli xi rhandzeka swinene/ u nga xi rhandzanglik ngopfu?

★ Xana xitori xi endle u titwisa ku yini?

★ Xana u ehleketa yini hi mahetelio ya xitori?

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XITSONGA

Nyeleti ya nsuku na ntswontswo eka Thoko

Mutsari ni mikombiso hi
Niki Daly

Ravunthalanu a ku tshama ku ri siku nkulu ra
"Masagwati ya Nyeleti".
Ku ta fikela sweswi, Thoko u
tikumele nyeleti ya xitsopani
eka tihlayo, nyeleti yo
tshwuka hija tsala
swissaseka ni nyeleti ya
wasih iku va ni "mavoko
ro basa." Nyeleti ya
rihaza u yi kume hi leswi
a rhwaleleke Manana
McKensie beke teyikulu
a ya na yona etilasini
kusuka emohveni. U kume
nyeleti nsuku hi ku va muhlayi
vo khuluka. Tnyeleti ta nsuku
tikahle swinene!

[Artwork]

Tnyeleti a va nyikwa tonna emahlweninyana
ka ku va ku ba nsimbi ya xikilo naswona un'wana ni
un'wana a tsutsumela ku hlangana ni vamhana vona,
vatatana, vakokwana kumbe va hahani erivaleni ro
tiangela eka rona. Handle ka Thoko loyi a tshama
ekusuhi naswona a tifambela hi milenge ku ya
ekaya. Thoko a tshama ni manana wakwe endzhaku
ka vhengelerai Kokwana ro endla swiambalo hi
swin'wana.

Ravunthalanu a wu tsakisa nakambe hi leswi
Thoko a kuma mali yo trikavela swonyanganya
endeleni yo ya ekaya. Naswona wa Vunthalanu
lowu a wu hlawulekile swinene hi leswi a fikeke
laha ku pakaka timohna hi nkarti leswaku a pfunu
Manana McKensie ku rhwala bekeyo tika a ya na
yoa etilasini. Nkarti wun'wana a ti winele nyeleti ya
rihaza. Ntiyiso hi leswaku ku kuma nyeleti ya nsuku
hi ku va a hlaye kahle a swi ta va swinene..
Masiku lawa, Thoko wa tikarhata loko a hlaya – u
hlaya hi ndlela yo hlamusela, u koko moyo laha ku
riga ni hemfemulo, naswona wayima laha ku nga na

hiko . Muhlayi lonene a ku ri Brendan, loyi vana va
n'wi thyile vito ta "Mahlo ya Makolo" hi leswi
a hlaya tibuku to tala.

Thoko u pfune Manana
McKensie ku nyila vana va
xikolo tibuku. Tibuku ta ra
vunthalanu a ti fambisana
ni nkarti - naswona a
swi vonaka swinonoka
eka Thoko. Loko a swi ri
ematimbeni ya yena a to
tsutsumisa xikombankarhi xi
ya yima eka nkarti wo nyika
Masangwati ya Tnyeleti! Hi
nkarti wa wuyimbeleri, a rindzelle
layini yo ghimenta ya risimu lerintswa
leswaku ri hela. Ku rindzela nkarti wa

Masangwati ja Tnyeleti a swi vava.
Nkarti wo hetetela wa sikura xikolo a ku ri wa
vona, kutani Thoko u hlawule ku hlaya. Naswona
loko a ri nkarti a hlaya, u rivele hi nkarti - u hete buku
yo sungula, yin'wana kutani yin'wana. Hi nkarti lowu
a hlayeke nxaxamelo wo hlaya wa tibuku, Manana
McKensie a lunghekile ku tivisa lava tikumeleke
masagwati ya nyeleti

Shane, Rapelang, Corne na Taitum hinkwavo
va tikumele masagwati ya xitshopani. Gift, Gaswin,
Aydon, Chleo na Kay-Lee va tikumele masagwati yo
tshwuka. Roche, Shaunique na Miscka va tikumele
masagwati ya rihaza. Naswona Dana Rose, loyi a
koteke ku hlamba mavoko ya yena hi nkarti wo wisa
u tikumele sagwati ra wasi. Kutani Thoko a twa vito
ra yena ri vitaniwa.

"Thoko na Brendan," ku tivisa Manana
McKensie, loko a ri nkarti a kambisisa nxaxamelo wa
leswi hlayiweke. Brendan u kote ku hlaya tibuku ta
vunthalanu naswona Thoko u hlaye ta tsevu. A twa onge
u le ku n'okeni hi ntsako loko Manana McKensie a
vekela nyeleti ya nsuku emombyeni wakwe.

Ku tumbuluxa vuswikoti eka vana hi ku turhis
ku rungula ntsheketo na ku hlaya

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"Hevi, leswi swi sasakile," ku vula josh. "Siku rin'wana
ndzi lava ku va muhahisi wa swihahampfukka. Kambe
yimanyara! Ntzi ta ku komba leswaku va hata nkarti. Endla
leswi ndzi swi endiaka," a huwelela.

Josh a tlakusa mavoko ya yena kutani a yimbela:
"Yana eximarisini, yana eximereni. Yana eximarisini,
yana exineneni.
Thakusa mavoko ya yena na matlio ya wena.
Ximatisi xine, henlia, hansi. Hi ta hatela
hinkwakan kwakwa."

Afrika, Neo, Bella na Hope hi xithatla va ngohenela. Loko Josh
a nkarti aqikajikai hi whilchere yavera, lavanwana ava
tsutsumatsutsuna varhendzelekwa ya pfunile mavoko ya vona
va in karhi va yimbela ka no ku hekelala, ina ka, Noodle na
yena a ngohenela! Va yimile nisenia loko hinkwavo va twa wa
nga ha kofit ku helemula.

"Sweesi ahi endeleni swihahampfukka swa maphepha," ku
vula Afrika. U pfunile nkwama wa yena a humesa maphepha



"Yimanyana! Neo, yimal Xana u yakwiri?" ku tivisa Afrika.

"Ekoya," Neo a hleka, "Ndzi two ndida!"

"Na mina," ku vula Bella.

"Huuuui!" ku vukula Noodle.
Hope a languta xikombankarhi xa yena. "Hi hundzenwile hi
nkarti wo dya," a vula. "Swa aniswai hi tsutsuma."

"E-e," ku vula Josh. "Ahi hoheni!" Hinkwavo va hlekta, va

tharamula mavoko ya vona ... va hahela ekaya.
"Ndzi ihumela xa mina eZimbabwe!" ku vula Neo.
"Xa mina xi ya enghilandhi!" Bella na Hope va huwelela hi
nkarti wunwe.

"Brazil!" ku vula Afrika.

"Japanii!" ku vula Josh.

Vana a va hlekta loko va hdelela swihahampfukka swa
vona swi haba swi tsenkan ya mapapa. Noodle a
tsutsumatsutsuna a ri karhi a vukula na ku ringeta ku gava
swihahampfukka swa maphepha!

"Sweesi ma swi tiva leswaku a swo boha ku va endzeni
ka xithahampfukka xa nitijiso leswaku u kota ku ndha," ku
vula Josh.

Swi sunjala hi tsheke...

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Hahani, hinkwenu, hahani!

Ntsheketo hi Sihle Nontshokweni ■ Mikombiso hi Magriet Brink na Leo Daly

■ Vuhundzuluxi hi Given J Hlongwani

Afrika, Dintille na Mme

wa Afrika a var i ebazini

endleleni o endela

Gogo, "Hey! Nikarhi wo

wisa wu filete!" ku vula

Afrika loko a ri karhi a ya

ehenila na le hansi eka

xitulu xakwe.

Xill! Ut a pftuka sesi wa

wendo," ku hlevetela Mme

wa Afrika.

"Ndzi khomeli, Manana,"

ku hlevetela Afrika.

Afrika a ringeta ku tshaniseka, kambe a nga swi kati, "Ndzi

vula onge loko bazi lerira khale arva xihahampfuka," a

timpa tu xihahampfuka, "Toko aho hana, a hita va se

khale ngopfu hi n' emuliti wa Gogo."

"Ndza swi tiva," ku vula Manana, "Kambe ndzi kombelo

u yisa manoko va wena lehansiu ngasi alonyola ihlo lora

unwana hi rititho."

"Teeex, bozilien i nonoka ngopfu," Afrika a ahlamula. "A hi

nga fili,

Swi tekile tiowata, kambe emaheteleleni bazi i yimile kutani

va vona Gogo a ri karhi a ya yimisela voko. "A ndzi tsakile

swinene lero ndzi filete loko hi xititala," ku vula Gogo loko a

rikarhi o va vukatha na ku va ntswotswa hinkwala.

"A hi riebazzini leri ro bambabamba, ra huwa, ra khale

rikarhi wo leha, Gogo," ku vula Afrika.

"Ndza swi tiva," ku n'wayiela Gogo. "Sweswi, hikwetu a

hi fambeni hi ya ekaya. Ku na tiva na khekhe leswinaga mi

yimela naswona Neo na Mbali va ta vura ku ngari rikarhi."

Leswi uendilie leswaku Afrika a n'wayiela nadela hinkwayo

yo ya emuliti wa Gogo.

Loko Gogo a ri karhi atsema khekhe aku, "Loko

ndza harintsongo a hiri hava mabazi. Sweswi kuna

"Hetani ku ola, kutani mi fambai" ku vula Gogo hi ku

hlongolela vana tavakulu na Noodle ehandoleswaku va

ya itanga.

Hi xihalla Josh na Hope va filete kutoni hinkwawa va sungula

ku vulavula xikin'we. Gogo a tipatla thidele ta yena.

"Hetani ku ola, kutani mi fambai" ku vula Gogo hi ku

hlongolela vana tavakulu na Noodle ehandoleswaku va

ya itanga.

"Losh," ku vula Afrika, loko a ri karhi a susumeta whilchere

ku ya erivalen, "Wa swi tsudzuka ro hetelela loko nadzinlora

kutoni wena u hilu eka mphikizano wa filete."

"Ina," ku hleka losh, "A ndzi ngi swi rivoli sweswo."

"Ina, a hi v i na mphikizano wa xihahampfuka xa phepho,"

ku vula Afrika hii ku humesa phepho leri a nga dirowa

xihahampfuka.



"Na Noodle," ku pftumela Gogo.
"Ndza swi tiva," ku vula Manana, "Kambe a ringeta ku y i susa, "Josh, Hope na Bella va ta vuka munduku," a vula.
"Kunjhani, Thoko!" va n'wi vuyisa. "A kuri njani exikolweni?"
"Vonani!" ku vula Thoko. Manana na Kokwana val languta loko Thoko a ri karhi a va komba mombo wakwe.
[Artwork]

"Hi vona yini, Thoko?"
"Nyeleti ya mina ya nsukul!" ku vula Thoko hi ku hela matimba.
"Nyeleti ya nsuku yih?" ku vutisa Mama.
"Leyi," ku vula Thoko, a ri karhi a fambisa rititho emombyeni wakwe.
Kutani a twa ku rhetela emombyeni! Nyeleti ya nsuku a yi'sukile!
Thoko a rila loko a ri karhi a hlamuela leswaku u yi kumise ku yini nyeleti ya nsuku hi ku hlawa.
"U hetelele u ri na yona kwih?" ku vutisa Manana.

