


Imbewu Encane

A Tiny Seed: The Story of Wangari Maathai



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Emuzini osekwehleleni kweNtaba iKenya
eMpumalanga ye-Afrika, kwakunentombazanyana
eyayisebenza emasimini nomama wayo.

...

In a village on the slopes of Mount Kenya in East
Africa, a little girl worked in the fields with her
mother. Her name was Wangari.





UWangari wayekuthanda ukuba ngaphandle.
Esivandeni sokudla somndeni wakhe wayelima
khona umhlabathi ngegeja lakhe i-machete.
Wayecindezela imbewu encane emhlabathini
ofudumele.

...

Wangari loved being outside. In her family's food
garden she broke up the soil with her machete. She
pressed tiny seeds into the warm earth.



Isikhathi sosuku ayesithanda kwakungemvana kokushona kwelanga. Lapho sekumnyama kakhulu ukuthi angabona izitshalo, uWangari wayazi ukuthi sekuyisikhathi sokubuyela ekhaya.

...

Her favourite time of day was just after sunset. When it got too dark to see the plants, Wangari knew it was time to go home. She would follow the narrow paths through the fields, crossing rivers as she went.

UWangari wayeyingane ehlakaniphe kakhulu futhi wayeselangazelela ukuya esikoleni. Kodwa umama kanye nobaba wakhe babefuna ahlale ekhaya ukuze abasize.

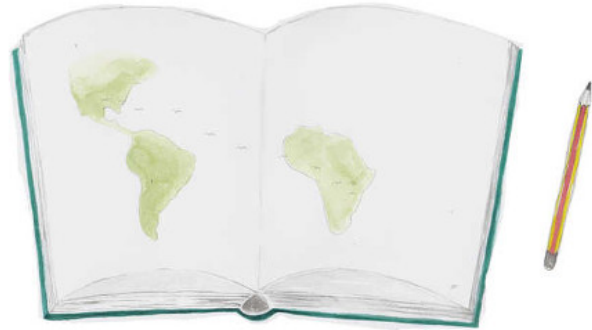


...

Wangari was a clever child and couldn't wait to go to school. But her mother and father wanted her to stay and help them at home. When she was seven years old, her big brother persuaded her parents to let her go to school.

Wayekuthanda ukufunda!

...

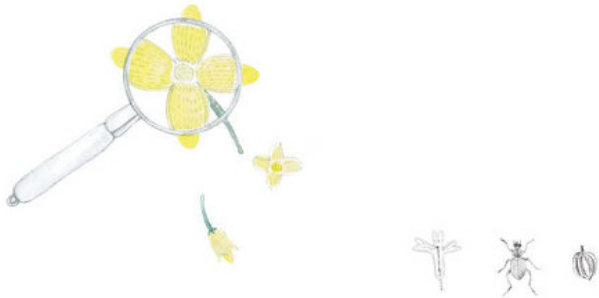


She liked to learn! Wangari learnt more and more with every book she read. She did so well at school that she was invited to study in the United States of America. Wangari was excited! She wanted to know more about the world.

ENyuvesi yaseMelika uWangari wafunda izinto eziningi ezintsha. Wafunda ngezitshalo nangokuthi zikhula kanjani. Wakhumbula nangokuthi wakhula kanjani: edlala imidlalo nabafowabo emithunzini yezihlahla ezinkulu emahlathini amahle aseKenya.

...

At the American university Wangari learnt many new things. She studied plants and how they grow. And she remembered how she grew: playing games with her brothers in the shade of the trees in the beautiful Kenyan forests.



Lapho kwanda akufundayo, wabona nokuthi wayebathanda abantu baseKenya. Wayefuna ukuba bajabule futhi bakhululeke.

...

The more she learnt, the more she realised that she loved the people of Kenya. She wanted them to be happy and free. The more she learnt, the more she remembered her African home.



Lapho eseqede izifundo zakhe, wabuyela eKenya. Kodwa izwe lakhe lase liguqukile. Kwakukhona amapulazi amakhulu ayesendlaleke kulo mhlaba.

...

When she had finished her studies, she returned to Kenya. But her country had changed. Huge farms stretched across the land. Women had no wood to make cooking fires. The people were poor and the children were hungry.



UWangari wakwazi ukuthi kumele enzeni.
Wafundisa abantu besifazane ukuthi batshale
izihlahla ngembewu.

...



Wangari knew what to do. She taught the women
how to plant trees from seeds. The women sold the
trees and used the money to look after their
families. The women were very happy. Wangari had
helped them to feel powerful and strong.



Ngokuhamba kwesikhathi, kwakhula izihlahla ezintsha zaba ngamahlathi, kwase kuqala ukugeleza kwemifula futhi. Umlayezo kaWangari wasabalala ne-Afrika.

...

As time passed, the new trees grew into forests, and the rivers started flowing again. Wangari's message spread across Africa. Today, millions of trees have grown from Wangari's seeds.

UWangari wayesebenze kanzima.

...

Wangari had worked hard. People all over the world took notice, and gave her a famous prize. It is called the Nobel Peace Prize, and she was the first African woman ever to receive it.



UWangari washona ngowezi-2011, kodwa sicabanga ngaye njalo uma sibona isihlahla esihle.

...

Wangari died in 2011, but we can think of her every time we see a beautiful tree.








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