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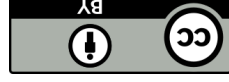
Umondli! Nombali! Bavakashela
Ugogo Wabo / Holidays with

grandmother

Violet Otieno

Catherine Groenewald

Pumla Mdontswa (zu)



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Umondli! Nombali! Bavakashela
Ugogo Wabo
Holidays with grandmother



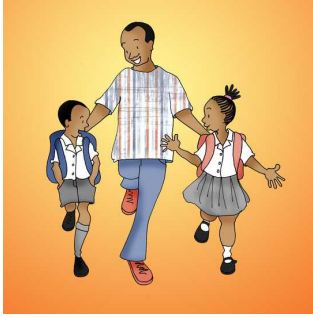
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UMondli noMbali babehlala edolobheni nobaba wabo. Babekujabulela ukuvalwa kwezikole ngoba babezovakashela ugogo wabo. Phela ugogo wayehlala kwesinye isigodi esasinedamu elikhulu lapho kwakudotshwa khona izinhlanzi. Abantu bakule ndawo babekhonzile ukudoba.

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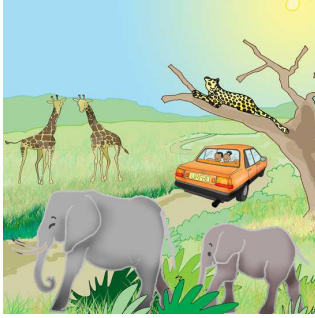
Odongo and Apiyo lived in the city with their father. They looked forward to the holidays. Not just because school was closed, but because they went to visit their grandmother. She lived in a fishing village near a large lake.

Odongo and Apiyo were excited because it was time to visit their grandmother again. The night before, they packed their bags and got ready for the long journey to her village. They could not sleep and talked the whole night about the holiday.

...

UMondli-ke babejabule kakhulu kulokhu ngoba nabo ngalesi sikhathi, babezovakashela uogo wabo ohlala kulesi sigodi esinedamu. Ngobusuku okwakuzosa bahambe ngabo, bapakissha izikhwama balungiselela uhambo olude oluya kwagogo. Ubuthongo babungafiki, bexoxa ubusuku bonke, izinhliziyozo ziliangazela leli holidi.





Ekuseni ngovivi, baqala uhambo lwabo ngemoto kababa wabo. Imoto yayihamba idlula izintaba, amaqguma, wena zilwane zasendle namasimu. Babeloku bebalana nezimoto eziphambana nabo nalezo abazedlulayo. Babebuye bacule bejabulele indlela.

...

Early the next morning, they left for the village in their father's car. They drove past mountains, wild animals and tea plantations. They counted cars and sang songs.



Baphindela edolobheni, bafike baxoxela abangane babo ngamaholide abo kwagogo wabo nangempilo yasemaphandleni. Ezinye izingane zazithi impilo yasedolobheni yinhle. Ezinye kodwa zazicabanga ukuthi eyasemaphandleni ingcono. Ngaphezu kwako konke, zonke izingane esikoleni zazivumelana ngokuthi uMondli no Mbali babenogogo oyisimanga!

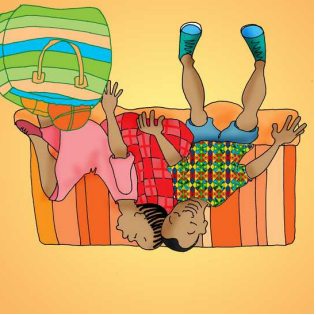
...

When Odongo and Apiyo went back to school they told their friends about life in the village. Some children felt that life in the city was good. Others felt that the village was better. But most of all, everyone agreed that Odongo and Apiyo had a wonderful grandmother!

After a while, the children were tired and fell asleep.

...

Emva kwesikhashana, lapho ubaba ezwa sekuthule, waqalaza, wabathola sebefile ubuthongo.



Odongo and Apiyo both hugged her tightly and said goodbye.

...

Bavaleisa, bamanga ugogo ngezinhliziyi ezibuhlungu.





