



Global Storybooks

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Bana ba kereše / Children of wax

✎ Southern African Folktales

☑ Wiehan de Jager

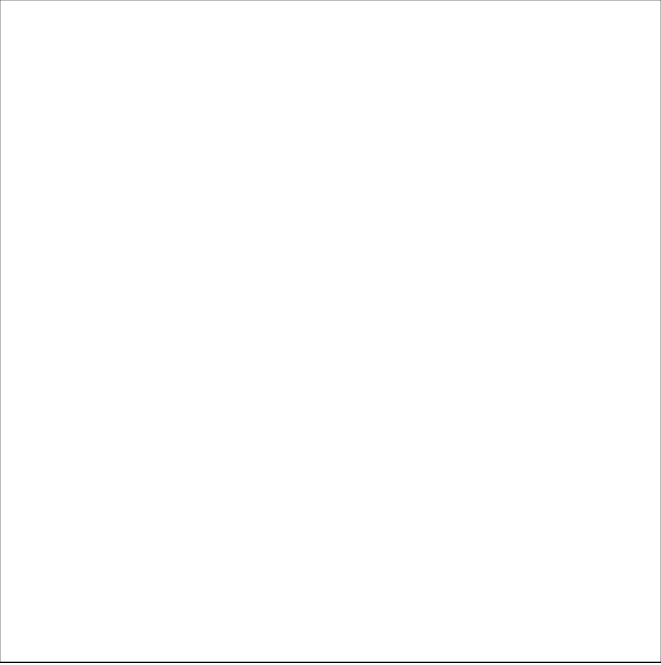
📁 Lorato Trok (tn-na)



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Bana ba kereše

Children of wax



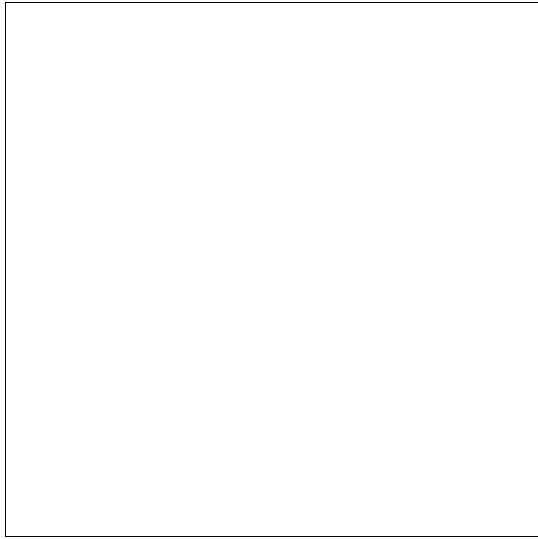
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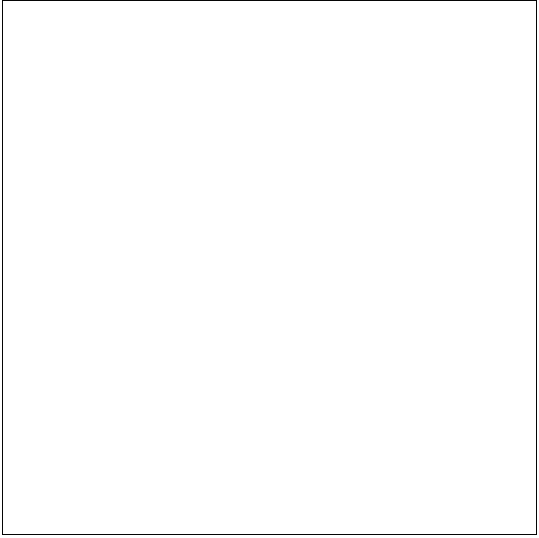
🗨 Setswana / English tn-na en



Bogologolo tala go kile ga nna lelapa
lengwe le le itumetseng.

...

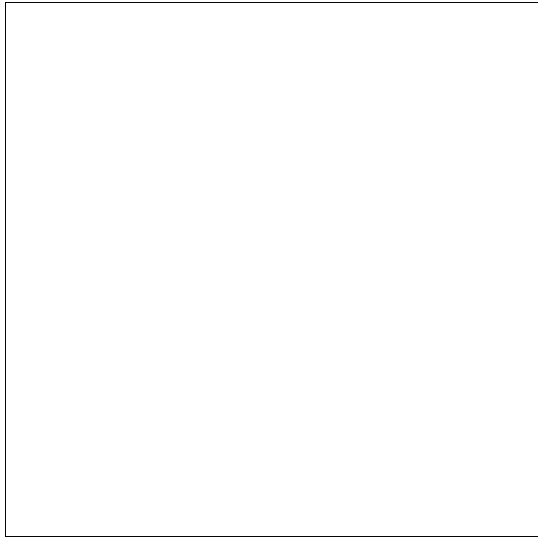
Once upon a time, there lived a happy
family.



