



We mntwana wami

Liz Brouckaert
isiZulu



23. WE MNTWANA WAMI: Zulu lullaby

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: We mntwa-na wa - mi mus' u - ku - kha - la

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We mntwana wami
mus' ukukhala x2
Nanku' umzanyana
wakh' usefikile x2

This is one of sixty children's songs in isiXhosa, isiZulu, English and Afrikaans (with one song in Sesotho) in a book called 'Songs Sung by South African Children' (1990, 1992 and 2002) published by Grassroots Adult Education and Training Trust.

Liz Brouckaert, the researcher, was commissioned to source and document local songs and make them accessible to teachers who were not specialist music educators. She looked for songs that children preferred to sing. What emerged time and again was that children really like singing about taboo subjects.

She collected the songs mainly in Cape Town over a period of 18 months, and then worked with friends to make audio recordings of the songs.

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Language: isiZulu



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This song was collected from Mrs Virginia Thulile Majozi, a domestic worker in Mariannhill, Natal. Click [here](http://www.saide.org.za/resources/ASP/23>We%20mntwana%20wami.wma) to download and listen to a recording of this song: [http://www.saide.org.za/resources/ASP/23 We mntwana wami.wma](http://www.saide.org.za/resources/ASP/23>We%20mntwana%20wami.wma).

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