



Isihlahla eselaphayo



Phinah Ncube



UNsimbi ukhozi olu hlakaniphile.

UNsimbi wayethanda ukundizela phezulu
ngasensimini yamabele, efunu ukudla.





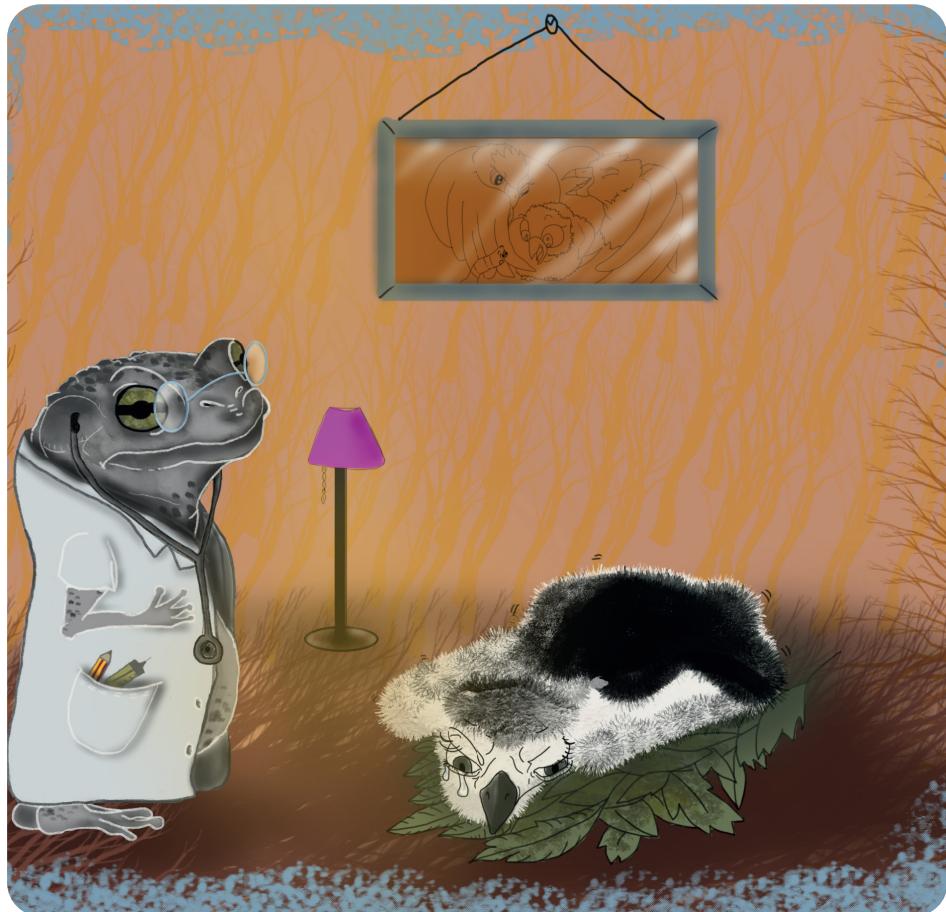
UNsimbi wayekhathazekile.

“Indodana yami iyagula. Kumele ngenzeni?”
ezibuzza.



“Ngizompheluzela aye kuSithole. Ungudokotela onolwazi lwezifo eziningi.”





Udokotela wapopola ichwane.