"Exikolweni," ku hlamula Thoko.
"Naswona u endle yini endzhaku ka sweswo?"
ku vutisa Kokwana. A ri karhi a rila, Thoko a nghena endleleni a thelela exikolweni.
"A swi na mhaka ko va phepho ntswena tra nyeleti," ku vula Manana. Kambe a swi nga ri tano. A ku ri sagwati ro hlawuleka ra nyeleti ya nsuku.

"Nge-nge-nge!" ku ba nsimbhi ya xikolo kutani

Thoko a tsutsuma a kongome gede ya xikolo. A

hisekela ku komba manana ni kokwana wakwe

nyeleti yakwe ya nsuku. Loko a fika eka xtendara xa

Manana Ismail xa ti donati to bava, xikanda xa yena

a xi hisa hi ku tsutsuma. Xihwanyeta xa Manana

Ismail, Sharifa, a ti endla onge ul le ku xaviseni. U

nyikile Thoko donati yo bava hi hinkwama wa phepho

a ri karhi a n'wayitela. "Ndza nkhenza," ku vula

Kokwana a languta a ri laha a rhungelaka kona,

kutani manana a humelela hilie khonweni

"Kunjhani, Thoko!" va n'wi vuyisa. "A kuri

njani exikolweni?"

"Vonani!" ku vula Thoko. Manana na Kokwana

val languta loko Thoko a ri karhi a va komba mombo wakwe.

[Artwork]

"Hi vona yini, Thoko?"

"Nyeleti ya mina ya nsukul!" ku vula Thoko hi ku hela matimba.

"Nyeleti ya nsuku yih?" ku vutisa Mama.

"Leyi," ku vula Thoko, a ri karhi a fambisa rititho emombyeni wakwe.

Kutani a twa ku rhetela emombyeni! Nyeleti ya nsuku a yi'sukile!

Thoko a rila loko a ri karhi a hlamuela leswaku u yi kumise ku yini nyeleti ya nsuku hi ku hlawa.

"U hetelele u ri na yona kwih?" ku vutisa Manana.

"Exikolweni," ku hlamula Thoko.

"Naswona u endle yini endzhaku ka sweswo?"

ku vutisa Kokwana. A ri karhi a rila, Thoko a nghena

endleleni a thelela exikolweni.

"A swi na mhaka ko va phepho ntswena tra nyeleti," ku vula Manana. Kambe a swi nga ri tano. A

[Artwork]

"Sula mihloti hi ta famba hi ya lava nyeleti ya

Kokwana u pftune Thoko ku thelela endzhaku

hi ndela va ya exikolweni. Naswona hi loko va

fika eka xtendara xa Manana Ismail xa tidonati va

Manana Ismail a twa hi mukhosia Thoko - yi ri embombiyeni

wa xinhwenyeta xa Manana Ismail. Loko Manana

Ismail a twa hi mukhosia Thoko - yi ri embombiyeni

"Sharifa murhandziwa, nyeleti yaleyo ya nsuku

leyi u yi rhwaleleke i ya Thoko." Kambe Sharifa

mbayangwana se a thandza nyeleti ya nsuku ya

Thoko. Loko Manana Ismail a a ringeta ku y i susa,

lava hundzaka hi ndela a va ehlaketa leswaku u le ku

dlaweni.

Hi loko Kokwana a languta Thoko. "Sharifa i

ntsongo ku twisa leswi faneleke munhu. Kambe

wena u nkulu ku nga twisa. Hi loko a

ku "n'wi tshike ni nyeleti ya

wena nsuku." Hi loko Thoko

a hleketa hi swona swa

xinkadyana. Tikhona ta nyeleti

ya nsuku a tipetsikile

naswona a yi vonaka onge

yinga wa nkari wihi

na wihi. Hi loko Thoko

a ku "swilulamile,

Sharifa a ngia yi teka."

Kambe endzeni a ha

karhatekile. Nyeleti ya

nsuku a swi nga oloviku yi

kuma.

Hi nikarhi wo etela, Kokwana

u tisele Thoko nichumu wa nkoka lowu a wu

endleleke wa nyeleti ya xin'wetsin'wetsi wo boha

misisi. "Hi ku va muhavilonene" ku vula Kokwana.

Kutani a ntswontswa Thoko emombyeni kutani a

n'wi hlevela, "Leswi u nga nhwana wa vunene ni ku

anakanyela van'wana." Thoko a khumba mombo

wakwe a ri karhi a anakanya hi mhaka loko a ri

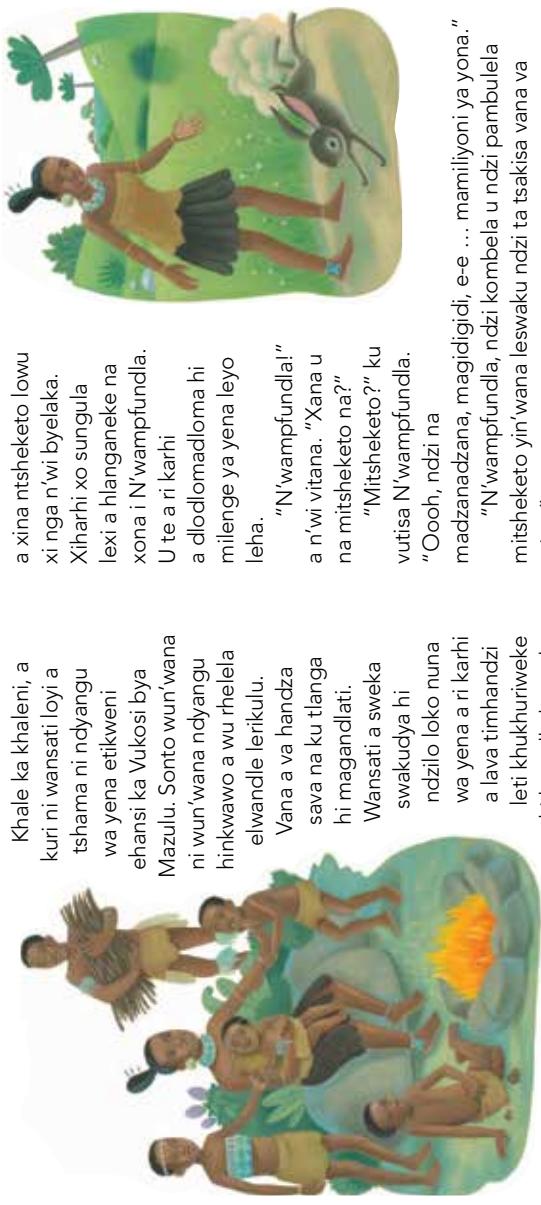
karhi a khoma hi vurhong. "Tinveleti ta nsuku ta

nkhwanyana kutani ti wa. Kambe ku ntswontswa

swi hi laha ku nga herikil!"

Leswi mitsheketo yi sunguriseke xiswona

Ntsheketo hi Wendy Hartmann
Mikombiso hi Tamsin Hinrichsen
Vuhundzuluxi hi Given J Hlongwani



Khale ka khalen, a
kuri ni wansati loyi a
tshama ni ndyangu
wa yena etikweni
ehansi ka Vukosi bya
Mazulu. Sonto wunwana
ni wun'wana ndyangu
hinkwavo a wu rhelela
elwandle lerikulu.
Vana a ava handza
sava na ku thanga
hi magandlati.
Wansati a sweka
swakudya hi
ndzilo loko nuna
wa yena ari karhi
a lava timhandzi
leti khukhuriweke
hi iwandle ku vatia
swilo swo saseka:
swinyenyana, vanhu na tinxaka hinkwato ta swiharhi.
Exikarhini ka vhiki ndyangu hinkwawo a wu tirha
swinene kasi namadyambu a va tshama va orha ndzilo.
Aku ri ni xinyami swinene lero a wu ng a ta tirha inchumu
kumbe ku vatia na swona a ri nga si sikula a swinene ku ya
eku tieleni. Lowu ku ve nkari laha vana va nga kombela
mama wa vona ku va hayela ntsheketo.

"Mhani," va kombela, "hi lava ntsheketo. Hi
kombela ntsheketo wun'we."
U ringetile ku ehleketa hi ntsheketo kambe swifana
rii kwala u tsandzekile. Havumbirhi ka vona na nuna wa
yena a va ri hava na ntsheketo na wun'we.
Siku rin'wana, wansati u ye a ya kombela ku
pfinuwa hi vaakelani.
"Xana a mi na ntsheketo na?" a va vutisa.
"E-e, e-e," va dzungudza thioko, "hi hava".
Aku ri hava ntsheketo. Aku ri hava millorho ... a
ku ri hava migaringo ya masalamusi.
Nuna wa yena a ku ka yena, "Nsati wa mina, ndzi
ehleketa leswaku u famba u ya lava ntsheketo. Ndzi ta
sala ndzi hilay'sa vana va hina na yindlu. Famba u ya lava
ntsheketo u vuya na yona."

Kutani wansati a tswontswa vandyangu a va lela
ntsheketo a famba. U famba a ri karhi a vutisa xiharhi
xin'wana ni xin'wana lexi a hlanganaka na xona ku ri

"Oh, N'wagama wa vutiharhi," ku vula wansati,
ku rungula ntsheketo na ku haya
ku tumbuluxa vuswikkoti eka vana hi ku tirthisa
Swi sungha hi tsheke...

ya karati na xigqoko xa makhamba xa Neo na
xipfalathilo. Josh a bohelela xivumbiwa eka khayiti ya
yena. Se a va ulamile!
Vana va tumbeli endzhaku ka xihlahla va chucha



a xina ntsheketo lowu
xi nga n'wi byetaka.
Xiharhi xo sungula
lexi a hlanganeke na
xona i N'wampfundia.
Ute a ri karhi
a dloclomadloma hi
milenge ja yena leyo
leha.

"N'wampfundia!"
a n'wi vitana. "Xana u
na ntsheketo na?"
"Mitsheketo?" ku
vutisa N'wampfundia.
"Ooooh, rdzina
madzandzana, magidigidji, e-e ... mamiliyon'i ya yona."
"N'wampfundia, ndzi kombela u ndzi pambuvela
mitsheketo yin'wana leswaku ndzil ta tsakisa vana va
mina."
"Eeemm..." ku vula N'wampfundia. "A
ndzi na
nkarihi. Na swona...u lava ndzi ku byela ntsheketo ya
nihikanti? ... E-e!" o dlo,
dlo, dlo a fambisa sweswo.

Endzhaku ka
nkarihyana u vone
N'waxikhovha. Loko a
kombela ntsheketo eka
yena o yimsa ntshiva hi
ku hlandzuka.
"Weeeena...
u... mani u ndzi
pfuxaka? A ndzi na
mitsheketo. Famba u ya
eka N'wagama. Hi yena
a hanayanyaka hilikanhi
lowu. Vutisa yena."

Vansati a ti fambela a
yera buwuera Nambu wa Tugela
laha gama ari hlotha kona. Loko a vona N'wagama a
n'wi vitana hi vito.
N'wagama i n'wi karhelia a ku ka yena "Hay! hay,
hay, hay! Hikwalaho ka yini u chavisa swiharhi leswi ndzi
swi hilokata?"

