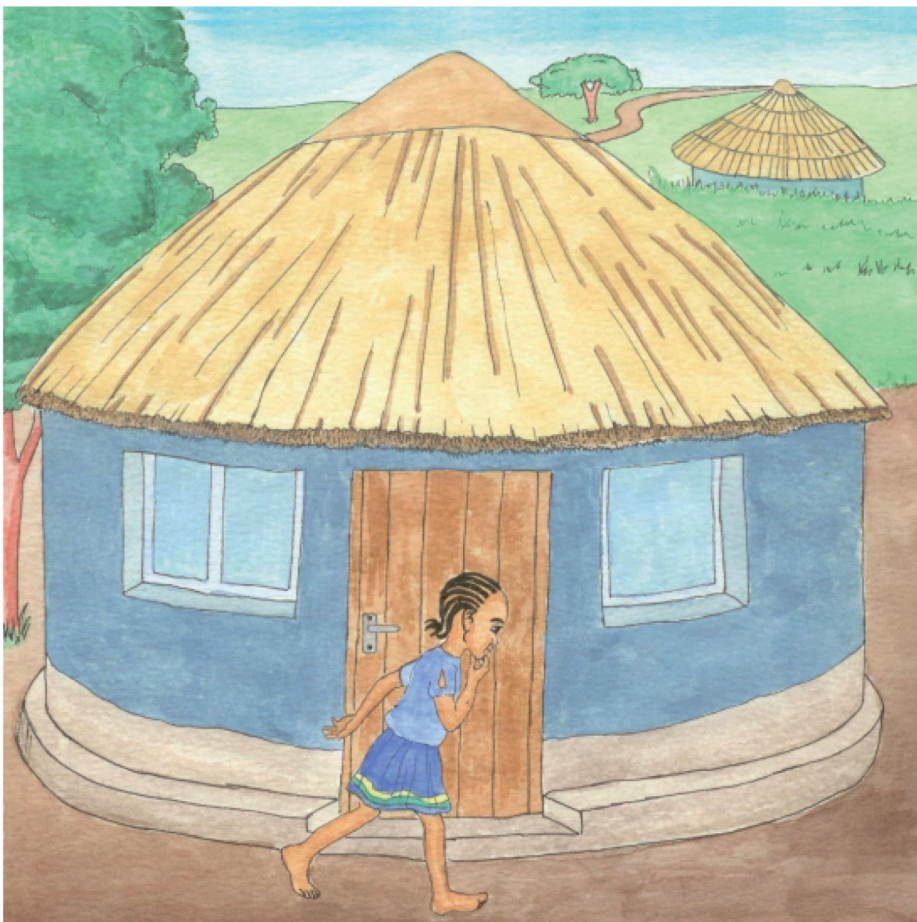




Ngelinye ilanga kusehlobo, ilanga likhupha  
unokghadanyana ngemgodini, uKhosi agelagela atjingga  
phasi naphezulu angazi bona enze ini.

Unina bekaye emasimini atjhiye uKhosi ekhaya.

“Ngingenza ini mina kwanjesi?” kutjho uKhosi azibuza.



Msinyazana nje uKhosi wafikelwa mcabango.

“Ngiyakhamba ngiyokududa emlanjeni, kodwana ngubani ozakukhamba nami? Umma akafuni ngiye ngedwa,” kucabanga uKhosi.

Ngaleso sikhathi uMma uSophie wadlula endleleni leyo atjhinga emlanjeni. Wabe athwele umantji ozele izambatho.





“Arha! Ngizokulandela uMma uSophie emlanjeni,” kutjho uKhosi azitjela.

Wagijima ngemuva kwakaMma uSophie. “Ngibawa ukukhamba nawe ukuya emlanjeni?” kubawa uKhosi. Umma uSophie wamomotheka wavuma ngehloko.

Kuthe nabasakhambako njalo, uNozipho wabalandela. UNozipho akhange athande ukududa kodwana bekathanda ukubukela abanye nabadudako.



Emlanjeni uKhosi wazitjela bona, "Namhlanjesi, angisadudeli emanzini amancani njengomntwana omncani, ngizokutjengisa woke umuntu bona ngiyakghona nami ukududa emanzini adibhako."

Waziphosela emlanjeni. Bhum! Watjinga phasi naphezulu.

UNozipho wabe abukele ajamele le kude lokha umnganakhe nakaduda nabanye abantwana.