Ba ne ba sa rate ntwa mme ba ne ba
thusa batsadi ba bona kwa gae le kwa
masimong.

...

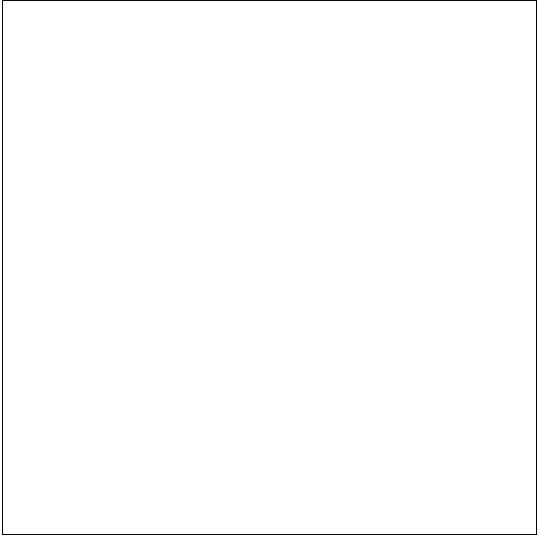
They never fought with each other. They
helped their parents at home and in the
fields.



Mme ba ne ba sa letlelelwa go atamela fa
thoko ga molelo.

...

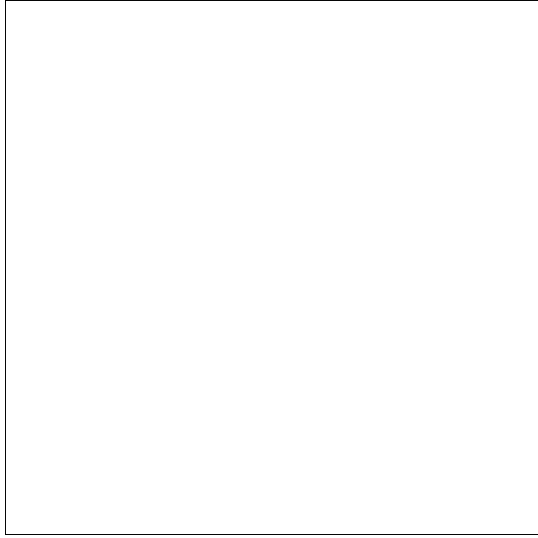
But they were not allowed to go near a
fire.



Ba ne ba letlelelwa fela go dira ditiro tsa
bona bosigo. Ka gone ba ne ba bopilwe
ka kereše.

...

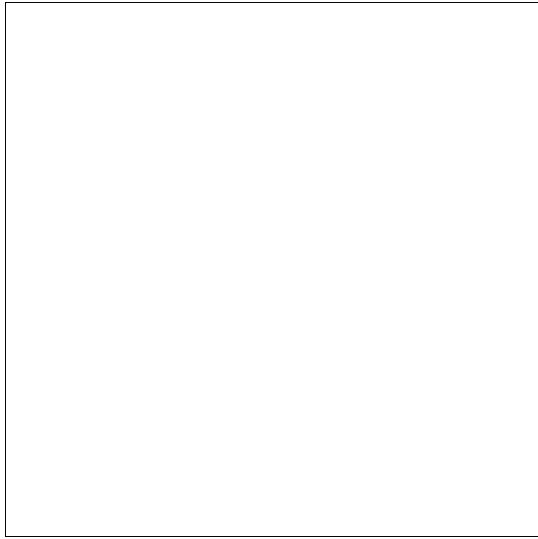
They had to do all their work during the
night. Because they were made of wax!



Fa letsatsi le tlhaba, o ile a fofela godima
a opela a itumetse.

...

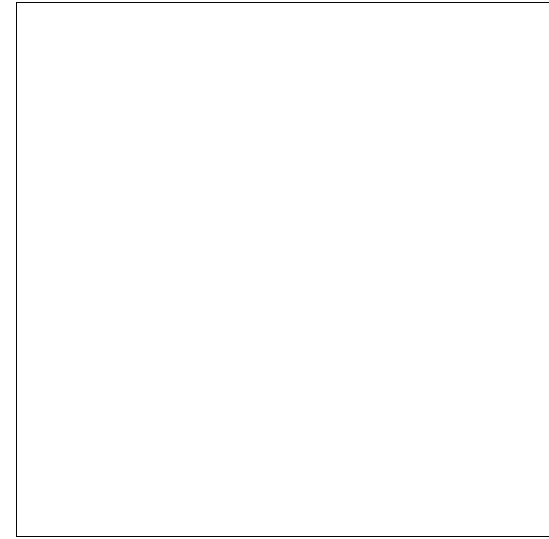
And as the sun rose, he flew away singing
into the morning light.



Mme mongwe wa basimane o ne a eletsa
go bona letsatsi.

