



UBhubesi NoNtibane

Le ncwadi yabhalwa okokuqala ngeSiZulu nguHlengiwe Ngcongco
Umfanekisi nguJoseph Somwe Umhlobisi nguCaitlin Sloane



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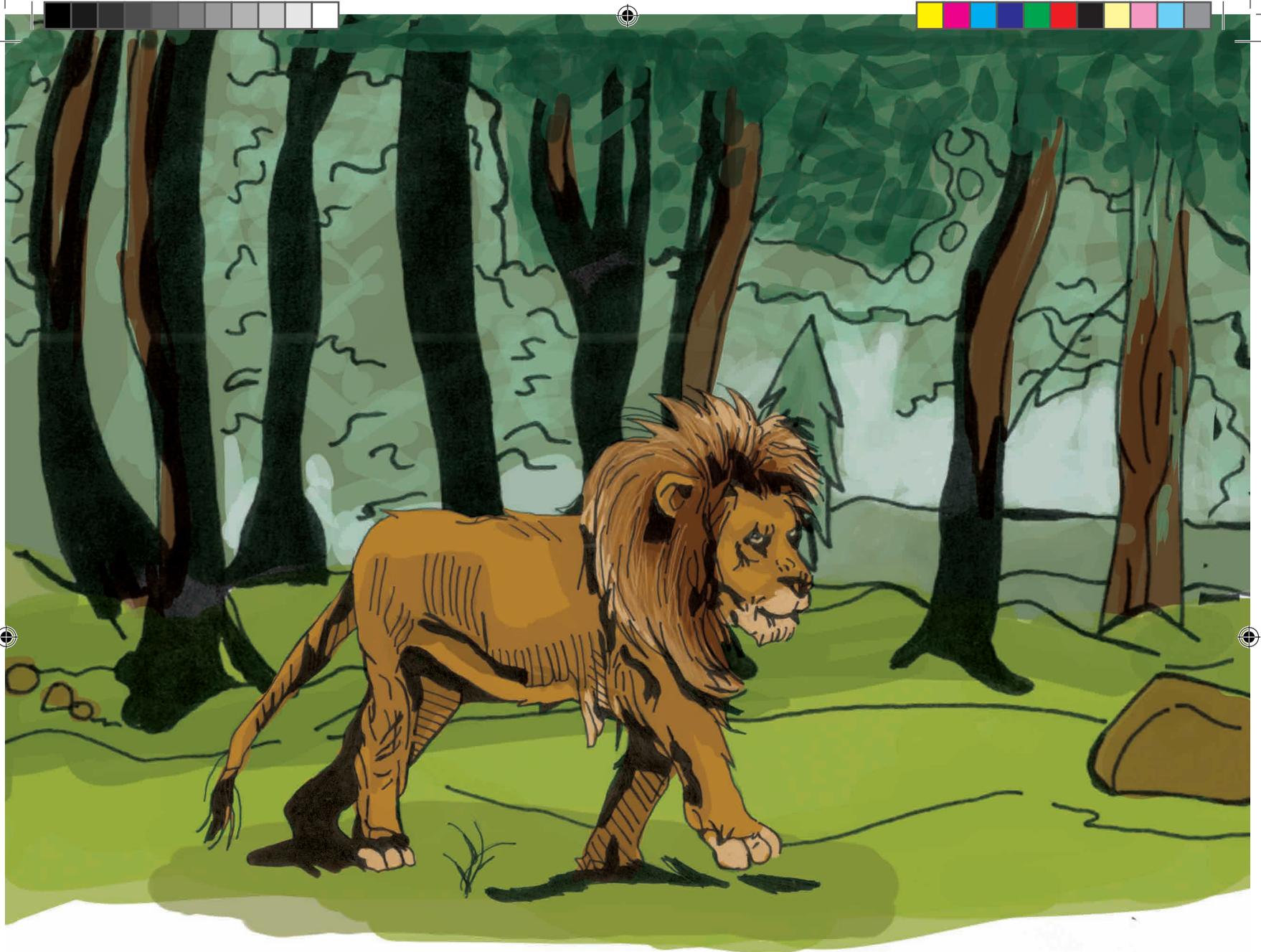


