

UNtando upha abantu iindatjana

Ghanaian folktale
isiNdebele





Ekadeni uZimu wesibhakabhaka uZimu, wavalela iindatjana ngebhokisini lesigodo, phezulu esibhakabhakeni. Phasi emhlabeni abantu bebanganazo iindatjana yeke bebadanile. Babawa isiswebu esihlakaniphileko uNtando bona abasize.

uNtando wakhupha ede irhara
enamathelako, wayikhwela bewafikela
ezulwini.

“Zimu bengibawa iindatjana?” abawa
uZimu.

Kodwana uZimu wamhleka uNtando athi,
“Eh iindatjana lezi zidure khulu, angeze
wakghona ukuzibhadela swebana.”





“Zizokubiza malini iindatjana?” kubuza uNtando.

“Kufanele ungilethele ezintathu iinlwane ezingakajayeleki begodu ezibukhali,” kuphendula uZimu, “ingonyama enamazinyo abukhali, unondovu otinyako, nenyoka engaginya umuntu aphelele.”

Ahleka bewahlekisisa. Bekaqabanga bona iindatjana zakhe ziphephile.

Yeke uNtando wehla ngerhara yakhe ehlela emhlabeni. Aqabanga bewaqabangisisa bewaphuma neqhinga. Agubha umgodi, awuvala ngamataka nangensila ukuthi ufihleke, wayokudla ukudla kwentambama ekhaya. Ekuseni, wathola ingonyama iwele ngemgodini wakhe. Yakwata yarhwabha emahlangothini womgodi beyabhalelwa kuphuma.





“Iza ngikurhelebhe mnganami!” kwatjho uNtando. “Lala phezu kweengodo lezo ngzokudosa uphume.”
uNtando watanta ingwenyama ngerharakhe enamathelako amdosela phezulu ezulwini kuZimu wesibhakabhaka.
Kodwana uZimu wamhleka wathi, “Ziphi ezinye ezimbili?”

Yeke uNtando wabuyela emhlabeni
azokuzuma isbandana sesibili.
Aqabanga bewaqabangisisa bewaphuma
neqhinga.
Wathatha irhabha walithela amanziwaya
la ekuhlala unondovu khona. Wathela
isidleko ngamanzi. Nakaqeda wasika
iqephe lesihlahla sebhanana alibambela
ehloko nakaqeda naye wazithela
ngamanzi.





Abizela ngaphandle unondovu, "Yey nondovu! Iza uzokbona! Izulu liyana! Gijimani ningene ngaphakathi kwerhabha khona ningazokuba manzi."
Abonondovu abazwani namanzi, boke baphelela ngerhabheni laka Ntando.

uNtando wavala msinyana ngerhara yakhe enamathelako bona abonondovu bangaphumi nanoma bangazama kangangani.

Abaphakamisela phezulu ezulwini ukuyobakhombisa uZimu wesibhakabhaka.

Kodwana uZimu wamane wathi, “Siphi sokugqina?” (Akhange ahleke nakancani).





Yeke uNtando wabuyela emhlabeni.
Aqabanga bewaqabangisisa kodwana
azange aphuma neqhinga. Wayokubuza
umkakhe obekamaqhinga amahle.
Bobabili bathola itaka elidege nemivino
eqinileko.

Bathe nabafika duze namanzi
lakuhlalakhona inyoka baphikisa.

“Itakeli lide!”

“Awa, alisilide!”

“Iye, lide!”

Kungasikade inyoka yavela yabuza bona kubangwani.

“Bengiphikisana nomkami, "Kutjho uNtando. "Athi itakeli alisilide ukudlula wena. Kodwana mina angivumi.”

“Vele ngimude ukudlula itaka lelo!” kutjho inyoka.

“Ngimude khulu! begodu ngiyinyoka ekulu! Lalisa itaka lakho duze nami simele.”





Yeke uNtando wenza njalo abophelela
inyoka ngemivino etakeni bona iluleke.

Uthe nakaqeda ukuyibopha uNtando
wayisa inyoka ezulwini.

uZimu kwakufuze avume ngombana
uNtando ubhadele inani lakhe. uZimu
waya ebhokisini lakhe, wavula isivalo
wanikela uNtando zoke iindatjana.
uNtando waziphakamisa ngobukutani
waziletha phasi emhlabeni.

Abelana ngazo nomkakhe nezinye
iinlwane nabantu.
Iindatjana ngezokucocwa ingasi
ukuvalelwa ebhokisini.



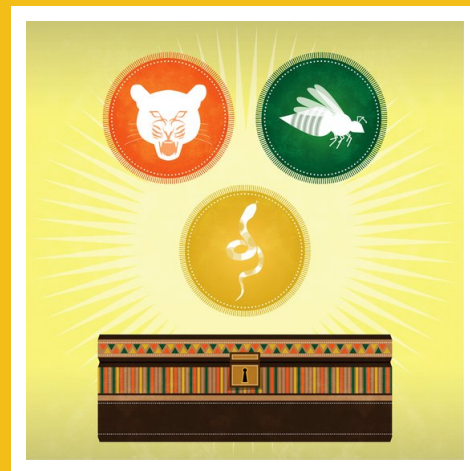
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