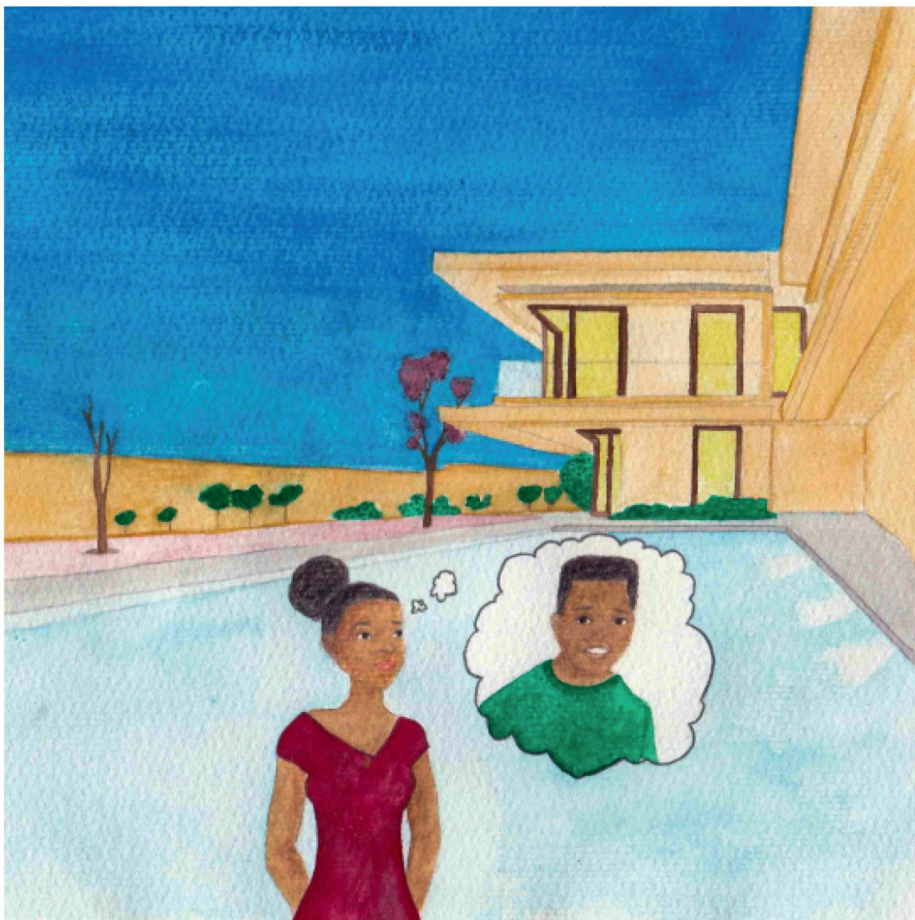




Edolobheni esasihlala kulo, kwakukhona intokazi eyayiyisicebi. Igama layo kwakungu-Alina.

U-Alina wayehlala endlini enhle eyayiyisitezi.

Wayenakho konke, kodwa wayengajabule neze.



Ngelinye ilanga, u-Alina wayezihambela ezungeza umuzi wakhe omkhulu.

