



**Magozwe**

**Magozwe**

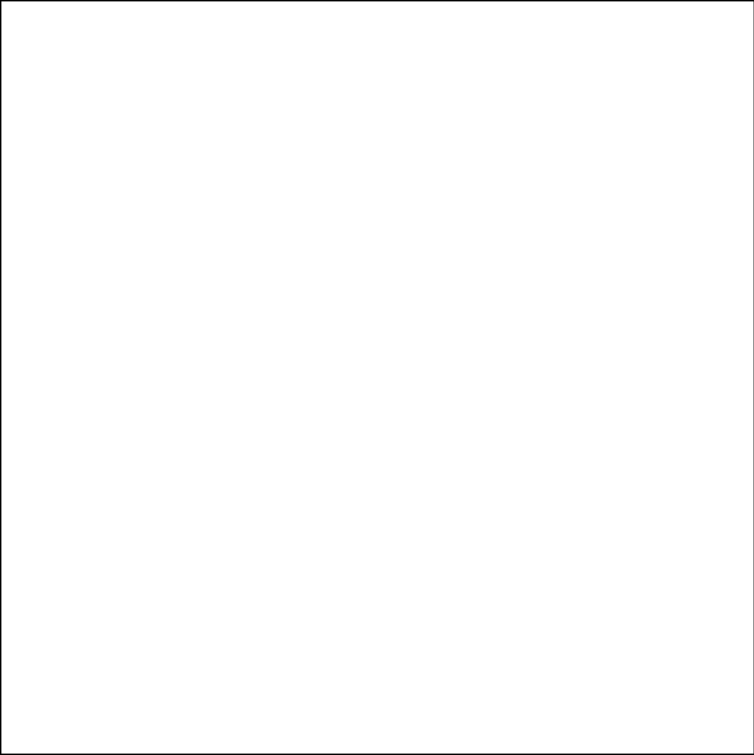
 Lesley Koyi

 Wiehan de Jager

 Elizabeth Ocansey (OLE Ghana)

 5

 Ga  / English



Gbekεbii hii kobolwi komεi hi shi ye Nairobi maη ε mli heko banee. Amεβε ninaa ko keha naya, jetsεremw gbε keke amε kraa. Leebi ko ε, oblahii nεε miikota amε sai keje kro nwani ε, he ni amεw ε. Bw ni afee ni fei akaye amε fe nine ε, amεsha jwei kefee kwaw ε mli kulw. Gbekεbii hii ε atεη mw kome ji Magozwe. Λε ji gbεke kwraa ni yw amε teη.

...

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.



Be ni Magozwe fɔlɔi shi jeŋ lɛ, eye afi enuɔɔ pɛ. Ekɛ  
etsɛkwɛ yahi shi. Nuɔ nɛɛ kwɛɛɛ gbekɛ lɛ jogbaŋŋ. Ehaaa  
Magozwe niyenii jogbaŋŋ. Ehani gbekɛ lɛ tsu nii denɔɔŋ.

• • •

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.



Κεji Magozwe wie nitsumɔ ɩe he ɩe, etsɛkwɛ ɩe yiɔ ɩe. Be ni Magozwe bi etsɛkwɛ ɩe κεji ebaanye eya skul ɩe, etsɛkwɛ ɩe yi ɩe ni ekee, "Olu tsɔ keha nɔ ko kasemɔ." Afii ete sɛɛ ɩe, Magozwe nyɛɛɛ nyafimɔ nɛɛ dɔɔɔ hewɔ ɩe ejo foi κεje etsɛkwɛ ɩe ηɔ. Eyabɔi gbɛjegbɛ ɩe nɔ hii.

• • •

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.



Gbejegbe ɛ no shihile wa naakpa. Gbekɛbii hii ɛ gboɔ denme dani amɛ naa niyenii. Bei komɛi ɛ amɔmɔɔ amɛ ni bei komɛi ɛ ayiɔ amɛ. Kɛji amɛheye ɛ, mɔ ko be ni yeɔ buaa amɛ. Shika ni amɛnaa kɛjɛɔ nibaa mli kɛ nibii bibii hɔɔmɔ mli ɛ ni amɛkɛɛɔ amɛ he. Kui krokomɛi ni miitao amɛye amɛ no kɛ amɛbanɔɔ. Enɛ haa ni shihile ɛ mli waa diɛntɛ.

