



Le ncwadi yabhalwa okokuqala ngeSiSwati nguTimothy Mfana Mongwe  
Umfanekisi nguReshoketswe Motau noJanet Pagliuca Umhlobisi nguSteven Mckimmie  
Yahumushwa isuselwa kweSiSwati nguBusi Maphumulo



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Umnumzane uQaqa wayekuthanda  
ukuswenka. Athi uma eseswenkile,  
abukise nakwezinye izilwane.







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KwakunguMsombuluko umnumzane  
uQaqa ehlangana nombuzikazi.

“Hamba uyogeza wena, uziqhole, unuke kamnandi,” kusho umnumzane uQaqa.

Umbuzikazi wathi, “Cha mfowethu. Nguwe okumele ugeze.”





NgoLwesibili umnumzane uQaqa  
wahlangana nomnumzane uNtibane.



“Awuzibuke nje! Awunamahloni okudlala odakeni umdala kangaka?” esho emhleka.

“Musa ukungedelela njalo!” sekusho umnumzane uNtibane. “Awungcono ngalutho nje kunami.”

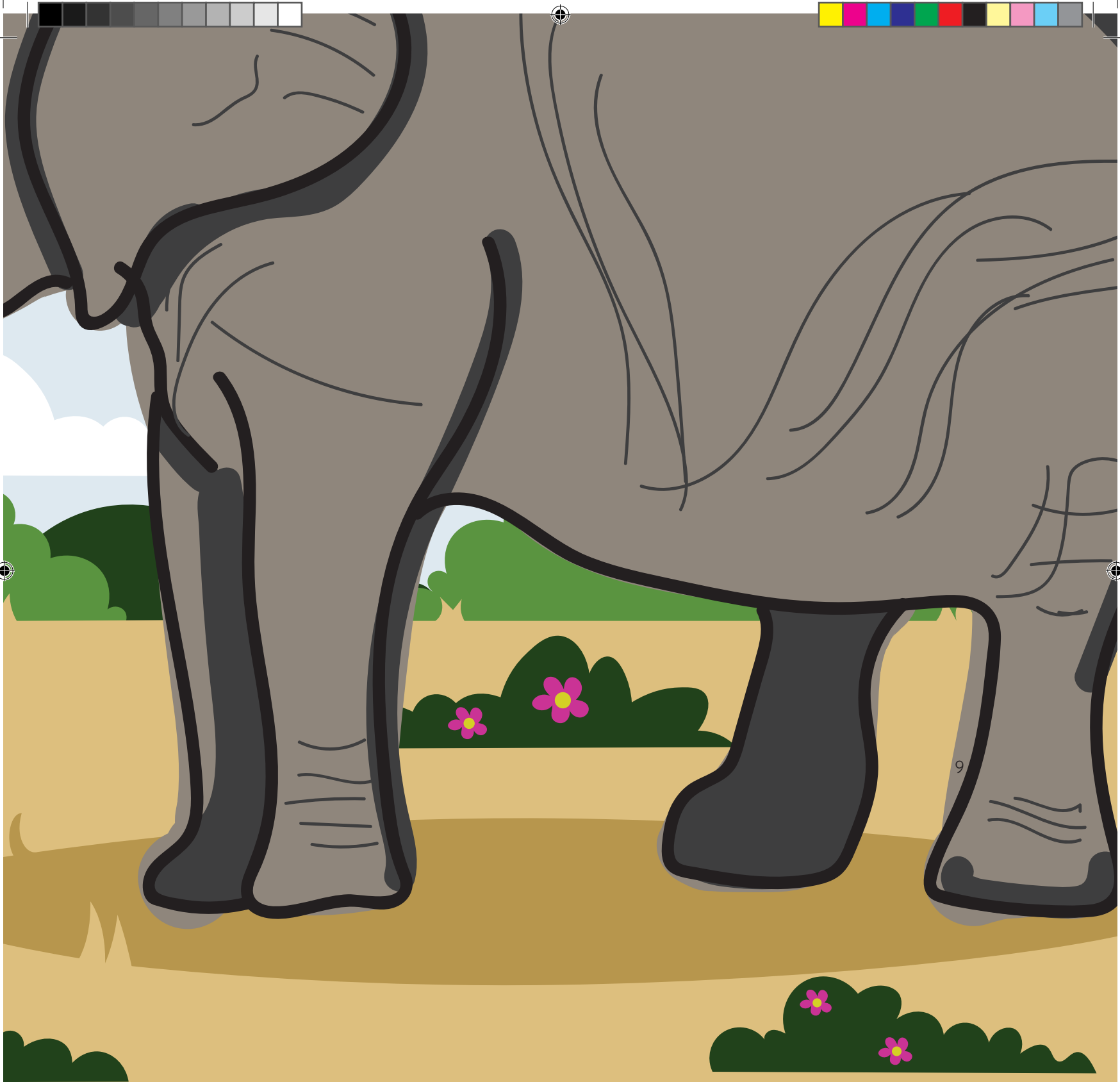




NgoLwesithathu umnumzane uQaqa  
wahlangana nomama uNdlovu.

