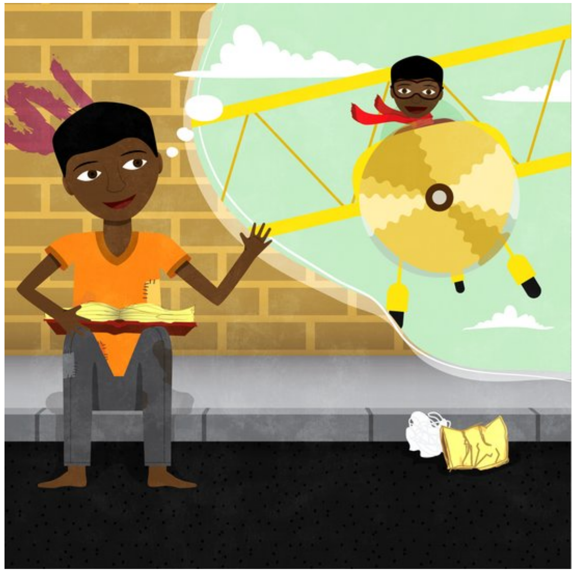

UMagozwe

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Zulu
Level 4

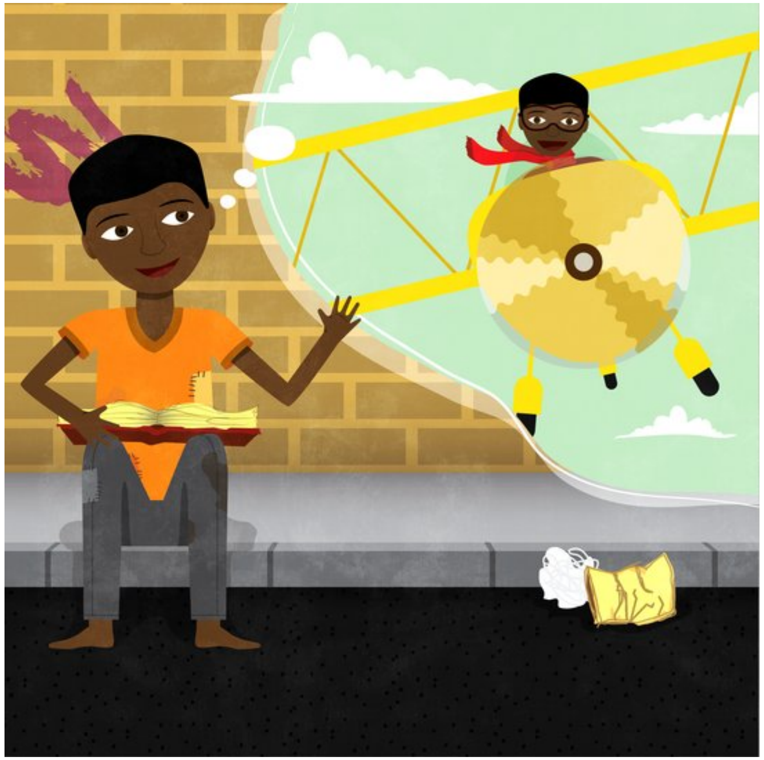
Edolobheni elinyamfukayo iNairobi, kude le nempilo yekhaya enokunakekela, kwakuhlala iqembu labafana abangenamakhaya. Kubona usuku lwalufana nolunye. Ekuseni ngelinye ilanga abafana babeqoqa amacansi abo kade belele onqenqemeni olubandayo lomgwaqo. Babasa umlilo ngemfucuza ukuze baxoshe amakhaza. Phakathi kwaleli qembu kwakunomncane kubo bonke uMagozwe.

Wayeneminyaka emihlanu kuphela, khathi abazali bakhe beshona.Waya kohlala nomalume wakhe. Indoda le ayizange iyinakelele ingane. Wayemncisha ukudla. Wayemenzisa umsebenzi omningi olukhuni.

Uma ngabe uMagozwe ekhononda noma efuna incazelo, umalume wakhe wayemshaya. Uma uMagozwe ebuza ukuthi angaya yini esikoleni, umalume wayemshaya athi, “Uyisiduphunga kakhulu ukuthi kukhona ongakufunda.” Emva kweminyaka emithathu yokuphatheka kabi, uMagozwe wabaleka kwamalume wakhe. Waqala ukuhlala ezitaladini.

Kwakunzima ukuhlala ezitaladini kanti abafana babezabalaza nsukuzonke ukuthola ngisho ukudla. Kokunye babeboshwa, bashaywe. Kwakungenamuntu wokubanakekela uma begula. Leli qembu lalisimamiswa imadlana elaliyithola uma liyicela kwabedlulayo, noma uma lithengisa ocwazi nokunye okungabuye kusebenziseke. Impilo yayibanzima kakhulu ngenxa yezimpi namanye amaqembu abangayo ayefuna ukuphatha izindawo ezithile edolobheni.

