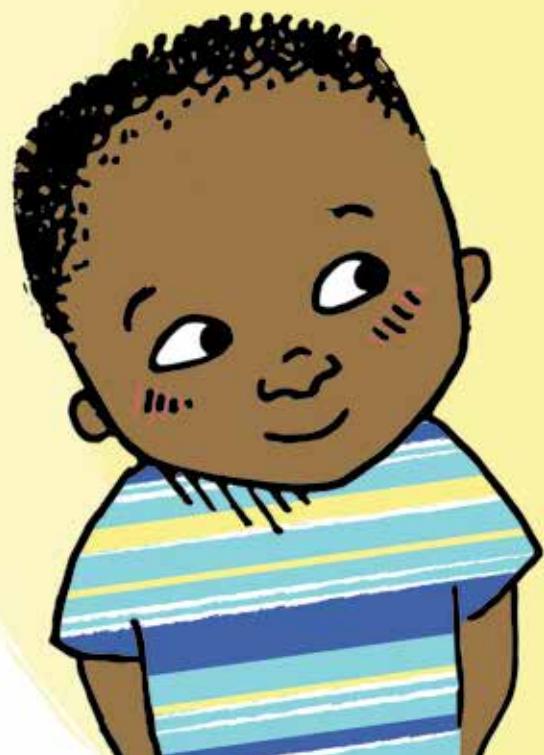


Rujeko Moyo

Ellen Heydenrych

RJ Palmer

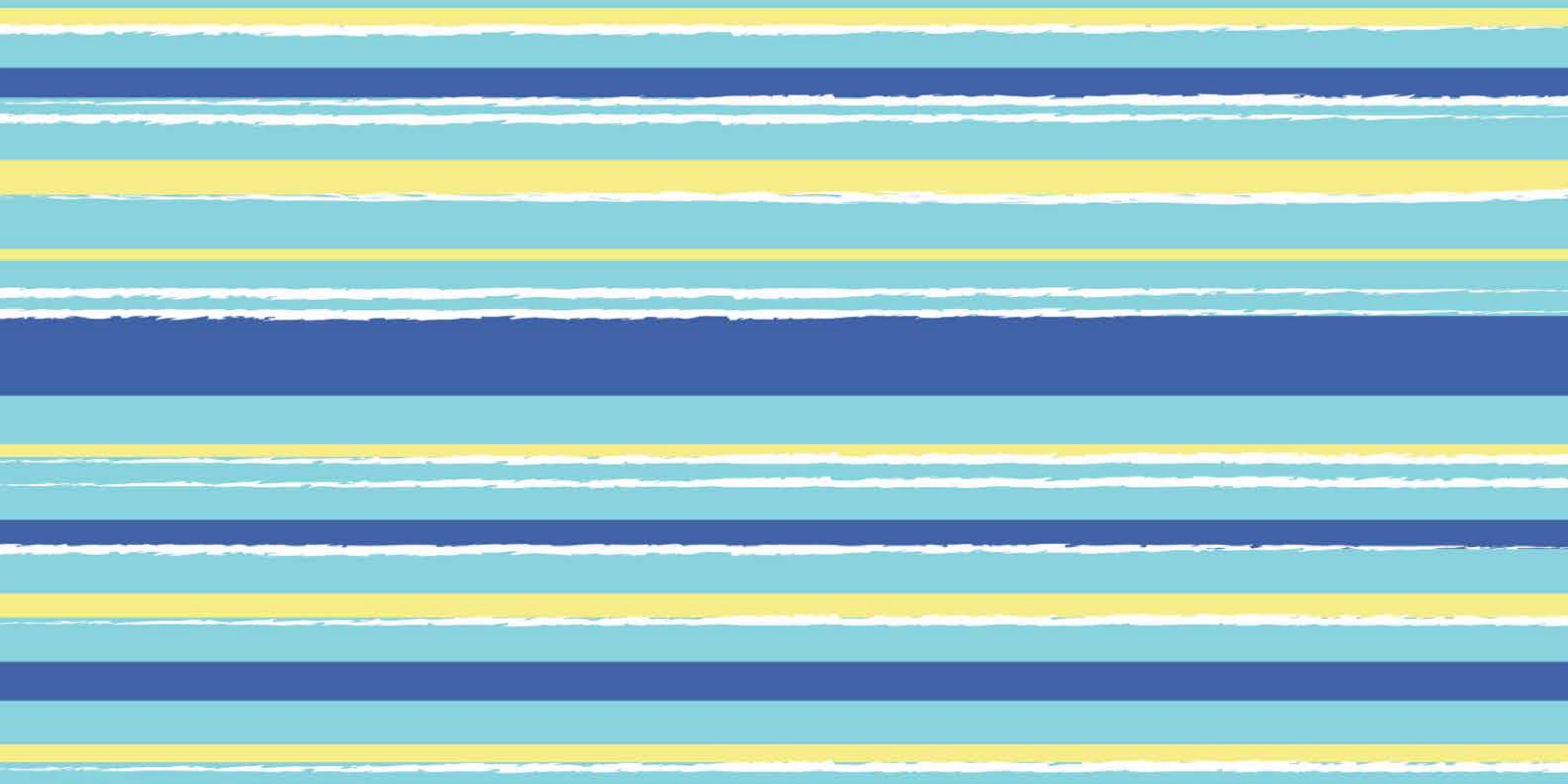
Umhlobo kaMali



Umhlobo kaMali

Le ncwadi yeka







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Umhlobo kaMali
(Mali's Friend)

Illustrated by Ellen Heydenrych

Written by Rujeko Moyo

Designed by RJ Palmer

Edited by Margot Bertelsmann

Translated by Nal'ibali

with the help of the Book Dash participants in Johannesburg on 27 October 2018.