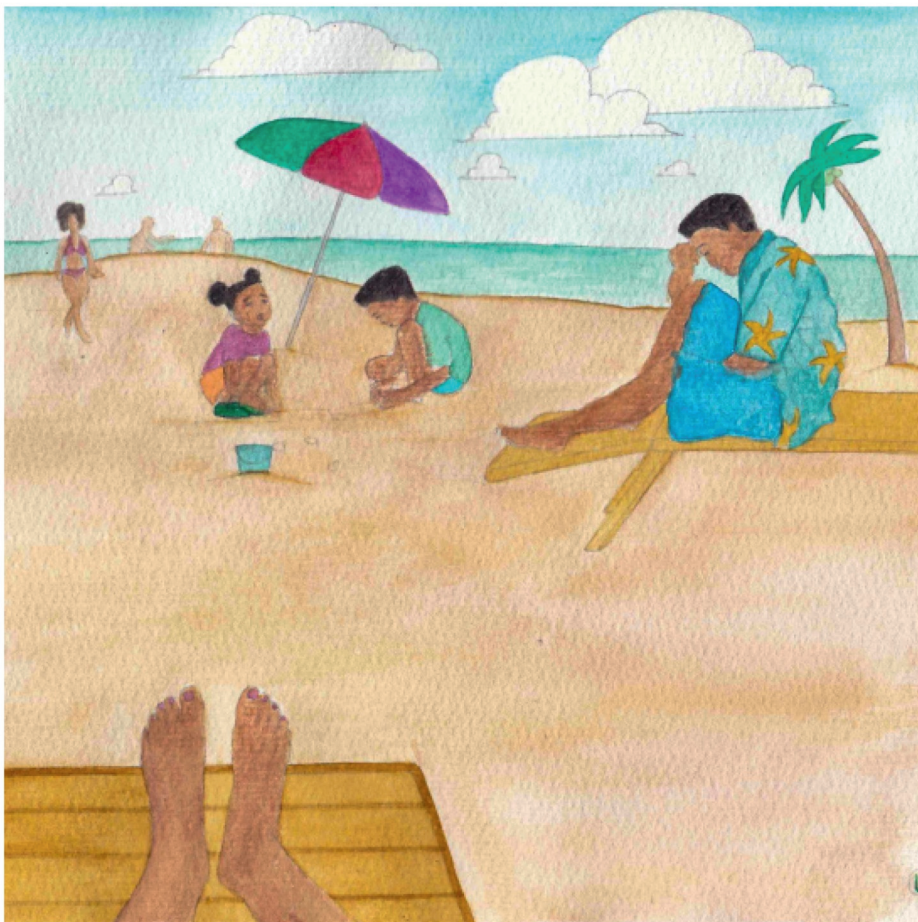
Washo wamamatheka ngesikhathi ecabanga, “Ngifisa ukuhlangana nabantu abasha. Mhlawumbe ngingakwazi ukuzakhela abangane uma ngingathatha iholidi. Mhlawumbe nje, ngingazitholela umuntu obalulekile kimi.”



U-Alina waqala wahlela ukuthatha iholidi ehotel
elalisogwini lolwandle.

Wajabula kakhulu lapho kufika usuku lokuhamba.
Washeshe wafika ehotel ayezohlala kulona.

Wazihlela ngokushesha ukuze azijabulise kule ndawo enhle
kangaka.



U-Alina walala waphumula ebhishi. Wayelokhu ezibukela abantu ababeseduze kwakhe.

Kusenjalo wabona indoda eyayihamba nezingane ezimbili.

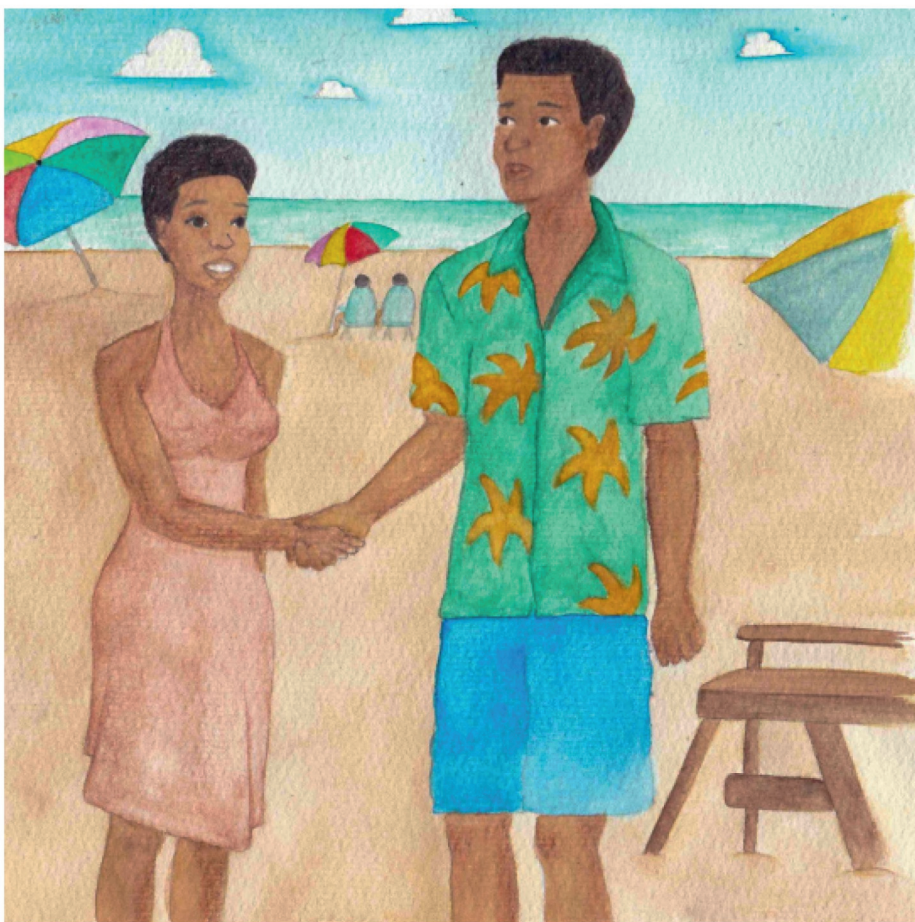
Lo mndeni wawungabukeki ukujabulela ukuba kule ndawo. Bonke babebukeka bedangele. Izingane zazidlala buthule.



