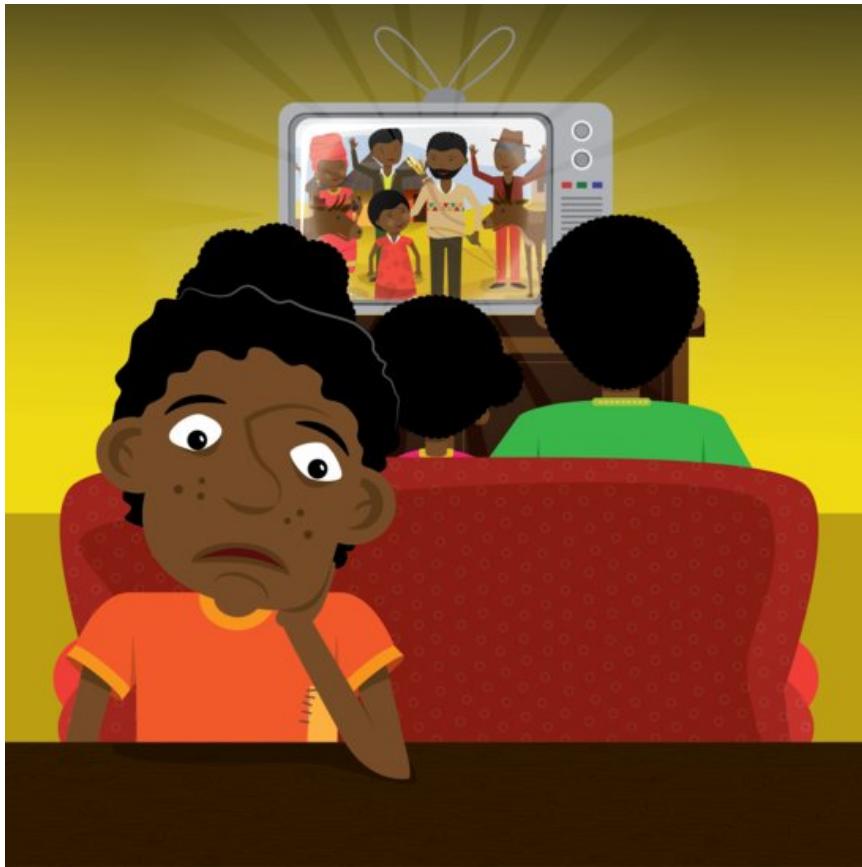




Umfana owayengathandwa muntu

Phumy Zikode
isiZulu



Emandulo kwakukhona umfana
owayemubi, engathandwa yimuntu,
ngisho nabazali bakhe imbala
babengamuthandi. Nasekhaya lakhe
wayezihlalela yedwa endlini yakhe uma
umndeni ubukela umabonakude.

Esikoleni wawumthola ehlezi yedwa
ngesikhathi ezinye izingane zidlala
ngaphandle.



