



**Global Storybooks**

[globalstorybooks.net](http://globalstorybooks.net)

**Simbegwire / Simbegwire**

✎ Rukia Nantale  
👤 Benjamin Mitchley  
📁 Stephen Zulu (bem)



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 International License.  
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>



**Simbegwire**

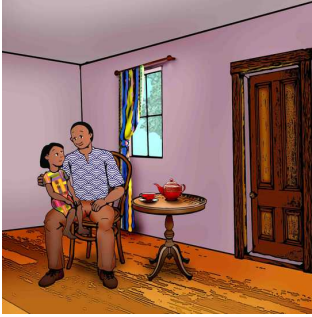
**Simbegwire**



✎ Rukia Nantale  
👤 Benjamin Mitchley  
📁 Stephen Zulu

|| 5

🗨️ IciBemba / English / English (en)



Lintu baanina Simbegwire baafwile, ali uwasakamana sana. Bawishi baaliesha namaka ukumona ukuti Simbegwire ali umutende. Panono panono, baasambilile ukuba abatemwa nakabili, ukwabula baanina Simbegwire. Cila lucelo baaleikala na ukulanda pa bushiku bwakuntanshi. Cila cungulo baalepekanya icakulya ca cungulo capamo. Panuma ya kusuka ifya kuulilapo, bawishi Simbegwire baalefwa umwana imilimo ya kusukulu.

...

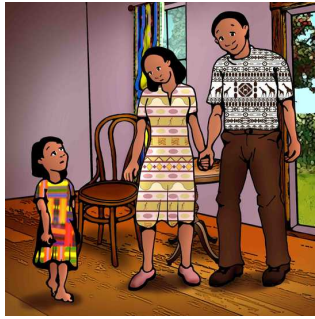
When Simbegwire's mother died, she was very sad. Simbegwire's father did his best to take care of his daughter. Slowly, they learned to feel happy again, without Simbegwire's mother. Every morning they sat and talked about the day ahead. Every evening they made dinner together. After they washed the dishes, Simbegwire's father helped her with homework.

One day, Simbegwire's father came home later than usual. "Where are you my child?" he called. Simbegwire ran to her father. She stopped still when she saw that he was holding a woman's hand. "I want you to meet someone special, my child. This is Anita," he said smiling.

...

Ubushiku bumu, bawishi Simbegwire baashile pa n'ganda munshita yabushiku ukucila inshiku sha kunuma. Baatile abati, "ulikwisa we mwana wandi"? Simbegwire abutukile kuli bawishi. Alimininge lantu amwene ukuti bawishi bekatilile umwanakashu pakuboko. "ndefwaya iwe wishibane no muntu umo umusuma, we mwana wandi. Uyu ni Anita," baalandile mu kumwentula.





Anita aalandile ati, “shani Simbegwire, bawiso baanjebele ifingi pali iwe,”. Koma Simbegwire taamwentwile nangu ukuposha uyu mwanakashi mu minwe. Bawishi Simbegwire baali abatemwa na insansa. Baalandile efyo bonse batatu bangekala pamo, na efyo imikalile yabo i ngaba iisuma. Baalandile “we mwana wandi, ndesubila walasumina Anita ukuba nga banoko,”.

...

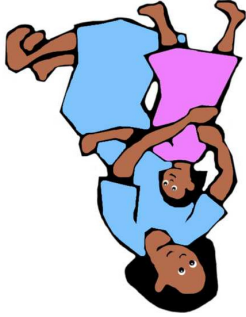
“Hello Simbegwire, your father told me a lot about you,” said Anita. But she did not smile or take the girl’s hand. Simbegwire’s father was happy and excited. He talked about the three of them living together, and how good their life would be. “My child, I hope you will accept Anita as your mother,” he said.



Umulungu wakonkelepo, Anita aitile Simbegwire muku mutandalila pamo naba fyala bakwe ukubikapo fye na baanyina senge wakwe. Cakulya ninishi ici! Anita apekenye fye ifya kukulya fya temwa Simbegwire na bonse baipakishe mpaka baikuta. Abaice balyangele elyo abakalamba balyashike. Simbegwire aumfwile insansa ne cilumba. Atontonkenye ukuti nombaline, nombaline sana, akabwelela ku n’ganda mu kwikala nabawishi na baanina bakusangamo.

...

The next week, Anita invited Simbegwire, with her cousins and aunt, to the house for a meal. What a feast! Anita prepared all of Simbegwire’s favourite foods, and everyone ate until they were full. Then the children played while the adults talked. Simbegwire felt happy and brave. She decided that soon, very soon, she would return home to live with her father and her stepmother.