“Nina zindlovu ningogimba nje!” kumemeza umnumzane  
uQaqa. “Awubheke nje lo mkhabakazi wakho!”  
Umama Ndlovu wambuka kabi, wazihambela.









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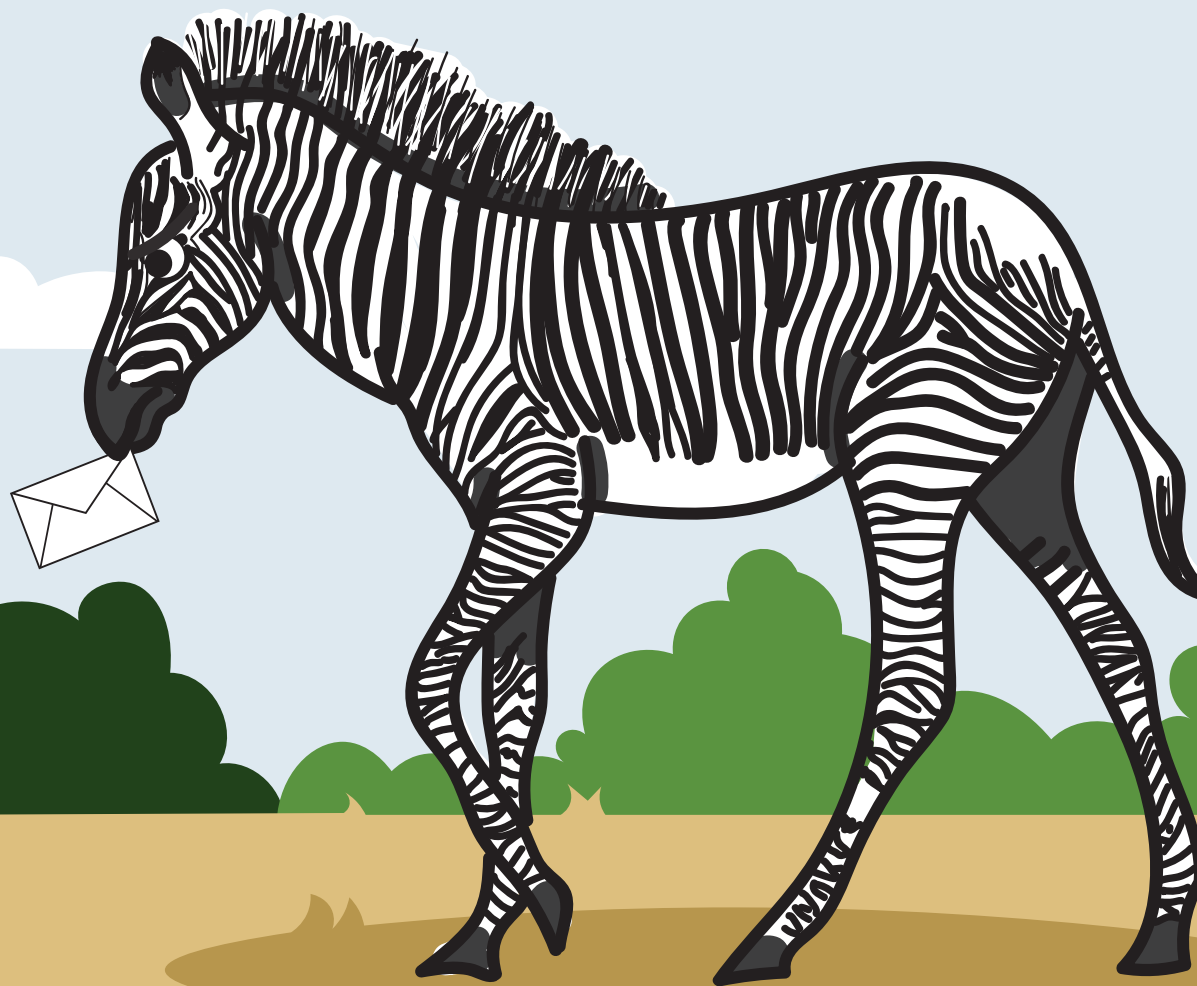
NgoLwesine umama nobaba uPigogo, babekhipha  
izimemo zosuku lokuzalwa kwendodakazi yabo.  
Bamema zonke izilwane.