"Oh, N'wagama wa vutiharhi," ku vula wansati,
ku rungula ntsheketo na ku haya
ku tumbuluxa vuswikkoti eka vana hi ku tirthisa
ku rungula ntsheketo na ku haya
ku tumbuluxa vuswikkoti eka vana hi ku tirthisa
Swi sungha hi tsheke...

tsutsumu ku ya pfuna. Vakume meyara a ri ehansi
kusuhu na xivumbiwa na Noodle loyi a ha xi vulkuia.
Vana ya pfuneta ku khongotel a Noodle loko mana
wa Bella a ri karhi a pfuna meyara ku pfuka.
Endzhaku Hope a hlamusela rhengu ra yena na
hilaha ri inga hoxekisa xiswona. Meyara a yingisela,

tsutsumu ku ya pfuna. Vakume meyara a ri ehansi
kusuhu na xivumbiwa na Noodle loyi a ha xi vulkuia.
Vana ya pfuneta ku khongotel a Noodle loko mana
wa Bella a ri karhi a pfuna meyara ku pfuka.
Endzhaku Hope a hlamusela rhengu ra yena na
hilaha ri inga hoxekisa xiswona. Meyara a yingisela,



tsundzuka hinkwavo!



Neo, Josh, Hope, Bella na mana wa yena va

Siku leri ri nga rivalekiki

Ntsheketo hi Lorato Trok
Mikombiso hi Rico
Vuhundzului hi Tsakan Nkwe

"Hatlisa, Neo, a ha ha ri na nkarhi!" ku vula Hope a ri karni a rhula nkrama wayena lowo tika. Hope na Josh a va yimele Neo. Hinkwavo a va ya ephakeni tanili xiphemu xa rhengu ra Hope!

Hope u sungule ku luka rhengu leri endzhaku ka loko a hilay buku yintshwa leyia nga yi xavela hi mana wa yena. A yi lulavula hi nhwanyana loyi a nga va ni vurhena kutani a ponisa tiko ra ka vona eka xivumbiwa lexo chavisa. Hope u tiphine hi buku leyi swinene lero u yi hete hi siku rin'we laha a nga thela a lorha hi xivumbiwa lexo chavisa vusiku byebyo!

"Ndzi tshekelba leswaku u leswi u nga hi ulamisela swona swi ta tsakisa. Hikwalahokayini u jahile swonghasi?" Neo a vutisa Hope loko a ri karni a pfala rivanti ra le mahilweni. Neo a ambale xigoko xayena lexi a xi handzaka xa makhamba na xipfahatilo.

"A ndzi tivinchuruu ndzi tifanelna na wena, Neo. Hope u ndzi kombele ntseena leswaku ndzi ta na khayiti ya mina ephakeni," ku vula Josh a ri karni a kombetela khayiti ya yena.

"Ndzi tshekerbeni, mi ta tiphinal!" ku vula Hope a ri karni a hatlisa ku ya rhangela vanghana va yena. Neo na Josh val landzele, va ringeta ku n'wi kuma.

Loko va fika ephakeni, va vona meyara a rhendzeriwile hi ntshungu lowukulu wa vanhu.

"Ku humelela yini?" Josh a vutisa wansati loyi a yimile kwala kusuhi.

"Hi swona, i khale meyara a ri karni a kuma swivilelo swa leswaku a ku na mindhuti yo ringanela ephakeni," a vula. "Hikwalaho, u tiyisisile leswaku ku byariwa misinya leyintshwa leyo tala naswona

namuntha u tile ku ta tlangelal eswi na un'wana na un'wana."

"Yhoo e-e! Phaka yi tele ngopfu leswaku rhengu ra mina ri tirha," ku vula Hope a tsanile.

"Rhengu rih?" ku vutisa Neo na Josh xikan'we, va langutanile.

"Ma ha wu tsundzuka ntsheketo lowu ndzi nga wu hilaya mayelana na nhwanyana wa nhnha loyi a ngapona tiko ra ka vona?" ku vutisa Hope. "Ma

tiva, ndzi navela leswaku hi endla xivumbiwa xo chavisa, hi xi bohelela eka khayiti ya. Josh kutani hi xi hahisa ehennha ka phaka. Kambe sweswi vonani!"

Neo a ku vona ku tsana ka Hope. "I makungu ya kahle, Hope!" a vula. "A hi famberi lahaya ndzhaku ka khwati leriya rikulu. A ku na munhu loyi a ngapona tahi vona lahay." Josh na Hope va pfumela hi tinhloko kutani va famba.

Josh, famba u ya lava swimhandzana. Neo, hluvula xigqo xa wena xa makhamba na xipfahatilo xa wena," ku lerisa Hope loko a ri karni a humesa mpahla ya yena ya karati na baluni enkwameni.

Josh u kume swimhandzana swo lala kusuhi na thini ra thyaka hiloko vanghana lavanhathu va tshama endzhaku ka xihlahla va tirhisu ntambhu leyia yi ri endzeni ka nkrama wa Hope va swi bohelela swin'we swi endla xivumbeko xa xihambano ku endla miri wa xivumbiwa. Endzhaku Hope a pfurhetela baluni a yi bohelela ku endla nhloko ya xivumbiwa.

Va ambarisile xivumbiwa mpahla ya Hope

"Ndzi le ku laveni ka mitsheketo. Wa ku mitsheketo. Ku mitsheketo kona?"

"Ee," ku vula N'wagama, "Ndzi

tiva loli angaku pfunaka. Famba laha maribye ma hanganaka kona na landle. Yina kona kutani u vitana kona xihotlovila xa futsu xi huma

khensile kutani a rhelerile a ya elwandle. U vitanile

Wansati u khasile kutani a mati hi gandati leriuku.

"U ngachavi," ku vula N'wafutsu. "Khomelela xiphambati xa mina. Ndzi ta ku yisa eka vanhu vale

lwandle lava tivaka hinkwaswo na mitsheketo hikwayo."

Va mbombomela, va mbombomela, vanypela endzeni ka lwandle, va fika endzeni ka xidziva eka hosi na nkosikazi.

"Xana i mani loyi?" ku vutisa hosi.

"Wansati loyi u humale misaveni ehennha ka mati ya hina," ku hlevetela nkosikazi.

"Wansati wa le misava leyo oma u lava yini xana?"

"Mitsheketo. Hosi ja nga. Xana u na yona leswaku ndzi ta ya nyika varixaka?"

"Hi na yona," ku vula nkosikazi. "Kambe wena u ta hi nyika yini leswaku wena u kuma mitsheketo leyi?"

"Xana u lava yini?" ku vutisa wansati

Hosi na nkosikazi va n'wayitela. "A hi swikoti ku ya emisava laha ku omeke.

Hi lava ku ta vona leswaku ku njhani emisaveni. Tana na xai nchumu ku ta hi komba leswaku ku na swiharhi na vanhu vanjhani."

"Ndzi ta endla tano," ku vula wansati. Xihotlovila xa futsu xi

"N'wi tekile xi n'wi yisa emisaveni laha ku omeke kutani xi n'wi yimela loko a ha tsutsumela ekaya ku ya byela nuna wa yena hinkwaswo."

"Ohoo," a vula a nyaryukile swinene "Ndzi na swivatiwa swo tala swa swiharhi, tinyenyani na vanhu. U nga teka hinkwaswo"

Hi ku hatlisa wansati u tlhelenile ethhelo ka lwendle na xilatxa xa swivatiwa. Nakambe, futsu ri hlamberile na ku teka wansati va ya endzeni, 'ndzeni, ndzeni ka lwendle.

Loko hosi na nkosikazi va vona swivatiwa, a vatsakile swinene kutani va teka xiphaphani xo saseka va n'wi nyikia.

"Eka wena ni vandyangu wa wena, hi minyika nyikia ya mitsheketo. Loko u lava mitsheketo, taksuela xiphaphani endleveni kutani u yingisela," va vule tano.

"Kambe tsundzukanile leswi," ku hlevetela hosi endleveni ya yena, "mitsheketo wa wena wo sungula a wu vihi ta riendzo leri u ri fambeke ku

Loko wansati a thhela eribuwenti, nuna wa yena, vana va yena na vanhu va le tikweni ra ka vona a va n'wi yimerie. Va endle nozilo lowukulu lowu langavi ra kona a ri baleka na ku voninga emunyameni.

"Kutani," va n'wi vitana, "tana na to. Hi byeli tsheketo!"

Wansati a n'wayitela. A teka xiphaphani a ku, "Ee ... Nalibali ... hi lowu tsheketo. Ssshhhh. Sweswi yingiseleni."

Leswi hi laha mitsheketo wo sungula wu naga haywa ha kona.

Endzaku ka sweswo wansati u khomele xiphaphani endleveni yakwe na ku tsheketa mitsheketo yo tala. Loko kuri leswaku lowu i mitsheketo wo sungula ku wu twa, tsundzuka ka ha ni na yin'wana yo tala leyia ha taka.



Ku tumbuluxa vuswikoti eka vana hi ku tihisa ku rungula ntsheketo na ku hilaya



Nyiko ya Sisanda

Ntsheketo hi Gcina Mhlophe
Wikombiso hi Jiggs Snaddon-Wood
Vuhundzuluxi hi Given J Hlongwani

Masiku hinkwawo loko Sisanda loyi a ri ni malembe ya nhungu a fika ekaya ku suka exikolweni, a cincia yunifomo, a dyo a lanci ya yena kutani a thya muravarava na kokwani wa yena. Va vile ni nkarni wa kahle wa ku hahisa "tihomu" ehennha ka bodo ku filela laha a nga ha swi lavi ku ri va yima. Kokwani u n'wi tsundzuke lesawku kambe u lava ku va mufambisi wa bangi siku rin'wana loko a kurile.



"U ta swi endlisa ku yini loko unga yi exikolweni xa le henhla?" ku vutisa Sisanda o hleka. "Ndzi ta ya exikolweni xa le henhla na le yunivhesiti. Hikwalaho ndzi tirhaka hi malembe ya yena – u tekele tata wa yena. Xikandza xa yena lexi xa xihendzevutani na ku n'wayitela a tekele mana wa yena. Vatswari va yena ha vumbibhi va pfuka ka ha ri mixo va ya entithweni era ntanga wa swiharhi lowu nga kwala kusushi.

Loko Sisanda na vanghana va yena va sungula xikolo, vapfhumba vo tala va va va filile ku vona swiharhi leswo hlawuleka swa Afrika. Eka siku ra yena ra ku velekiwa ro hetelela, Sisanda u vile ni nkarni wo hlawuleka swinene – vatswari va yena va kumile mpfumelelo wa ku va ni intlangu endzenika ntanga. Tinhuthwa entangeni



tihamarile swinene hi ntawa lowu wa vanhu. Tilehisile tinhamu ta tonu leto eha ku kota ku vona kahle ntangu lowu naswona a ti komba ti navela khekhe na ku velekiwa! Sisanda a rhandza tinhuthwa. Swiharhi hinkwawo a swi ri leswa nkoka era yena, kambe a ku ri ku miyela na vunene bya ntuthwa lebyi nga yiva mibili ya yena. A ta hetu siku hinkwaro a ri ku ti languteni.

Siku rin'wana hi Rayuntlhau, tata wa Sisanda u uvyle entithweni ka ha ri ni nkarni. A ti komba a tsanile swinene.

"Tatana, i yini lexi nga hoxeka?" ku vutisa Sisanda.

"Namunthha tinyoxi ti lumile mhani wa xinhuthwani," ku hlamusela tata wa Sisanda.