Bawishi bale mutandaila cila bushiku. Mpaka pakulekeshwa, baishile na Anita. Aikete Simbegwire pakuboko. "unjeleko we mwana, nali luufyanya,"alilile. Kuti wansuminisha ukuti njesheko nakabili?" Simbegwire aloleshe bawishi abali ne cinso ca bulanda. Simbegwire aatampwile panono panono ukulola kuli Anita na kubika amaboko yakwe ukushunguluka Anita.

...

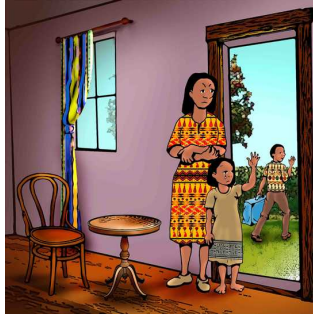
Her father visited her every day. Eventually, he came with Anita. She reached out for Simbegwire's hand. "I'm so sorry little one, I was wrong," she cried. "Will you let me try again?" Simbegwire looked at her father and his worried face. Then she stepped forward slowly and put her arms around Anita.



Ubwikashi bwa kwa Simbegwire bwacinjishwe. Taakwete inshita yakuba nabawishi mu luclelo. Anita aalemupela incito sha pa n'ganda ishing! calengele ukuti alefilwa uku kwata inshita ne millimo ya kusukulu mu cungulo neco aleenaka sana. Aile mukusendama panuma ya cakulya ca mu cungulo. Ubusumino bwakwe, bwali il langishi! Iya bulangeti bamupele banyina. Bawishi Simbegwire calemoneka kwati tabaishibe kuti umwana wabo taali uwansansa.

...

Simbegwire's life changed. She no longer had time to sit with her father in the mornings. Anita gave her so many household chores that she was too tired to do her school work in the evenings. She went straight to bed after dinner. Her only comfort was the colourful blanket her mother gave her. Simbegwire's father did not seem to notice that his daughter was unhappy.



Panuma fye ya myeshi inono, bawishi Simbegwire balaile pa n'ganda ukuti balefumapo panshita inono."mfwile ukuya kuncito,"baatile. Koma ninjishiba ukuti mwakulaikala fye bwino. Simbegwire aponya necinso panshi, nomba bawishi taabaishibe. Anita talandile nelyo cimo. Naena taatemenwe iyo.

...

After a few months, Simbegwire's father told them that he would be away from home for a while. "I have to travel for my job," he said. "But I know you will look after each other." Simbegwire's face fell, but her father did not notice. Anita did not say anything. She was not happy either.



Simbegwire aleengala na bafyala bakwe lintu amwene bawishi pakatalamukila. Aaletina pali limbi nabakalipa, ici calengele ukuti abutukile mu n'ganda mukubelama. Nomba bawishi baile kuli ena na ukulanda ati "Simbegwire, walisanga banoko abapwililika. Banoko abakutemwa kabili abakwishiba eflyo waba. Nga pali ici, ine ndi ngo watemwa kabili nalikutemwa.

Balisuminishanya ukuti Simbegwire akekala nabaanyina senge panshita akafwailapo umwine.

...

Simbegwire was playing with her cousins when she saw her father from far away. She was scared he might be angry, so she ran inside the house to hide. But her father went to her and said, "Simbegwire, you have found a perfect mother for yourself. One who loves you and understands you. I am proud of you and I love you." They agreed that Simbegwire would stay with her aunt as long as she wanted to.





Ifintu kuli Simbegwire fyaacilamo. Nga

tapwishishhe incito isha mu n'ganda, nangu

ngailishanya, Anita aleembobola. Nga nipa

cakulya ca cungulo, Anita aleelya ukucila

ukushila Simbegwire utwakulya utunono. Cila

bushiku nga bwaila, aleelila uku ninshi!

nafukatila no bulangeti bwa baanina.

...

Things got worse for Simbegwire. If she didn't finish her chores, or she complained, Anita hit her. And at dinner, the woman ate most of the food, leaving Simbegwire with only a few scraps. Each night Simbegwire cried herself to sleep, hugging her mother's blanket.



Lintu bawishi Simbegwire baabwelele ku

n'ganda, baasangile ku muputule wakwa

Simbegwire takuli nangu kamo. "ninshi yacitike,

Anita?" bapwishhe no mutima uwafina. Anita

ekulondola ukuti Simbegwire aibutuka. Anita

epakulanda ati "naalefwaya alempela

umucinshi". Nomba limbi caali cilamo." Bawishi

Simbegwire baafumine pa n'ganda no kulola ku

munana. Baaptile mpaka ku mushi waba

nkashi yabo ukuya mu kwipusha nga cakuti

baali mumonako Simbegwire.