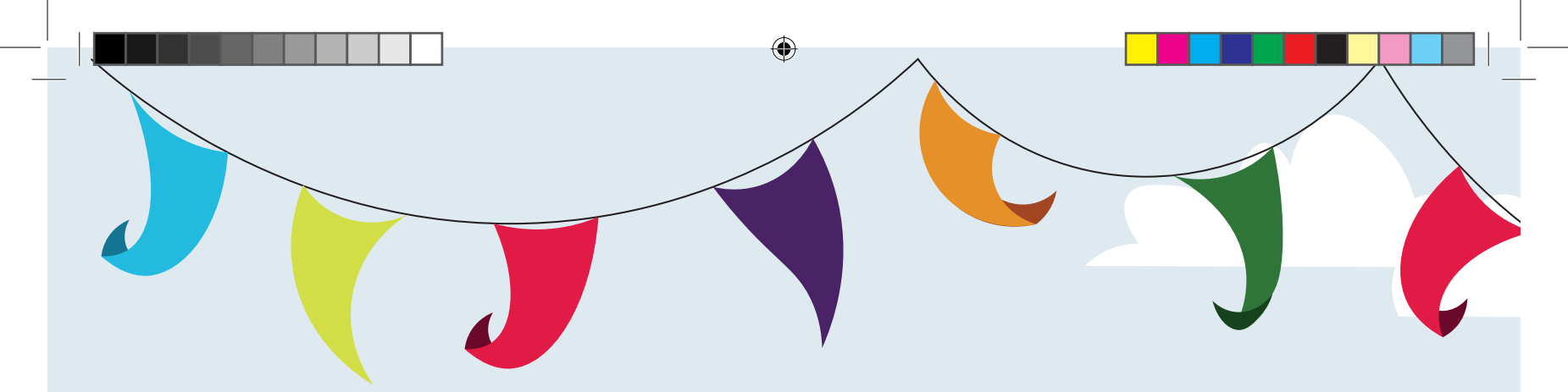
NgoLwesihlanu umnumzane uQaqa  
wahlangana nonkosazane uDube.





“Ngiyazi uzodansa nami emcimbini, angithi?”  
kubuza umnumzane uQaqa.  
“Ngeke ngidanse nawe mina. Uyanuka!”  
kusho unkosazane uDube.





NgoMgqibelo emcimbini umnumzane uQaqa wacela  
unkosazane uPigogo. “Sengizodansa nawe uma  
sengidansa futhi,” kuchaza umnumzane uQaqa.

“Ngekemina ngidanse nawe, wedelela kabi,  
futhi uluhlaza!” kusho unkosazane uPigogo.





Umnumzane uQaqqa waphoxeka kakhulu.  
Uthe esuka wayeya kumngani wakhe  
umnumzane uNsimba.





“Phela unkosazane Pigogo nonkosazane  
Dube abafuni ukudansa nami,” esho ekhononda.  
“Yebo, ngizwile,” kwasho umnumzane  
uNsimba emamatheka.



“Ngabe ngiyanuka ngempela?”  
kwakubuza umnumzane uQaqa.

“Khona ngempela unalo iphunga elibi.  
Kodwa futhi ayikho into ongayenza ngalo,”  
kwasho umnumzane uNsimba emamatheka.

“Ngabe ngiyedelela ngempela?”  
kwabuza umnumzane uQaqa.

“Yebo, sengathi kwabanye uluhlaza impela,”  
sekusho umngani wakhe umnumzane uNsimba.

“Hawu! Bengingakwazi ngempela-ke lokho,” kusho  
umnumzane uQaqa, ekhulumela phansi, esephoxekile.

“Kodwa-ke lokho usangakuguqula,”  
sekusho umnumzane uNsimba.



Umnumzane uQaqwa waya kuMbuzikazi,  
umnumzane uNtibane nakumama uNdlovu.

“Ngiyaxolisa kinina nonke ngokuba luhlaza,”  
washo ezixolisela. “Ngiyethembisa futhi  
ukugeza nokuxubha amazinyo,  
zonke izinsuku kusukela manje.”

