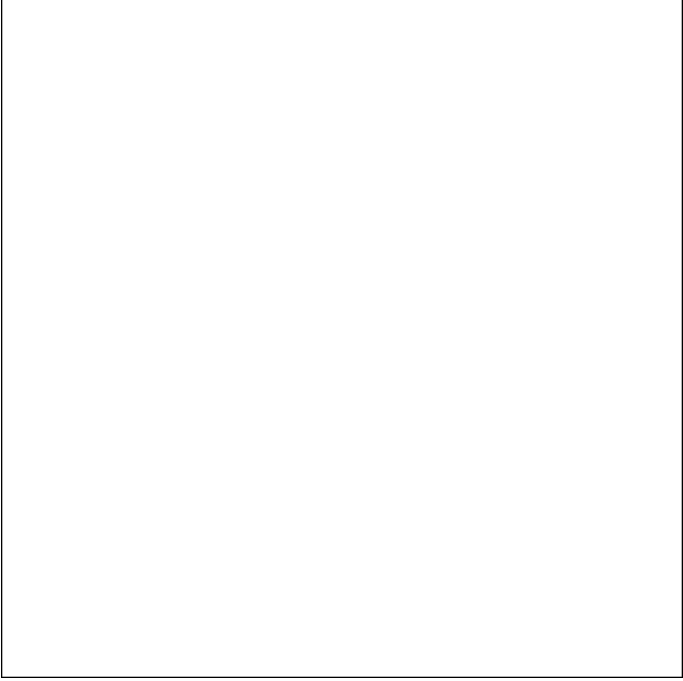


UMagozwe

Magozwe



✎ Lesley Koyi  
✉ Wiehan de Jager  
📖 Margaret Nokuthula Zondi  
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🗣️ isizulu / English / en



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**UMagozwe / Magozwe**

✎ Lesley Koyi

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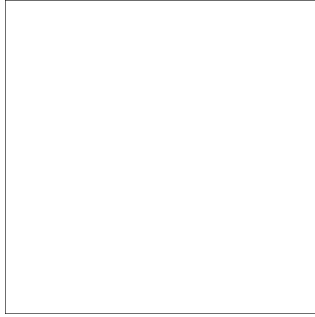
📖 Margaret Nokuthula Zondi (zu)



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Edolobheni elinyamfukayo iNairobi, kude le nempilo yekhaya enokunakekela, kwakuhlala iqembu labafana abangenamakhaya. Kubona usuku lwalufana nolunye. Ekuseni ngelinye ilanga abafana babeqoqa amacansi abo kade belele onqenqemeni olubandayo lomgwaqo. Babasa umlilo ngemfucuza ukuze baxoshe amakhaza. Phakathi kwaleli qembu kwakunomncane kubo bonke uMagozwe.

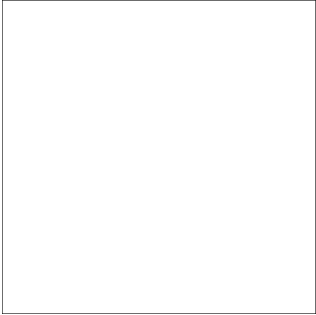
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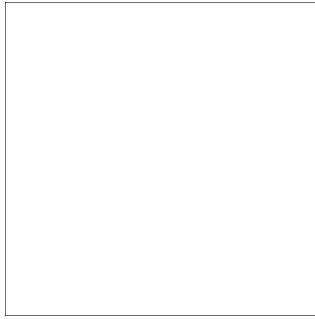
In the busy city of Nairobi, far away from a caring life at home, lived a group of homeless boys. They welcomed each day just as it came. On one morning, the boys were packing their mats after sleeping on cold pavements. To chase away the cold they lit a fire with rubbish. Among the group of boys was Magozwe. He was the youngest.

Wayeneminyaka emihlanu kuphela, khathi abazali bakhe beshona. Waya kohala nomalume wakhe. Indoda le ayizange iyinakelele ingane. Wayemncisha ukudla. Wayemnzisa umsebenzi omningi olukhuni.

...

When Magozwe's parents died, he was only five years old. He went to live with his uncle. This man did not care about the child. He did not give Magozwe enough food. He made the boy do a lot of hard work.