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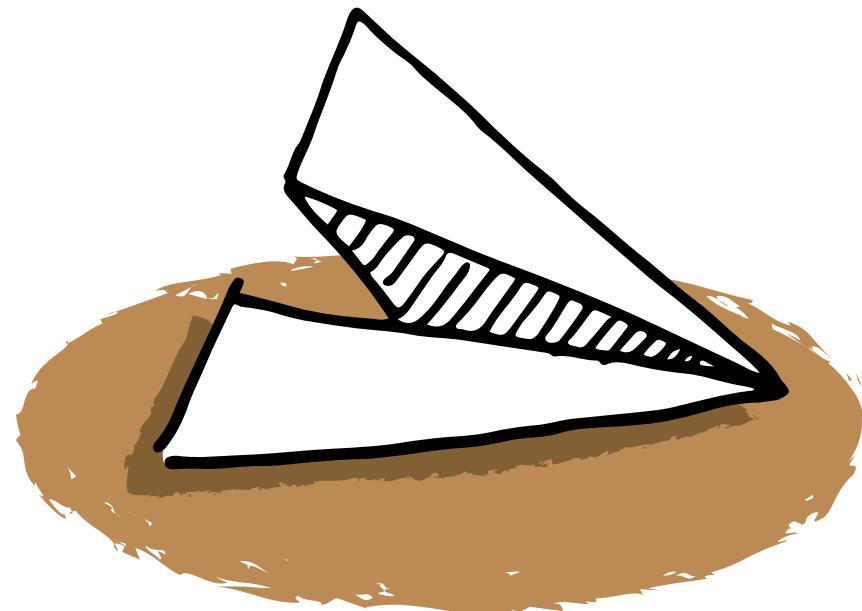
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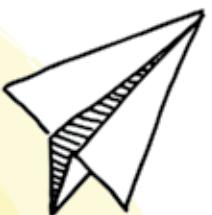
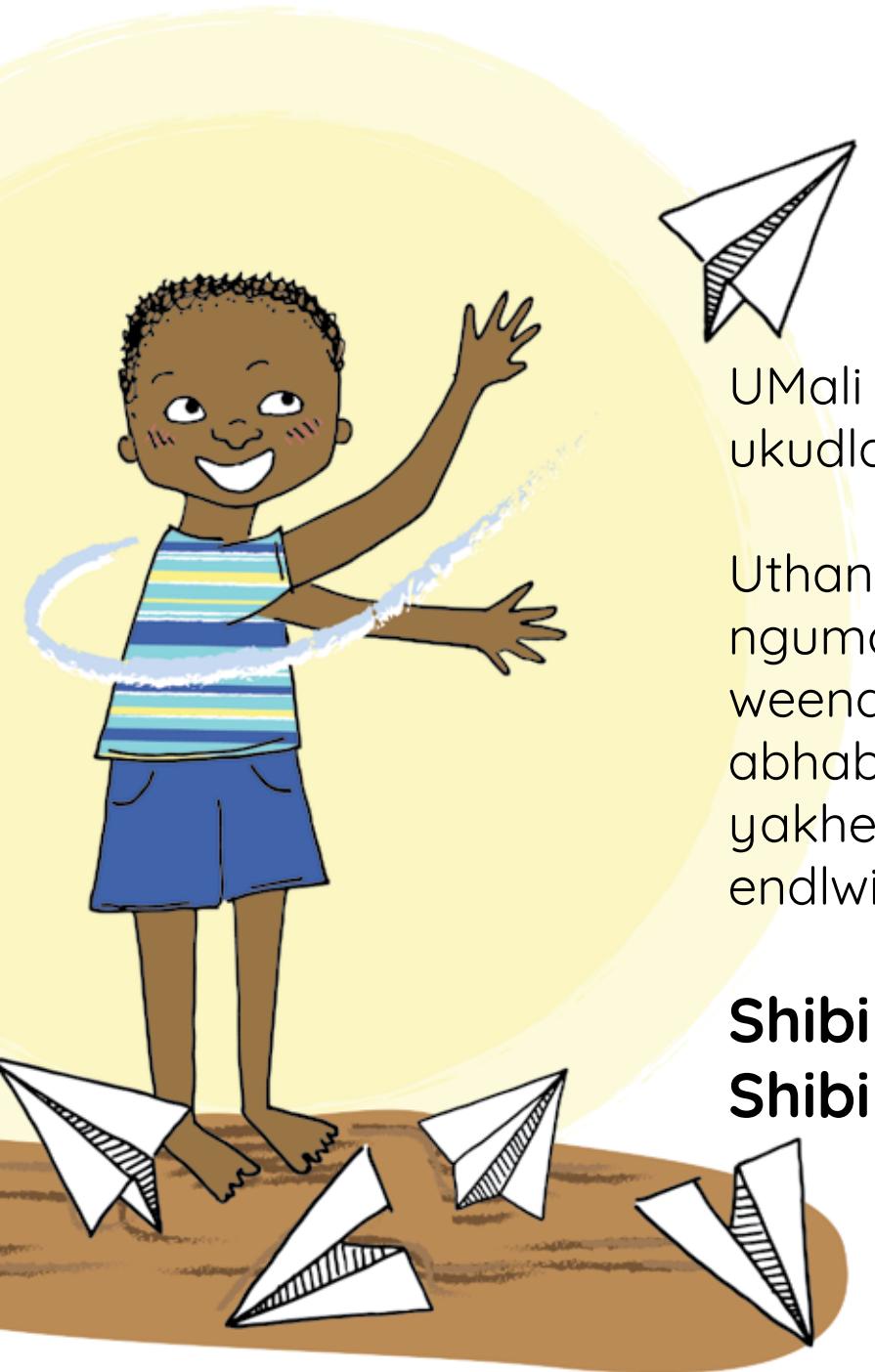
Rujeko Moyo

Ellen Heydenrych

RJ Palmer

Umhlobo kaMali





UMali uyakuthanda
ukudlala yedwa.

Uthanda ukuba
ngumqhubi
weenqwelomoya,
abhabhise inqwelomoya
yakhe yephepha
endlwini.

**Shibilili! Shibilili!
Shibilili!**

Emva koko kuvakala nomqhubi
weteksi, epopoza eyadini
emotweni yakhe yocingo.

**Popoop! Popoop!
Popooooooooop!**

UMali akakhe aphume
aye kudlala nabanye.





UMakhulu uthi,

“Mali, khawuphume uye
kudlala **ibhola** nabanye.”

Kodwa kuMali
akumnandanga oku.

