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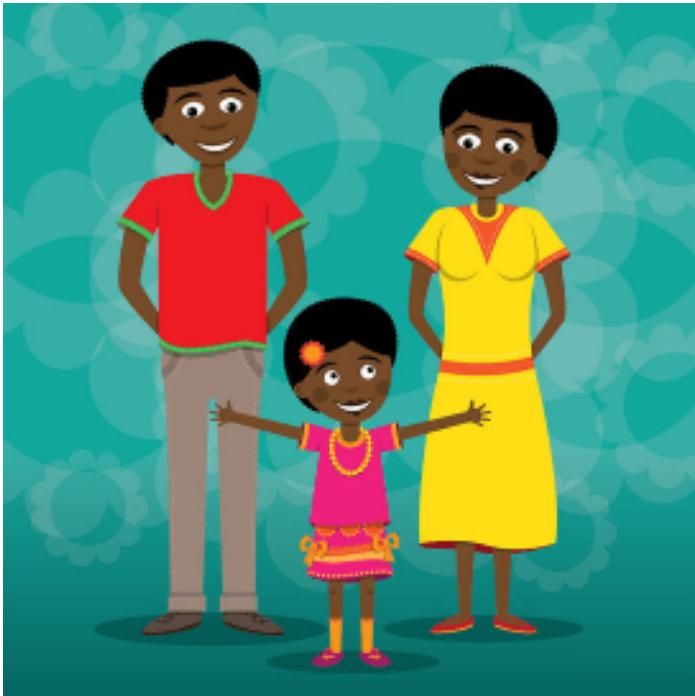
# UNonkungu nembulu

Phephelaphi Mnguni

Wiehan de Jager

isiNdebele





Lokha ekadeni kwakhe kwaba nomndeni okhabe utlhaga.

Bebanomtwana oyedwa kwaphela, ibizo lakhe  
kunguNonkungu. Bebamthanda khulu. Kwathi lokha  
nakakhulileko, bakhetha bona uNonkungu ayokuhlala  
nomalume wakhe onjingileko uMtonyama.

Unina kaNonkungu wamenzela izambatho ezikhethekileko  
ngamaribhoni, iinkunubhe nangemincamo. Wabe  
wamenzela nomncamo wentanyeni. UNonkungu wakhamba  
waya endaweni lapho kwakuhlala khona umalume wakhe.



Ekhambeni lakhe, uNokungu wafika emlanjaneni.  
Wawuyama umlanjana wabese uhlangana nomntazanyana  
ombethe amaratha. Umntazanyana wabuza, "Uya kuphi?"  
"Ngiyokuvakatjhela umalume wami uMtonyama,"  
kuphendula uNonkungu.

"Awa-ke, uMtonyama nami ungumalume wami! Nami  
ngisendleni ngiyokuvakatjhela yena," kwatjho  
umntazanyana. Bayakhambisana. Ngemuva kwesikhatjhana,  
umntazanyana wathi kuNonkungu, "Izambatho nomncamo  
wakho kuhle. Ngibawa ukuzilinganisa."



UNonkungu wahlubula izambatho zakhe wazinikela umntazanyana. Lokha umntazanyana nakahlubula amaratha wakhe, uNonkungu walimuka bona umntazanyana lo unomsila!

UNonkungu wathukwa. Wabona bona umntazanyana lo uyimbulu. Bakhambahamba, uNonkungu wabawa, "Ngibawa ubuyise izambatho zami nomncamo wami."



Imbulu yaphendula, "Ngibawa ukuzembatha besifike emthini olandelako loya." Wabese ukhomba umuthi obewuphezulu entatjaneni ebeyiseduze. Nabafika emthini loyo, uNonkungu wabawa imbulu, "Ngiyabawa buyisa izambatho zami nomncamo wami."

"Ngivumela ngizembathe besifike emmangweni lapha," kwatjho imbulu. Bekakhomba ummango oseduze nentatjana elandelako. UNonkungu bekathukiwe, ngalokho wavuma.



Ekugcineni, bafika ekundleni. UNonkungu wabawa imbulu godu, "Ngibawa ubuyise izambatho zami nomncamo wami."

"Ngivumela ngizembathe besifike endlini lapha kuhlezi khona abomma ngaphandle," kwatjho imbulu. Wakhomba indlu elibangana. Baragela phambili nekhambo. Nabatjhidela eduze nendlu, imbulu yatjhowela uNonkungu ngemuva yona yagijimela phambili.



Imbulu yathi kibomma abangendlini, "Qalani umntazana lo  
ombethe amaratha. Bekasoloko angilandela imini yoke.  
Ngifisa kwangathi angakhamba la."

