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Djxa Zambezi n'iang / Swimming in the Zambezi

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Maria Simasiku, Florence Habayemi Shitaa
📖 Kleopas Jambeinge
📄 Sylvia Fernando (ktz)

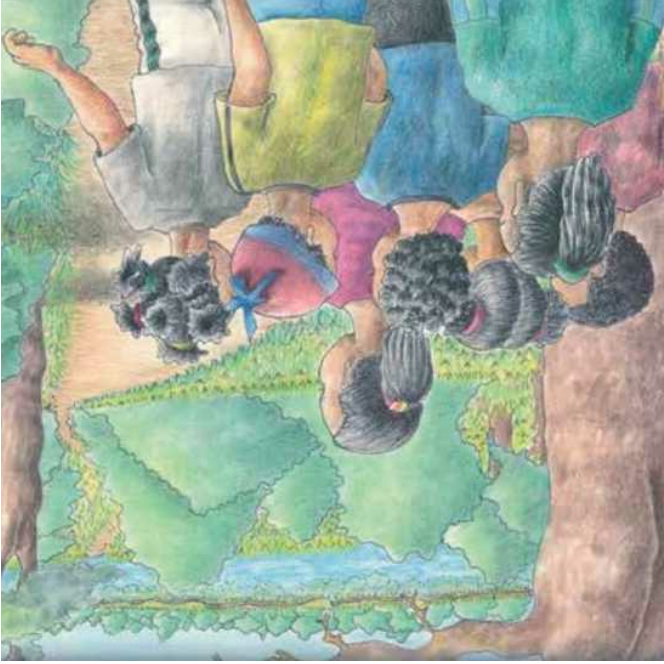


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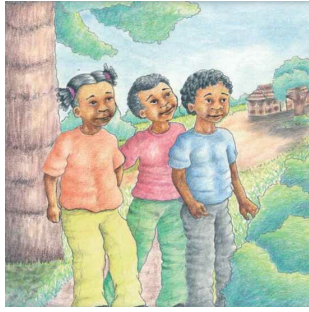
Djxa Zambezi n'iang

Swimming in the Zambezi



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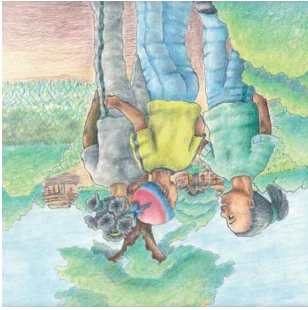
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Ka koh o Sondah g!oa. Te ||'ohm sa o |usese koh
||xae||xaea Musikili !ahina din ko Kaprivi.

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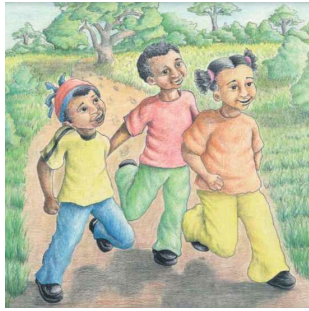
It was a bright sunny Sunday afternoon. The
young girls in Lusese were gathering under the
branches of the biggest Musikili tree in Caprivi.



Zogin dohma sa o si gasi koh tsa'ka l'ae ko tju|ho
n'ang waqnsi. Si koh i'au si f'aras. "Nakamwu, mi
i'hai a." "Ko coa, Chaze." "Silumei Wei!"

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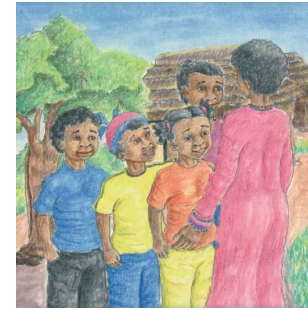
The excited buzz of their voices was heard all over
the village. They called their friends. "Nakamwu,
I'm waiting for you." "Hurry up, Chaze." "Silumei
Come on!"



Maria koh kxoa n||o Ntwala. Ntwala nḑai djxa si!a ko Sondah n|ui waqnne. "Ntwala! Ntwalee! Ntwalaa! Ntwaloo!" ha koe !'au.