Lokha uNozipho nakabukeleko, bekuqaleka sengathi boke abantwana bebathabile ngemanzini.

Bebenza itjhada nabadudako.

Bebarhuwelela bathabile bathabele ukuba boke ngemanzini.



Uthe nakaqalisisiko uNozipho, kwaba khona into emrarako.

UKhosi wabe adudela kude nabanye abantwana.

UNozipho watjhidela eduze wayokuqalisisa kuhle.

Wathuswa ngilokho akubonako, wagijimela kibomma abahlanza izambatho emlanjeni.

“Sizani msinya! UKhosi uyacwila ukghanywa mamanzi,”  
kurhuwelela uNozipho.



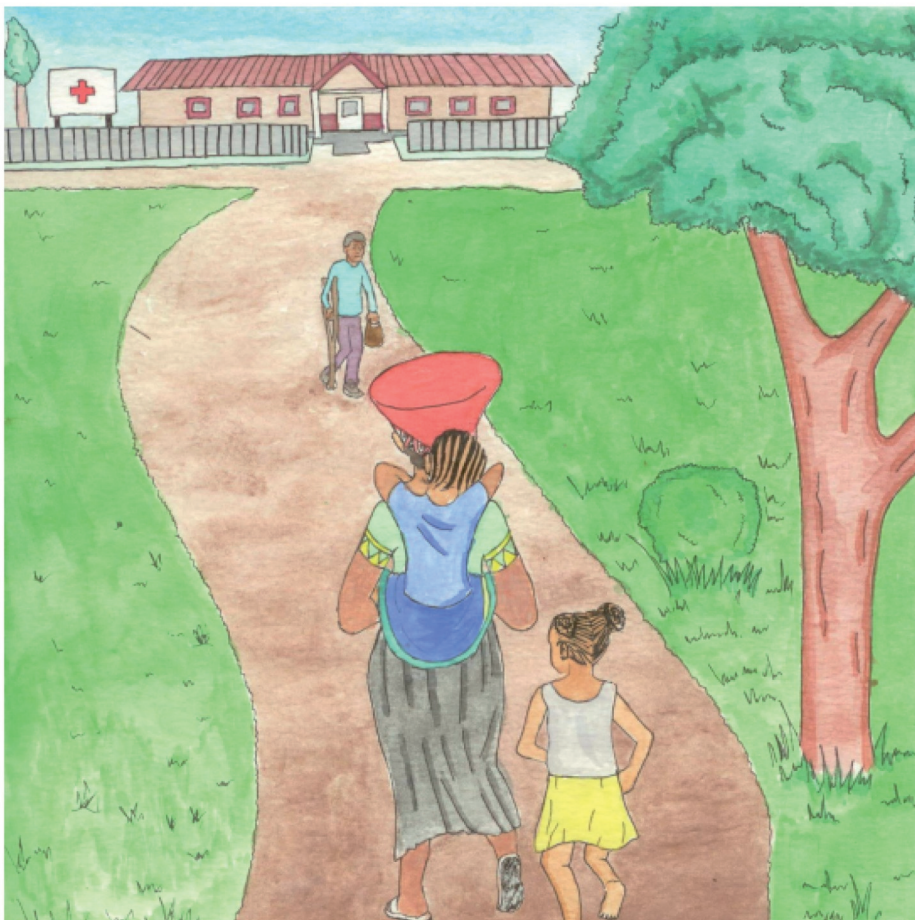


Ngokuphazima kwelihlo, uMma uSophie waziphosela ngemanzini. Wathaya msinya.

Watjuza watjinga ngaphasi kwamanzi, wavumbuka ngaphezulu kwamanzi, watjhingela phasi godu, afunana noKhosi.

Wafika wabamba uKhosi ngomkhono wamuthi bhi! Wadudela naye emanzini angadibhiko.

Ngemuva kwalokho uMma uSophie wakhuphela uKhosi ngaphandle.



UMma uSophie warhaba msinya wadlula esiqhemeni  
sabantwana ebebalila bamemeza.

UNozipho wagijima ngemuva kwakhe lokha nakagijimela  
emtholapilo wethresteni, abhebhule uKhosi ngemhlana.





Nakafika emtholapilo wahlangabezwa linesi uNoxolo owagijima msinya wasiza uKhosi.