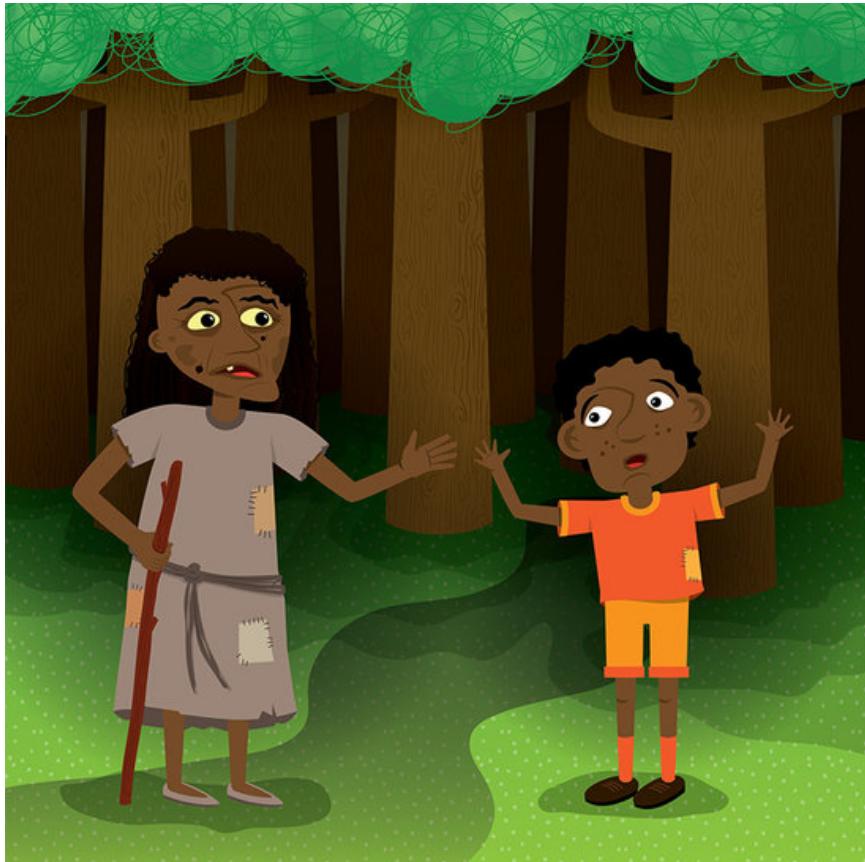


Uma kuyolandwa izinkomo wayehamba
yedwa ngasemuva ngoba abanye
abafana bengafuni ukuhambisana naye.



Ngelinye ilanga wakhetha ukuhamba aye lapho ayengazi khona. Wahamba wazibona eseqhamukela kwelikhulu ihlathi lesizulu. Waqala ukwesaba kodwa waziduduza ngokuthi vele akukho muntu ozamukhulumisa ngoba akafunwa muntu.

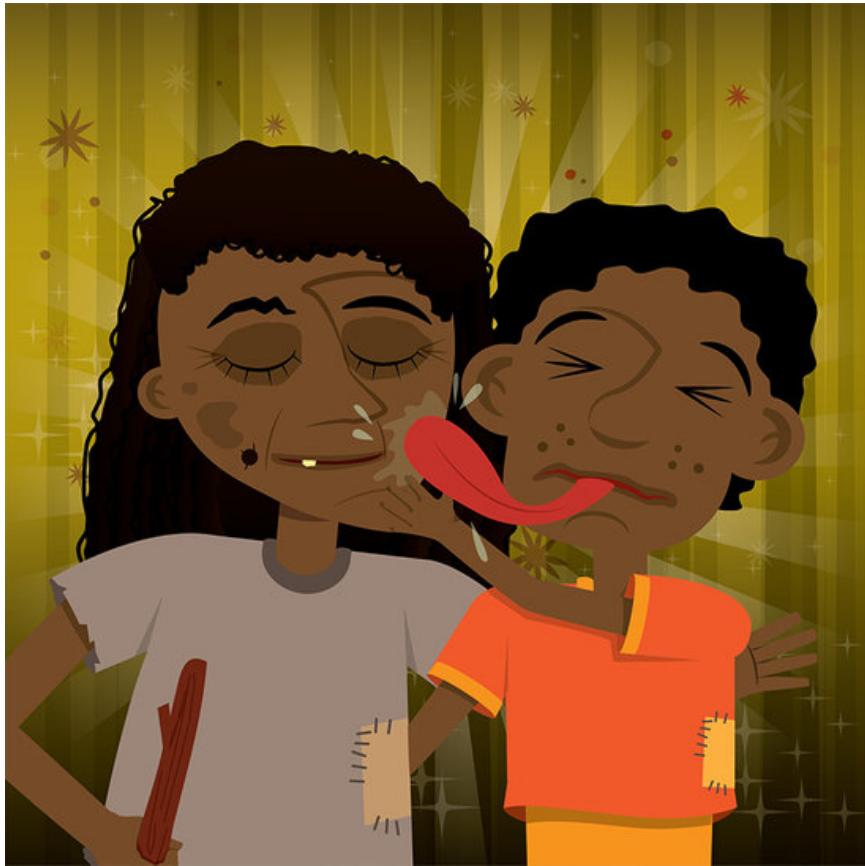
Wathi ese zongena kulona ihlathi
kwa qhamuka isalukazi esigugile,
esingcolile futhi esimbi. Samubingelela
isalukazi sambuza ukuthi ufunani
ehlathini elisabeka kangaka. Umfanyana
kwamumangaza ukubona ekhulunyiswa
isalukazi wase esixoxela ukuthi uya
lapho engazi khona ngoba akathandwa
muntu.





Isalukazi sathi, ngabe uyafuna ngikusize?
Waphendula ngokushesha umfana wathi
yebo gogo. Isalukazi sathi ngaphambili
kokuba ngikusize ngifuna ungikhothe la
ebusweni ngize ngibe muhle.

