

Umdlalo wokuphekaphekana

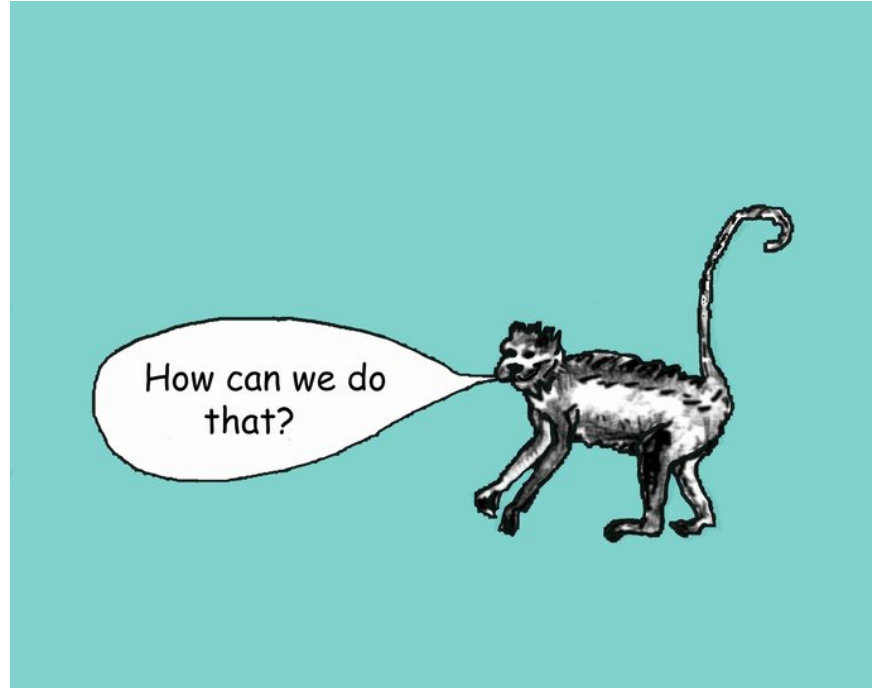
Mozambican folktale
isiXhosa



Kudala-dala, umvundla
nenkawu babengabahlobo.
Ngenye imini, ngexesha
lendlala, umvundla
wamema umhlobo wakhe
ukuba bazodlala.



Umvundla wathi, "Masidlale
ukuphekaphekana!"
Inkawu yabuza,
"Sizakuyenza njani lonto?"



Ke ngoku umvundla
waphendula, "Kufuneka
sibase umlilo,



sigcwalise imbisa
ngamanzi, ke ngoku
siyibeke emlilweni.



Mna ndiyakungena kuqala.
Xa ndibetha isiciko
sembiza, uvule. Ngoku
ndizokuphuma."



Inkawu yavuma ukuyenza lonto. Ngoko umvundla wangena kuqala embizeni, amanzi eqala ukubila.



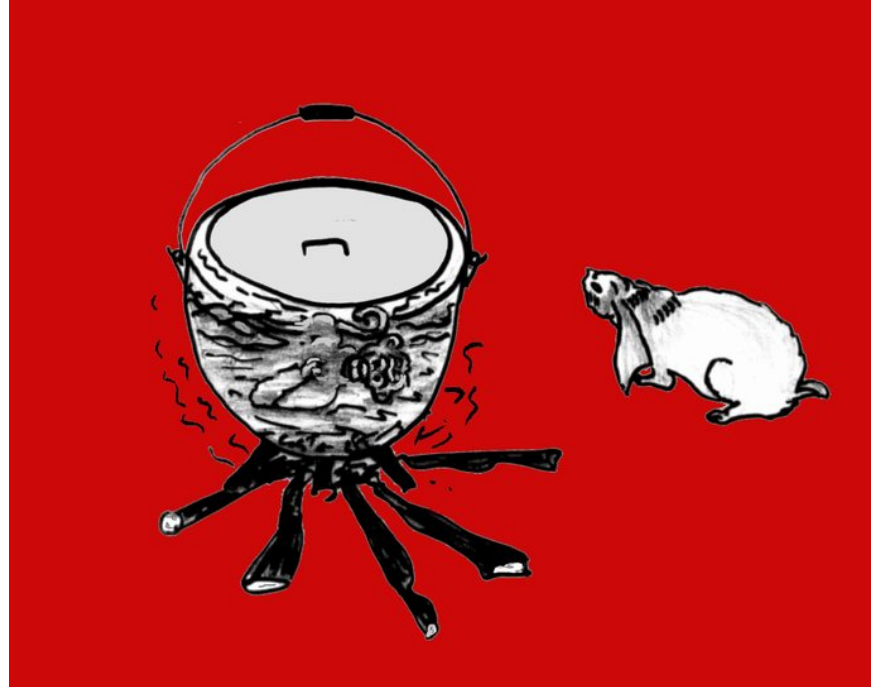
Umvundla wankqonkqoza,
inkawu yasivula isiciko.



Kodwa kuthe xa ilithuba lenkawu, umvundla wathatha ilityekazi elikhulu, walibeka phezu kwesiciko sembiza esakugqiba wahlala phezu kwaso.



Kuthe xa amanzi eqala ukubila, inkawu yankqonkqoza, kodwa umvundla akakhange asivule isiciko.



Ngoku inkawu yafa, ke
ngoku umvundla watya
umhlobo wakhe!



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This story was written down in 2013 by students at Universidade Pedagógica-Maxixe, Mozambique, from their memory of what was told at home, and edited by their English teacher, Ingrid Schechter.

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