"Nhloko ya yena a yi pfimbile swinene hi mindyombho ku fikela laha mahlo ya nga pfaleka. Hi ringetile hinkwawo ku yi pfuna, kambe a swi pfunang – kutani yi lovile. Lexi vavaka swinene iku ku na xinhuthwani lexitsong go lexi xi lavaka mana wa xona."

"Hay'khonal!" ku vula Sisanda a ri nkarni a rila. "Ndzi naveila ku ri loko a ko va na swin'wana leswi a ndzi ta swiendla. Xin'wanani xa ntuthwa xfanele xi ri karhi xi rila ku fana na mina."

Sisanda u rile lero na ta rila. Mana wa yena u ringetile ku n'wi khongotela. U tihela a hayela Sisanda tsheketo wo engetela hi nkarni wo etela ku n'wi pfuna ku rivala hi ndela leyi a tweila xinhuthlwani ku vava. Emakumu, Sisanda u kotile ku tlela a ri nkarni a twa rito ra mana wa yena.

Mixo lowu landzelaka Sisandza u tele hi mano! "Xana ndzi nga famba na n'wina a entithweni?" a vutisa tata wa yena. "Ndzi na nyiko ya xinhuthwani."

Vatswari va yena va langutana, van'wayitela va ku, "Ee, u nga famba na hina."

**Ku tumbuluxa vuswikkoti eka vana hi ku tirthisa
ku rungula ntsheketo na ku haya**

na Mme wa Afrika na Dintle. Mama a pfula mavoko kutani Afrika a ng'hena eka wona hi ku kongoma. "Xewani, Mama, xana u tsakile?" ku vutisa Afrika. "U nga ha vileyi swesi, mina na Dintle hi ku kumile. A wa ha lahlekanga."

Dintle a tsakile ku vona buti wa yena. Afrika a korhama a n'wi vukaraha.

"Mama, loyi i Asanda, munghana wa mina lontshwa," ku vula Afrika. "U ndzi dyondzisile ku dzenengela bodlhela ra kholidirinki enhlokweni. U lava ku xava buku."

"Xewani, Asanda, ndzi tsakile ku ku tiva," ku vula Mme wa Afrika a ri karhi a n'wayitela.

"Sweswi, a hi languteni tibuku hi vona leswaku hi nga kuma thi! Afrika, tsundzuka leswaku a wu lava ku dyondza ku aka xisaka xa xinyenyan."

Hinkwavo va tekile nkarni va ri karhi va langutu tibuku hiloko Mama a kuma buku ley yi dyondzisaka ku endla swilo swo hambarahambana hi timhandze.

"Ndza kombokela, xana ndzinya yi teka?" Afrika a vutisa mhani wa yena.

"Ina, loko kuri leswaku wa yi lava," ku hilamula Mama.

Kutani nkarni wo famba wu fika. "Vona, Asanda! Ndzi ya ekaya ndzi dzenengela buku ya mina enhlokweni!" ku vula Afrika, a dzenengela buku ya yena leyintshwa enhlokweni.

"U nga rivali ku tlakusela nhompfu ya wena emoyeni, wonge i 'wana wa hosi!" Asanda a hleka.



Va ri swin'we Asanda na Afrika va famba va tsemakanya mitshungu ya vanhu. Hi nkarni walowo Afrika a twa vito ra yena! "Afrika! Afrika! U kwih!" "Irito ra mhani wa mina rero," ku vula Afrika. "Mbuya, u lahlekile! Ndza swi twa leswaku u hlundzukile. U twala a ri ekusubi na xitolo xa tibuku. Tana, a hi tsutsumi, Asanda!"

Va ri swin'we vana va tsutsuma va ya exitolo xa tibuku, kona kwale, kwala mahlweni ka xona, a ku ri



U kwihi?

Ntsheketo hi Ann Walton

Mikombiso hi Rico

Vuhundzuluxi hi Tsakani Nkwe

"Hi ya eku xaveneri eswitolol! Hi ya eku xaveneri eswitolol!" Afrika a tluatlula a ya ehenhla ni le hansi emahlweni ka Dintle. Mhani wayena, Mme wa Afrika, a n'wayitelala, kutani Dintle a phokotela mavoko.

"Ina," ku vula Mme wa Afrika, "ambala tintanghu ta wena. Hi fanela ku hatlisa. Ha ha fanela ku famba bazi, un'wana na un'wana a manyiwa. Mme wa Afrika a xinge Dintle. Kutani wansati un'wana a tshama laha thelo ka yena. Kasi Afrika yena a tshame hala tlhelo leri'n'wana ra mhani wa yena, a manyeke kusuhini festitere. Kambe hinkwaswo leswi a swi nga n'wi karhati hikuva a swi vula leswaku u ta kota ku vona ehandle hi festitere.

Ekuheteleleni muchaveri a huwelala a ku, "Xitichi



enhlokweni.

"Xana wena wa swi kota ku endla leswiya,

Mama?" Afrika a vutisa mhani wakwe.

"Ku endla yini?" ku vutisa Mme wa Afrika.

"Ku rhwala mpahla enhlokweni ya wena hi ndlela

iyi," ku hlamula Afrika.

"Ina ndza swi kota. Swa olova," ku vula mhani

wa yena.

Afrika a langutisa wansati loyi ku kondzaloloko a

nyamalala exikarhi ka mitshungu ya vanhu lava a va

yime exikarhi ka switolo swa makete.

"Ndza beja na mina ndzi nga swi kota ku

dzemengelal!" Afrika a eheleketa a ri yexe. Kutani a

vona bodlhela ra pulastiki ra kholidirinki leri nga riki

na nchumu ri ri ehansi. A ri rholela kutani a ri veka

ehenhla ka nthloko, kambe a

boheka kuri khoma hikuva a

tshamela ku wa.

"Eish!" ku vula

nhwanyana loyi a ri kwala thelo

ta ku kombaa

leswaku swi

endlisiva ku yini!"

A teka bodlhela

ra kholidirinki,

a ri dzenengela

enhlokweni, a



A ku hisa kambe a ku ri siku leri a ku ri na mapapa. Leswi a swi ri xiswona endzeni ka ntanga a ku miyele hi ndlela yoka yi nga tolotelekangiki.

"Dyambu a ri thavanga namunttha hikuva ri twa ku vava hi xinhutlwani," ku vula Sisanda.

Nhutwa leyikulu a yi honokerile ndyangu loko wu ri karhi wu hundza.

"Kumbexani yi le ku hlama leni ku ri hikwalaho ka yini nhwana lotsongo a ya entithwani ni vatsvari va yena," ku vula mana wa Sisanda.

Sisanda a pfumela hi nthloko. "U ta hlama loko a swi kuma," a ehleketa

Va kumile xinhutlwani xi ti yimele xii ri xoxo. Nhamu va xona levo leha vi korhamile na mathilo

va yine, "ku vula mana wa Sisanda.

Sisanda a rendzo, vana va ka Giredi 3 va makumemune va yine hi ku hiseka etinyangweni ta ntangal leswaku ti pfula. Kutani Sisanda hi ku tinyungubuya u rhangerile hinkwavo ku ya eka Thokozani. Van'wana vana va langutile nhutwa leyo leha hi ku hlama lokukula. Van'wana va hlekela endzeni hi ku chava. Mudyondzisi wa vona Manana Khanyile, u lo n'wayitelala.

Hi siku ra rendzo, vana va ka Giredi 3 va makumemune va yine hi ku hiseka etinyangweni ta ntangal leswaku ti pfula. Kutani Sisanda hi ku tinyungubuya u rhangerile hinkwavo ku ya eka Thokozani. Van'wana vana va langutile nhutwa leyo leha hi ku hlama lokukula. Van'wana va hlekela endzeni hi ku chava. Mudyondzisi wa vona Manana Khanyile, u lo n'wayitelala.

"Munghana wa wena u sasekile Sisanda. U n'wi khomé hi tintswalo swinene," a vula hi ritu ra vunene.

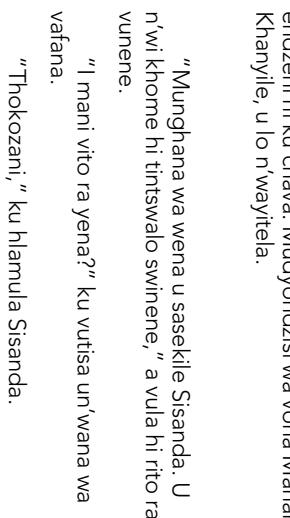
"I mani vito ra rayena?" ku vutisa un'wana wa vafana.

"Thokozani," ku hlamula Sisanda.

Manana Khanyile.

Vana va tshamile ehansi vayingisela loko sungula loko a hilangana na Thokozani. Mufambisi wa ntanga u tekile swifaniso. Vapfumba van'wana na vona va tekile swifaniso. Na mutekaswifaniso wa phephahungu ra muganga u tekile swifaniso. Utshembhisi leswaku xifaniso xa vona xi ita huma eka phephahungu ku nga ri kale. Hinkwavo ba huwa ya ntsako.

Nyiko yo tanil! Ku hilaya ko horisa munghana.



Siku rin'wana mufambisi wa ntanga a kombela Sisanda ku thya munghana wa yena vito.

"Ndzi eheleketa ku Thokozani i vito ra kahle," ku vula Sisanda.

Siku leri landzelaka mufambisi wa ntanga u foynereile mudyondzisi wa Sisanda. Urhambile vadyondzikulorihi ku ta hilangana na Thokozani. Nhutwa leyo saseka yi kurile na ku leha yi thela yi va ni matimba eka tin'hweti tinharrhu ku sukela loko Sisanda a endzile ro sungula.

Hi siku ra rendzo, vana va ka Giredi 3 va makumemune va yine hi ku hiseka etinyangweni ta ntangal leswaku ti pfula. Kutani Sisanda hi ku tinyungubuya u rhangerile hinkwavo ku ya eka Thokozani. Van'wana vana va langutile nhutwa leyo leha hi ku hlama lokukula. Van'wana va hlekela endzeni hi ku chava. Mudyondzisi wa vona Manana Khanyile, u lo n'wayitelala.

Ku tumbuluxa vuswikoti eka vana hi ku tirthisa
ku rungula ntsheketo na ku hilaya

Avelana ntsheketo namunttha!



Neo na Misava leyikulu, yo anama

Nitsheketo hi Vianne Venter
Mikombiso hi Rico
Vuhundzuluxi hi Given J Hlongwani

Neo u langutile ehandise hi fasitere ku suka ekamareneni ya yena loko mpunga lowu a wu vonaka eka switarata hikwalaho ka ku tsakama, vanhu ya mpunga va ri karhi va famba hi ku hatisa, loko pfula yi ri karhi yi na. A ngga ta humela ehandise, naswona a hayele Mbali tibuku hinkwato.

Hi nkarti walowo, Kokwani u ngchenile misisi yi lo jivinini hikwalaho ka moyo lowu a wu ri ehandise. A khomile xa n'wa nichuru. Neo a swivona leswaku a xi bambekile, xa xikvere, na ku va na muhlovo hlovo ... naswona a xi pfuleka – ku fana na bokisi ra rifuwo!

"Leyi i buku leyi a ndziyi rhanda loko ndza ha ri ntsono ko fana na wena," Kokwani a byela Neo. "A ku ri nyangwa wa mina ku ya eka misava leyikulu, yo anama."

Kutani, a pfula bulku.

