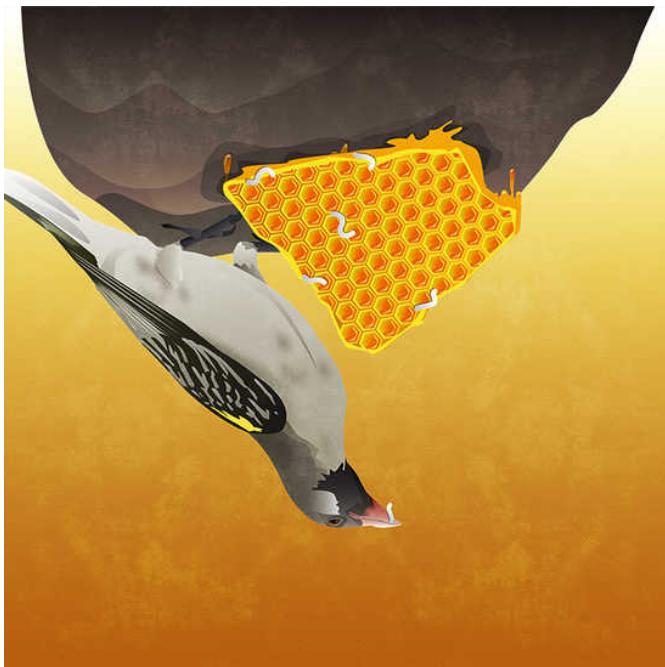


Setswana tn-na / English en

II 4

- Antonia Madi
- Wiehan de Jager
- Zulu folktale



The Honeyguide's revenge

Pusolo ya mogaka

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• Antonia Madi (tn-na)

• Wiehan de Jager

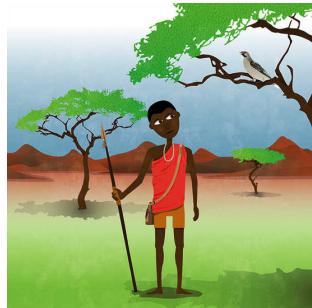
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Honeyguide's revenge  
Pusolo ya mogaka / The

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Ke kgang ya Ngede, Mogaka.le monna wa lekau  
yo o timanang a bidiwa Gingile. Letsatsi lengwe  
Gingile a ile go tsoma a utlwa lentswe la ga  
Ngede. Legano la ga Gingile la tlala mathe a  
gopotse lomepe. O ne a ema le reetsa sentle, a  
batlisisa go tsamaya a bona nonyane mo kalengfa  
godimo ga tlhogo ya gagwe. "Shitik,shitik, shitik," e  
bitsa, e tla a khutla fa gare go netefatsa gore  
Gingile a e sale morago.

...

This is the story of Ngede, the Honeyguide, and a greedy young man named Gingile. One day while Gingile was out hunting he heard the call of Ngede. Gingile's mouth began to water at the thought of honey. He stopped and listened carefully, searching until he saw the bird in the branches above his head. "Chitik-chitik-chitik," the little bird rattled, as he flew to the next tree, and the next. "Chitik, chitik, chitik," he called, stopping from time to time to be sure that Gingile followed.

Morago ga ura le halofo, ba fithelela setthare feie  
se se tona.Ngede e ne e tioila tioila jaaka setsenw  
mo gare ga dikaia.A ye go nna mo kaledeng e le  
ngwe feila a tlhomile tlhofo ya gagwe ko Gingilie  
jaaka e kete e ka re .”Ke a fatila jaanong! O  
tselang lobaka lo lo leele janaa?”Gingilie o ne a sa  
bone dinotshe dipa ka fa tlae ga setthare, mme o  
After half an hour, they reached a huge wild fig  
tree. Ngede hopped about madly among the  
branches. He then settled on one branch and  
cocked his head at Gingilie as if to say, “Here it is!  
Come now! What is taking you so long?” Gingilie  
couldn’t see any bees from under the tree, but he  
trusted Ngede.