U-Alina wacabanga ezibuza, “Ngabe yini ebona babukeke bedangele endaweni enhle kangaka.”

Ngalo lolo suku ntambama, u-Alina wayezibhukudela echibini lasehhotela ngesikhathi kufika izingane zale ndoda nazo zizobhukuda.

U-Alina waqala waxoxa nazo elangazelele ukwazi ngazo.



Amagama azo kwakunguKarembo noKazungu.

Batshela u-Alina ukuthi leli kwakuyiholidi labo lokuqala selokhu kwashona umama wabo.

Kwathi u-Alina esebona ubaba wezingane, walubona usizi nobuhlungu bokulahlekelwa okwakubhalwe ebusweni bakhe. Igama lakhe kwakungu-Clemens.



U-Clemens no-Alina kanye nabantwana baqala bachitha isikhathi bendawonye.

UKarembo noKazungu babethanda ukudlala no-Alina ebhishi.

U-Alina wabafundisa ukweluka obhasikidi usebenzisa amahlamvu esundu nokwakha izindlu zesihlabathi.



Zedlula izinsuku kumnandi ukuzihlalela elangeni.

U-Alina wayengafuni ukubuyela emzini wakhe owawunesizungu.

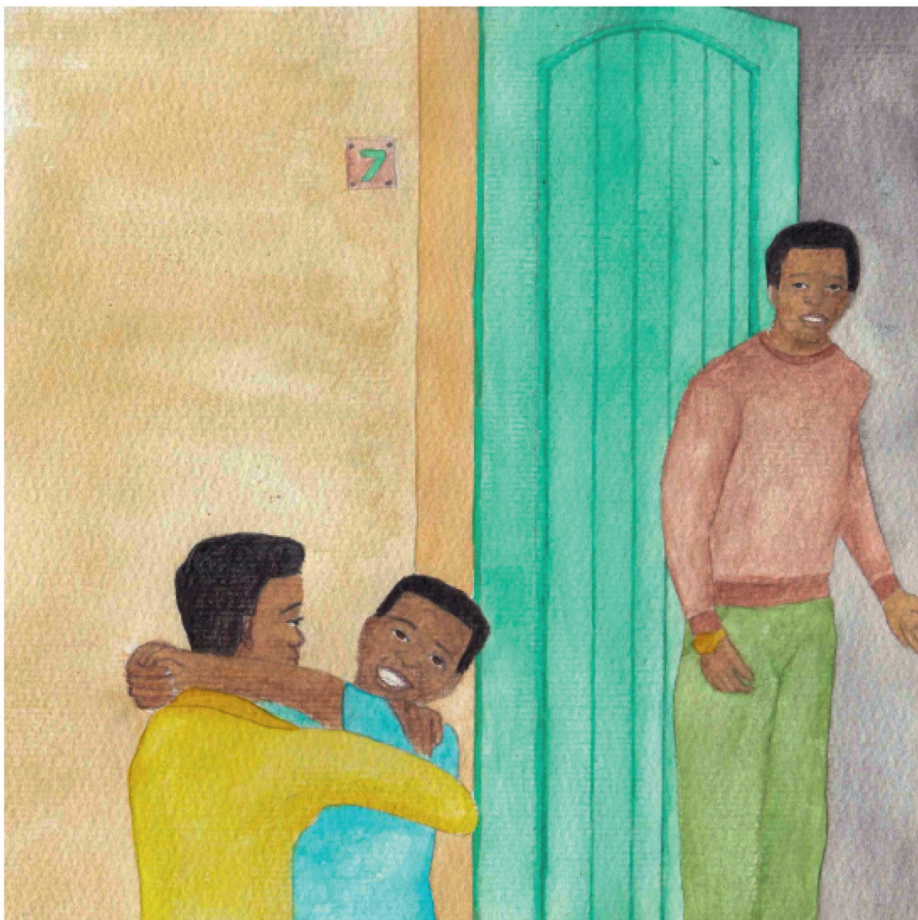
“Seliyaphela iholidi lami. Mhlawumbe uma ngiqhuba isikhathi sokuhlala lapha, ngeke ngihlale ngidangele,” ecabanga.