Eka pheiji yo sungula a ku ri xifaniso xa ndhawu yo hlamarisa, kule na le ka ndhawu leyi nga ni siku leru nga ni mpunga. Nhova ya kona a yi riya ri hlahza na nsuku na ribungu, na matilo lava yo saseka ya wasi le henhla, na dyambu lero kufumela ra xitshopani, ri ri karhi ri hisa.

"Eee! Yi kona ndhawu yo tanii?" ku hlamala Neo.

Kokwani a n'wayitel. "Xana a wu switiva?

Mitsheketo hinkwato i ya ntviso, loko u yi tshembha," a hlamula. Kutani a kombetela ndhawu eka pheiji laha mfana lontsongo, loyi a lava ku ringana na Neo, a ri eku fambeni enhoveni.

Loko Kokwani a ri karhi a hlaya, Neo u pfarile mahlo kutani a nyamalala, a ngchenile etintshaveni ... exikarhi ka misava leyikulu ya ribunga ... ku ya eka misava leyikulu leyi anameke.

U twile marito ya le nhoveni.

"Humela ehandise! Humela ehandise!" ku yimbelela xinyenyani. "I silku ro saseka!" ku hlavelela mbvomomo.



"Ndzi nsinya. Ndzi kota ku vona tindhawu hinkwato letikulu, ripala ra nsuku. Tana, uta languta na mina." Nsinya wu tshenelela, kutani Neo a khandziya.

Ku suka ehenhla emarhavini, Neo a kota ku vona evugimamusi bya misava. Naswona a ku ri na swotala hinkwakokwako, a swi lava na ku n'wi chavisa loko a swi ehleketa.

Kambe nsinya vu n'wi nsirhelerile, na ku hlevetela, "Famba u ya valanga. U nga chavi. I misava leyo hlamarisa, leyikulu na ku anama." Kutani, Neo a chika a famba a ya enhoveni. Hi ku hatisa, u hlangane na nhula ya sava ro tiya ri ri na mimbhovo leyitsongo, leyi fanka na minyangwa leyitsongo. A twa marito ya mamiliyonu

Ku tumbuluxa vuswikkoti eka vana hi ku tirthisa
ku rungula ntshuketo na ku hlaya

Xitswiriri xi biwile naswona vatlangi va tsutsumele erivaleni ku ya eka xiphemu xa vumbirhi xa ntlangu. Ntlangu wu yile emahlwensi na leswi a wu endilisa swona na le ka xiphemu xo sunqula xa ntlangu ... ku fikela loko ku sale ntsema minete yin'we!

Neo a ri na bolo. U langutile

kuala kusuhu na yena ku vona leswaku a ku na wun'wana wa xipano xa Diamond ekusuhi na yena. E-e, a ri yexe. U tsutsumile a ya emahlwensi, a va xanda hi bolo. Hi xinkadyana mutlangi wa xipano xa Diamond u tshinerile. Neo a n'wi languta emahlwensi loko a ri karhi abu khixi

bole yi hundza hi le xikarhi ka milengye ya mutlangi loyi. Vahlaleri va ku huwaa hi ku tsaka. Mutlangi wun'wana wa Diamond Football Club utile ekusuhi na Neo a lava ku n'wi ba xikero. Hi ku hatisa, Neo a rhumela Priya bolo. Un wana na un'wana a khoma ambilu loko Priya a teka bolo a yi raha hi matimba. *LADJUMA!* N'watipta wa Diamond Football Club a ngga yi vonangi loko bolo yi ta! Priya u howise bolo.



Ku ngga si hela na sekene. Loko a ha hundzuluka ku ta tlangelia ku howisa bolo n'watiimpape u chayile xitswiriri xo herisa ntlangu! Maqhawe Football Club va hlurie eka ntlangu!

Neo a tsakile swinene ku fika laha a nga tsutsumela Priya ku ya n'wi tlakula!

Hinkwavo va tsutsumile va ya laha a ku ri na



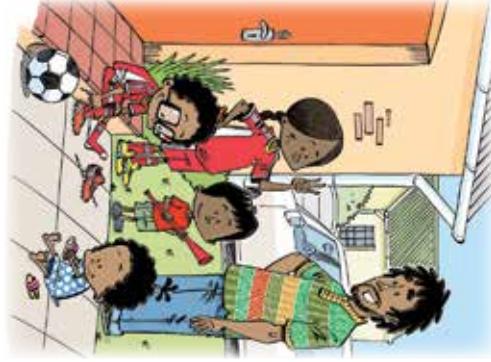
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Neo a tsakile swinene ku fika laha a nga tsutsumela Priya ku ya n'wi tlakula!



Minete yo hetelela

Ntsheketo hi Zukiswa Wanner
Mikombiso hi Rico
Vuhundzuluxi hi Given J Hlongwani



"Namunttha ndzi ta howisa tibolo timbirhi, Tatana," ku vula Neo a ri karhi a ambala tikhokho ta yena.
"Mina ndzi ta piuna hi ku engetela hi ku howisa tibolo tinharhu eka tona, Malume," ku vula Priya toyi a ha ku fika eka va Neo na makwavo wakwe, Rahul. Rahul a khome vhuvhuzela ya yena yo hatima yo tshwuka. Tata wa Neo a hiekela. "Loko swi ri tano, ndzi langutela ku tlangela ku ringana ka ntianhau!"
"Na mina, Malume! Xana na mina ndzi nga tlangela?" ku vutisa Rahul.
"Iha mufana wa mina," ku hlamula tata wa Neo loko a ri karhi a pfuna Mbalu ku ambala tintanghu. "A hi famberi swesewi!"

Hinkwavo va ng henile emovheni. Neo u tshamile emahiweni. Utshama kona hi masiku. A ri na kutshembha leswaku loko tata wakwe o n'wi pumfemeela, na loko milengye ya yena yi lehile ku ringana, a nga kota ku chayela movha. A swi tikomba swi oliville. Rahul na Priya va tshamile endzhaku hi le mathelo ya Mbalu. Va n'wi dikilidile kutani a hiekela.

Loko va ngas si swi langutela, va fikile erivaleni ra mitanguya ya bolo. Va fikile hi nkarihi leswaku Priya na Neo va ta hlangana na vatlangikuloni ku suka eka xipano xa Macqhawe Football Club leswaku va tiola. Namunttha va tlanga na xipano xa Diamond Football Club.



"Ya. Mbalu u lava mi howisa," ku vula Mbalu hi ku vuyetela. "Mbalu u khoma hi vurhongo," a engetela hi ku ahamula. Neo na Priya valo tihlekela kutani va tsutsuma va ya hlangana na vatlangi kuloni.

"Tsundzukani ku tiyisisa leswaku mi rhombisa ku hatima lokukulu ka Diamond Football Club, leswaku loko ntianhau wu hela va cinca vito ku va xipano xa Coal Football Club," ku vula mudzaber.

Ku fikile nkarihi wa leswaku vatlangi va tsutsumela endzeni karivala. N'watimpepe u chayile xitswiriri naswona ntianhau wu sungurile.

Swilo swi sungule hi ku nonoka, kambe va sungurile ku hatisa. A ku ri na huwa yikulu loko mindyanguya swipano ha swimbirhi va ri karhi va khuzela. Bolo a yi va ethelweni swa nkarihinyana, hi nkarihi a wu ta vona orge va lava ku yi yisa ethelweni ra hafu, wun wana wa vatlangi a ta yiva boloi!

Ntianhau wu tambise xisweswo ku fikela loko ku fika nkarihi wo wisa.
"Ndzi borhekile! Mi ndzi tshembise leswaku mi khome vhuvhuzela ya yena yo hatima yo tshwuka.

Tata wa Neo a hiekela. "Loko swi ri tano, ndzi langutela ku tlangela ku ringana ka ntianhau!"
"Na mina, Malume! Xana na mina ndzi nga tlangela?" ku vutisa Rahul.
"Iha mufana wa mina," ku hlamula tata wa Neo loko a ri karhi a pfuna Mbalu ku ambala tintanghu. "A hi famberi swesewi!"

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Iawa a ya ri endzeni, na huwa ya swinengani swa ntsevu wa mamilioni leyia yi ri karhi yi tsutsuma. "Ahee! Hi wena mani?" Neo u huwelerile hi yin'wana ya timbati.

"Ahee!" rito leritsongo ri hlamlua. "Hi vusokoti. Hi rungulelana mtsheketo ya misava kona kwala. U lava ku twa yin'wana mtsheketo xana?"

Neo a rhanda mtsheketo, u tshamile ehansi a yingisela. Vusokoti biyi rungurile mtsheketo ya le nhoveni na le makhwatini, na le tintshaveni na le mahlweni ka doroba.

"Mtsheketo yo tala?" ku vutisa Neo.
"Ku na mtsheketo yo tala ku fana ni ku tala ka tinyeleti ematiweni," ku hlamula vusokoti.

Neo a tatayisa, a famba hi ndlela ya le rhoveni.

Kutani Neo u fambilile ku fika laha anga hlangana na mati lawo tala iawa a ya khuluka ku suka na mixo ku fika exikarhi ka vusku. Neo u hoxile milenge ku timula milenge leyi hisaka.

Mati ya hungile milenge ya yena hi gandlati kutani a hieka, "Mina ndzi

nambu. Ndzi jikajika na tintshava. Tana, ndzi sali hi le ndzhabu. Ndzi ta kuyisa ekaya."

Neo u ehlekete leswaku swi nga va kahle.

Kutani a landzelala laha nambu a wu ya kona

tsendzeleka nahlikanhi ku kala ku fika loko dyambu

ringa si pela, ku fika loko Neo a fika ehlohlorhini ya ntshava.

Ku suka kwalaho, a kota ku vona doroba

ritsongo, ieri nga basisiwa hi mpfula na ku vangama

ra mitanguya ya bolo. Va fikile hi nkarihi leswaku Priya

na Neo va ta hlangana na vatlangikuloni ku suka eka xipano xa Macqhawe Football Club leswaku va tiola. Namunttha va tlanga na xipano xa Diamond Football Club.

hi miseve ya ku pela ka dyambu. Kutani nambu wu hlekelela, "Yana emahlweni, famba kaya. Ku na vanhu lava ku rhanda, lava lavaka ku avelana mtsheketo na wena."

Neo u yile kona, exikarhi ka doroba. U vone phensaphensa eswitarateni swa le dorobeni, ku fana na le nambyeni. U vonile tindlu, ku kufumela endla swokarhi, ku fana na vusokoti lebyitsongo. Emaheteleleni, Neo u pfurile fasitere laha a ku ri na kokwani loyi a dyuhaleke, na mavoko lawa ya tiyek na misisi yilo jivinini ku fana na marhavi ya nsinya lowukulu, upfariile buku kutani a korhama a ntswontswa jaha rayena a ku betlela kahle.

hi miseve ya ku pela ka dyambu.

Kutani nambu wu hlekelela, "Yana emahlweni,

famba kaya. Ku na vanhu lava ku rhanda, lava

lavaka ku avelana mtsheketo na wena."

Neo u yile kona, exikarhi ka doroba. U vone

phensaphensa eswitarateni swa le dorobeni, ku

fana na le nambyeni. U vonile tindlu, ku kufumela

endla swokarhi, ku fana na vusokoti lebyitsongo.

Emaheteleleni, Neo u pfurile fasitere laha a ku

ri na kokwani loyi a dyuhaleke, na mavoko lawa ya

tiyek na misisi yilo jivinini ku fana na marhavi ya

nsinya lowukulu, upfariile buku kutani a korhama a

ntswontswa jaha rayena a ku betlela kahle.