Kuthe sebengena esigodini lapho ugogo ehlala khona, ubaba wabo wabavusa. Nanguya ugogo, uNobuntu, eziphumulele phansi kwesihlahla. Ugogo kwakuyintombi ezithandayo, ebathanda abantu njengegama lakhe. Wayemuhle, ekhuthela, ephiwe nempilo enhle.

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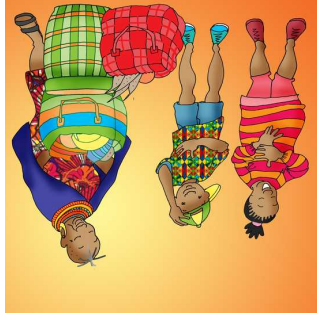
Father woke up Odongo and Apiyo as they arrived in the village. They found Nyar-Kanyada, their grandmother, resting on a mat under a tree. Nyar-Kanyada in Luo, means 'daughter of the people of Kanyada'. She was a strong and beautiful woman.



Babengasafuni ukugoduka, lapho ubaba wabo efika esezobalanda. Bancenga ugogo ukuba ahambe nabo, aye edolobheni. Wayevele amoyizele athi, "Sengimdala kakhulu ukuthi ngingahlala edolobheni. Ugogo uzosala lapha ukuze nibuye futhi nizojabulela amaholide ahlukile."

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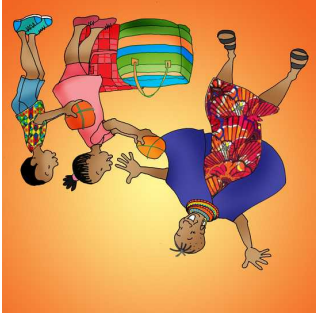
When their father came to fetch them, they did not want to leave. The children begged Nyar-Kanyada to go with them to the city. She smiled and said, "I am too old for the city. I will be waiting for you to come to my village again."



Kodwa amaholide asheshe aphela.
 Kwasekufanele ukuthi babuyele esikoleni!
 Ulogo wapha uMondli! Ikepisi kanti
 uMballi wamupha ijezi. Wabapakishela
 nomphako wendlela ephindela edolobheni.

...

But too soon the holidays were over and the
 children had to go back to the city. Nyar-
 kanyada gave Odongo a cap and Apiyo a
 sweater. She packed food for their journey.



Ulogo wathi vuthu lapho ayeleli khona,
 wabamukela, egidagida, ecula yedwana
 yinjabulo yokubona abazukulu bakhe. Nabo
 abazukulu babejabule. Ngokushesha
 babekhipha imithwalo yabo, bedluisa nezipho
 ababeziphathele ulogo edolobheni. "Gogo!
 Gogo! Vula esami kuqala isipho," kumemeza
 uMondli. NoMballi naye ngapha ubelesele, ufuno
 ulogo avule esakhe isipho kuqala.

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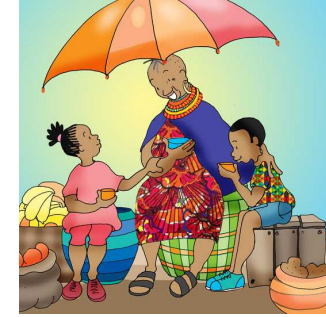
Nyar-kanyada welcomed them into the house
 and danced around the room singing with joy.
 Her grandchildren were excited to give her the
 presents they brought from the city. "First open
 my gift," said Odongo. "No, my gift first!" said
 Apiyo.



Emva kokuvulwa kwezipho, ugoto wababusisa ngokwesiko labo.

...

After she opened the presents, Nyar-Kanyada blessed her grandchildren in a traditional way.



Ekupheleni kosuku, babephuza itiye babukeze usuku, kube mnandi. Abazukulu bebemsiza ugoto ukubala imali ayenzile ngalolo suku.

...

At the end of the day they drank chai tea together. They helped grandmother to count the money she earned.