Ngalobo busuku, u-Alina wezwa ukungqongqoza emnyango.

Wathi uma evula umnyango, wabona uKarembo noKazungu bemi phambi kwawo.

Bakhuluma kanye kanye, "Sifuna ukuthi ube ngumama wethu!" U-Alina akazanga ukuthi uzobaphendula athini.



Kwathi sebeqedile ukukhuluma, u-Alina wahamba noKarembo noKazungu waya endlini yabo.

Kwakumjabulisa uClemens ukubona izingane zakhe zijabule uma zino-Alina. U-Alina wanga izingane wavalelisa.

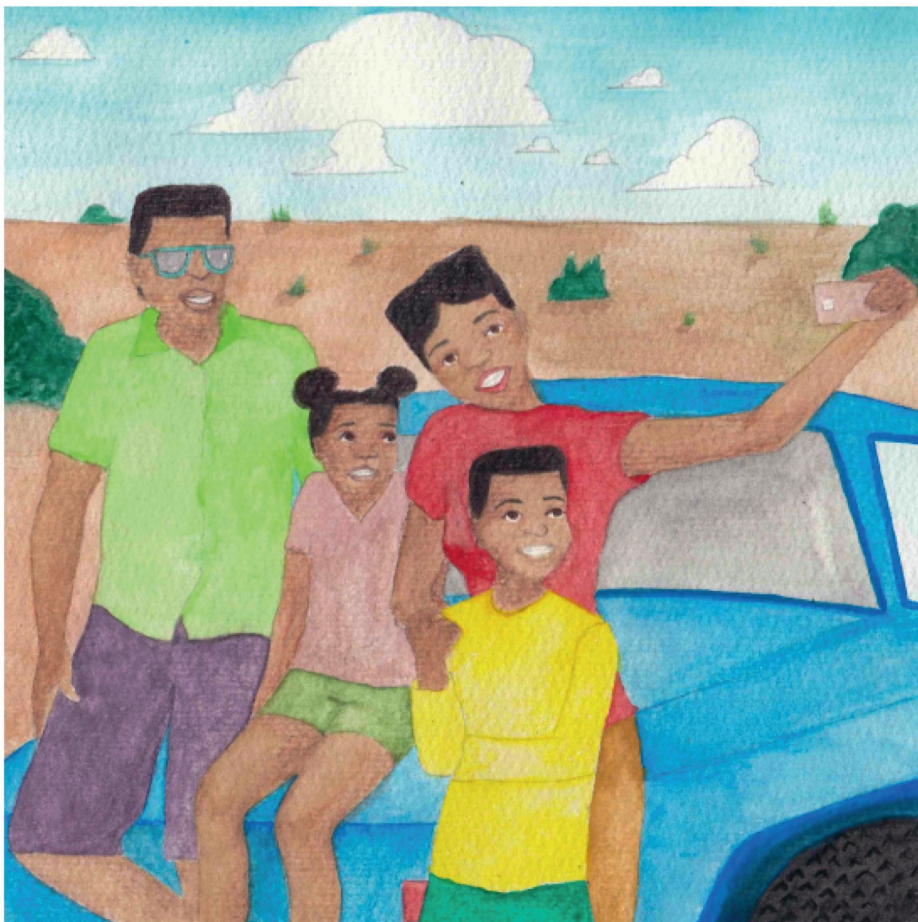
“Ngihlangene nabantu abathathu ababalulekile kimi,” kucabanga u-Alina.



Ngakusasa ekuseni, u-Alina wahlangana no-Clemens nabantwana ukuyodla ukudla kwasekuseni.

UKarembo noKazungu babembuka ngokumethemba u-Alina ngesikhathi eyohlala phansi.

“Ngabe kwenzenjani?” kubuza u-Clemens emamatheka ngesikhathi ebuka izingane zakhe zinobuso obuchachambile.



Emva konyaka, u-Alina no-Clemens bashada.

Njalo ngonyaka lo mndeni wawuvakashela kuleli hhotela ukuyogubha usuku lokuqala abahlangana ngalo.

Babedlala emanzini bakhe nezindlu zesihlabathi, njengoba babenza mhla beqala ukuhlangana.