...

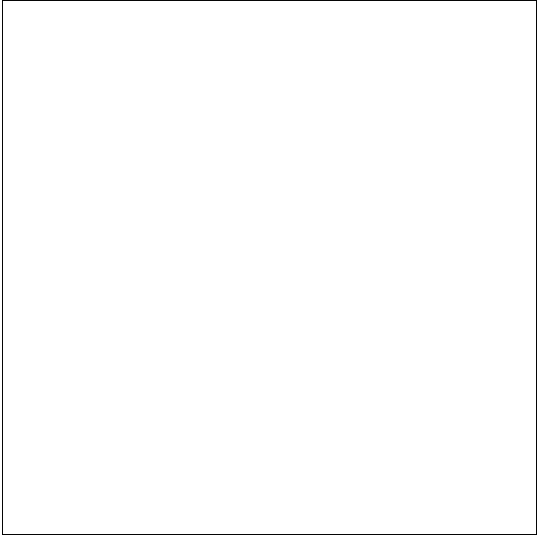
But one of the boys longed to go out in
the sunlight.



Ba ile ba tsaya nonyane e ba e isa kwa
godimo ga thaba.

...

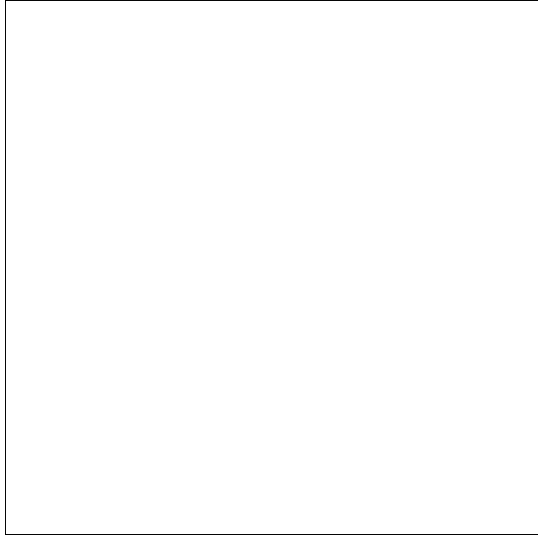
They took their bird brother up to a high
mountain.



Ka letsatsi lengwe keletso ya gagwe e ne
ya oketsega. Basimane ba bangwe ba ne
ba mo kgalema...

...

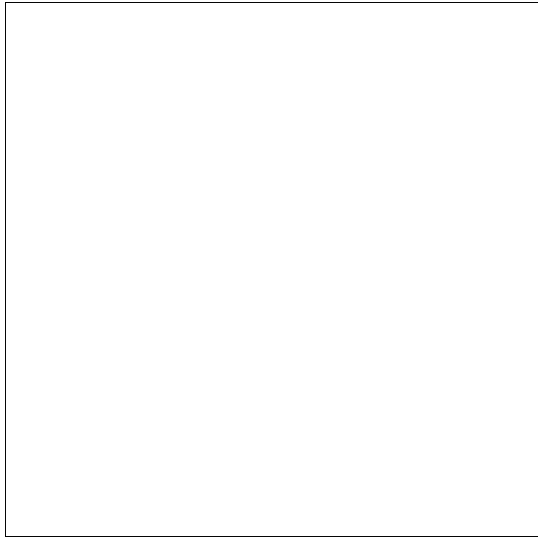
One day the longing was too strong. His
brothers warned him...



Mme ba ne ba dira leano. Ba ne ba tsaya
kere se eo ba e aga go nna nonyane.

...

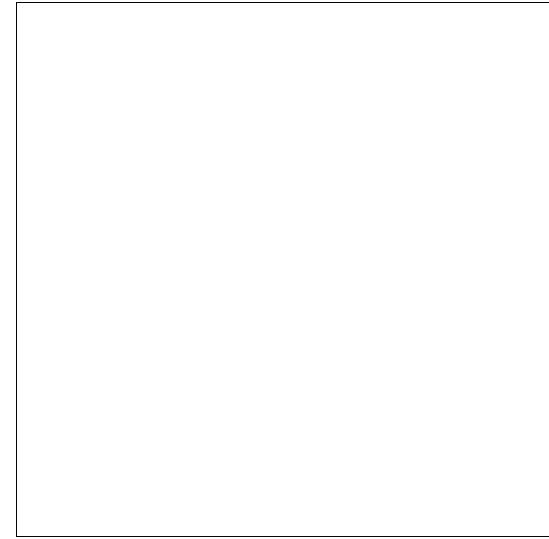
But they made a plan. They shaped the
lump of melted wax into a bird.



Mme go ne so setse go le thari! O ne a tlhapologa mo letsatsing.

...

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



Bana ba kerese ba ne ba utlwa botlhoko go bona o mongwe a tlhapologa.

...

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