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## Ana achikonga / Children of wax


Southern African Folktale
Wiehan de Jager
Sitwe Benson Mkandawire (ny)



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Chichewa ny / English en

Tsiku lina, kunali banja lina lokondwera.

. . .

Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.

Sanali kuyambana. Anali kuthandizila makolo ao panyumba ndi kumunda.

. . .

They never fought with each other. They helped their parents at home and in the fields.

Koma sanaloledwe kuyenda pafupi ndi moto.

. . .

But they were not allowed to go near a fire.

Pamene zuwa linacoka, kanyoni kanambululuka nakuimba m’mamawa mu zuwa.

. . .

And as the sun rose, he flew away singing into the morning light.

Anali kucita nchito iliyonse usiku. Cifukwa anapandidwa ndi chikonga (wax).

. . .

They had to do all their work during the night. Because they were made of wax!

Koma munyamata umodzi anali kufunisitsa kuyenda muzuwa.

. . .

But one of the boys longed to go out in the sunlight.

Anapeleka kanyoni m’bale wao pamwamba pa phiri.

. . .

They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.

Koma anapangana zocita. Anapanga kanyoni kucoka ku cikonga ca m’bale wao.

. . .

But they made a plan. They shaped the lump of melted wax into a bird.

Tsiku lina, kufunisitsa kwake kunayenda pasogolo. Abale ace anamucenjeza...

. . .

One day the longing was too strong. His brothers warned him...

Koma anacedwa! Anasungunuka muzuwa lakupya kwambiri.

. . .

But it was too late! He melted in the hot sun.

Ana achikonga sanakondwele poona m’bale wao asungunika.

. . .

The wax children were so sad to see their brother melting away.