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**uNozibele kanye nezinwele**

**ezintathu**

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Wiehan de Jager

Zimbili Dlamini, Phumy Zikode



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3

!sizulu



Emandulo amantombazane  
amathathu ahamba ayotheza.



Ilanga laishisa kakhulu base behela  
emfuleni ukuyobhukuda. Badlala,  
bethelana ngamanzi ngesikhathi  
bebhukuda.



Inja yavele yabona nje ukuthi  
uNozibele wayeyicuphile. Inja  
yagijima imfuna. Kodwa abafowabo  
kaNozibele babeyilinde nezinkulu  
zinduku. Inja yabaleka yaphindela  
emuva, ayiphindanga yabonakala  
kusukela ngalelo langa.



Kusenjalo babona ukuthi isikhathi sase sihambile. Baphuthuma bephindela emakhaya.



Yathiinja ibuya, yafuna uNozibele. “Nozibele, ukuphi?” imemeza. “Ngilapha ngaphansi kombhede,” kusho unwele lokuqala. “Ngilapha, emva kwesivalo,” kusho unwele lwesibili. “Ngilapha, esibayeni,” kusho unwele lwesithathu.



Bathi sebesondela emakhaya,  
 uNozibele wazithinta emqaleni  
 wathola ukuthi umgeko wakhe  
 wawungekho. Wayewukhohliwe!  
 "Ngicela ningiphelzele bandla!"  
 ebancenga. Kodwa abangane bakhe  
 bathi sekuhlwile.



Isikhashana njeinja isihambile,  
 ezintathu ekhanda lakhe. Wabeka  
 unwele olulodwa ngaphansi  
 kombhede, wabeka olunye unwele  
 emva kwesivalo, wabeka olunye  
 esibayeni. Wase wabalaka waya  
 ekhaya ngokushesha.



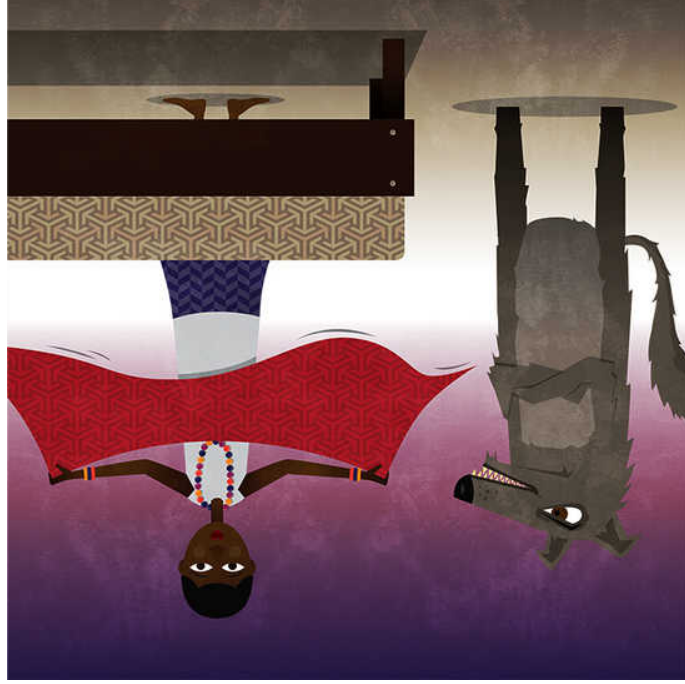
UNozibele waphindela yedwa emfuleni. Wawuthola umgexo wakhe waphuthuma ephindela ekhaya. Kodwa endleleni waduka ebumnyameni.



Zonke izinsuku wayepheka, ashanele, futhi ayiwasheleinja. Ngelinye ilangainja yathi, "Nozibele, namhlanje ngizovakashela abangane bami. Shanela la endlini, upheke bese uwashe izingubo zami ngaphambi kokuba ngibuye."



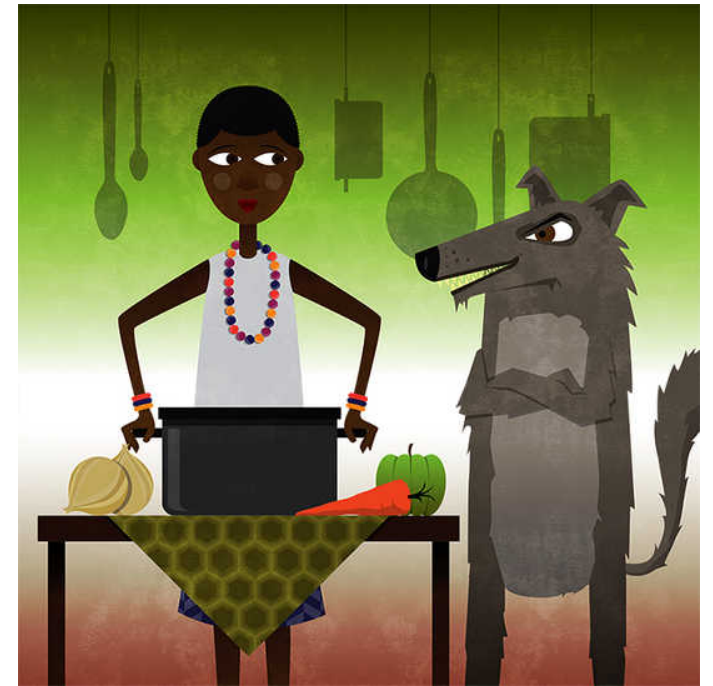
Bugamama wabona ukukhanya  
okwakuphambuka endlini. Washesha  
wayakhona, wafika wangqongqoza  
emnyango.



Inja yathi, "Ngindalalele umbhede!"  
Nozibele wathi, "Angikaze  
ngendalalele inja." "Ndala ngale  
kwaloko ngizokuluma!", kusho inja.  
uNozibele wawendala umbhede.



Wamangala kakhulu ukuthi kwavula inja, yathi “Ufunani la?” “Ngidukile ngicela indawo yokulala,” kusho uNozibele. “Ngena ngaphakathi, ngale kwalokho ngizokuluma!”, kusho inja. UNozibele wangena ngaphakathi.



Inja yathi, “Ngiphekele!” “Kodwa angikaze ngiyiphekele inja,” kuphendula uNozibele. “Phela ngale kwaloko ngizokuluma!” kusho inja. UNozibele wayiphekela inja.