Umfanyana wayengenakho okunye
ayekucabanga ngaphandle kokukhota
isalukazi ukuze asizakale. Waqala
wasikhona izimbici, amafinyila kanye
nezigonogono saze saba sihle isalukazi.



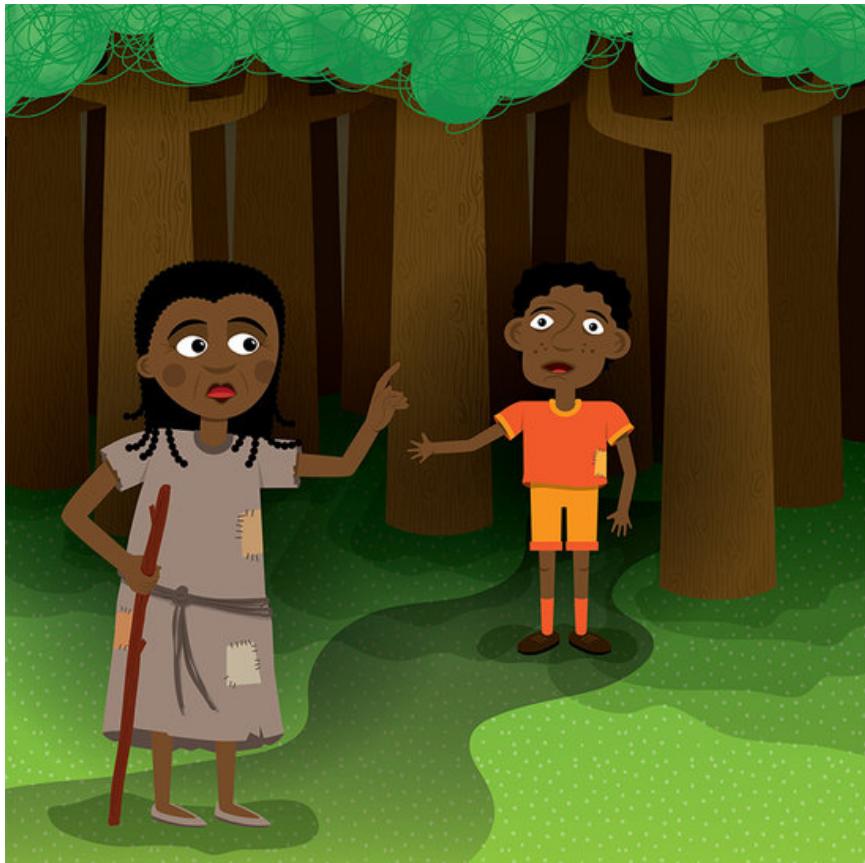


Sabonga isalukazi sathi kumfana,
uyabonake hamba ungene phakathi
kulelihlathi uma ufika phakathi nalo
uzobona izinto eziningi ezinhle kodwa
ngicela ungathathi lutho kuzona uthathe
impande kuphela uze nayo la kumina.