Neo u ehlekete hi nhova na ntshava na vusokoti na nambu. Loko a ha langute kokwani, nkwangulatillo wu voningerile yindlu ya muhlovohlovo ku fana na xifaniso xa le ka buku ya ntsheketo. Neo u ehlekete hi rendzo leto hlamarisa ieri nga endzeni ka tipheji ta buku ya ntsheketo leto rhandziwaka hi Kokwani, a enhleketa hi yena na Mbalu ekaya.

Neo u hoxile buku endzeni ka mubedwa lowo kufumela, eka kamara lero xonga, eka yindlu lebyitsongo.

Hikwalaho, loko misava yi ti komba yi ri yama mpunga, eka kamara ra yena iero xonga, kamara ra yena ri languteka ri ri ritsongo, Neo a pfula buku. A yima erivantini exikarhi ka mapheji, kutani a famba a ya eka misava teyikulu, yo anama.

Ku tumbuluxa vuswikoti eka vana hi ku tirhisa
ku rungula mtsheketo na ku hlaya

Avelana ntsheketo namunttha!



Mpfumawulo wa kahle emisaveni hinkwayo

Ntsheketo hi Niki Dali
Mikombiso hi Rico
Vuhundzuluhi Given J Hlongwani

Bela a ri na xivundza naswona Manwa yena a ri na ntirho wo basisa yindlu.
"Teka Noodle mi ya le handle mi ya bela hi moyo," ku vula Manana.
Noodle u landzelerile Bella ehandle na kutsusimile na ku nunhwela moyo. A wu ri na risema ra ntalo wa mimovha.



twakalela ekule, ekule swinene. A va twa na risimu ro tsokombela ra xinyeranyi. Bella u pfarie mahlo na ku khomakhoma Noodle. Havumbirhi va tlula!
"Aaaaa! Eeee! Aaaaa!" mpfumawulo wo ka wu nga ri kahle wu huma endlwini ya Kokwani ethhelweni ieri n'wana ra khumbi. Bella u tsutsumile



ku ya byela mana wa yena leswi a nga swi twa.
"Ku na mpfumawulo yo kai yinga ri kahle leyi humaka endlwini ya Kokwani!" a huwelela loko ku ri na vrhuu, vrhuu! ya muchini wa vhakhumu. Manana a wu tima.
"Yingisal!" ku vula Bella. Kutani Manana a swi twa!
"Aaaaa! Eeee! Aaaaa!"

Vuum! novha wu famba. Duu! ku famba Tswikiritswikeri! ku hundza xibebe na mathayere ya xona lamo hlakala na ku rhosa ka tinsimbi. Bella a sungula ku hlaya minpfumawulo leyi nga kona. A ku ri na mune leyi a yi hlakeke.
Drii, drii!, drii! ku ri borho ya patu! Hawu, hawu, hawu!. Noodle a vukulaka botho. Guu, guu, guu! ku ri mpfumawulo wa vunanga lowu humaka endzeni ka thekisi.

Heve, heve, heve! ku ri manana un'wana ari karhi a vulavula eka riqingga ra le ryongeni. *Tlap, tlap, tlap!* ku ri tikwayikwayi exitupini loko a ri karhi a hundza. Giii, giii! ku ri mutiolori loyi a hundza hiku tsutsumi. Huuu, huuu, huuu! ku ri Noodle a ri karhi a vukula mutiolori. Tsweee, tsweee, tsweee! ku ri mfana a ri karhi a ba noti loko a chovha bayiskiri.
"Mpfumawulo ya KHUMEMBIRHI!" ku vula Bella. Mpfumawulo leyi a yi endla nhloko ya Bella yi baxidiwandiwan, kutani a tshika ku hlaya a ku, "Tana Noodle, a hi yi endzhaku ka yindlu laha ku nga kahle laha ku nga ri ki na huwa."
Endzaku ka yindlu mpfumawulo ya mimovha a yi

ra yena.
"Eeee! ndzi ti hisile voko eka mbita leyo hisa yo nyangatsa!" ku rila Kokwani.
"Ri hoxi endeni ka mati loko ndza ha ya teka



Bella u rivele leswaku i mpfumawulo yi nga ni a nga yi hlaya, kambe lowu hi wona wa kahle swinene!
"I mpfumawulo lowu ndzi wu rhandzaka!" a vula ari karhi a n'wayitela.
Hi nkahi wo ettele, Manana u vutisile Bella,
"Xana wa swi tiva ku mpfumawulo lowu mina ndzi wu rhandzaka hi wili?"



"Hi wihi?" ku vutisile Bella.
"Hi lowu!" ku vula mhani Manana, ari karhi a dikkida khwiri ra Bella.
Ha, ha, hee, hee, ha, ha, hee, hee! ku hleka Bella.
Ina! Mpfumawulo wo hleka i mpfumawulo wa kahle swinene emisaveni hinkwayo. Wena u swi vona njhani?



xibokisan xa mirhi ya mpfuno," ku vula Manana, kutani a lhela hi ku tsutsumi a thlelela endlwini – pha, pha, pha.

Hi ku hatlisa Manana a vuyile, a khomile xibokisanixa xipfalo xa xihambano xo tshuka. U totile murhi evokweni ra Kokwani na ku ritsondzela hi bandichi.
"Kokwani, unge sweki hi voko leru twaka ku vava," ku vula Manana. "Wena na ndyangu wa wena mifanele mi ta hi ta lalela swin'we namuntha na madyambu."

"Ndza khensa," ku vula Kokwani. "Ndzi kombela u teka mbita leya xiphunta ya ti tiboncisi u ta engetela eka swakudy."
Hi nkahi wo lalela, Kokwani na ndyangu wa yena wu filele.

Yam, yam! – lowu a ku ri mpfumawulo lowu a vata risema ra swakudy swa mana wa Bella leswo nandzha swo cheriwa na kheri na mbita ya Kokwani ya tiboncisi. Noodle a nyikwile switsongo endzeni ka ndyeloyakwe. Chop, chop! U dyile a hetta. Kutani kap, kap, kap, a nwa mati hinkwavo lawa a ya ri eka ndyeloy!
"Ndzi khensa loko u ndzi twile loko ndzi rila," ku vula Kokwani a byela Bella.

"A ndzi ri karhi ndzi hlaya mpfumawulo leyi nga kona ekusuhi na mina," ku vula Bella.

"Loko swi ritano, ndzi ku nyika lowu wun'wana,"

ku vula Kokwani a ri karhi a voyamelia Bella. Mwah! ku

ri ntswotswo lowukulu wo nona emarhameni ya Bella.



Ku koka rinoko ra vana hi ku humesa
vuswikeri hi ku hlaya tsheketo na ku hlaya



Soon the party was in full swing. Tin sang her songs while Neo, Hope, Josh and Bella played along. And Noodle barked every now and then to join in too!

Then the other artists each sang a song from their country. The crowd cheered and clapped. They loved the show!

"You see," said Tin to the We Can Band, "this little team saved the dream! Thanks to the four of you ... and Noodle, everyone enjoyed a wonderful party!"

Hi nkarhinyana ntlangu a wu hisa. Tin a yimbelela risimu ra yena loko Neo, Hope, Josh na Bella va ri karhi va chaya. Noodle na yena a nghenelela nkari na nkarhi hi ku vukula!

Endzhaku tiqambhi letin'wana yin'wana na yin'wana yi yimbelela risimu kusuka etikweni ra bona. Ntshungu wu khuzela na ku phokotela mavoko. A va rhandza nkombiso!

"Ma swi bona," ku vula Tin a byela We Can Band, "ntlawa lowu wutsongo wu ponisile norho! Ndza mi khensa vamune bya n'wina ... na Noodle, un'wana na un'wana u tiphinile hi ntlangu lowo hlamarisa!"



Josh and Hope were smiling and singing along, but Neo was still looking around for the band.

"Right foot back," sang the crowd.

"Left foot back," sang Tin.

"Left foot back," sang the crowd.

"Left foot back," sang the crowd.

Before Hope could answer, Tin stepped up to the microphone. "Hello!" she said. "ARE YOU READY TO START THIS PARTY?"

Tin started playing her guitar. "Repeat after me," she said as she started singing. "Left foot back."

"Yeho, yes!" shouted the crowd.

Neo grabbed Hope's arm. "Look," he said, "Tin's on stage! But where is the We Can Band?"

"Gogo," said Neo, "did you hear that? They said everyone is welcome. May we please go? Please?"

Gogo looked at Neo and smiled. "If Josh and Hope are allowed to go, then you may go too," she said. Josh and Hope were out the door as quick as a flash to ask their parents' permission to join the party at the park.

When they came back to fetch Neo, Hope told Gogo that Bella and her mom would be going too.

"Okay, off you go then. Stay close together," said Gogo.

"Gogo," ku vula Neo, "xana u swi twile? A va ku un'wana na un'wana u amukelekile. Xana hi nga ya? Ha kombela?"

Gogo a languta Neo kutani a n'wayitela. "Loko Josh na Hope va pfumeleriwa ku ya, na wena u ta ya," a vula. Josh na Hope va humile hi nyangwa onge i rihati ku ya kombela mpfumelelo eka vatsvari va bona ku ya entlangwini wa le phakini.

Loko va vuya ku ta teka Neo, Hope u byerile Gogo leswaku Bella na manana wa yena va ya na bona.

"Hi swona, fambani ke. Mi tshama swin'we," ku vula Gogo.





"Ina!" ku vula Hope. "Naswona ndzi twa na Xichewa na Xionda."
 "Yingisela . . ." ku vula Josh. "Xana ku na vanhu lava vuvavulaka Xifurwaa?"
 "Ra hina u tlie," ku vula Neo. "Na vanhu wan'wana vantshwa."
 Yena a file! "Ndzi andakanja leswadku un'wana na un'wana wa le dorobeni Ephakin, Neo u vonile Bella na mananga wa yena, hambi a ni Noodle na

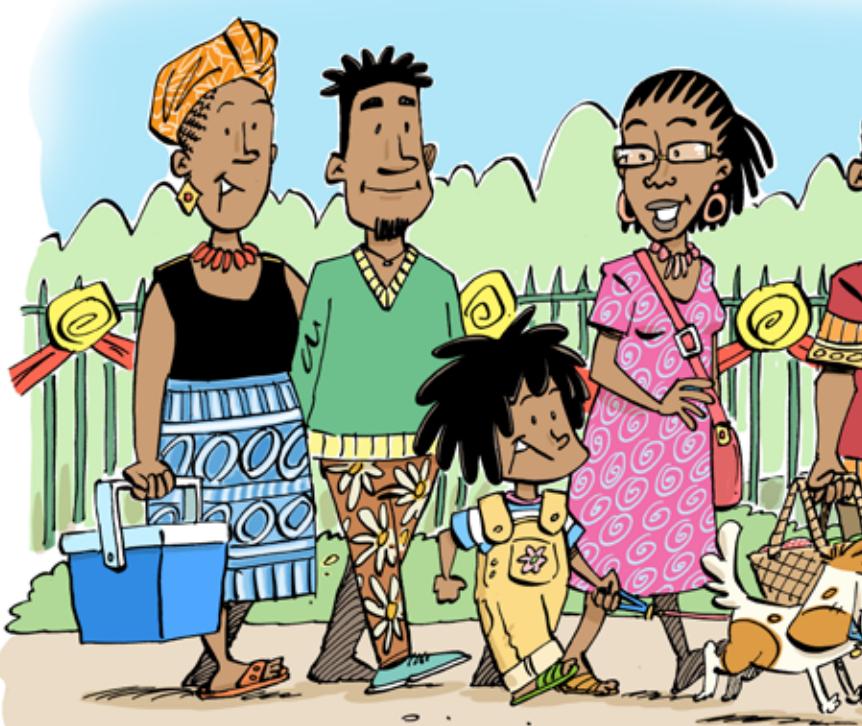


Tin pointed at Bella. The row of fins chimed beautifully as Bella swung them against each other. Noodle barked excitedly.
 Next Tin pointed at Josh and he shook his shakers in time to the beat.
 "Left foot back," sang the crowd.
 "Right foot back," sang Tin.
 As Tin pointed at Neo and Hope, they beat their drums. Then Tin sang, "Left foot back," and pointed at the crowd.
 Tin drummed her guitar and said, "LET THE MUSIC BEGIN!"

