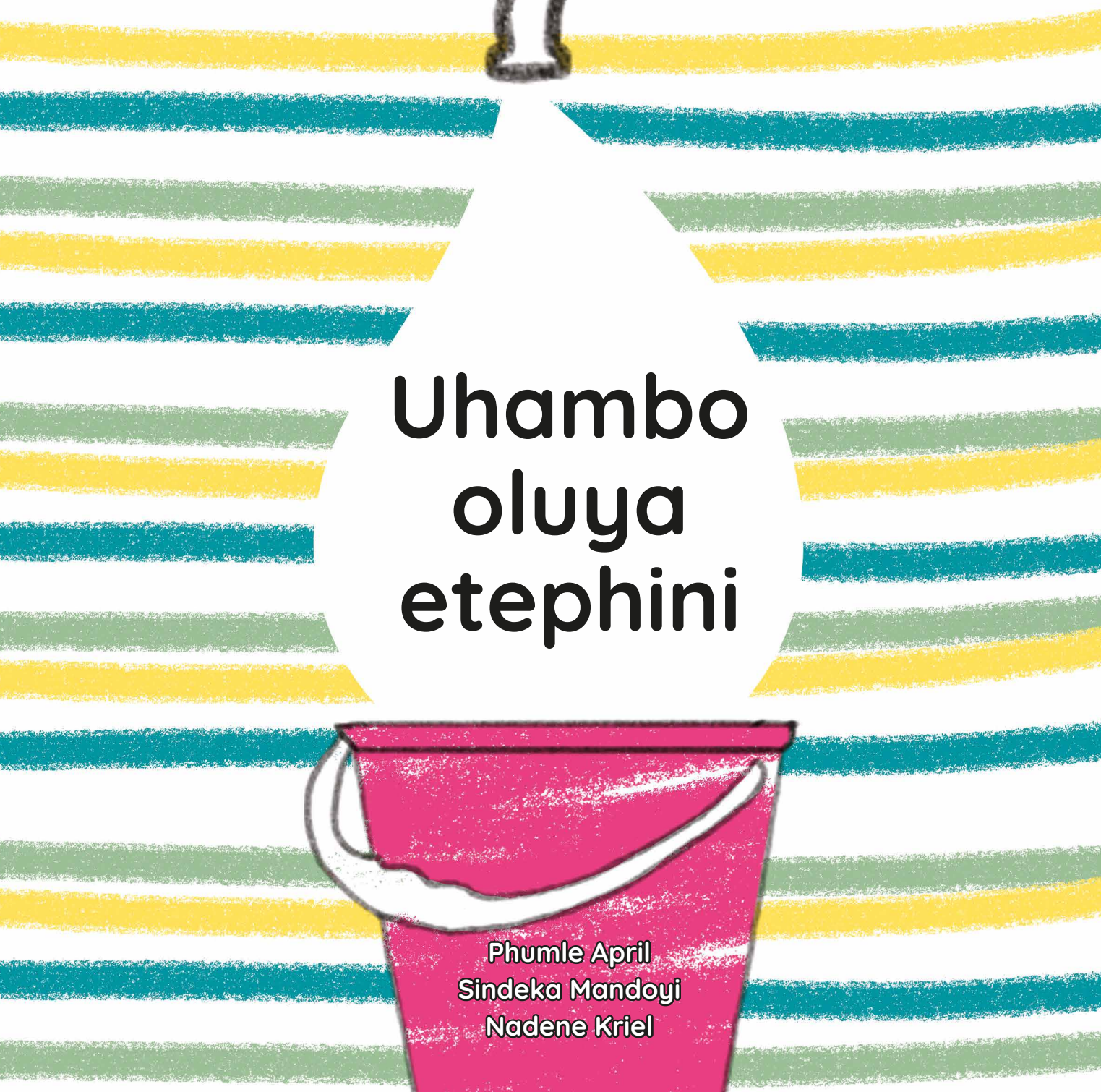


The background of the entire image consists of horizontal stripes in yellow, teal, and light green, drawn with a textured, hand-painted style. At the top center, a hand is visible, holding a white bucket. The bucket is tilted, and its opening is a large white circle containing the title text. The bucket itself is pink with a white handle and is positioned at the bottom center of the frame.

Uhambo oluya etephini

Phumle April
Sindeka Mandoyi
Nadene Kriel

Uhambo oluya etephini

Le ncwadi yeka







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Uhambo oluya etephini

(A trip to the tap)

Illustrated by Phumle April

Written by Sindeka Mandoyi

Designed by Nadene Kriel

Translated by Ntsiki Ntusikazi

with the help of the Book Dash participants in Cape Town on 14 October 2023.

ISBN: 978-0-948602-18-4

Typeset in Quicksand

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Phumle April
Sindeka Mandoyi
Nadene Kriel

Uhambo oluya etephini



UOluhle uvuke kwasekuseni.
Uvuyela ukuya kukha amanzi.

“Yiza Mama, kufuneka sibe
ngabokuqala namhlanje,”
ukhwaza atsho.



Endleleni badibana noNathi
kunye noUnathi.
Nabo baya etephini
nomama wabo.



UOluhle udlala nabahlobo
bakhe ngelixa abantu abadala
besikha amanzi.

“Oluhle, ligcwele ibhakethi lakho,”
utsho uMama.



Bakufika ekhaya, uOluhle uyahlamba.
UMama yena uya emsebenzini.
UOluhle ushiyeka noMakhulu.