UMondli noMballi, nabaya, phandle
 sebeyogijimisa izinkukhu namadada, batuna
 nokubamba izinyoni.
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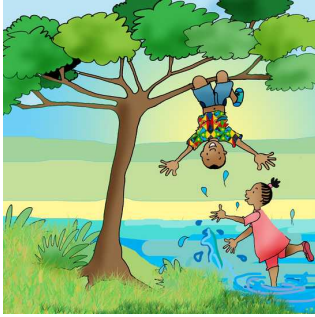
Then Odongo and Apiyo went outside. They
 chased butterflies and birds.



Ngolunye usuku, izingane zahamba noNobuntu
 zaya emakethe. Wayenetafula lapho
 ayethengisa khona imifino, izithelo nezinye
 izinto ezincane ezidingwa umphakathi. UMballi
 wayethanda ukutshela abathengi ukuthi izinto
 zibiza malini, ahlanganise, athathe imali.
 UMondli yena, wayesongela abathengi!
 izimpahla zabo abazithengile.

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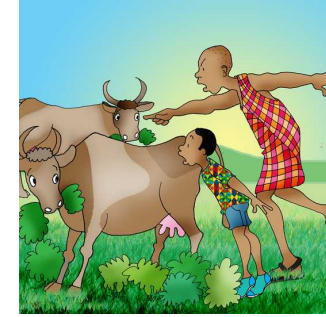
On another day, the children went to the
 marketplace with Nyar-Kanyada. She had a stall
 selling vegetables, sugar and soap. Apiyo liked
 to tell customers the price of items. Odongo
 would pack the items that customers bought.



Abazukulu babekujabulele ukuba kwagogo,
bemsiza ngemisebenzi yasekhaya, bedlala
nemidlalo abangayijwayele njengokucaca
izihlahla nokubhukuda edamini.

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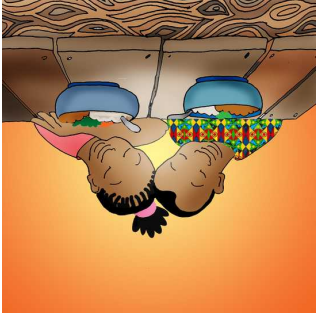
They climbed trees and splashed in the water of
the lake.



Ngelinye ilanga ekuseni uMondli wakhipha
izinkomo zikagogo edlelweni, ethi uyokwelusa.
Zagijima zangena epulazini likamakhelwane.
Umakhelwane owayengumlimi wathukuthela
efuna nokuzivalela ngoba zidle izitshalo zakhe.
Emva kwalokhu uMondli waqinisekisa ukuthi
azisophinde zingene enkingeni efana nalena.

...

One morning, Odongo took his grandmother's
cows to graze. They ran onto a neighbour's
farm. The farmer was angry with Odongo. He
threatened to keep the cows for eating his
crops. After that day, the boy made sure that the
cows did not get into trouble again.



Ngakusihwa babebuya endlini bekhathele,
batike badle. kwesinye isikhathi babengaqedi
naloko kudla abakubekelwe, babanjwe
ubuthongo nokukhathala.

...

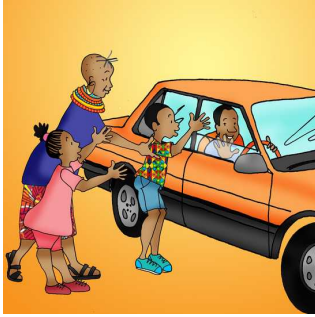
When it was dark they returned to the house for
dinner. Before they could finish eating, they
were falling asleep!



Ugogo wayesefundise abazukulu nokupheka
ukudla kwesintu kanye nokunye okulula.

...

Nyar-kanyada taught her grandchildren to make
soft ugali to eat with stew. She showed them
how to make coconut rice to eat with roast fish.



Ngosuku olulandelayo, ubaba wabo waphindela edolobheni, wabashiya bezijabulisa nogogo wabo.

...

The next day, the children's father drove back to the city leaving them with Nyar-Kanyada.



UMondli noMbali basiza ugogo wabo ngokwenza imisebenzi yasendlini. Babekha amanzi batheze izinkuni. Babeqoqa namaqanda ezidlekeni zezinkukhu babuye bakhe imifino engadini.

...

Odongo and Apiyo helped their grandmother with household chores. They fetched water and firewood. They collected eggs from the chickens and picked greens from the garden.