At the park, Neo saw Bella and her mom, and even Noodle had come along! "I think everyone from our town is here," said Neo. "And some new people too."

"Listen . . ." said Josh. "Are some people speaking French?"

"Yes!" said Hope. "And I can hear Chichewa and Shona too."



Tin a chaya nkataraya yena a ku, "VUNANGA A BYI SUNGULI!"
 Loko Tin a ri karhi a kombetela Neo na Hope, va chaya mundzhumba ya bona. Kutani Tin a yimbelela, "Nenge wa ximatsi endzhaku," a kombetela ntshungu.

"Nenge wa ximatsi endzhaku," ku yimbelela ntshungu.
 Lexi nga landzela Tin a kombetela Josh kutani a dzungudza swikecekece swa yena hi nkarhi lowu faneleka wa risimu.
 "Nenge wa xinene endzhaku," ku yimbelela Tin.
 "Nenge wa xinene endzhaku," ku yimbelela ntshungu.
 Tin a kombetela Bella. Nongoloko wa swikotikoti swi banana kahle loko Bella a ri karhi a swi bananisa. Noodle a vukula hi ntsako.

Get story active!



Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

Here are some activities for you to try with your family. They are based on all the stories in this edition of the Nal'ibali Supplement: *A party at the park* (pages 5, 6, 27 and 28) and *The boastful little weaver bird* (page 30).

A party at the park

Before you read the story

- ★ Ask your children to share their thoughts with you about a concert that they would like to go to. Ask them what they would look forward to most and who they would take with them.

After you've read the story

- ★ Talk to each other about different musical instruments, the sounds they make and where they come from. Talk about which household items could make good instruments (e.g. an empty coffee tin for a drum or empty bottles for a xylophone).
- ★ Choose one or two instruments that you spoke about, collect what you need to make them and listen to the sounds they make when you play them.
- ★ Ask younger children to draw their favourite part of the story. Older children can write about a party they would like to have, what would happen at the party and who would be there.
- ★ Look at the picture below. In each thought bubble, write what you think the character is thinking about. Then colour in the picture.

Hi leyi micingiriko yin'wana leswaku u yi ringeta. Yi huma eka mitsheketo hinkwayo eka nkandziyiso lowu wa Xitatisi xa Nal'ibali: *Ntlangu ephakini* (pages 5, 6, 27 na 28) na *N'wasoha xinyenyani lexitsono xa manyunu* (pheji 31).

Ntlangu ephakini

Loko u nga si hlaya ntsheketo

- ★ Kombela vana va wena ku avelana na wena mianakanyo ya vona hi ia khonsati leyi va tsakelaka ku ya eka yona. Va vutisi leswaku xana va langutela yini ngopfu naswona va nga tsakela ku famba na mani.

Endzaku kaloko u hlavile ntsheketo

- ★ Burisanani hi swichayachayani swa vunanga swo hambanahambana, mimpfumawulo leyi swi yi endlaka na laha yi humaka kona. Vulavulan hi swibye swa le kaya leswi nga endlaka mimpfumawulo ya kahle (xik. thini ra kofi leri nga riki na nchumu ku endla ndhumbha kumbe bodhlele yo pfumala nchumu ku endla zilofoni).
- ★ Hlawula xichayachayani xin'we kumbe swimbirhi leswi mi nga vulavula hi swona, hlengeleta leswi u swi lavaka ku swi endla kutani mi yingisela mimpfumawulo leyi swi yi endlaka loko mi swi chaya.
- ★ Kombela vana lavatsongo ku dirowa xiphemu xa tsheketo lexi va xi tsakelaka. Vana lavakulu va nga tsaa hi nkhuvo lowu va tsakelaka ku va na wona, leswi nga ta humelalaka enkhubyeni na lava va nga ta va kona.
- ★ Eka babulu ya miehleketo yin'wana na yin'wana, tsala hi leswi ximunhuhatwa xi nga va xi anakanya swona. Kutani u penda xifaniso.



The boastful little weaver bird

- ★ Use clay, playdough or even Prestik to create the characters in the story, or draw your own pictures of them and cut them out. Use your characters to retell the story in your own way!
- ★ Do you know of any other stories that have snakes and birds in them? What happens in these stories? Are there any similarities to this story?



N'wasoha xinyenyani lexitsono xa manyunu

- ★ Tirhisa vumba, vumba byo tlangisa kumbe hambi Prestik ku endla swimunhuhatwa swa le ka ntsheketo, kumbe u dirowa swifaniso swa wena kutani u swi tsemeta. Tirhisa swimunhuhatwa swa wena ku tsheketa nakambe ntsheketo hi ndlela ya wena!
- ★ Xana u tiva mitsheketo yin'wana leyi nga na tinyoka na swinyenyani eka yona? Xana ku humelala yini eka mitsheketo leyi? Xana ku na ku fanana na le ka ntsheketo lowu?



The boastful little weaver bird

Written by Nicky Webb ■ Illustrated by Vian Oelofson



Once there was a little weaver bird that was very proud of his beautiful yellow feathers and shiny black beak. He sat on the reeds by the side of the river shouting to anyone who would listen, "Look at me! Am I not beautiful? Look at my bright yellow feathers! See how my beak shines in the sun!"

The other birds and animals didn't like the little weaver bird. It wasn't just that he was boastful, he was also mean.

"Hey, Crocodile!" shouted Weaver, "You have really ugly teeth. They are big and jagged and yellow, and you have bits of meat stuck in them! Sies! I bet you wish you had a beautiful beak like mine!"

Crocodile slid under the water and thought about how nice it would be if Weaver was stuck in his teeth!

When it was time for Weaver to build a nest, he went about it in his usual boastful way. Instead of choosing bits of grass and reed and feathers like the other birds, he picked up pieces of shiny paper and sparkly sweet wrappers, which he wove into the nest. When he was done, his nest sparkled and twinkled in the sun. "Hey, everybody," shouted Weaver. "Look at my nest! Isn't it magnificent? See how it shines in the sun!"



A tortoise ambled past the reeds and stopped to look at Weaver's strange nest. "Don't you wish that you had a home like mine, Tortoise?" tweeted Weaver. "Yours is very dull and boring. See how mine sparkles."

Tortoise shook his head. "I am happy with my shell, Weaver. It keeps me safe, and that is all that is important to me."

Next, a little field mouse poked her head out of a pile of dry leaves. A piece of foil in Weaver's nest caught her eye. "Wow, Weaver, your nest is very bright," she squeaked.

Weaver puffed up his feathers. "Isn't it?" he said proudly. "Are you not tired, Mouse, of living in brown leaves and twigs? How very sad and drab your house is."

"No, Weaver," said Mouse. "When you are my size, you are on the menu of lots of other animals. When I burrow deep into my pile of leaves, no one can see me and that stops me from being eaten. I'd rather be safe than sorry."

"I am sure that you are just jealous," sniffed Weaver with his beak in the air.

Now there was a big snake near the river that had been sleeping through the winter. When he woke up, he felt very hungry, and so he went in search of something tasty to fill his stomach. He came across the little tortoise basking in the sun. Tortoise took one look at Snake's flickering tongue and beady eyes and pulled his head straight back into his shell. Snake nudged Tortoise a few times, but it seemed like this was just a hard shell, so he moved on to look for something that he could sink his teeth into.

Soon Snake spotted Mouse, who was gathering seeds and other tasty treats for her lunch. He slithered towards her, trying to make as little noise as possible, but his grumbling stomach gave him away. Mouse shot off as fast as her little legs could carry her and squirmed quickly down to the bottom of her pile of dry leaves. She lay there quietly, not moving a whisker. Snake prodded the leaves for a bit, but his tummy was now growling loudly. He was too hungry to dig through all those leaves for a meal as small as Mouse, so he moved on.

Soon he found himself down by the river. There, the strangest thing caught his eye. It looked just like a nest, but it sparkled and blinked in the bright sunlight. Snake spotted Weaver flying into the nest. "Funny that a bird would not try to hide his nest from a hungry snake," said Snake to himself.

He crept silently towards the river and wound his way up the reeds to Weaver's nest. Luckily, just as he was about to poke his head into the nest and eat the little bird, he was spotted by the other birds, who shrieked and cheeped a warning. Weaver shot out of his nest just in time and managed to get away, but Snake knocked the beautiful nest to the ground, where it broke apart.



"That will teach you, Weaver, for being such a show-off," chirped the other birds.

"And look!" cried a little chick, "your feathers have turned brown!"

Weaver looked at his wings in horror. They were indeed completely brown. He felt very ashamed. Not only had he nearly been eaten, but his house had been destroyed and his beautiful yellow feathers were quite brown and ordinary, just like lots of the other birds.

Weaver had learned his lesson. He stopped showing off and started being kinder to the other animals. Although his feathers turned yellow again, to this day, every winter, they turn brown again to remind him of his foolishness.



N'wasoha xinyenyani lexisongo xa manyunu

Mutsari i Nicky Webb ■ Mukombisi i Vian Oelofson



Ndhawu
ya mitsheketo

Ku tshame ku va na n'waxinyenyani lentsongo wa soha loyi a tinyungubyisa swinene hi tinsiva ta yena leto saseka ta xitshopani na nomo wa yena lowo vangama wa ntima. A tshama enhlangeni ethlolo ka nambu a karihela un'wana na un'wana loyi a n'wi yingisela. "Ndzi languteni! Xana a ndzi sasekangi? Languta tinsiva ta mina leto vangama ta xitshopani! Vonani hilaha nomo wa mina wu vangamaka hakona edyambyini!"

Swinyenyani leswin'wana na swiharhi a swi nga xi rhandzi xinyenyani lexa soha. A ku nga ri ntsena ku ri xa tikukumuxa, a xi tlhe xi ri na mona.

"Heyi, N'wangwenya!" ku huwelela N'wasoha, "U na meno yo biha hakunene. Ya kurile ya siyanana na ku va ya xitshopani, naswona u na swinyamanyamani leswi nga salela eka wona! Phyyu! Ndza hlambanya u navela ku va na nomo wo saseka wo fana na wa mina!"

N'wangwenya a nghena endzeni ka mati kutani a anakanya hilaha wi nga sasekaka hakona loko N'wasoha a nga pfaleleka emenweni ya yena!