Abafazi baphenduka baqala uNonkungu. Wathukwa khulu  
wabaleka wayokubhaqa ngesibayeni. Imbulu yakhamba yaya  
ngendlini yakamalume uMtonyana. Yathi, "Ngimi umzukulu  
wakho, uNonkungu. Ababelethi bami bangithumele bona  
ngizokuhlala nawe."



uMtonyama nomndeni wakhe bamamukela umntazanyana.

Bebalungile emntazanyaneni lo. UNonkungu wabantu wafanelwa kulala ngesibayeni abe abelane ukudla nezinja.

Emini bekabhaqa emasimini abe avume ingoma le:

"Maye mina ngatlhaga, ngathaga mina. Bengithunyelwe ngubaba nomma ukuyokuhlala nomalume uMtonyana.

Endleleni ngahlangana nembulu yathatha isikerde sami nomncamo wami. Maye mina ngatlhaga, ngatlhaga mina."



Ngelinye ilanga, indodana ekulu yakaMtonyana beyikhamba emasimini. Yezwa ingoma emangazako begodu itlhuwisa. Bekingazi bona ngubani ovumako, kodwana ithe nayifika ekhaya, yatjela uyise amagama wengoma.

UMtonyana waya emasimini. Wezwa ingoma, wazuma  
bewathola uNonkungu.



UNonkungu watjela umalume wakhe koke okwenzekileko.

UMtonyana wamthatha wambuyisela emzini wamfihla ngendlini. Bekasazi bona uzokwenza ini ukubamba imbulu.

UMtonyana wezwa kuthiya umsila wembulu uthanda ibisi

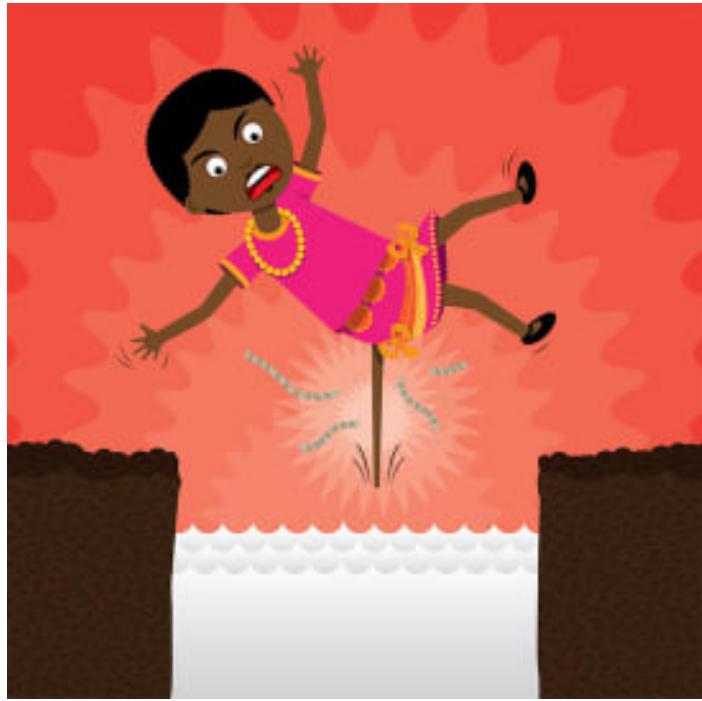
begodu ayikwazi ukudlula ibisi ngaphande kokulisela.

Watjela amadoda wakhe kobana embe umgodi awuzalise  
ngebisi elijiyileko.



UMtonyana wabese ubiza boke abentazanyana kobana bazibandakanye ephaliswaneni lokweqa umgodi. Imbulu beyitshwenyekile. Bekingafuni ukweqa emgodini.

Imbulu beyisazi bona umsila wayo uzokomela ukusela ibisi elijiyileko. Yangena ngendlini yayokubophelela umsila wayo emzimbeni yazuqinisa khulu ngendlela ebeyingakghona ngayo. Yakhamba yayokuhlala nabanye abantazanyana.



Umntazana ngemuva komntazana baseqa umgodi onebisi elijiyileko. Ekugqineni kwaba lithuba lembulu lokweqa. Yazama ukweqela phezulu emgodini, kodwana umsila wayo watjhaphuluka emzimbeni.

Umsila wembulu wayidosela phasi, phasi, phasi ngaphakathi kwebisi elijiyileko.



Ngesikhathi imbulu itlhaga ngebisini, msinyazana amadoda azalisa umgodi ngehlabathi ayingcwaba lapho. Kwaba kuphela ngembulu.

UNonkungu wahlala ngethabo isikhathi eside kwamalume wakhe.

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