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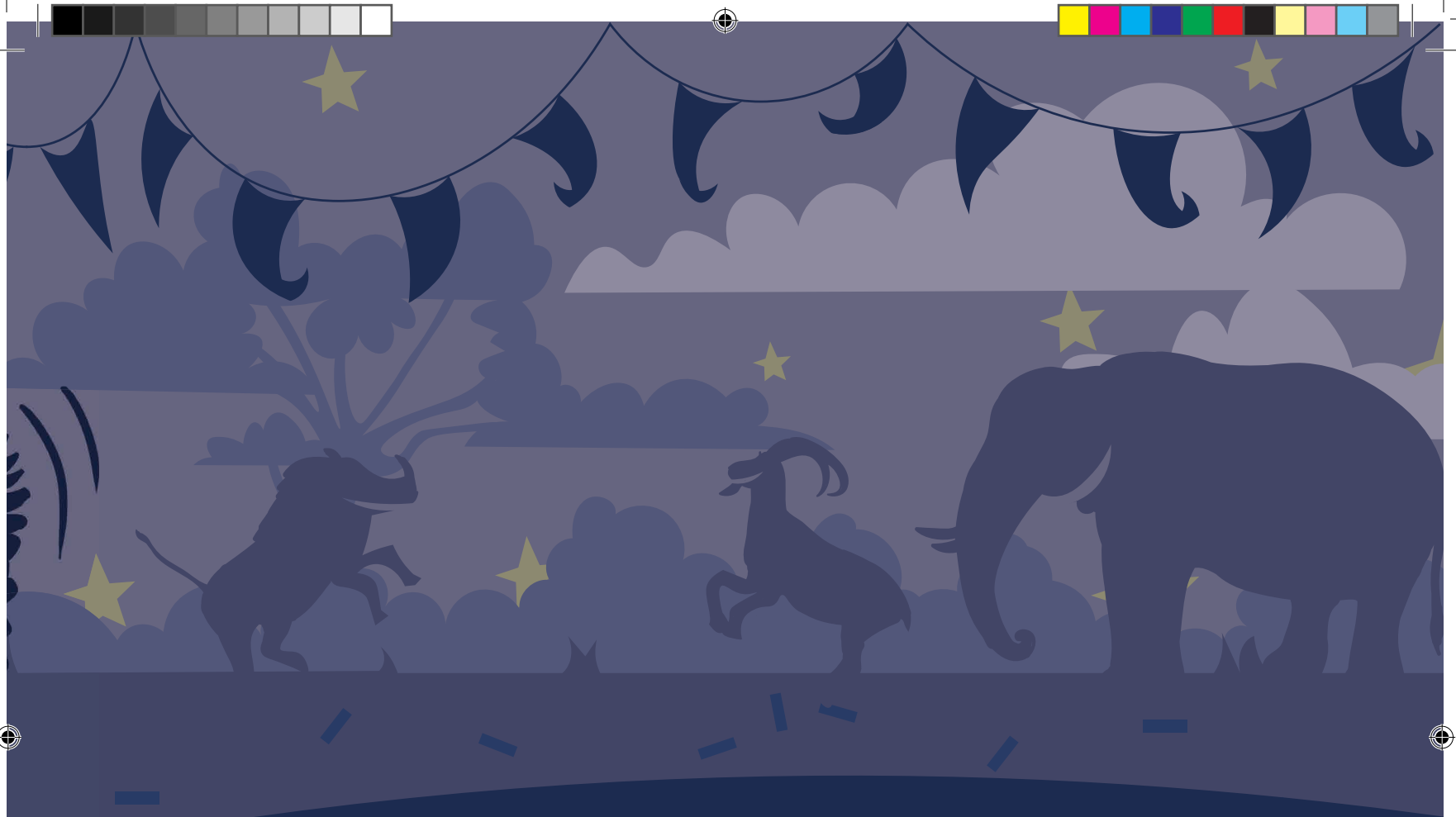


Umbuzikazi wanqampuna imbali eyayiseduze, umama Ndlovu yena wayifaka ephaketheni likamnumzane uQaqa. “Usuzonuka kamnandi-ke manje,” wayesho emamatheka.



Unkosazane uPigogo wamuzwa  
umnumzane uQaqqa ezixolisela.





Wavele wadonsa umnumzane uQaqa ngengalo,<sup>23</sup>  
emdonsele eshashalazini.

Izilwane zonke zashaya ihlombe zibona umnumzane  
uQaqa nonkosazane uPigogo bedansa kamnandi.



### Room to Read South Africa

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*UQaqa*

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Lonke lolu hlelo lwaxhaswa ngezimali siyikhwama senhlangano ebhekela imiPhumela yeMfundo eziNganeni eBhange loMhlaba neNhlangothi yoMhlaba yeziNcwadi ilekelelwa uMnyango weMfundo eyisiSekelo.



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