



Abana ba ipula

Children of wax



 Southern African Folktales

Wiehan de Jager

 AGNES CHIBAMBA


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 IciBemba  / English 


Global Storybooks
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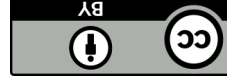


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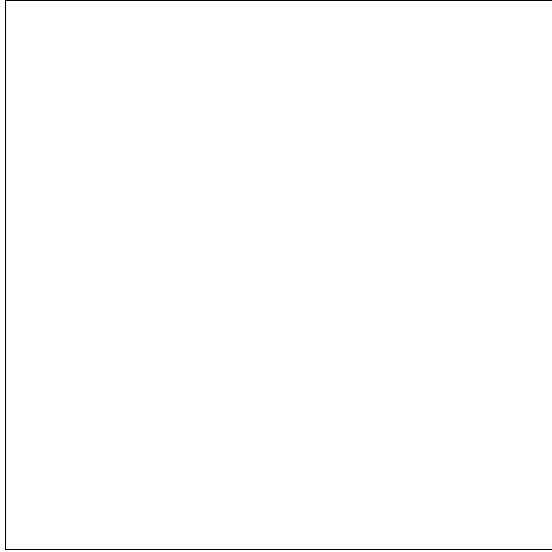
 AGNES CHIBAMBA (bem)



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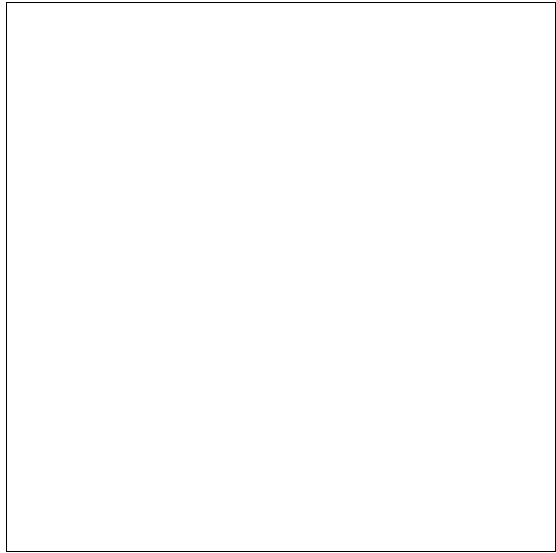




Patile akantu, kwali ulupwa ulwaleikala
ulwasansamuka.

...

Once upon a time, there lived a happy
family.



Tabatalile abalwa bekabeka. Baleyatwa
abafyashi babo pa ng'anda na mu ibala.

...

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



Lelo tabasuminishiwe ukupalama ku
mulilo.

...

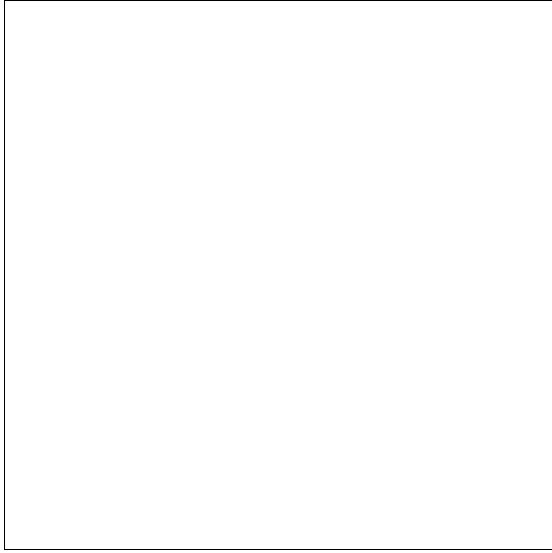
But they were not allowed to go near a
fire.



Balebomba imilimo yabo yonse
ubushiku. Pantu bapangilwe na ipula.

...

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



Elyo lintu akasuba katulile, alipupwike
aleimba mu cengelo ca lucelo.

...

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



Lelo umulumendo umo alifulwike ukuya
panse mu kasuba.

...

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



Balisendele ndume yabo mu cuuni pa
mulu walupili ulutali.

...

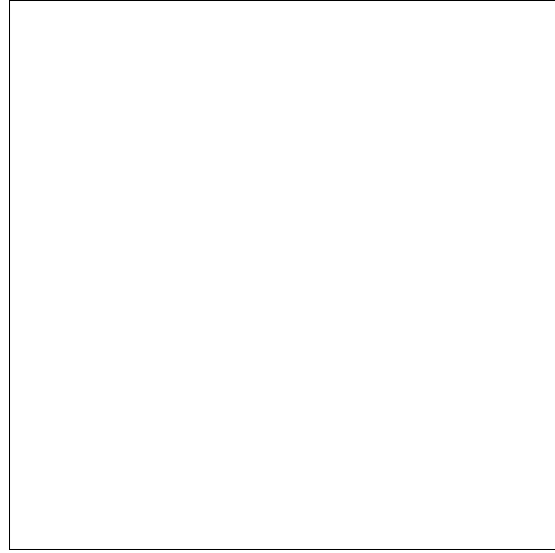
They took their bird brother up to a
high mountain.



Bushiku bumo ukufuluka kwalicililemo.
Ba ndume yakwe balimucengshe.

...

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



Lelo balyumfwene. Balipangile icuuni
ukufuma ku ipula ilya sungulwike.

...

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



Lelo inshita yalipitile kale. Alisungulwike mu kasuba akakaba.

...

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



Abana ba ipula bali ababulanda pakumona uko ndume yabo alesunguluka.

...

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