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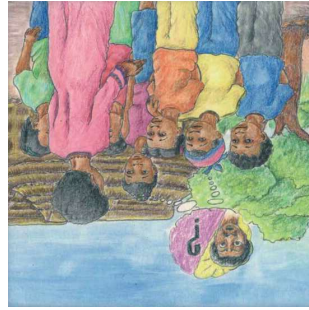
Maria looked around for Ntwala. Ntwala took them swimming every Sunday. "Ntwala! Ntwalee! Ntwalaaa! Ntwaloo!" she called.



"Aia," Chaze zoma. "Mi |oa kare ka Maria sin gea tju|ho ko Sondah ka tsi g|ae. Mi kare ka etsa g|ae gua khoe ko bekea tsi g|ae cete!"

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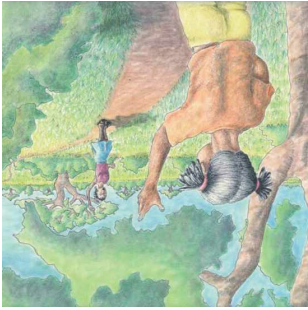
"But Mum," Chaze smiled, "I don't want Maria to stay at home next Sunday. I want to race her at the swimming next week too!"



Sibungo di nia'an kokxui |xoa da'abi waqnsi.
 "Ntwala koh f'ang |'an ||xara ja ko Maria. Ha n'f'am
 Chaze khama ha loa tahn giu dja. ||'Aike ha loa
 xoana dja."

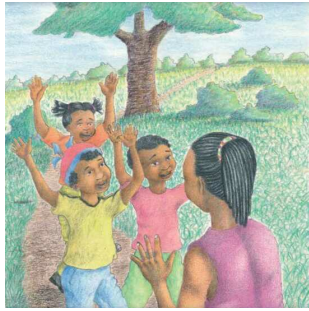
...

Mrs. Sibungo spoke to all the children. "Ntwala
 thought of a good punishment for Maria. She hit
 Chaze because she lost the swimming race. Now
 she will not be able to race."



Ntwala i'au ||ama tju|ho ian n|ui te ko, "Mim hei Te
 i'hai a." ||'Hom wagn he iaah kxoa ha.
 ...

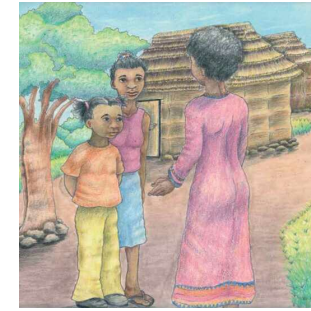
Ntwala shouted from the other side of the village,
 "I'm here! I'm waiting for you." All the girls ran to
 find her.



"I re toto !'an i!a !'aes! ko d!xa ko !ama he wa?"
Ntwala tsitsa'a si!a. "Ehee." Si!a !au !xoa !ka n!ang
te ku khu taqm ka zoqin.

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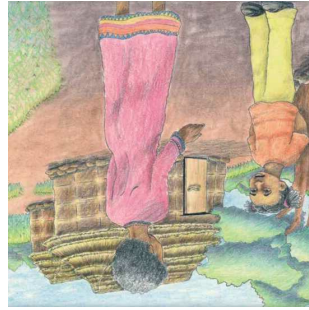
"Are you ready to go swimming today?" Ntwala
asked them. "Yes," they shouted happily as they
hopped and jumped with excitement.



Sibungo di n!a'an ǂaeǂae Maria. "Ka koh !oa jan
Maria, ka !oa jan ko ju nǂam. Mi hui a ko ka ke a tsi
gǂara mi ko !!ae !'an. Mi !!ae !'an a." Mrs Sibungo di
n!a'an !oa Ntwala te ko, "A o !!aiha jan."

...

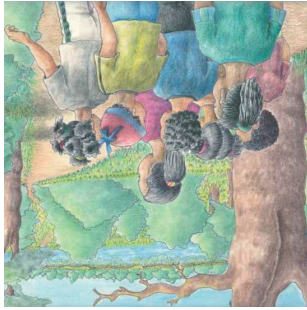
Mrs. Sibungo listened to Maria. "That was wrong
Maria, it is bad to hit people. Thank you for
apologising to me. I forgive you." Mrs. Sibungo
told Ntwala, "You are a good leader."



Maria ioa Chaze ll'a ha tage, "mi n'am Chaze khama ha tahn dixa. ll'Ae na. Chaze o mi fara, ka koh loa jan ko ha n'am."