...

When Simbegwire's father returned home, he found her room empty. "What happened,

Anita?" he asked with a heavy heart. The woman explained that Simbegwire had run away. "I

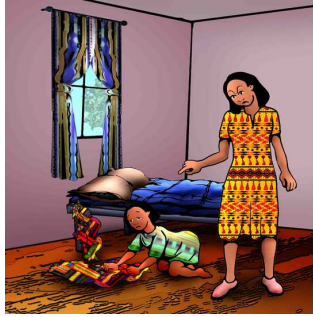
wanted her to respect me," she said. "But

perhaps I was too strict." Simbegwire's father

left the house and went in the direction of the

stream. He continued to his sister's village to

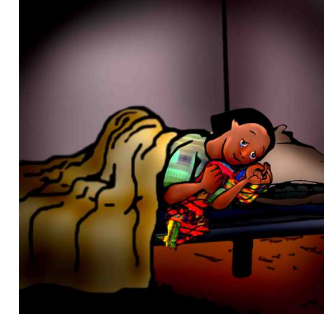
find out if she had seen Simbegwire.



Ubushiku bumo ulucelo, Simbegwire alicelwa ukubuuka. “we mwanakashi wabunan’gani iwe!” Anita apaatile. Asuunkile Simbegwire ukumufunya pa busanshi. Ubulangeti bwaiketwe no musomali no ku bulepula mu bili.

...

One morning, Simbegwire was late getting out of bed. “You lazy girl!” Anita shouted. She pulled Simbegwire out of bed. The precious blanket caught on a nail, and tore in two.



Baanyina senge Simbegwire baasendele Simbegwire ku n’ganda kumyabo. Baapele Simbegwire icakulya icakaba panuma, no ku mufimbilikisha pa busanshi no bulangeti bwa baanina. Bulya bushiku, Simbegwire aliilile lintu talalaala. Koma fyali filamba fya nsansa. Alishibe ukuti baanina senge balamusunga bwino.

...

Simbegwire’s aunt took the child to her own house. She gave Simbegwire warm food, and tucked her in bed with her mother’s blanket. That night, Simbegwire cried as she went to sleep. But they were tears of relief. She knew her aunt would look after her.





Simbegwire alifuliwa sana. Aton-tonkenye ukubutuka ukufuma pa n'ganda. Aseendele utupimfya twa bulangeti bwa baanyina, ifyakulya afuma na pa n'ganda. Akoonkele umusebo kwaille bawishi.

...

Simbegwire was very upset. She decided to run away from home. She took the pieces of her mother's blanket, packed some food, and left the house. She followed the road her father had taken.



Uyu umwanakashahi alooleshhe kumulu wa cimuti. Lintu amwene cikashana na utupimfya twa bulangeti, allilla, "Simbegwire, umwana wa ndume yandi!" Banamayo bambi baalekele ukucapa na ukwatfwa Simbegwire ukwikila panshi ukufuma ku cimuti. Baanina senge baafukatile umwipwa no kwesha uku mutalalika.

...

This woman looked up into the tree. When she saw the girl and the pieces of colourful blanket, she cried, "Simbegwire, my brother's child!" The other women stopped washing and helped Simbegwire to climb down from the tree. Her aunt hugged the little girl and tried to comfort her.



Lintu caishilefika icungulo, aniinine kucimuti  
icitali mupepi nakamana apanga no busanshi  
mu mabula. Cilya talapona mu tulo, aimbile:  
maama, maama, maama, mwalinsha ine.  
Mwalinsha ukwabula ukubwela. Taata tantemwa  
nakalya. Mayo nilisa muleisa? Mwalinsha ine.

...

When it came to evening, she climbed a tall tree  
near a stream and made a bed for herself in the  
branches. As she went to sleep, she sang:  
“Maama, maama, maama, you left me. You left  
me and never came back. Father doesn’t love  
me anymore. Mother, when are you coming  
back? You left me.”



Ubushiku bwa konkelepo ulucelo, Simbegwire  
aimbile ulwimbo nakabili. Lintu banamayo  
baaishile mu kucapa ifya ku fwala pa mumana,  
baumfwile ulwimbo lulefumina ku cimuti icitali  
mumano ukuti cali cipuupu caaletensha  
amabula, awe bakonkenyepo ne milimo yabo.  
Koma umo pali bena aumfwile ku lwimbo no  
bupilibulo.

...

The next morning, Simbegwire sang the song  
again. When the women came to wash their  
clothes at the stream, they heard the sad song  
coming from the tall tree. They thought it was  
only the wind rustling the leaves, and carried on  
with their work. But one of the women listened  
very carefully to the song.