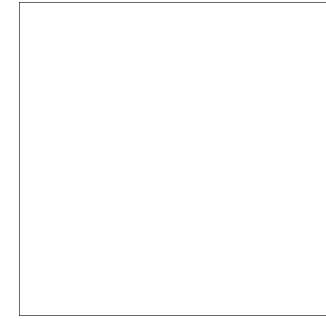




Uma ngabe uMagozwe ekhononda noma efuna incazelo, umalume wakhe wayemshaya. Uma uMagozwe ebuza ukuthi angaya yini esikoleni, umalume wayemshaya athi, “Uyisiduphunga kakhulu ukuthi kukhona ongakufunda.” Emva kweminyaka emithathu yokuphatheka kabi, uMagozwe wabaleka kwamalume wakhe. Waqala ukuhlala ezitaladini.

...

If Magozwe complained or questioned, his uncle beat him. When Magozwe asked if he could go to school, his uncle beat him and said, “You’re too stupid to learn anything.” After three years of this treatment Magozwe ran away from his uncle. He started living on the street.

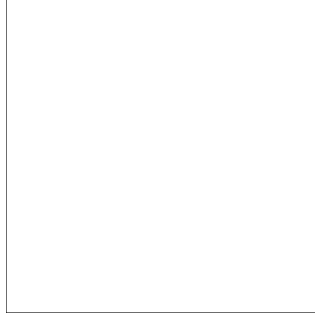


UMagozwe wayehleli egcekeni lendlu eyayinophahla oluluhlaza, efunda incwadi yezindaba yesikole. UThomas wafika wahlala eduze kwakhe. “Imayelana nani le ndaba?” kubuza uThomas. “Imayelana nomfana owaba uthisha,” kuphendula uMagozwe. “Ubani igama lakhe?” kubuza uThomas “Igama lakhe uMagozwe,” kusho uMagozwe emamatheka.

...

Magozwe was sitting in the yard at the house with the green roof, reading a storybook from school. Thomas came up and sat next to him. “What is the story about?” asked Thomas. “It’s about a boy who becomes a teacher,” replied Magozwe. “What’s the boy’s name?” asked Thomas. “His name is Magozwe,” said Magozwe with a smile.

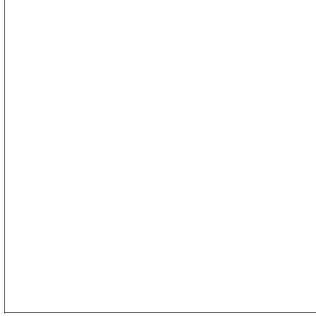
UMagozwe wasiqala isikole kwabalukhuni.  
 Kwakukuningi okwakufanale akwazi ukuze  
 aficane nabanye. Kwakukekuthi akayeke. Kodwa  
 wayecabanga ngomqhubi wendiza nomdali!  
 webhola ezincwadini zakhe.  
 ...  
 Magozwe started school and it was difficult. He  
 had a lot to catch up. Sometimes he wanted to  
 give up. But he thought about the pilot and the  
 soccer player in the storybooks. Like them, he  
 did not give up.

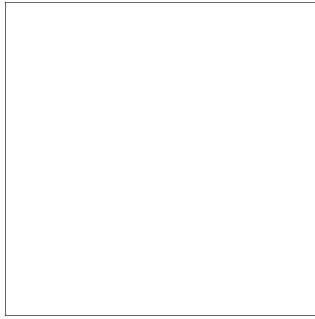


Street life was difficult and most of the boys  
 struggled daily just to get food. Sometimes they  
 were arrested, sometimes they were beaten.  
 When they were sick, there was no one to help.  
 The group depended on the little money they  
 got from begging, and from selling plastics and  
 other recycling. Life was even more difficult  
 because of fights with rival groups who wanted  
 control of parts of the city.

...

Kwakunzima ukuhlala ezitaladini kanti abafana  
 babezabalaza nsukuzonke ukuthola ngisho  
 ukudla. Kokunye babeboshwa, bashaywe.  
 Kwakungenamuntu wokubanakekela uma  
 begula. Leli qembu lalisimamiswa imadlana  
 elaliyithola uma iyicela kwabedlulayo, noma  
 uma lithengisa ocwazi nokunye okungabuye  
 kusebenziseke. Impilo yayibanzima kakhulu  
 ngenxa yezimpi namanye amaqembu abangayo  
 ayefuna ukuphatha izindawo ezithile  
 edolobheni.