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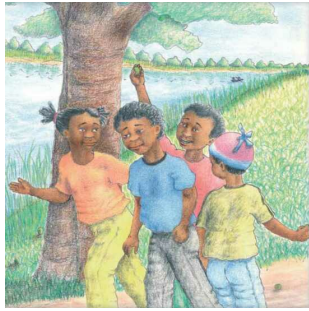
Maria told Chaze's mother, "I hit Chaze because she won the race. I'm sorry. Chaze is my friend, it was bad to hit her."



Ka si cu he ku n'aoah g'aeah a ixom Ntwala tsin te ku n'aoah n'aoahnsi. "N'aoah eia ko ll'aea nere giu n'ia'an-n'ia'an koh gi'ama tju'ho n'iang," Si'a koe nllae. "N'aoah eia ko |Ari kota g|loahra tci ooa."

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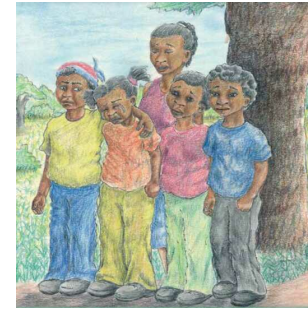
As they walked to the river Ntwala told them stories. "Tell us about when our village was flooded," they called. "Tell us about the jackal and the Baboon."



!Xom !xa'ama kaqe !ahina n!a'an koh n|anga. Te
 ||'hom koh kxoa l'an Ntwala ko kaqe n|ai n!a'an.

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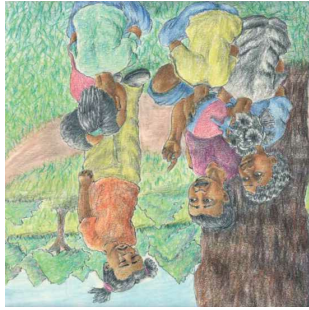
Beside the river there was an enormous Marula tree. The girls looked for the biggest marula fruit for Ntwala.



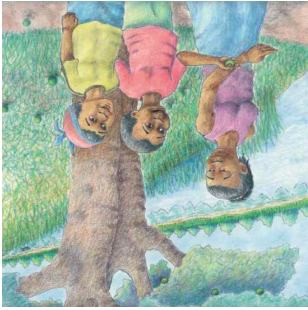
"Mi ||ae l'an a," Chaze koe n||ae te n!ama Maria.
 "Etsa Maria ku g!a |xoa a ko tju|ho," Ntwala koe !oa
 Chaze. "Maria ceka g!a g!ara a taqe ko ||ae l'an."

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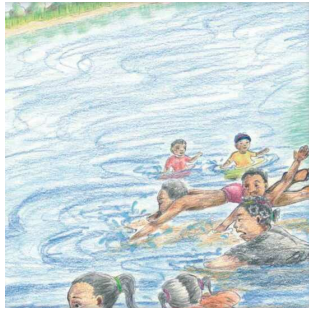
"I forgive you," said Chaze and put her arm around Maria. "Maria and I will come home with you," said Ntwala to Chaze. "Maria will apologise to your mother too."



Ntwala ko "mi f'ang te ko Maria te loa d'jxa |xoa
 mia ko Sondah ku tsi." Maria tjin tcaq ha gla'a iusi.
 "Mi... mi... llae na Chaze. llae na ka ke mi n'f'am a.
 Mi loa ceka n'f'am ju n'ui," ha koe g'fara kxui.
 . . .
 Ntwala said, "I think Maria should miss swimming
 next Sunday." Maria cried a flood of tears. "I... I...
 I'm sorry Chaze. I'm sorry I hit you. I'll never hit
 anyone again," she apologised.



"Mi ho ka nia'an-nia'an," Joy koe nllae. Te l'an ka ko
 Ntwala.
 . . .
 "I've got the biggest," shouted Joy. She gave her
 marula fruit to Ntwala.



"!a ka glae djxa," Ntwala koe !oa ||'hom. Si!a wagnsi !aah g!a'ama g!u !ka, si!a !au ka ||'aqi||'aqin tshi ka si!a tsa'a Zambezi !xom g!ua ꞑ'aua ta'msi.