Ngelinye ilanga uMagozwe ecinga emgqonyeni kadoti,wathola incwadi endala negugile. Wayithintitha eyisusa ukungcola waseyifaka esikhwameni sakhe. Nsukuzonke emva kwalokhu wayeyikhipha incwadi abuke izithombe. Wayengakakwazi ukufunda amagama.



Izithombe zazixoxa indaba yomfana owakhula waba umqhubi wezindiza. UMagozwe wayehlala ephupha ngokuba umqhubi wezindiza. Kokunye, wayezibona eyilo mfana okuxoxwa ngaye endabeni.

Kwakumakhaza uMagozwe emi emgwaqeni ecela imali.Kwafika indoda eyathi kuye, “Sawubona, ngiinguThomas. Ngisebenza eduze kwalapha, endaweni ongathola khona ukudla,” Yakhomba indlu ephuzi enophahla oluluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka. “Ngethemba uzoya khona uzothola ukudla?” kubuza indoda. UMagozwe wayibuka indoda, wabuka nendlu wasethi, “Mhlawumbe.” Wasuka wahamba.

Ezinyangeni eziningi ezilandelayo, abafana abangenamakhaya baze bajwayela ukubona uThomas endaweni. Wayethanda ukukhuluma nabantu, ikakhulu abahlala ezitaladini. UThomas wayelalela izindaba ngezimpilo zabantu. Wayezimisela enesineke futhi, wayengakaze abeluhlaza futhi engenayo indelelo. Abanye abafana baqala ukuya endlini ephuzi nokuluhlaza beyothola ukudla emini.

UMagozwe wayehlezi onqenqemeni lomgwaqo ebuka izithombe encwadini yakhe lapho uThomas efika ehlala eduze kwakhe. “Imayelana nani le ndaba?” kubuza uThomas “Imayelana nomfana obangumqhubi wezindiza,” kuphendula uMagozwe. “Ubani igama lomfana?” kubuza uThomas. “Angazi, angikwazi ukufunda,” kusho uMagozwe kancane.

Kwathi lapho behlangana futhi uMagozwe waqala ukuxoxela uThomas indaba yakhe. Kwakuyindaba kamalume wakhe nesizathu sokubaleka kwakhe. UThomas kazange akhulume kakhulu futhi kazange atshele uMagozwe ukuthi akenzenjani, wayegcina ngokulalela ngokucophelela. Kokunye babexoxa lapho bedla endlini enophahla oluluhalza okwesibhakabhaka.

UMagozwe esezohlanganisa iminyaka eyishumi, uThomas wamupha enye incwadi. Kwakuyindaba yomfana wasedolobheni elincane owakhula waba umdlali webhola odumile. UThomas wafundela uMagozwe le ndaba izikhathi eziningi, kwaze kwathi ngelinye ilanga wathi, “Ngibona ukuthi sekuyisikhathi sokuthi uye esikoleni ufunde ukuzifundela. Ubona kanjani?” UThomas wachaza ukuthi kukhona indawo ayaziyo lapho izingane zingahala khona, futhi zifunde.

UMagozwe wacabanga ngale ndawo entsha, nangokuya esikoleni. Kunganjani uma ngabe umalume wakhe wayeqinisile lapho ethi uyisiduphunga engeke sifunde lutho? Kwakuyothiwani uma eshaywa lapho? Wayesaba. “Mhlawumbe kungcono ngiqhubeke nokuhlala esitaladini,” ecabanga.

Wacobelela uThomas ngovalo analo. Kaningi emmisa isibindi ukuthi impilo yakhe ingabangcono.

Kanjalo uMagozwe wathuthela ekameleni endlini eyayinophahla oluluhlaza njengotshani. Wayehlala nabanye abafana babili. Sebebonke ababehlala endlini kwakuyizingane eiyishumi. Kanye noAnti Cissy, nomyeni wakhe, izinja ezintathu, ikati nembuzi endala.

UMagozwe wasiqala isikole kwabalukhuni. Kwakukuningi okwakufanele akwazi ukuze aficane nabanye. Kwakukekuthi akayeke. Kodwa wayecabanga ngomqhubi wendiza nomdlali webhola ezincwadini zakhe.

UMagozwe wayehleli egcekeni lendlu eyayinophahla oluluhlaza, efunda incwadi yezindaba yesikole. UThomas wafika wahlala eduze kwakhe. “Imayelana nani le ndaba?” kubuza uThomas. “Imayelana nomfana owaba uthisha,” kuphendula uMagozwe. “Ubani igama lakhe?” kubuza uThomas “Igama lakhe uMagozwe,” kusho uMagozwe emamatheka.

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