Kwindawo edume ngamahlathi, kwaye kukho uYebo, umntwana owayehlala nabazali bakhe.

Kwalapho kuloo ndawo, kwakuhlala uZimzim.

UZimzim lo wayesaziwa ngokutya abantwana.

USikwebu onguyise kaYebo, wayengumzingeli. Ebesithi xa ekufutshane akhwaze athi, “Yebo! Yebo! Mntwana wam. Ndihlangabeze.”

Umve uYebo esithi kumama wakhe, “Mama, utata uyandikhwaza. Mandikhawuleze ndimkhawulele.”

UZimzim waqaphela ngokukhawuleza ukuba uSikwebu uyamkhwaza umntwana wakhe xa avela kuzingela.

Ngobo busuku uZimzim wazama ukuzenza uSikwebu wakhwaza, “Yebo! Yebo! Mntwana wam. Ndihlangabeze.”

Waziva ukuba elo lizwi liphumayo asililo ilizwi likaSikwebu.

Wahlala wacinga, “Ndingalitshintsha njani ilizwi lam?”

UZimzim wandwendwela enye indoda eyaye isaziwa ngobubi.

“Mhlekazi, ndingenza njani ukuze ndibe nelizwi elifana nelo labantu?”

Kufuneka utshise izembe lide lijike libe bomvu, wakugqiba uliginye,” yamcebisa njalo.

Wenza njengoko eyalelwe uZimzim.

Watshisa izembe waza waliginya, waphinda waya kuloYebo wafika wakhwaza, “Yebo! Yebo! Mntwana wam. Ndihlangabeze.”

Hayi yayingelolizwi likaSikwebu elo. Wayeliva ukuba elo lizwi lalilikhulu.

UZimzim wabuyela kwindoda leyo wayeye kuyo ebhidekile wafika wathi, “Ndodandini, kanti umntu kufuneka ade athini ukuze ilizwi lakhe libe lincinci nje kakuhle?”

“Phinda utshise izembe ubusuku bonke uze uliginye kusasa.”

Emva koko wahamba uZimZim wabuyela endaweni yakhe esehlathini. Wenza njengoko eyalelwe. Kweli tyeli waziva ezithembile.

Waphinda wakhwaza, “Yebo! Yebo! Mntwana wam. Ndihlangabeze.”

Ilizwi lakhe lafana twatse nelo likaSikwebu.

Akumva uYebo wakhawuleza ukuya kuye. Akufika wafumanisa ukuba ayingoyise wajika wabaleka.

Waleqwa nguZimzim wabanjwa.

Wahamba naye waphindela phakathi apho ehlathini.

Akugqithanga mizuzu mingaphi, wavela uSikwebu njengesiqhelo wakhwaza, “Yebo! Yebo! Mntwana wam. Ndihlangabeze.”

Okwamothusayo kukuba akazange avele ndawo uYebo. Umama waphendula ngelithi, “Ubusele umbizile nje umntwana wakho.”

Baqonda kwangoko ukuba umntwana wabo uthathiwe nguZimzim.

Wathabatha intonga yakhe uSikwebu waqonda ngqo ehlathini.

Kungekudala, wambona uZimzim elele ecaleni komlambo, eneso sisu sikhulu. Wayebeke ingxowa enkulu phambi kwakhe.

Wachwechwa ukusondela. Akusondela, wambetha wamqusha ngentonga yakhe.

Wothuka wabaleka uZimzim ebalekela kude.

Wakhulula loo ngxowa uSikwebu wamkhupha umntwana wakhe owayesaphila.

USikwebu wamgona uYebo, evuyela ukumbona umntwana wakhe.

Wavuya kakhulu noYebo akubona utata wakhe, iqhawe lakhe elimsindise kuZimzim.

Balibala ngoZimzim babuyela ekhaya.