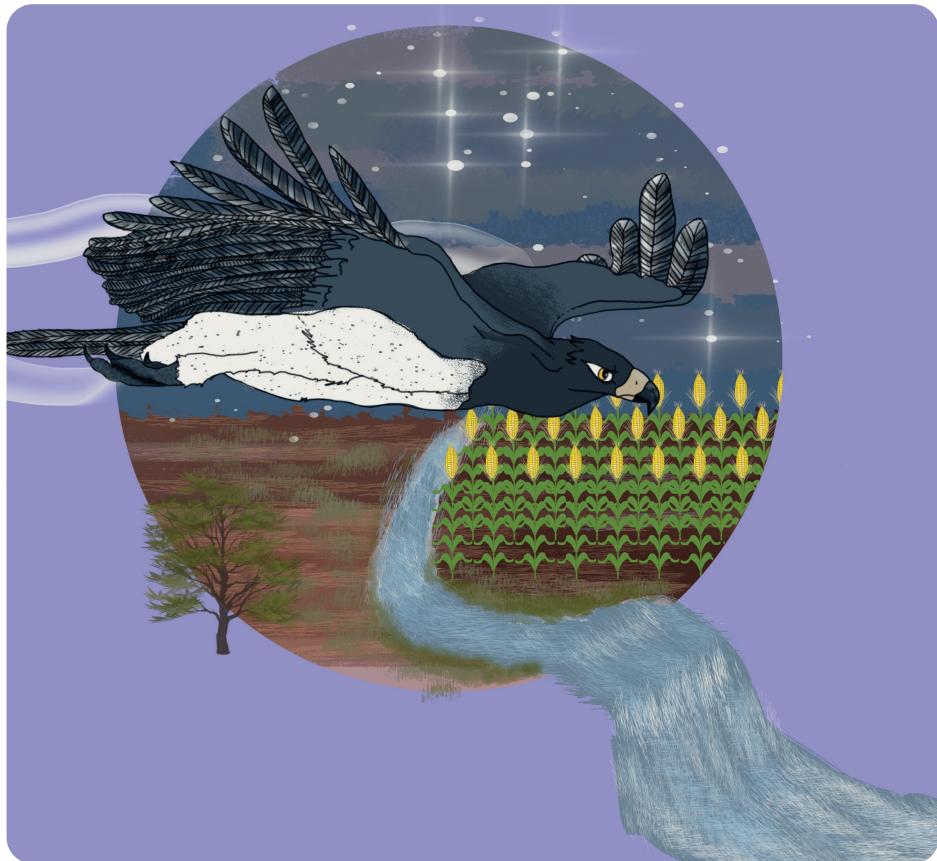
“Lesifo siyesabeka!” kusho uSithole.

“Kumele ngenze njani?” kubuza uNsibmi.



“Uzowelapheka umfana wakho! Udinga ukuthola izimpande zedrimiya. Idrimiya ithokala ensimini yamabele.”





UNsimbi waya ensimini.

Esazungeleza insimu, wabona okuthile okufana nedrimiya.

Esehleli, wabona ukuthi akuyona. Wandizela phambili.



Intethe uThuthu, yahlala edwaleni.

“Ufunani?” kubuza uThuthu.

“Indodana yami ayiphilanga. Udukotela uthi kuzomele ngithole idrimiya,” kusho uNsibmi.

UThuthu waqala phambili, uNsibmi wamlandela.





“Indodana yami izophola! Ngiwutholile umuthi walesifo.”

Waqala ukudonsa isigaxa efuna izimpande.



Umhlabathi womile.

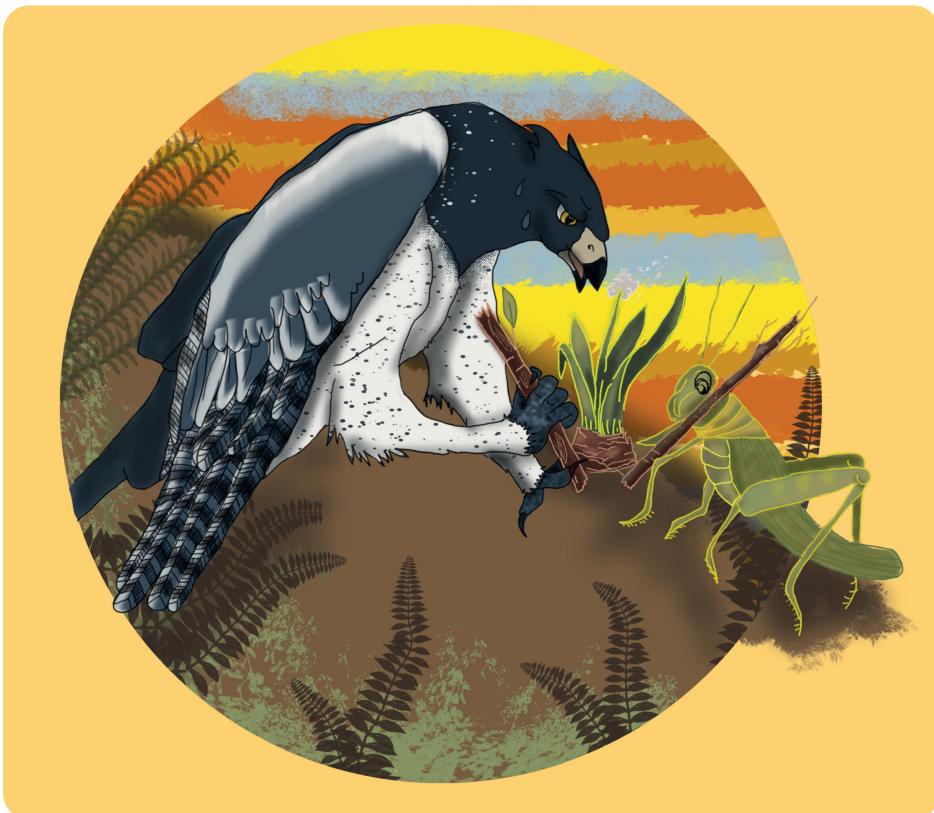
Wakhathala, wahlala phansi.