...

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.



Gbi ko be ni Magozwe miikwe jwei tsensi le mli le, ena adesa wolo momo ko. Etsumo wolo le he muji le, ni eke wolo le wo ekotoku le mli. Kεje nakai gbi le, daa nee le ekoo wolo le ni ekweo mfonii ni yoo mli le. Elee bo ni akaneco emli wiemoi le.

...

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.



Mfoniri Ịe wies Ịbeke nuu ko ni ebats Ịkọkọkọ Ịle Ịkud Ịk. Shwane finti Ịpo ankamafiola ni eji Ịkọkọkọ Ịle Ịkud Ịk. Bei kom Ịe, enaa ehe ak Ịe ji Ịbeke nuu niy Ịk adesa Ịe mli Ịe.

...

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.



Je ɛ mli ejɔ ɲanii ni Magozwe damɔ gbɛjɛgbɛ ɛ he eeɓa shika. Nuɔ ko nyiɛ banina ɛ ni ekeɛ, “Helo, atseɔ mi Tɔmas, mitsuɔ nii ye biɛ nɔɔɲ, ye he ni obaana niyenii ni oye.” Etsɔɔ ɛ shia ko ni asha he wuɔɔɔ ni abu yiteɲ ke zɪɲle bluɔ. “Miheɔ miyeɔ akɛ obaaya na niyenii ye jɛmɛ?” ekeɛ. Magozwe kwe nuɔ ɛ, ni ekwe shia ɛ, ni ekeɛ, “Ekoɛ,” keke ni eho etee.

...

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.

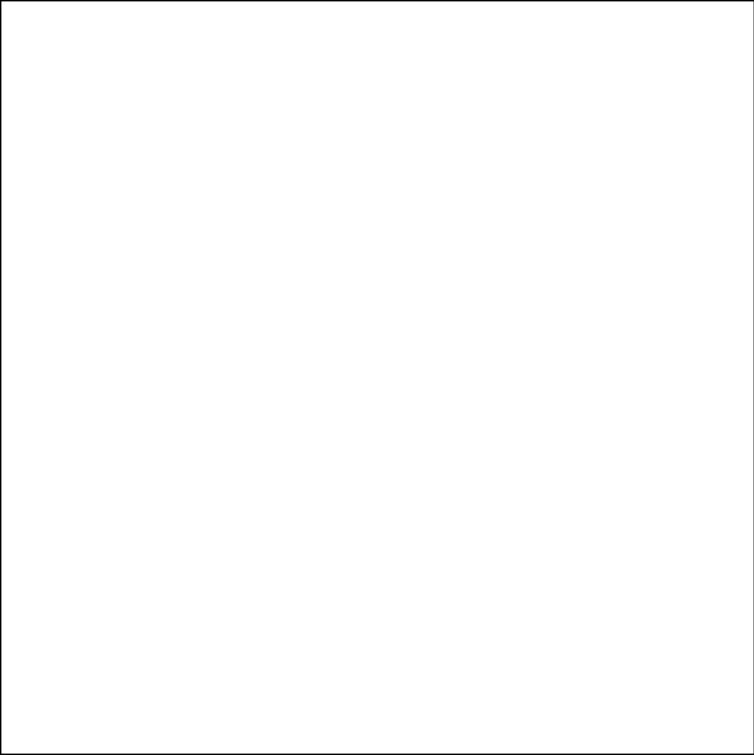




Nyɔji babaoɔ sɛɛ lɛ, gbekɛbii hii kobɔɔɔ nɛɛ bayɔsɛ Tɔmas jogbaŋɛ. Esumɔɔ mɛi kɛwiemɔ, titri mɛi ni yɔɔ gbɛjegbɛ lɛ nɔ. Tɔmas bo mɛi awala mli saji toi. Ehie ka shi ni eyɛ mɛi ahetsui, enyafiii mɔ ni ebuɔ mɔ. Gbekɛbii lɛ ekomei bɔi shia ni asha he wuɔfɔ kɛ bluu lɛ mli yaa kɛha amɛ shwane niyenii.

...