...

ne a ikanaya Ngede.  
tselang lobaka lo lo leele janaa?”Gingilie o ne a sa  
bone dinotshe dipa ka fa tlae ga setthare, mme o  
After half an hour, they reached a huge wild fig  
tree. Ngede hopped about madly among the  
branches. He then settled on one branch and  
cocked his head at Gingilie as if to say, “Here it is!  
Come now! What is taking you so long?” Gingilie  
couldn’t see any bees from under the tree, but he  
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Gingile a baya lerumo ka fa tlase ga setlhare,a  
kokoanya matlhare a gotsa molelo o monnye.E rile  
molelo o tuka sentle, a tsenya logong lo lo  
omileng mo gare ga molelo.Logong lo lo ne lo  
itsege ka go dira mosi o montsi fa lo tuka. A  
palama, a tshegeditse logong ka fa ntlheng e e  
tsididi ka meno a gagwe.

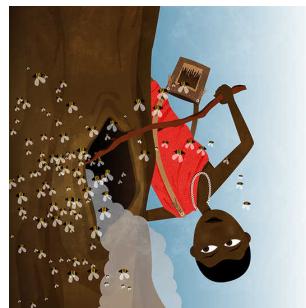
...

So Gingile put down his hunting spear under the tree, gathered some dry twigs and made a small fire. When the fire was burning well, he put a long dry stick into the heart of the fire. This wood was especially known to make lots of smoke while it burned. He began climbing, holding the cool end of the smoking stick in his teeth.

Soon he could hear the loud buzzing of the busy bees. They were coming in and out of a hollow in the tree trunk - their hive. When Gingile reached the hive he pushed the smoking end of the stick into the hollow. The bees came rushing out, angry and mean. They flew away because they didn't like some painful stings!

...

Gingile thata.  
ka di sa rate mosi - mme pele tsa loma loma  
bogale le ka boikaelelo. Di ne tsa fofo tsa tama ya  
mosi mo lehogong. Dinotshe di ne tsa tswa, ka  
fithelela mosthishi a tseanya logong lo lo kubang  
setthare kgoro ya mosthishi ya jone. Fa Gingile a  
dirang. Di ne di tsena le go tswa mo lehogong la  
ka bonako a utlwa modumo wa dinotshe se di



Mme e rile banan ba ga Gingile ba utlwa kgang e ya  
ga Ngdede ba totla le yone nonyane e nnye.  
Gongwe le gongwe ko ba batla lompe gone, ba  
leka go togelala nonyane ya lompe, lompe lo  
lontsi.  
And so, when the children of Gingile hear the story  
of Ngdede they have respect for the little bird.  
Whenever they harvest honey, they make sure to  
leave the biggest part of the comb for  
Honeyguide!

...

ka di sa rate mosi - mme pele tsa loma loma  
bogale le ka boikaelelo. Di ne tsa fofo tsa tama ya  
mosi mo lehogong. Dinotshe di ne tsa tswa, ka  
fithelela mosthishi a tseanya logong lo lo kubang  
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dirang. Di ne di tsena le go tswa mo lehogong la  
ka bonako a utlwa modumo wa dinotshe se di





fa di se na go tswa, Gingile a tsenya mabogo a gagwe mo teng ga setlhaga. A tsaya lomepe seatla se tletse, se ntse se rotha lomepe le mafura, le diboko tse ditshweu. a tsena lomepe mo kgamelong e o ne a itseile, a simolola go phola setlhare.

...

When the bees were out, Gingile pushed his hands into the nest. He took out handfuls of the heavy comb, dripping with rich honey and full of fat, white grubs. He put the comb carefully in the pouch he carried on his shoulder, and started to climb down the tree.



Pele lengau le ka moloma,a pagologa ka bonako.Mo go itlhaganeneng ga gagwe a se ka ka gata kala nngwe, a wela fa fatshe a wa maswe a utlwa botlhoko mo legwejaneng. A tsamaya ka bonako a ntse a kotsemela. Lesego la gagwe lengau le ne le sa ntse le tshwere ke boroko la palelwa ke go ke go mo leleka. Ngede, nonyane ya lomepe e ne ya ipusolosetsa.Mme Gingile a ithuta sengwe.

...

Before Leopard could take a swipe at Gingile, he rushed down the tree. In his hurry he missed a branch, and landed with a heavy thud on the ground twisting his ankle. He hobbled off as fast as he could. Luckily for him, Leopard was still too sleepy to chase him. Ngede, the Honeyguide, had his revenge. And Gingile learned his lesson.

