



Kunemlilo Entsabeni

Julie Smith-Belton Kirsty Paxton Nadene Reignier

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Lencwadzi ya







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Kunemlilo Entsabeni

(There's a Fire on the Mountain)

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with the help of the Book Dash participants in the Virtual Book Dash on 15 May 2021.

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Mine nebangani bami
sinemdlalo lesitsandza
kuwudlala.

“Kunemlilo entsabeni.
Baleka, baleka!”



Vele ngalelinye lilanga kwakunemlilo
mbamba entsabeni. Kwakungumlilo
lomkhulu lowawusha.



Takhiwo letindzala letinkhulu tasha,
tincwadzi tasha, tihlahla netjani
kwasha. Tindiza letinaphephela
emhlane takhipha emanti
tawatsela emlilweni futsi labacisha
umlilo labanesibindzi bavula
emaphayiphi emanti.



Futsi bantfu *bagijima*. Batsatsa tincwadzi
tabo netikhwama babaleka kulentfutfu
nakulamalangabi.



Ngemuva kwemalanga lamadze lamatsatfu,
emalangabi ekugcina acisha.

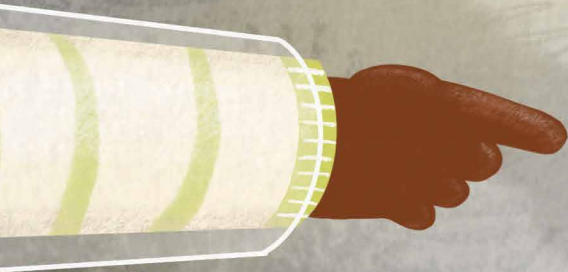
Labacisha umlilo ekugcineni besebangaphumula.



Emagcuma entsaba abemnyama.
Nasihamba entsabeni, lebesikubona
ngemadwala netihlahla letishile.

Sasidzabuke kakhulu.





Kuze kube ngulelinye lilanga ... tincetu letincane
letibovu tavela emkhatsini webumnyama.

“Buka, buka. Yini leya?”





Tincetu letincane
letibovu takhula
taze taba
timbali letinhle
letinjengemlilo,
tindze futsi tinhle
tinetimbali letibovu
letilengako.

Kwase kufika timbali letinkhulu, letibovu
tichuma kulokuluhlata njengetintsabamlilo.
Tatibukeka njengemashubhu labovu
lanetipikili letimtfubi letingetulu kanye
nemacembe lamakhulu, labovu.

Emacashata laluhlata akhule kulo lonkhe
luhlangotsi lwentsaba, akugucule
lokumnyama kwaba tjani lobuluhlata
kanye netihlahla letincane.



Kwase kuba khona sitjalo lesidze lokutsiwa yi-asparagus sivela etindzaweni letimanti ngemuva kwemvula.



Nembali lendze
lokutsiwa yi-watsonia
lewolentji nalepinku.

Ngekushesha luhlangotsi
lwentsaba lwalumbonywe titjalo
lobesekungiminyaka singatiboni.



Intsaba igcwele imphilo lensha!