UMakhulu uthi,

“Mali, jonga, abantwana
badlala **ibhathi**.
Khawuphume uye
kudlala.”

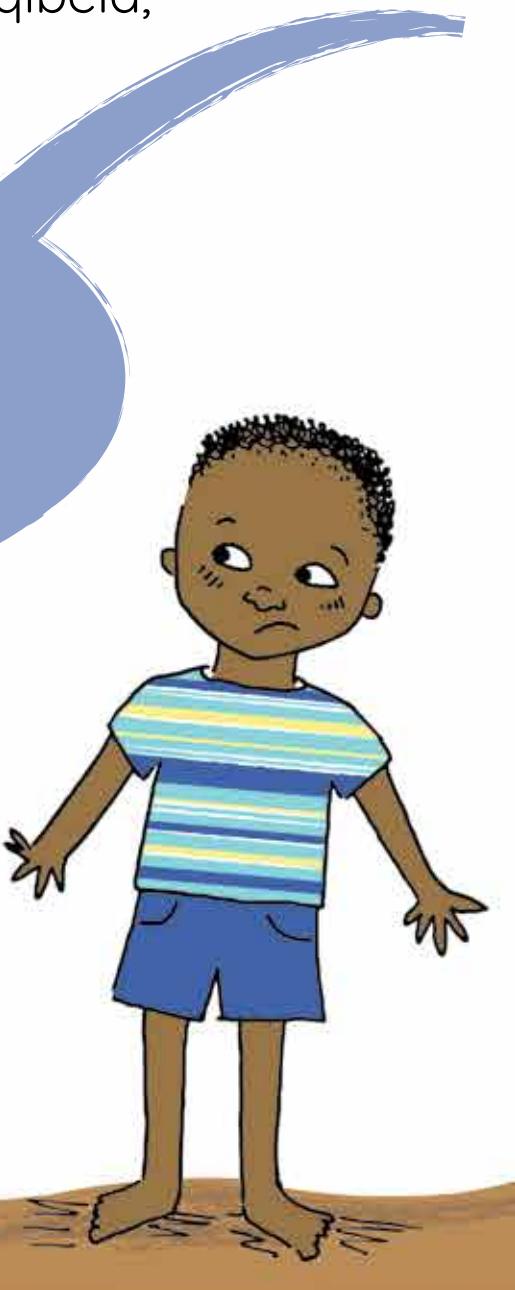




UMakhulu uphinda azame okokugqibela,

“Mali, khawuphume
uye kudlala
umaphoselana
nabanye.”

Uphinda azame kwakhona
uMali, kodwa akumnandanga
kuye oku.



Kukho umntu onkqonkqozayo
emnyango.

Nkqo! Nkqo! Nkqo!



NguLesedi
wakwammelwane! Uze
kudlala.

UMali uneentloni. Akazi
ukuba angadlala njani
noLesedi.

ULesedi uyambuza
ukuba angathanda na
ukwenza iiphayi zodaka
kunye neekeyiki.

Benza iiphayi zodaka
neekeyiki, ngokunjalo
neepankeyiki kunye
neebhisikithi.

UMali
wonwaba
kakhulu.





Ngosuku
olulandelayo,
uyabuya
kwakhona
uLesedi.
Ubonisa
uMali indlela
yokudlala
upuca.

uMali unengxaki yokuphosa,
ukushenxisa nokunqakula amatye.
Kodwa isakhono sakhe siya
ngokuphucuka.

Wonwaba kakhulu.



UMali ubonisa uLesedi indlela
yokwenza inqwelomoya
yephepha.

Bazula-zula endlwini yonke
bebhabhisa iinqwelomoya zabo.

Owu! Bahleka bangayeki!

UMali ucela uLesedi,



“Ndingeza
kudlala
kowenu
ngomso?”

“Ngqo
ungeza!”

ehleka.





Ngentsasa elandelayo, emva kokutya isidudu
sakhe, uMali ukhupha imoto yakhe yocingo.





“Uyaphi, Mali?”

uyabuza uMakhulu.





“Ndiya kudlala
noLesedi!”

ehleka.