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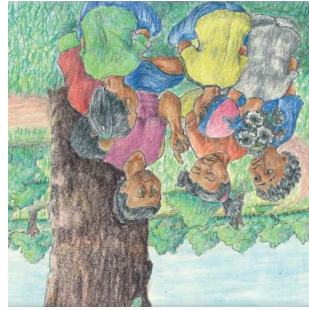
"Off you go and swim," said Ntwala to the girls. They all ran into the water, shrieking and giggling as they felt the cold water of the Zambezi River.



"Maria ꞑ'aun gꞑara ||ae |'an," Namasiku koe n||a. "Chaze ꞑaun ꞑam ce ha," Joy koe n||ae. "A-an, ka, ka |oa jan ke ꞑama khoe," Ntwala koe n||ae.

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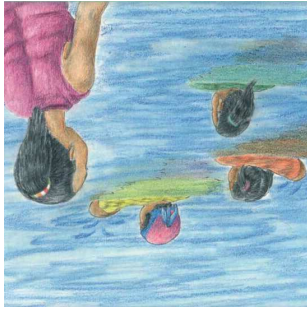
"Maria must say sorry," said Namasiku. "Chaze must hit her back," said Joy. "No, it is wrong to hit each other," said Ntwala.



Ntwala g̃fara ||'hom waqnsi nlang si'a gi'ooa n||ari
 niang. "Skore ||'aiha re ioa mia ko hatce?" Ha
 tsitsa'a. "Ka lo'a jan ko n'aih ||'aa. Jusa ||'aa n'aih
 faun ||xara hi |'aesi," Nakamwa koe n||ae.

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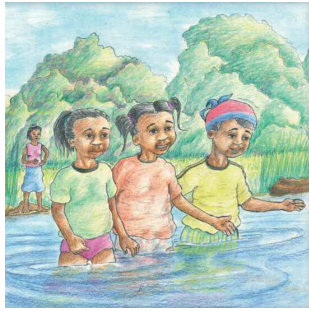
Ntwala asked all the girls to sit in a circle. "What
 did the principal tell us?" she asked. "It's bad to
 fight. People who fight must be punished," said
 Nakamwu.



Ntwala koh niuan ian. Ha koh se #oqnisih. Ha se
 tca ||'hom iae iae oo n#uianakhoe. Ha se tca
 ||'hommh o kuia giu kota ni'aroh dja.

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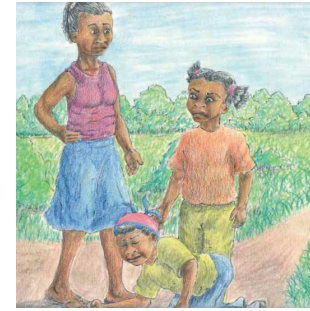
Ntwala stood on the bank. She watched for
 crocodiles. She watched the older girls racing and
 diving. She watched the younger girls splashing
 and learning to swim.



“Guua khoe ||’aea” ha koh koe !au !oa si!a. “G||a n|ae.” Ha koh ||’hai tsau kae n|ai n!a’an-n!a’an. Ha koh n!oa !’u ɤxan ka ko g!u !ka.

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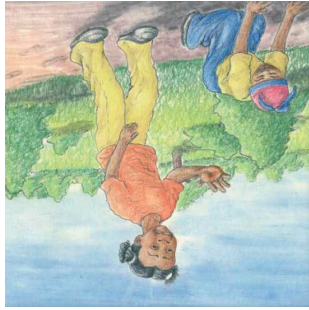
“Competition time,” she shouted at last. “Stand in a line.” She picked up the biggest marula fruit. She threw it as far as she could into the water.



“Maria! Hatce khoea re a nɤam Chaze?” Ntwala tsitsa’a. “Ha tahn djxa. Ka koh |oa to,” Maria koe n||ae.

...

“Maria! Why did you hit Chaze?” asked Ntwala. “She won at swimming. It’s not fair,” Maria said.



Maria ||ama 'i-o-niang te ||ahm iao Chaze. Te Chaze
koh coa te tjin. "Chaze ||'a taqe ku nɬam a," Joy koe
ioa Maria.

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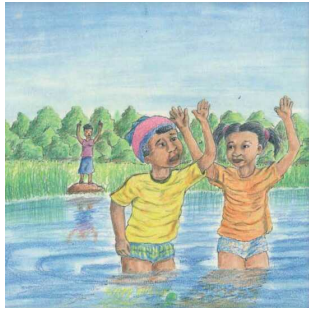
Maria crept up behind Chaze and pushed her to
the ground. Chaze started to cry. "Chaze's mother
will beat you," said Joy to Maria.