Emva kwemini, uMakhulu
upheka isidlo sangokuhlwa.

Ufuna amanye amanzi.
Ucela uOluhle ahambe naye
baye etephini.



“Makhulu andiliboni ibhakethi lam.
Ndilikhangele kuyo yonke indawo,”
utsho uOluhle.

UMakhulu uyamkhangela, kodwa
alibonakali tu ibhakethi.



UMakhulu ucinga icebo.
Uthatha imbombozi engena
ilitha ezi2 ekhabhathini ze
alande iipeyinti kunye neebhrashi
zokupeyinta.



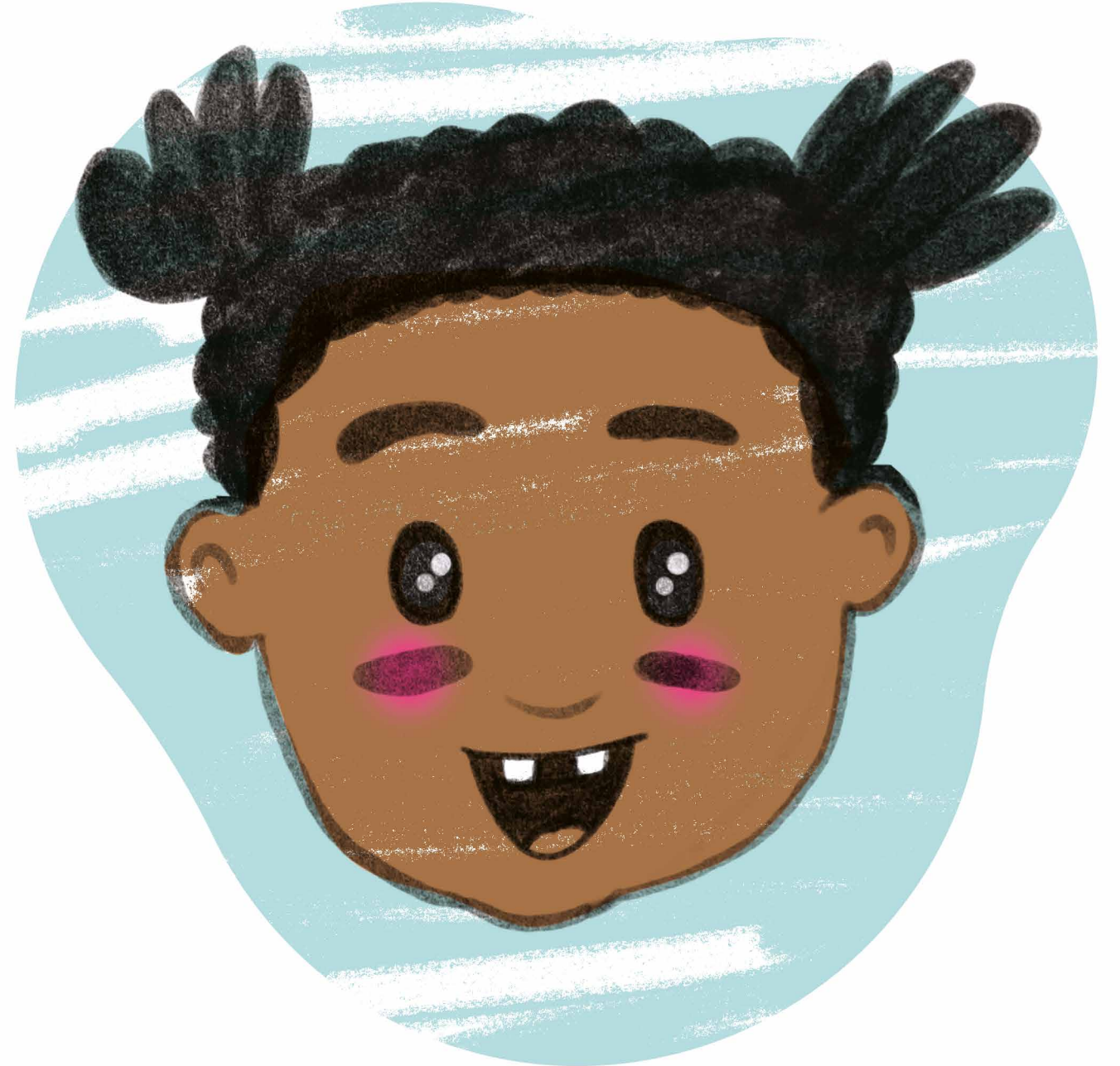
UMakhulu wenza ibhakethi
ngembombozi yamanzi.
Uyipeyinta ibe pinki.
“Nali ibhakethi esilenze ngento
esele isebenzile, Oluhle!”





“Enkosi Makhulu,” utsho uOluhle.

Uvuyela ukuya etephini ephethe
ibhakethi lakhe elenziwe ngento
esele isebenzile.



Ngosuku olulandelayo, u-Unathi
noNathi beza neembombozi
ezimbini kuMakhulu.

“Makhulu, ungakwazi ukusenzela
amabhakethi ngezi mbombozi?”





UMakhulu upeyinta amabhakethi
abo zuba namthubi, imibala
abayithanda kakhulu.
UNathi noUnathi bayavuya.
No-Oluhle uyavuya.



Abahlobo bangxamele ukuqhayisa
ngamabhakethi abo amatsha.

“Singaya etephini ngoku?”
bayabuza.





