



Wise Queen

Tshedza Tlhako

Busisiwe Ndlovu





Queen Lufuno ruled the land of Roswika.
Queen Lufuno was a good and kind ruler.
She was extremely wise too.



The queen treated everyone in Roswika as equal.

In return, people loved her very much.

Maluṭa was one of Queen Lufuno's trusted advisers.



Maluṭa's husband, Tshidino, did not like Queen Lufuno's kindness. He didn't like the way people praised her.

He said, "What does Lufuno have that I don't have? I can rule better than her."



One day, Queen Lufuno and Maluṭa were discussing the best way to distribute water to the people.

They disagreed with each other and argued.



This angered Maluṭa. When she got home, she went straight to her husband.

“Queen Lufuno and I disagreed over water distribution,” she said bitterly.



Tshidino thought to himself, "I could do much better if I was the king."

He encouraged his wife's ill-feeling towards the queen.



The next day, Tshidino gathered the village people for a meeting.

He said to them, "We can't be ruled by a woman. I will be a better king."



People who had gathered thought about Tshidino's words.

They did not agree with him.



Someone said, "The queen is considerate. She has built schools for our children."

Another said, "We have fields to farm, and she ensures that everyone has water. She is a good leader."



A third person added, "We have been ruled by different people. I have never seen a wise one like Queen Lufuno. Kings from other places come here to ask her for advice."



When Tshidino heard this, he went home feeling furious.

Maluṭa said to him, “The people of Roswika have spoken. You will have to accept the people’s wishes.”



When the queen heard about this, she smiled.

She didn't punish Tshidino because she knew that she had won.

When people are peaceful, successful, and happy, they will support their leaders.



Ulwazi Lwethu is a Zenex Foundation funded and initiated project to develop a series of graded and leisure African language readers and teacher support materials. This project is targeted at teaching and supporting learners in the Foundation Phase to improve their home language reading and understanding. The readers have been originated in nine African languages in collaboration with Molteno Institute for Language and Literacies, Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, Room to Read South Africa, and Saide. All resources are developed as Open Education Resources (OER).



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