Ngede eagery watched everything that Gingille was doing. He was waiting for him to leave a fat piece of honeycomb as a thank-you offering to the Honeyguide. Ngede fluttered from branch to branch, closer and closer to the ground. Finally perched on a rock near the boy and waited for his reward.

...

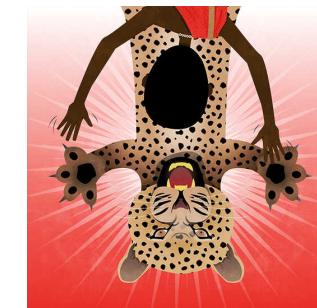
Ndegé o ne a lebelete seengwe le seengwe ka thwafalo se Gingille a se dirang. O ne a mo letile gore a o tla tilogela senqwenyanan sa motshithi go ka lebooga nonyane e e mo kae tseng lompe. Ngede ya fofa fofo mo dikaleng, go atamele na le muu. Bolelong Gingille a fitiha kwa tla se ga sethare. Ngede akwaya mo godimo ga etlapa go bapa le mosimanyana mme a letile tuelo ya gagwe.



Gingille climbed, wondering why he didn't hear the usual buzzing. "Perhaps the hive is deep in the tree," he thought to himself. He pulled himself up another branch. But instead of the hive, he was staring into the face of a leopard! Leopard was very angry at having her sleep so rudely interrupted. She narrowed her eyes, opened her mouth to reveal her very large and very sharp teeth.

...

Gingille o ne a pagama, mme a akgamala gore ke eng a sa ultwe modumo wa dinotshe jaaka gaile. Gongwe motshithi o ko teng ga thata mo sethareng, a ikakanystesa. A pagamela kwa kaledeng gotolela mattho mo sefatlhogong sa lengau! Lenagu le ne le kgotsoli ka le tschwendtswe mo borokong la jone. A dira mattho a yone manye, ya buila legano go bonsha meno a yone a a matona le a bogale thata.





Mme, Gingile a tima molelo, a tsaya lerumo la gagwe a boela gae, a tlhokomologa nonyane. Ngede a bitsa ka letenego, "VIC\_torr!VIC\_torr!" Gingile a ema, a gotolela nonyane e nnye matho mme a tshegela kwa godimo. "A o batla lomepe. a o a batla tsala ya me? Ha! Mme ke dirile tiro yotlhe, ka lomiwa ga botlhoko. Ke ka ntlha ya eng ke tshwanetse go kgaogana lomepe lo le wena?" Mme a tsamaya. Ngede o ne a sakgala! E ne e se mokgwa o a ka tsewang ka one! Mme o ka ipusololetsa.

...

But, Gingile put out the fire, picked up his spear and started walking home, ignoring the bird. Ngede called out angrily, "VIC-torr! VIC-torrr!" Gingile stopped, stared at the little bird and laughed aloud. "You want some honey, do you, my friend? Ha! But I did all the work, and got all the stings. Why should I share any of this lovely honey with you?" Then he walked off. Ngede was furious! This was no way to treat him! But he would get his revenge.



Letsatsi lengwe moraga ga dibeke tse mmalwa Gingile gape a utlwa Ngede a mo biletsha lomepe. A gakologelwa lomepe lo lo monate, ka bogale a latela nonyane gape. Morago ga go gogela Gingile mo sekgweng, Ngede a ema go khutsa ka fa tlase ga setlhare se tona. "Ahh," ga akanya Gingile." Motshitshi o tshwanetse o bo o le mo setlhareng se. "Ka bonako a gotsa molelo o monye wa gagwe a simolola go palama setlhare, logong lo lo kubang mosi a le tshegeditse ka meno a gagwe. Ngede o ne a dutse a lebeletse.

...

One day several weeks later Gingile again heard the honey call of Ngede. He remembered the delicious honey, and eagerly followed the bird once again. After leading Gingile along the edge of the forest, Ngede stopped to rest in a great umbrella thorn. "Ahh," thought Gingile. "The hive must be in this tree." He quickly made his small fire and began to climb, the smoking branch in his teeth. Ngede sat and watched.