Inesi lathatha uKhosi msinya lamfaka ngekumbeni namanye amanesi arhaba msinya azokusiza inesi uNoxolo. "Uyaphila! Sinetjhu du ngombana akhange ahlale ngaphasi kwamanzi isikhathi eside!" kutjho inesi.



UMma uSophie wakhokha ummoya nakezwa lokho.

Woke umuntu wamuwahlela izandla ngokuba nesibindi kwakhe.

“Kuyangithokozisa ukobana ngikghonile ukusindisa ipilo,”  
kutjho uMma uSophie ngokuzithoba okukhulu.

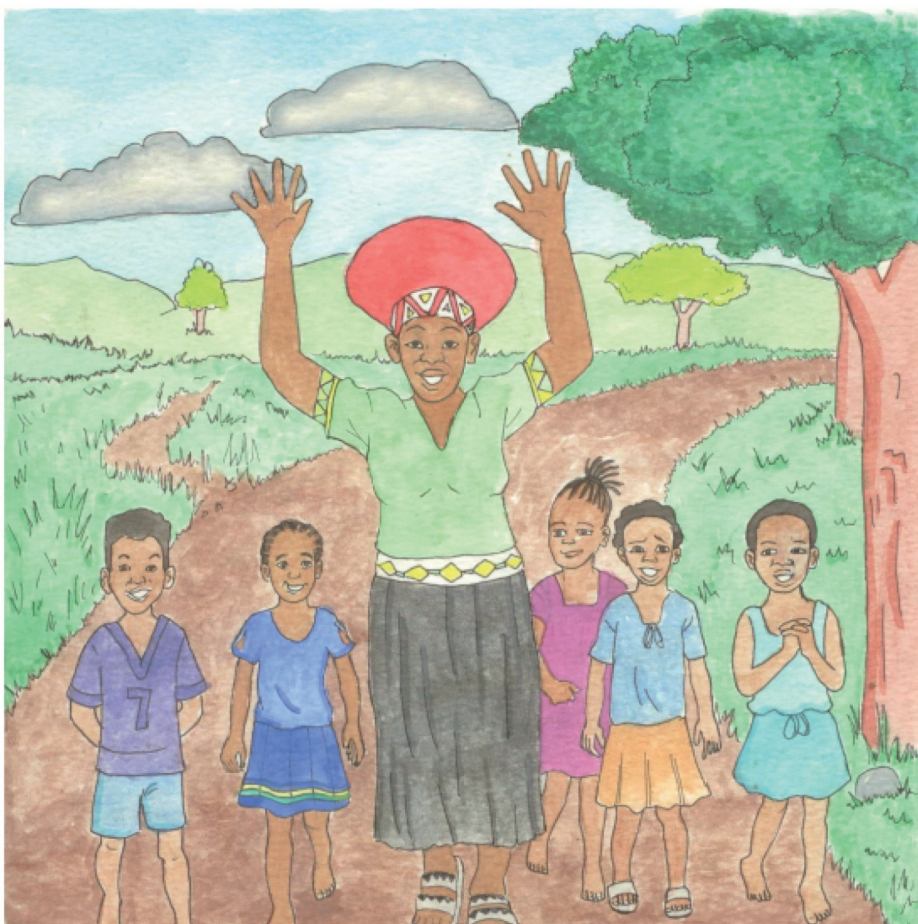




Iindaba zafika ekosini begodu ikosi yathumela induna ukobana iyokubiza uMma uSophie.

Ikosi yalalelisisa kuhle lokha uMma uSophie nakahlathulula bona wafunda njani ukududa nokobana abe mdudi okhamba phambili.

“Njengomntazanyana, umnganami wabe ahlala eduze nomlambo. Amanzi abe ayingcenye yepilwethu. Kwafanele bona sifunde ukududa. Umlambo bewulapha sidlalela khona, sisela khona, sihlanza khona izambatho begodu sibamba khona neenhlambi!” kuhlathulula uMma uSophie.



Ikosi yabiza imbizo ethresteni yamemezela isiqunto esithetheko sokutlomelisa uMma uSophie ngesenzo sakhe sokutjengisa ukuba nesibindi.

Abomma bakwakwazela, abobaba babetha imilozi, abantwana nabo bamemeza batjengisa ithabo.

Ukusukela mhlokho, abantwana bebathanda ukulandela uMma uSophie kuphi nakuphi lapha aya khona.

Bebazwakala bavuma ingoma ethi, “Ayikho into engangithinta ukhona uMma uSophie onesibindi!”