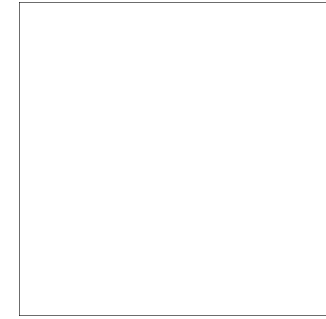




Ngelinye ilanga uMagozwe ecinga emgqonyeni kadoti, wathola incwadi endala negugile. Wayithintitha eyisusa ukungcola waseyifaka esikhwameni sakhe. Nsukuzonke emva kwalokhu wayeyikhipha incwadi abuke izithombe. Wayengakakwazi ukufunda amagama.

...

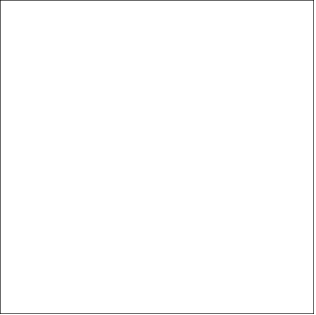
One day while Magozwe was looking through the dustbins, he found an old tattered storybook. He cleaned the dirt from it and put it in his sack. Every day after that he would take out the book and look at the pictures. He did not know how to read the words.



Kanjalo uMagozwe wathuthela ekameleni endlini eyayinophahla oluluhlaza njengotshani. Wayehlala nabanye abafana babili. Sebebonke ababehlala endlini kwakuyizingane eiyishumi. Kanye noAnti Cissy, nomyeni wakhe, izinja ezintathu, ikati nembuzi endala.

...

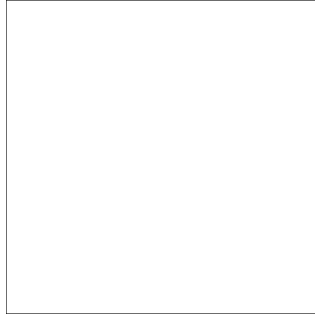
And so Magozwe moved into a room in a house with a green roof. He shared the room with two other boys. Altogether there were ten children living at that house. Along with Auntie Cissy and her husband, three dogs, a cat, and an old goat.



Izithombe zazixoxa indaba yomfana owakhula  
waba umqhubi wezindiza. UMagozwe wayehlala  
ephupha ngokuba umqhubi wezindiza.  
Kokunye, wayezibona eyilo mfana okuxoxwa  
ngaye endabeni.

...

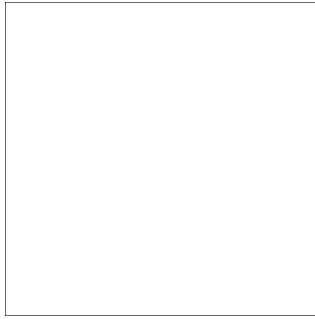
The pictures told the story of a boy who grew up  
to be a pilot. Magozwe would daydream of  
being a pilot. Sometimes, he imagined that he  
was the boy in the story.



Wacobelela uThomas ngovalo analo. Kani ngi  
emmisa isibindi ukuthi impilo yakhe  
ingabangcono.

...

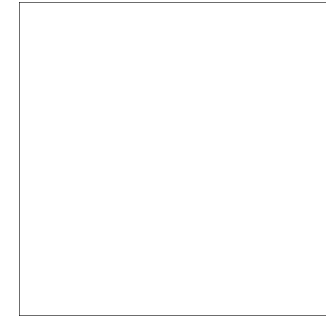
He shared his fears with Thomas. Over time the  
man reassured the boy that life could be better  
at the new place.



Kwakumakhaza uMagozwe emi emgwaqeni ecela imali. Kwafika indoda eyathi kuye, “Sawubona, nginguThomas. Ngisebenza eduze kwalapha, endaweni ongathola khona ukudla,” Yakhomba indlu ephuzi enophahla oluluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka. “Ngethemba uzoya khona uzothola ukudla?” kubuza indoda. UMagozwe wayibuka indoda, wabuka nendlu wasethi, “Mhlawumbe.” Wasuka wahamba.

...

It was cold and Magozwe was standing on the road begging. A man walked up to him. “Hello, I’m Thomas. I work near here, at a place where you can get something to eat,” said the man. He pointed to a yellow house with a blue roof. “I hope you will go there to get some food?” he asked. Magozwe looked at the man, and then at the house. “Maybe,” he said, and walked away.