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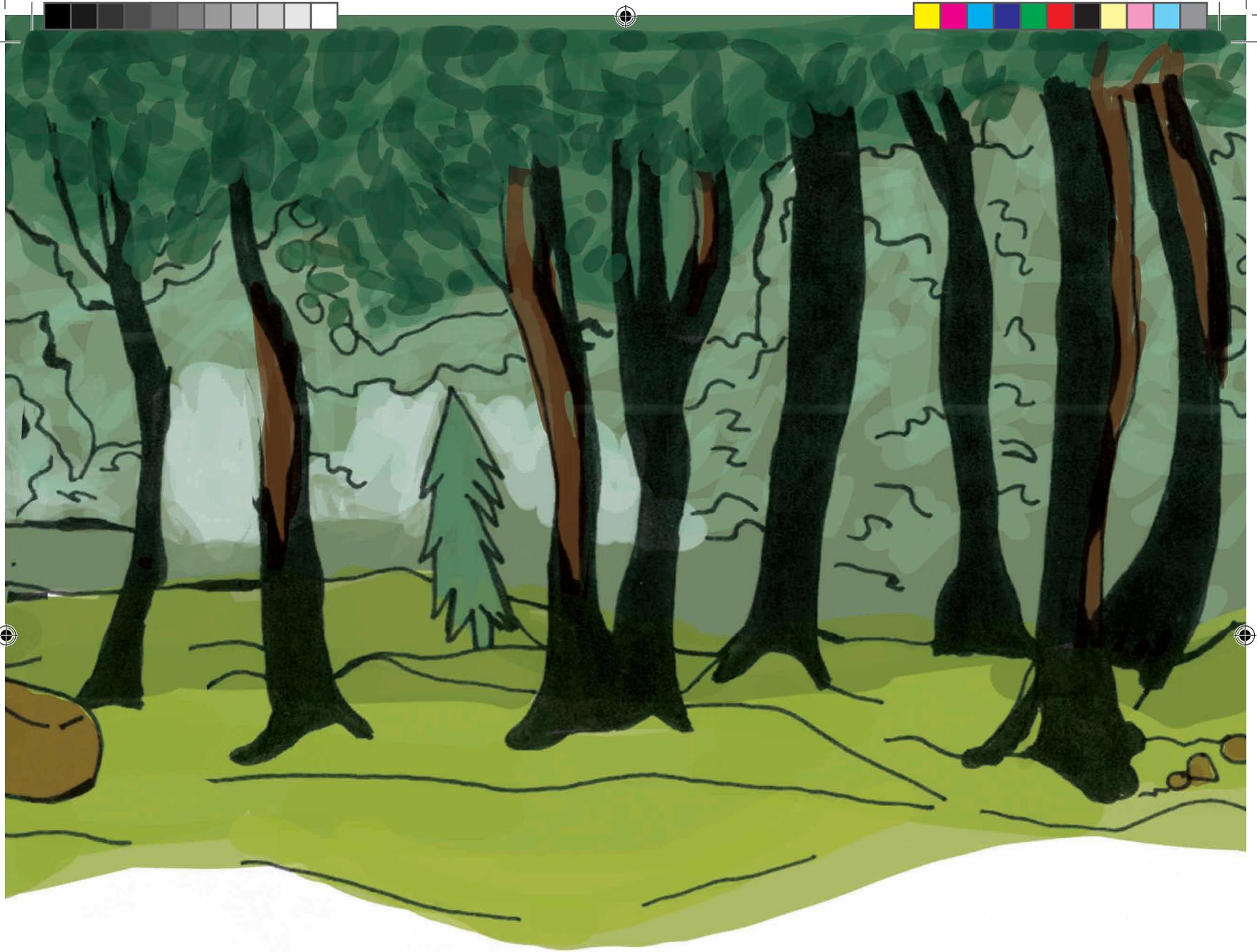


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UBhubesi wayesezule isikhathi eside
efuna ukudla engakutholi.



Wayeseze wakhathala futhi eselambe kakhulu.



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Kusenjalo, waphoseka esicuphweni.

“Sizani bo! Ngisizeni! Ngisizeni bo!”
washo wabhonga uBhubesi kwaduma ihlathi.





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Khona lapho, kwaqhamuka uNtibane ezihambela.
“Ngiyacela bandla, awungikhiphe lapha!”
sekuncenga uBhubesi.

“Hhayi ngeke!” kuphendula uNtibane.
“Ngizothi ngithi ngiyakukhipha lapho,
uvele ungidle nje wena!”