Loko nkarhi wu fika wa leswaku N'wasoha aka xisaka, u yile emahlweni na ku tikukumuxa ka yena ka ntolovel. Ematshan'weni ya ku hlawula byanyi na nhlanga na tinsiva kufana na swinyanyani swin'wana, u rhwalerile swiphemu swa maphepha layo vangama na swiphutselo swa swiwi, leswi a nga rhunga xisaka xa yena hi swona. Loko a hetile, xisaka xa yena a xi hatima na ku vangama edyambyini. "Heyi, hikwenu," ku huwelela N'wasoha. "Langutani xisaka xa mina! Xana a xi hlamarisi? Vonani hilaha xi vangamaka hakona edyambyini!"



Xibodze xi khunguluka xi hundza tinhlanga xi yima xi languta xisaka xa N'wasoha lexo hlamarisa. "Xana a wu naveli ku va na muti wo fana na wa mina, N'waxibodze?" ku vula N'wasoha. "Wa wena wu dzwiharile na ku nga tsakisi. Vona hilaha wa mina wu vangamaka hakona."

N'waxibodze a dzungudza nhloko, "Ndza tsaka hi xiphambati xa mina, N'wasoha. Xa ndzi hlaysia swinene, naswona sweswo hi leswi swi nga swa nkoka eka mina. Xi tiyisa vuhaliseki, hiswona swi nga swa nkoka eka mina."

Lexi nga landzela, a ku xikondlwana lexi nga tlakusa nhloko ya xona hi le ka nhulu ya makamba yo oma. Xipetlu xa foyili exisakeni xa N'wasoha xi hatlisa ku koka mahlo ya yena. "Heyi, N'wasoha, xisaka xa wena xa vangama swinene," xi cema.

N'wasoha a tharamula tiimpapa ta yena. "Xa vangama?" a vula hi ku tinyubyisa. "Xana a wu karhalanga, N'wakondlo, ku tshama ematlukeni ya buraweni na swimhandzani? Von mabihele na madzonele ya wena."

"E-e, N'wasoha," ku vula N'wakondlo. "Loko u ringana na mina, u tshamelia ro lava ku dyiwa hi swiharhi leswin'wana. Loko ndzi ticelela ehansi ka nhulu ya matluka, ku hava loyi a nga ndzi vonaka naswona leswi swi ndzi endla ndzi nga dyiwi. Swa antswa ndzi hlaysia kutlula ku tisola."

"Ndza swi tiva ku ri wo va na mavondzo," N'wasoha a ri karhi a nun'hwtela emoyeni hi nomo wa yena.

Sweswi ku na nyoka yikulu ekusuhi na nambu leyi a yi tlele hi xixika. Loko yi pfuka, a yi twa ndlala swinene, naswona yi fambile yi ya lava swo nandzika ku tata khwiri ra yona. Yi hlanganile na xibodze lexi a xi orha masana. N'waxibodze u lo n'wi languta kan'we ririmi ra N'wanyoka na mahlo ya tindhululwani kutani a tlherisela nhloko ya yena endzeni ka xikhamba. N'wanyoka u gongoserile N'waxibodze kohlayanyana, kambe leswi a swi tikomba leswaku xikhamba lexi a xi tsindziyerile swinene, kutani xifambile ku ya lava swin'wana leswi a yi ta bodlomerisa meno ya yona kona.

Hi nkarhinya N'wanyoka u vonile N'wakondlo, loyi a ri ri karhi a hlengeleta tindoho na swin'wana swo dya nihlikanhi. U nyokoverile a tshunela eka yena, a ri karhi a ringeta hi matimba ku nga bi huwa hilaha a kotaka hakona, kambe khwiri ra yena lera ndlala ri n'wi landzula. N'wakondlo a baleka hi ku hatlisa hilaha swinengani swa yena swi nga kota hakona anghena ehansi ka matluka lamo oma. U badamile kona a nga tshukunyuki, a nga fambatambisi hambi levhu ra yena. N'wanyoka u lavalavle endzeni ka matluka xinkadyana, kambe khwiri ra yona a ri ba huwa swinene. A twa ndlala swinene leswku a nga handza matluka ku kuma swakudya sworingana swo tanihi N'wakondlo, hiloko a hundza.

Hi nkarhinya a tikumile a ri enambyeni. Laha kona, nchumu wo ka wu nga tololekangiki wu n'wi koka rinoko. A xi tikomba xi ri xisaka, kambe a xi hatima na ku vangama edyambyini lera miseve. N'wanyoka u vonile N'wasoha a hahela endzeni ka xisaka. "Swa hlekisa leswaku xinyenyani xi nga ringeti ku tumbeta xisaka xa xona eka nyoka leyi twaka ndlala," N'wanyoka a tibyela.

U kasile a miyerie a kongoma enambyeni kutani a fohlafohla hi le nhlangeni ku ya exisakeni xa N'wasoha. Nkateko wa kona, hi nkarhi lowu a nge l'hoxa nhloko exisakeni ku dya xinyenyani lexisongo, u voniwele hi swinyenyani leswin'wana, leswi swi nga cema na ku huwelela swi ri karhi swi kombisa khombo. N'wasoha a huma hi rivilo exisakeni hi nkarhi a kota ku baleka, kambe N'wanyoka a godya xisaka lexo saseka hinkwaxo xi wela ehansi, laha xi nga tlhantlheka. "Sweswo swi ta ku dyondzisa, N'wasoha, ku rhandza ngopfu ku voniwa," ku vula swinyenyani leswin'wana.



"Nakambe languta!" ku huwelela xinyenyani lexisongo, "Tinsiva ta wena ti hundzukile ta buraweni!"

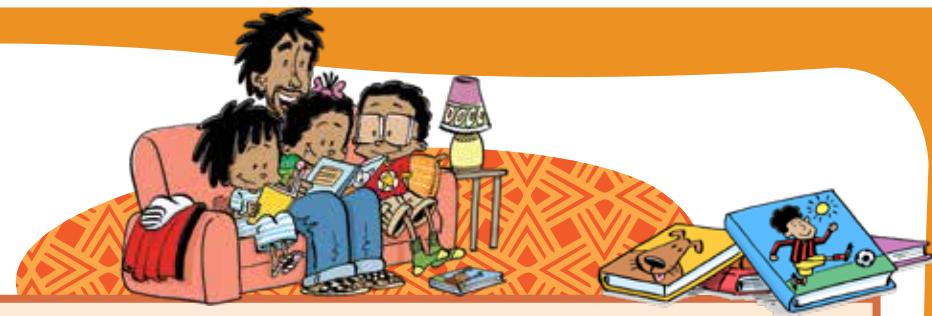
N'wasoha a languta timpapa ta yena hi ku chava lokukulu. Hi ntiyiso a ti ri ta buraweni. A khomiwa hi tingana letikulu. A nga ponangi ku dyiwa ntsena, kambe yindlu ya yena yi hodlokile naswona tinsiva ta yena leto saseka ta xitshopani se a ti ri ta buraweni na ku va ta ntolovel, ti fana na ta swinyenyani swin'wana.

N'wasoha u dyondzile dyondzo. U tshikile ku tikukumuxa kutani a sungula ku va na musa eka swiharhi swin'wana. Hambileswi tinsiva ta yena ti nga hundzuka ta xitshopani nakambe, kufikela na namuntlha, hi xixika xin'wana na xin'wana, ti hundzuka ta buraweni nakambe ku n'wi tsundzuxa hi vuphuta bya yena.

Nal'ibali fun



Swo tsakisa hi Nal'ibali



1. Make a badge

1. Cut along the red dotted line to cut out the badge.
2. Colour in the picture.
3. Cut a circle the same size as the badge from some thin cardboard, for example, a cereal box.
4. Use glue to paste the badge onto the cardboard.
5. Use sticky tape or masking tape to attach a safety pin to the back of the badge. Or make a hole at the top and thread some wool or string through it so that you can hang it around your neck.
6. Enjoy wearing your badge as you read and listen to stories on World Read Aloud Day.

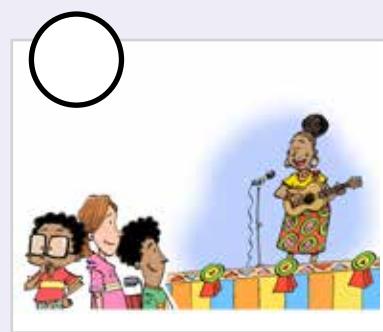
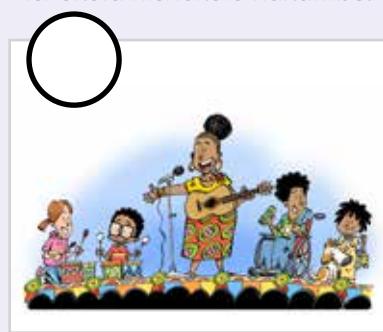
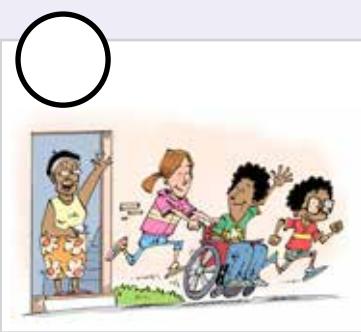
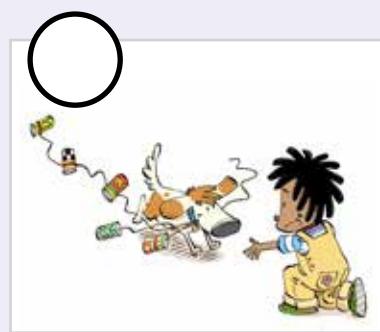
Endla beji

1. Tsema eka ntla wo tshwuka hi ku tsema u humesa beji.
2. Penda xifaniso.
3. Tsema xirhendzevutani ku fana na beji eka bokisi ro vevuka, xikombiso, bokisi ra swakudya swa tisirili.
4. Tirhisa xinamarheti xa glu ku namarheta beji eka bokisi.
5. Tirhisa selotheyipi ku namarheta phini ya vuhalayiseki endzhaku ka beji. Kumbe u endla mbovo ehenhla kutani u bohelela wulu kumbe xintambyani eka xona leswaku u kota ku hakarha enhan'wini.
6. Tiphini hi ku ambala beji ya wena loko u ri karhi u hlaya na ku yingisela mitsheketo eka Siku ra Misava ra ku Hlayela Ehenhla.



2.

Look at these pictures from *A party at the park*. Number them so that they match the order in which things happened in the story. Now use the pictures and retell the story.



Languta swifaniso leswi kusuka eka *Ntlangu ephakini*. Swi nyike tinomboro leswaku swi panana na nandzelelo lowu swilo swi nga humelerisa xiswona eka ntsheketo. Sweswi tirhisa swifaniso ku tsheketa ntsheketo nakambe.

2.

Unscramble the letters to find five musical instruments from *A party at the park*.

scirkudmts

agruti

srudm

mecihs

skrahes

khotikho

ntankara

mbhamidzu

chamiyisiti

chokoswicho

Tihlamlulo: 2, 3, 1, 4, 2. Tikkohko, ukantara, midzumbha, ifchayimisi, swichokocho

Answers: 2, 13, 1, 4, 2. Drums, guitar, drums, chimes, shakers

Nal'ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:

Nal'ibali yi kona ku ku hlohlotela na ku ku seketela. *Tihlanganisi na hina* hi yin'wani ya tindlela leti:



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