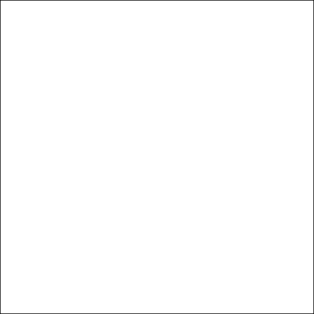


UMagozwe wacabanga ngale ndawo entsha, nangokuya esikoleni. Kunganjani uma ngabe umalume wakhe wayeqinisile lapho ethi uyisiduphunga engeke sifunde lutho? Kwakuyothiwani uma eshaywa lapho? Wayesaba. “Mhlawumbe kungcono ngiqhubeke nokuhlala esitaladini,” ecabanga.

...

Magozwe thought about this new place, and about going to school. What if his uncle was right and he was too stupid to learn anything? What if they beat him at this new place? He was afraid. “Maybe it is better to stay living on the street,” he thought.

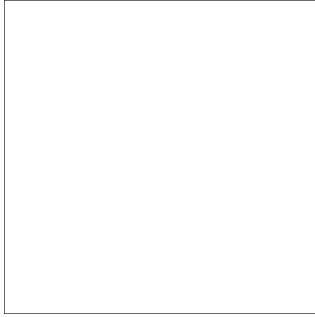




Eziyangeni eziningi ezilandelayo, abafana abangenamakhaya baze bajwayela ukubona uThomas endaweni. Wayethanda ukukhuluma nabantu, ikakhulu abahlala ezitaladini. UThomas wayelalela izindaba ngezimpilo zabantu. Wayezimisela enesineke futhi, wayengakaze abeluhlaza futhi engenayo indlelo. Abanye abafana baqala ukuya endlini ephuzi nokuhlaza beyothola ukudla emini.

...

Over the months that followed, the homeless boys got used to seeing Thomas around. He liked to talk to people, especially people living on the streets. Thomas listened to the stories of people's lives. He was serious and patient, never rude or disrespectful. Some of the boys started going to the yellow and blue house to get food at midday.



UMagozwe esezohlenganisa iminyaka eyishumi, uThomas wamupha enye incwadi. Kwakuyindaba yomfana wasedolobheni elincane owakhula waba umdlali webhola odumile. UThomas wafundela uMagozwe le ndaba izikhathi eziningi, kwaze kwathi ngeinye ilanga wathi, "Ngibona ukuthi sekuyisikhathi sokuthi uye esikoleni ufunde ukuzifundela. Ubona kanjani?" UThomas wachaza ukuthi kukhona indawo ayaziyo lapho zingane zingahala khona, futhi zifunde.

...

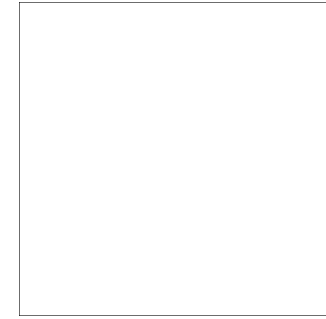
Around Magozwe's tenth birthday, Thomas gave him a new storybook. It was a story about a village boy who grew up to be a famous soccer player. Thomas read that story to Magozwe many times, until one day he said, "I think it's time you went to school and learned to read. What do you think?" Thomas explained that he knew of a place where children could stay, and go to school.



UMagozwe wayehlezi onqenqemeni lomgwaqo ebuka izithombe encwadini yakhe lapho uThomas efika ehlala eduze kwakhe. “Imayelana nani le ndaba?” kubuza uThomas “Imayelana nomfana obangumqhubi wezindiza,” kuphendula uMagozwe. “Ubani igama lomfana?” kubuza uThomas. “Angazi, angikwazi ukufunda,” kusho uMagozwe kancane.

...

Magozwe was sitting on the pavement looking at his picture book when Thomas sat down next to him. “What is the story about?” asked Thomas. “It’s about a boy who becomes a pilot,” replied Magozwe. “What’s the boy’s name?” asked Thomas. “I don’t know, I can’t read,” said Magozwe quietly.



Kwathi lapho behlangana futhi uMagozwe waqala ukuxoxela uThomas indaba yakhe. Kwakuyindaba kamalume wakhe nesizathu sokubaleka kwakhe. UThomas kazange akhulume kakhulu futhi kazange atshele uMagozwe ukuthi akenzenjani, wayegcina ngokulalela ngokucophelela. Kokunye babexoxa lapho bedla endlini enophahla oluluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka.

...

When they met, Magozwe began to tell his own story to Thomas. It was the story of his uncle and why he ran away. Thomas didn’t talk a lot, and he didn’t tell Magozwe what to do, but he always listened carefully. Sometimes they would talk while they ate at the house with the blue roof.