"N|e, tsan, n|ani to'a!" ha koe n||ae. Da'abi iaah
gi'a'ma gi'u ika te ku djxa ua kaqe n|ai. Ntwala koh
se si'a.

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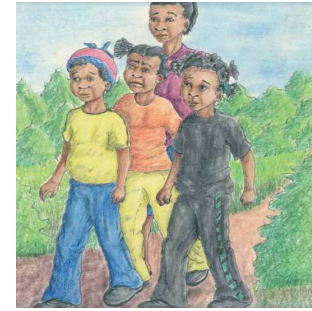
"One, two, three. GO!" she called. The children ran
into the water and swam to the marula fruit.
Ntwala watched them.



“Mi ꞑ’an!” Maria sa Chaze koh !’au ꞑꞑxae. “Itsa waqnsi ꞑ’an,” Ntwala koe nꞑꞑxae.

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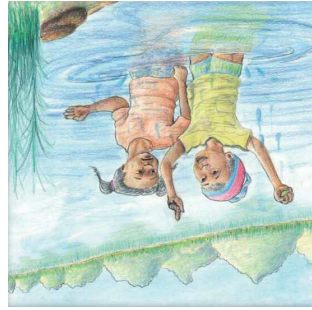
“I’m first!” shouted Maria and Chaze at the same time. “You are both first,” called Ntwala.



Da’abi nꞑꞑaoh g!a ꞑxoa Ntwala ko tjuꞑho. “Nꞑꞑoahn e!a ko nꞑꞑoahnsi, Ntwala” si!a gꞑꞑara. S!a koh are ku ꞑꞑaeꞑꞑae ha nꞑꞑoahnsi.

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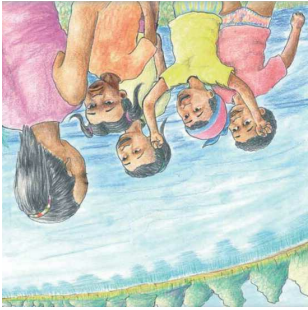
The children walked home with Ntwala. “Tell us a story, Ntwala,” they asked. They loved to listen to her stories.



"Mi ꞑani" Chaze koh iau. Maria ꞑani djxa. "Chaze o tahn kxao," Ntwala koe nllae. "Au du, Chaze. Mia ka gia tju|ho."

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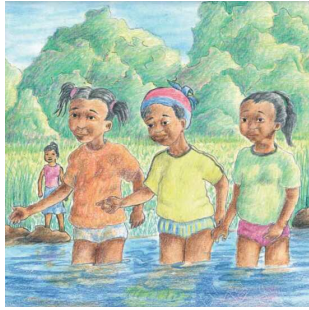
"I'm first!" shouted Chaze. Maria stopped swimming. "Chaze is the winner," said Ntwala. "Well done, Chaze. Let's go home now."



"Mi kare gua khoe," Maria koe nllae. "Kaja'an! Chaze koe nllae. "Mia xoana, ntwala?" Tsitsa'a dshaunmhi gesin.

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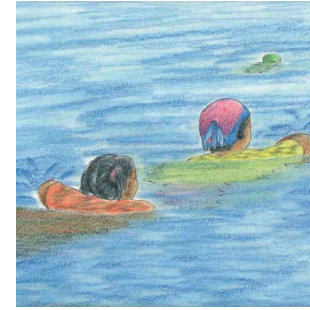
"I want to race again," said Maria. "OK!" said Chaze. "Can we, Ntwala?" asked the other girls.



“Ce n|ang g||a n|ae” Ntwala !oa si!a. Ha gu tsau kage n|ai n!a’an-n!a’an te n!oan Ꞥxan ka.

...

“Stand in line again,” Ntwala told them. She picked up a marula fruit and threw it as far as she could.



“N|e’e, tsan, n!ani to’a!” ha koe n||ae. Da’abi !aah g!a’ama g!u !ka te ku djxa ua kage n|ai. Ntwala koh se si!a.

...

“One, two, three. GO!” she called. The children ran into the water and swam to the marula fruit. Ntwala watched them.