



# Abantwana abenziwe ngamakhandlela

## Children of wax

 Southern African Folktale

 Wiehan de Jager

 Phumy Zikode

 2

 isiZulu [zu](#) / English [en](#)



Emandulo kwakukhona umndeni owawuhlala ujabule.

...

Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.

Abantwana babezwana. Behlale besiza abazali babo endlini kanye nasengadini.

...

They never fought with each other. They helped their parents at home and in the fields.





Kodwa babengavunyelwe ukusondela eduze komlilo.

...

But they were not allowed to go near a fire.



Kwakumele benze yonke imisebenzi yabo ebusuku. Ngoba babenziwe ngamakhandlela!

...

They had to do all their work during the night. Because they were made of wax!



Kodwa omunye wabafana wayekufisa  
ukuphumela ngaphandle elangeni.

...

But one of the boys longed to go out in the  
sunlight.



Ngelinye ilanga wayehalela ukuphumela ngaphandle. Abafowabo bamxwayisa.

...

One day the longing was too strong. His brothers warned him...

Kodwa kwabe sekungasasizi ngalutho!  
Wancibilika elangeni elishisayo.

...

But it was too late! He melted in the hot sun.







Abafowakhe babephatheke kabi bebona  
umfowabo encibilika ephela.

...

The wax children were so sad to see their  
brother melting away.



Kodwa baveza isu. Baphendula amafutha ayesencibilikile bawenza inyoni.

...

But they made a plan. They shaped the lump of melted wax into a bird.



Bamthatha umfowabo oseyinyoni bambeka phezulu entabeni.

...

They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.



Ngokuphuma kwelanga. Wandiza eculela  
ukukhanya kwasekuseni.

...

And as the sun rose, he flew away singing into  
the morning light.






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