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UBhubesi waqhubeka ezincengela kuNtibane.
“O! Ntibane ngiyakucela, ngikhulule.
Ngizokubonga ngesiduli esinemihlwa
emnandi, ekhuluphele.”

UNtibane enehliziyo ehle futhi kumjabulisa
ukuncengwa yinkosi yehlathi, wavuma.
Kancane, kancane wasivula isicupho.





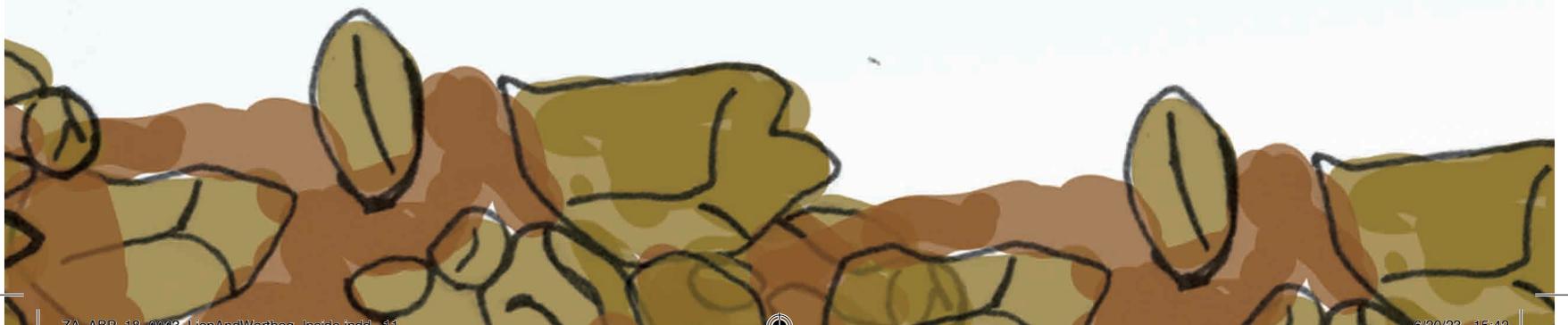
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Waphuma wagxumagxuma uBhubesi, ejabule.
Wayesethi kuNtibane, “Asambe-ke ngiyokukhombisa
isiduli semihlwa emnandi ekhuluphele. Hamba
phambili, ulandele leyo ndlela.”

UNtibane, noma enokungabaza kodwa wavuma.





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Besahambe ibangana, uBhubesi wathi,
“Ntibane, unomsila omuhle bo!”

“O, ngiyabonga,” sekusho uNtibane. “Kodwa mncanyana nje. Ngifisa sengathi ngabe mkhulu.”

“Hhayi suka, ulungile lo msila, futhi ubukeka ungaba mnandi! Ungangilumisa nje kancane? Sengilambe kakhulu.”

“Hhayi bo Bhubesi!” kumemeza uNtibane ngokucasuka.





“Kulungile-ke,” sekusho uBhubesi. “Uma ungafuni nomsila wakho, ngilumise kancane nje indlebe yakho. Ngeke ngiyidle yonke, ngiyakwethembisa.”



UNtibane waba nokwesaba manje.

Wayesecabanga isu. “Ake siye kuNogwaja,
simuzwe ukuthi uzothini ngale ndaba.”





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UBhubesi wavuma, ecabanga ukuthi uNogwaja
uzovumelana naye ngoba eyinkosi yehlathi.
Bafika kuNogwaja.