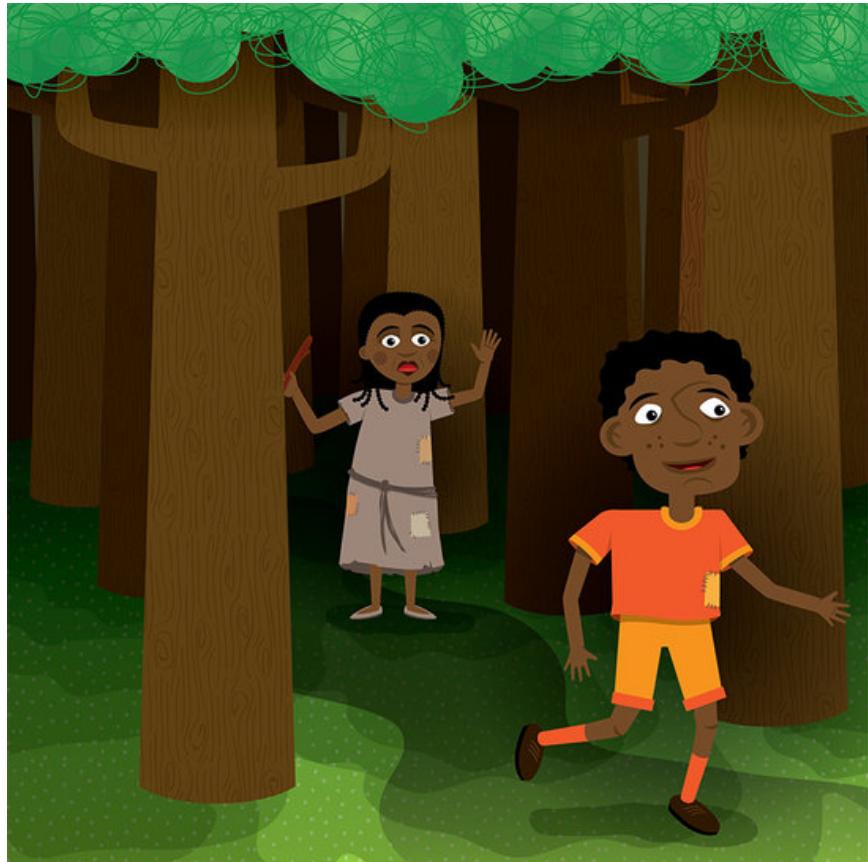


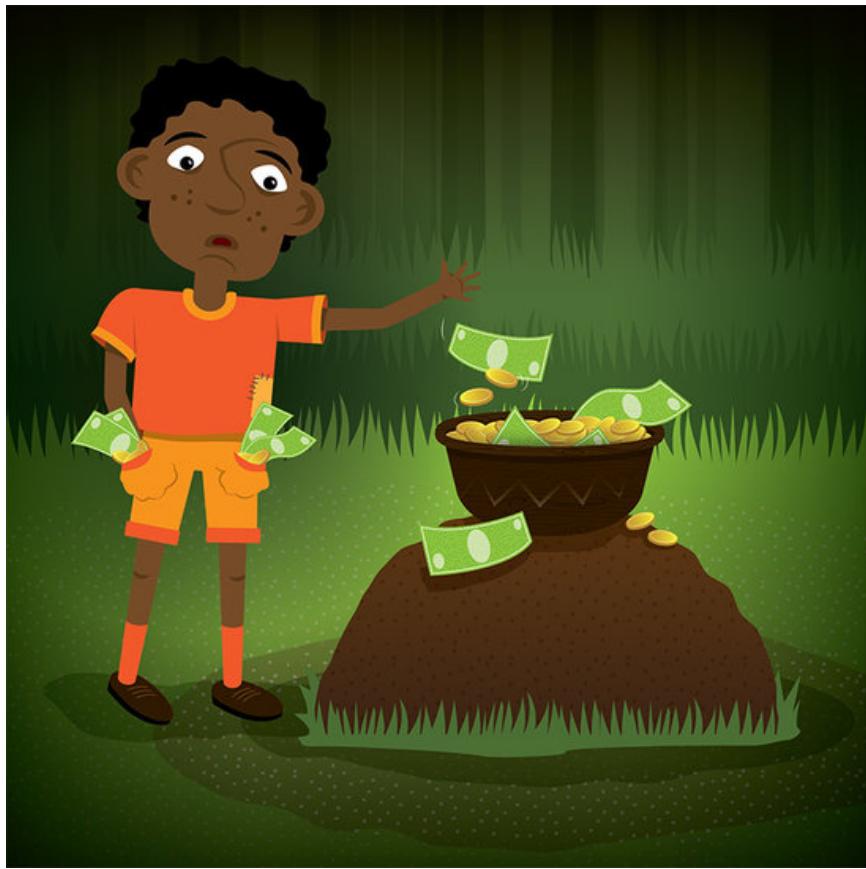
Wagijima umfana esejahe ukubona ukuthi yini azoyifica ehlathini, wathi engakangeni phakathi samumemeza isalukazi sathi: "Mfana buya woza la," wagijima futhi umfana wabuyela kwisalukazi wathi yebo sengifikile. Isalukazi sathi mfana wami ungizwe kahle nje ukuthi ngitheni kuwe ngithe uzofica izinto eziningi ezinhle kodwa ungathathi lutho, uthathe impande kuphela uze nayo la kumina. Wavuma umfana ukuthi uyezwa samdedela isalukazi ukuthi akahambe.

Wagijima umfana uthe esethi uyangena
ehlathini wezwa izwi lesalukazi
limemeza lithi, "Mfana buya woza la,"
waqala ukudideka umfana ukuthi ngabe
isalukazi simbizelani manje, wagijima
ephindela emuva. Isalukazi sathi mfana
wami sengathi awungizwa kahle ngithi
uzobona izinto eziningi ezinhle kodwa
ungathathi lutho uthathe impande
kuphela uze nayo la kumina. Wavuma
umfana wagijima ephindela emuva.



