




## 指蜜鳥嘅報仇

## The Honeyguide's revenge

 Zulu folktale

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呢個係講指蜜鳥奈吉同貪心嘅後生仔健基利嘅故仔。有一日呢，健基利出門打獵，突然間，佢聽到奈吉嘅叫聲。健基利一諗起跟住指蜜鳥就可以搵到好味嘅蜜糖，就忍唔住流晒口水啦。佢停低落嚟，好仔細嘅聽住，四周圍搵吓，直到佢喺頭上嘅樹枝中間睇到咗指蜜鳥。小雀仔吱吱聲嘅叫，由一棵樹飛到另外一棵。指蜜鳥一路飛一路叫，令到健基利跟得切。

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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.



過咗半個鐘咁上下，佢哋到咗一棵巨大嘅野無花果樹底下。奈吉喺樹枝之間跳嚟跳去，然後喺其中之一條樹枝上面停低咗落嚟，佢歪住個頭望住健基利，好似喺度同佢講：「就係呢度啦！快啲嚟啦！做乜慢吞吞㗎？」健基利企喺棵樹底下，一隻蜜蜂都睇唔到，但係佢信奈吉唔會呃佢㗎。

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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 Gingile as if to say, "Here it is! Come now! What is taking you so long?" Gingile couldn't see any bees from under the tree, but he trusted Ngede.



健基利將佢擺嚟打獵嗰條長矛擺喺棵樹底下，搵埋幾條乾樹枝，點起咗堆火。等到個火燒到好旺嘅時候，佢擺咗條又長又乾嘅樹枝，撥入個火中心。呢種木頭燒起上嚟嘅時候呢，就會整到好多煙。健基利一手擺住條樹枝嘅另一端，第二隻手就捉住樹幹，開始爬上樹。

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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.



冇幾耐之後呢健基利就聽到小蜜蜂飛嚟飛去嘅嗡嗡聲。佢哋係樹嘅主幹入面築咗個竇，正忙住飛入去又飛出嚟嘅。當健基利爬到蜂竇處嘅時候，佢將樹枝仲燒緊嘅一端猛噏督個蜂竇。班小蜜蜂好怕煙，就食咗火藥噏全部都飛晒出嚟，仲順便針健基利幾啖，針針都拮到佢痛。

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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 the smoke – but not before they had given Gingile some painful stings!



小蜜蜂全部都飛咗出嚟啦，健基利一隻手伸入個蜂竇入面，掘到好多塊蜜糖，又甜又香嘅蜜糖由蜜糖塊上面滴落嚟，睇起嚟極好味嘞。佢小心翼翼嘅就將啲蜜糖塊放入膊頭上嘅袋，慢慢嘅由樹上面爬返落嚟。

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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.





奈吉急不及待嚟望住健基利做嘅一切，一心希望佢搞掂晒後會送一小塊蜜糖俾自己，作為幫佢引路嘅謝禮。健基利喺樹枝間好輕快嘅跳嚟跳去，離地面越嚟越近。終於健基利穩穩落地，奈吉企住喺離佢唔遠嘅一嚟大石上面，等住健基利送禮俾佢。

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



但係健基利就滅咗個火，搵起咗條長矛，開始走返屋企，詐諦睇唔見奈吉個樣。奈吉大發雷霆噉叫住：「俾蜜糖我！俾蜜糖我！」健基利停低咗落嚟，盯住小雀仔，大笑噉就話：「老友吖，你都想食蜜糖呀，係唔係？哈哈，我做咗咁多嘢，又被針咗咁多啖！我點解要同你分享呢啲蜜糖先？」講完，健基利就走遠咗啦。奈吉激到佛都有火，佢都從來冇試過被人噉樣對待！不過佢實會報仇嘅。

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But, Gingile put out the fire, picked up his spear and started walking home, ignoring the bird. Ngedede called out angrily, "VIC-torr! VIC-torr!" 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. Ngedede was furious! This was no way to treat him! But he would get his revenge.





過咗幾個星期呢，健基利又聽到奈吉嘅叫聲。佢諗返好味嘅蜜糖，急不及待就嚟就住指蜜鳥走咗去。奈吉領住健基利行到森林個便，喺一棵大樹頂上停低咗落嚟。健基利心諗：「哈哈，樹上面肯定有個蜂竇。」佢嗆嗆聲噉生咗堆火，又擺埋燒緊嘅樹枝開始爬樹。奈吉停咗喺個便乜都睇到晒。

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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.



健基利爬住爬住，心入面覺得好出奇，乜佢仲冇聽到嗡嗡聲呢？佢諗住，蜂竇一定喺樹頂上好深嘅地方。佢拉住樹枝，跳上樹：不過嗰度冇蜂竇，佢淨係見到隻大花豹！花豹非常之嬲，因為健基利阻住佢搵周公。花豹眯埋對眼，擘大個口，露出咗又白又尖嘅大牙嚟。

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Gingile 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.



健基利冇等到花豹向佢撲埋嚟，就飛噉快爬返落樹。但係佢爬得太過急啦，一唔小心就踩咗個吉，重重噉跌到地下，扭親咗腳眼。佢跣吓跣吓噉走甩咗。好彩花豹仲未完全瞓醒，冇再追埋健基利。指蜜鳥奈吉已經報咗仇，健基利亦都吸取咗教訓。

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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.



噉以後呢，當健基利班細路仔聽到奈吉嘅故仔，佢哋都非常之尊重呢隻細雀仔。佢哋每次採蜜糖嘅時候，亦都會將最大嘅一塊留俾指蜜鳥啦。

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And so, when the children of Gingile hear the story of Ngede they have respect for the little bird. Whenever they harvest honey, they make sure to leave the biggest part of the comb for Honeyguide!



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