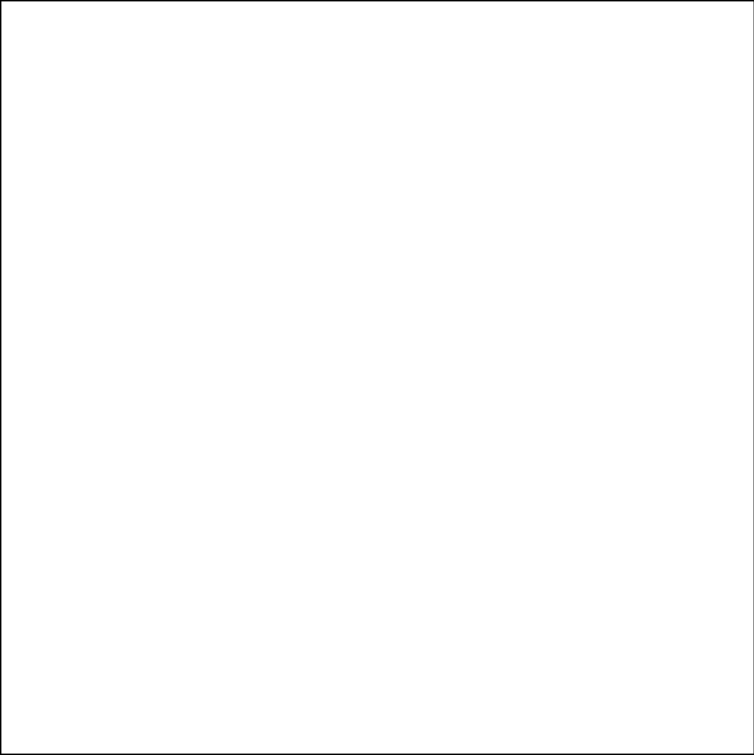
Over the months that followed, the homeless boys got used to seeing Thomas around. He liked to talk to people, especially people living on the streets. Thomas listened to the stories of people's lives. He was serious and patient, never rude or disrespectful. Some of the boys started going to the yellow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



Magozwe ta shi eekwe mfoniri wolo le mli kekε ni Tomas bata emasei. “Meni adesa le keɔ?” Tomas bi le. “Ekoɔ gbekε nuu ko ni batsɔ etsɔ kɔkɔkɔɔ lele kudulɔ ko he,” Magozwe here le nɔ. “Meni ji gbekε nuu le gbɛi?” Tomas bi le. “Mileee, mileee bɔ ni akanεɔ nii,” Akamafio wie bleoo.

• • •

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.



Be ni amekpe le, Magozwe bɔi le diɛntse ehe sane gbaa  
kɛtsɔɔ Tɔmas. Egba le etsɛkwɛ le he sane kɛ bɔ ni ejo foi  
kɛjɛ ɛɔ. Tɔmas ewieɛɛ tsɔ ni ekɛɛɛ Magozwe nɔ ni efee hu  
shi ebo le toi jogbaɲɲ. Bei komɛi le amɛgbaa sane be ni  
amɛyɛɔ nii yɛ shia ni akɛ zɪɲle bluu ebu yiteɲ le.

• • •

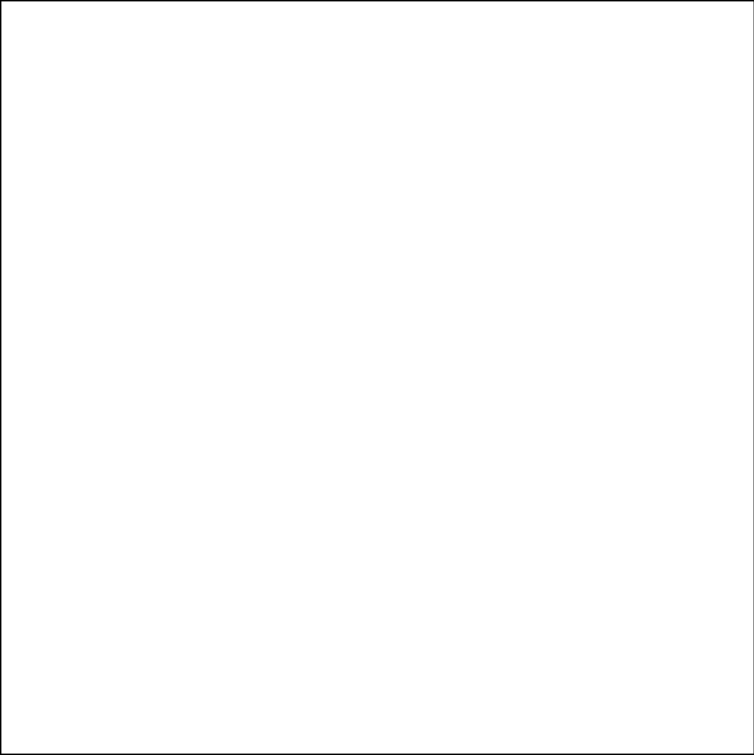
When they met, Magozwe began to tell his own story to  
Thomas. It was the story of his uncle and why he ran away.  
Thomas didn't talk a lot, and he didn't tell Magozwe what to  
do, but he always listened carefully. Sometimes they would  
talk while they ate at the house with the blue roof.