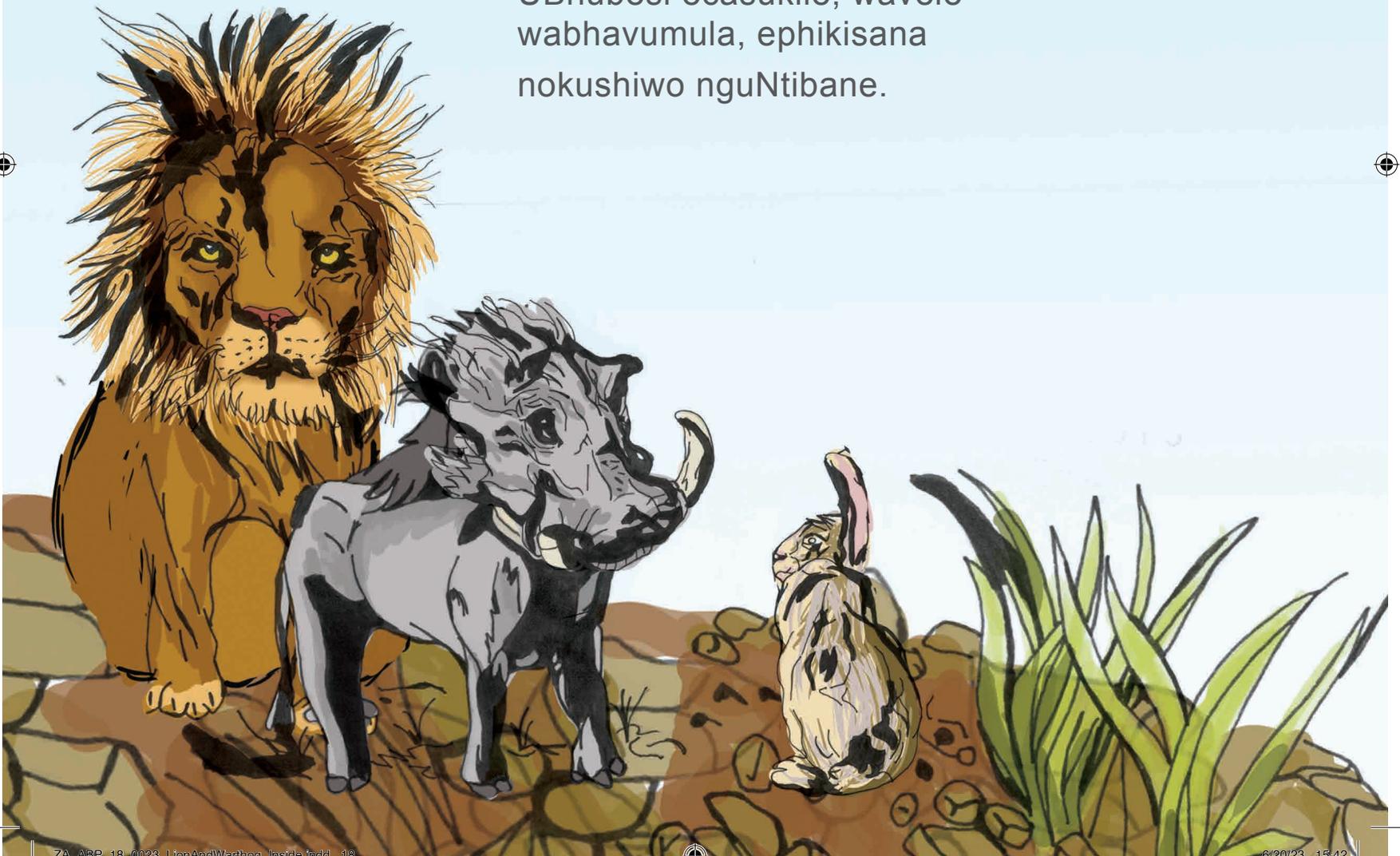
“Sawubona Nogwaja,” kusho uNtibane.
“Ngiyaxolisa ukukuphazamisa. Sinenkinga la,
sicela usisize.”

“Khuluma, ngilalele,” kusho uNogwaja.



UNtibane wachaza konke okwenzekile
ngesicupho, nendlala kaBhubesi.

UBhubesi ecasukile, wavele
wabhavumula, ephikisana
nokushiwo nguNtibane.





“Yimani-ke! Yini singaphindeli ehlathini,
ukuze ngiyizwe kahle le ndaba?”
sekusho uNogwaja.

Balandelana-ke bonke,
sebephindela ehlathini.



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Ehlathini isicupho sasisekhona lapho, sivulekile.

UNogwaja wathi, “Bhubesi, ake usho-ke ukuthi kwenzekeni.”

“Mina bengimi laphaya,” uBhubesi ekhomba esicuphweni.

“Wooo, Bhubesi!” kungenelela uNogwaja.
“Musa ukukhomba. Ngena phakathi sibone ukuthi izinyawo zakho bezikuphi.”

Nangempela uBhubesi washo wagxuma, wangena phakathi esicuphweni.





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Masinyane uNogwaja wagxumela isicupho, wasivala!

“Bhubesi, isilwane esingabongi asifanelwe ukusizwa!”
Kwasho uNogwaja.

UNogwaja wabheka ngakuNtibane wathi,
“Wena Ntibane unomusa, ulungile. Goduka uye
emndenini wakho nomsila wakho, namadlebe akho.”





Room to Read South Africa

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