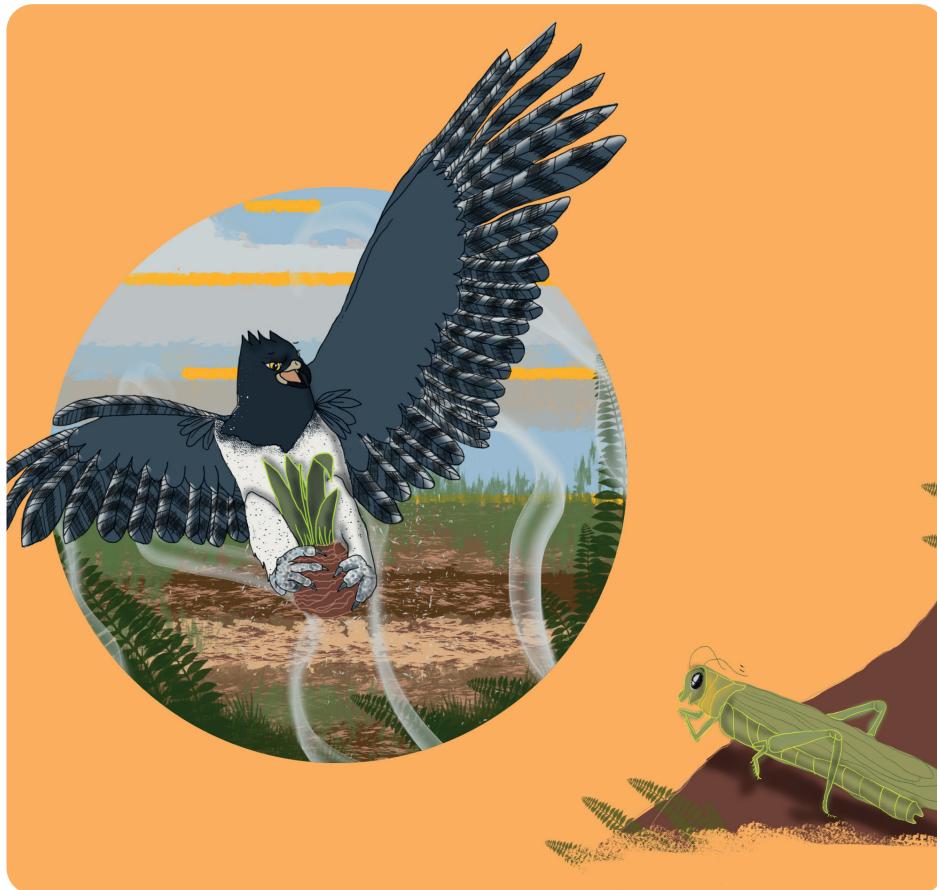


Bekunzima ukuthi isigaxa sidonseke.

“Ngizokusiza ukudonsa,” kusho uThuthu.

Badonsa bobabili.





UNsimbi wasebenzisa izinzipho zakhe eziqinile.

UNsimbi wawa ephethe isigaxa.

UThuthu wahleka.



Ngokushesha, uNsimbi waphakama.

Wabuyela emuva, ephethe isigaxa.





UThuthu wasala emangele.

“UNsimbi akabongi,” kusho uThuthu, waphapha.

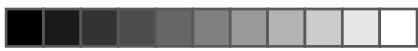


UNsimbi wafika kudokotela.

Wapheka isigaxa, wasipholisa.

Waphuzisa indodana yakhe.





Indodana kaNsimbi yaphuza umuthi, yaphila.
Yaqala ukuphapha isijabulile.



“Angikhumbuli ngibonga uThuthu!” kusho uNsimbi.

Baya ensimini. Bathola uThuthu bambonga.