Samubiza futhi , "Mfana wami angikwethembni sengathi ngeke uyenze into engikutshelle yona, ima ngikuphindlele ngithe uzobona izinto eziningi ezinhle kodwa ungathathi lutho uthathe impande kuhela uze nayo la kumina." Umfana wabe eseqala ukucikeka yilokubizelwa safuthi, ephindelwa into aseyizwile. Wagijima kakhulu waze wangena phakathi ehlathini.





Uthe angangena wabona isitsha esigcwele imali, wasidumela wafaka imali emakhukhwini ebhulukwe lakhe. Manjalo wacabanga ukuthi isalukazi sithe angathathi lutho, wayikhipha ngokushesha imali wayiphindisa esitsheni sayo.

Wathi qala qala wabona izingubo ezinhle
ezintsha, wakhumula akugqokile
ngokushesha wase egqoka izingubo
ezintsha. Wawakhumbula amazwi
esalukazi, wazikhumula ngokushesha
izingubo.



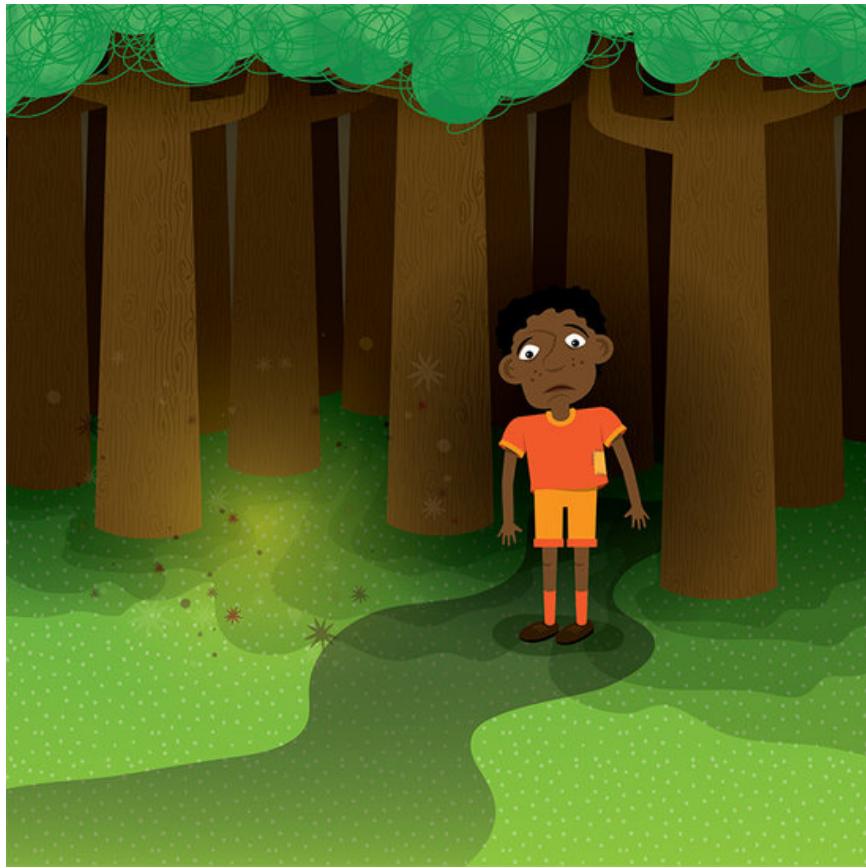
Waphinda waqalaza wabona impande eyabe isibunile ishiswe ilanga. Wazibuza ukuthi ngabe lesalukazi besithi ngithathe into enje ngizoyenzani mina impande?

Eduze kwempande kwakukhona isitsha esinokudla okunuka kamnandi. Umfana wabe eselambile. Akakwazanga ukuzibamba ngoba wayeselambile wakudla ukudla.





Uthe esekuqedile wakhumbula amazwi esalukazi ukuthi sithe angathathi lutho athathe impande kuphela. Wathi uyayiqalaza impande lutho ukuyibona.



Waphindela emuva edumele ukuyotshela
isalukazi ngento eseyimehlele, kodwa
akabange esasifica isalukazi lapho
ayesishiye khona.

Umfana owayengathandwa muntu

Writer: Phumy Zikode

Illustration: Wiehan de Jager

Language: isiZulu



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