



# Dipanana tsá ga memogolo / Grandma's bananas

Setswana tn-na / English en  
III 4

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Tshimo ya ga mmemogolo e ne e le ntle tota, e tletse mabele, photso ya mabele, le makwele. Mme mo go tse tsotlhe tse di botlhokwa thata e ne e le dipanana. Le fa Mmemogolo a na le ditlogolo tse dintsi, mo sephiring ke ne ke itse gore o nthata go feta ba bangwe. O ne a tle a ntaletse nako ngwe kwa ntlong ya gagwe. Le gona o ne a mpolelela diphiri tse dinnye. Mme go ne gona le sephiri se le sengwe se o sa se abelanang le nna: kwa o budusang dipanana gona.

...

Grandma's garden was wonderful, full of sorghum, millet, and cassava. But best of all were the bananas. Although Grandma had many grandchildren, I secretly knew that I was her favourite. She invited me often to her house. She also told me little secrets. But there was one secret she did not share with me: where she ripened bananas.



Morago nyana maitsiboa a o ke ile ka bidiwa ke mme le rre, le Mmemogolo. Ke ne ke itse gore ke ka ntlha ya eng. Bosigo joo fa ke ya go robala, ke ne ke itse gore ga nkitla ke tlhola ke utswa gape, e seng gotswa mo go mmemogolo, e seng gotswa go batsading ba me, le e seng gotswa go mongwe le mongwe.

...

Later that evening I was called by my mother and father, and Grandma. I knew why. That night as I lay down to sleep, I knew I could never steal again, not from grandma, not from my parents, and certainly not from anyone else.

"They are my magic leaves."

"Grandma?" I asked. The only answer I got was, time. I was curious, "What are the leaves for, banana leaves that Grandma turned from time to basket." Next to the basket, there were several was for, the only answer I got was, "It's my magic outside Grandma's house. When I asked what it

One day I saw a big straw basket placed in the sun

...

makakaba a me a metiholo."

nna. Karabo e le nngwe e ke e bonyeng ke, "Ke its'e. "Makakaba a dira eng, Mmemogolo?" Go botsa o a pitikololang nako le nako. Ke ne ke batla go makakaba a dipanana a mala wa Mmemogolo sa metiholo." Fa thoko ga seroto, gone gona le karabo e le nngwe e ke e neilweng," ke seroto same ga mmemogolo. E rile ke botsa gorre se dira eng, tonna se beliwe mo letstasising kwa ntle ga nti lo ya ka letstasi lengwe ke ne ka bona seroto se se



The following day was market day. Grandma woke up early. She always took ripe bananas and cassava to sell at the market. I did not hurry to visit her that day. But I could not avoid her for long.

Lele. ke ne ke sa kgone go mo ithokomologa nako e itthagane la go ya go mo etela ka letstasi leo. Mme go ya go rekisa kwa marakeng. Ga ke a ne a tsaya dipanana tse di boduleng le makweli Memogolo o ilie a tsoga phakela thata. Gale gale Letstasi le le latelang e ne e le letstasi la maraka.





Go ne go makatsa go leba Mmemogolo, dipanana, makakaba a dipanana le seroto se se tonna. Mme Mmemogolo a nthoma kwa go mme ka ntlha ya tiro. "Mmemogolo, tsweetswee, ntetlelele go leba jaaka o dira..." "O seka wa nna bodipa, ngwanyana, dira jaaka o kopiwa," o ne a gatelela. Ke ile ka taboga.

...

It was so interesting watching Grandma, the bananas, the banana leaves and the big straw basket. But Grandma sent me off to my mother on an errand. "Grandma, please, let me watch as you prepare..." "Don't be stubborn, child, do as you are told," she insisted. I took off running.



Letsatsi le le latelang, e rile fa mmemogolo a le mo tshimong a kgetla merogo, Ke ile ka nanabela mo teng mme ka okomela dipanana. Di le dintsi di ne di bodule. Ga ke a kgona go itshwara mme ka tsaya segopa sa tse nne. E rile fa ke ntse ke nanabela kwa kgorong, ka utlwa mmemogolo a gotlhola kwa ntle. Ke ile ka kgona go fitlha dipanana ka fa tlase ga mosese wa me mme ka feta fa go ene.

...

The following day, when grandma was in the garden picking vegetables, I sneaked in and peered at the bananas. Nearly all were ripe. I couldn't help taking a bunch of four. As I tiptoed towards the door, I heard grandma coughing outside. I just managed to hide the bananas under my dress and walked past her.

banana I had ever tasted.

house and quickly ate it. It was the sweetest covering the basket again, I went behind the ripe ones. I picked one and hid it in my dress. After bananas once more. There was a bunch of very

The following day when grandma came to visit my mother, I rushed to her house to check the

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tasmaya ka e leka.  
ka e ja. E ne e le banana e e boische thata e ke sa  
ke ile ka ya morago ga ntilo mme ka bonako  
Morago ga ke sena go khurumeta seroto gape,  
nugwe mme ka e fittha mo moseseing wa me.  
le segopa sa tse di buduleng. Ke ile ka tsaya e le  
gagwe go ya go thola dipanana gape. Go ne go na  
mme nala, ke ile ka taboga thata kwa ntloing ya  
Letasti le le latelang fa mememogolo a tla go jela

E rile fa ke boa, Mmemogolo o ne a dutse kwa ntle  
mme a sena seroto kgotsa dipanana.  
"Mmemogolo, seroto se kae, dipanana tsotthe di  
kae, gape le." "Mme karabo e ke lieing ka e bona e  
ne e le, "Di mo lefelong la me la mettholo. "Go ne  
ga swabisa total  
When I returned, Grandma was sitting outside but  
with neither the basket nor the bananas.  
"Grandma, where is the basket, where are all the  
bananas, and where..." But the only answer I got  
was, "They are in my magic place." It was so  
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Morago ga malatsi a le mabedi, Mmemogolo a nthoma gore ke ye go tsaya thobane ya gagwe mo phaposing ya borobalo ya gagwe. E rile ke bula kgoro, ka kgatlhantshiwa ke monkgo wa dipanana tse di buduleng. Moteng ga phaposi e ngwe gone go na le seroto se se tonna sa metlholo. Se ne se subilwe sentle ka lepai le legologolo. Ke ile ka le tsholetsa mme ka dupelela monkgo o o monate.

...

Two days later, Grandma sent me to fetch her walking stick from her bedroom. As soon as I opened the door, I was welcomed by the strong smell of ripening bananas. In the inner room was grandma's big magic straw basket. It was well hidden by an old blanket. I lifted it and sniffed that glorious smell.



Lentswe la ga Mmemogolo le ile la ntshosa fa a bitsa, "O dira eng? Itlhaganele o tlise thobane." Ke ile ka itlhaganela ka thobane ya gagwe. "O nyenyela eng?" Ga botsa Mmemogolo. Potso ya gagwe e ne ya ntlhagisa gore ke ne ke ntse ke nyenyela lefelo le ke le bonyeng la metlholo.

...

Grandma's voice startled me when she called, "What are you doing? Hurry up and bring me the stick." I hurried out with her walking stick. "What are you smiling about?" Grandma asked. Her question made me realise that I was still smiling at the discovery of her magic place.