Be ni Magozwe ye efomɔ gbijurɔ ni ji nyɔŋma lɛ, Tɔmas ha lɛ adesa wolo hee ko. Adesa ni yɔɔ wolo lɛ mli lɛ wieɔ akrowa gbekɛ nuu ko ni da ni ebatsɔ bɔɔlutswalɔ kpanaa ko he. Tɔmas kane adesa lɛ etsɔɔ Magozwe bei saŋŋ keyashi gbi ko ni ekɛɛ, “Efeɔ mi akɛ eshɛ be ni obaaya skul ni oyakase bɔ ni akaneɔ nii. Te osusuɔ tɛŋŋ?” Tɔmas gbala mli akɛ ele he ko ni gbekɛbii baahi shi ye keya skul.

• • •

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.



Magozwe susu shihilehe nεε ke skulyaa le he. Esusu ake ekole etsεkwe le sane ja ake elu tso kεha no ko kasemo? Esusu ake ekole abaayayi le ye shihilehe hee nεε? Eshe gbeyei. "Ekole ebaahi kwraa ake mahi gbεjegbe le no," ejwεη.

...

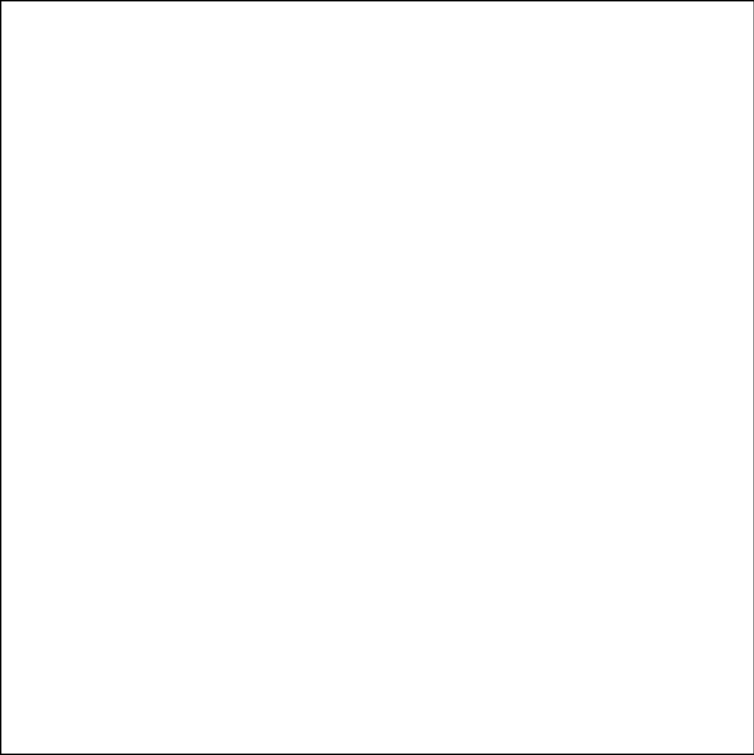
Magozwe thought about this new place, and about going to school. What if his uncle was right and he was too stupid to learn anything? What if they beat him at this new place? He was afraid. "Maybe it is better to stay living on the street," he thought.



Ekεε Tomas enaagba nεε. Daa gbi lε nuu nεε woc gbekε  
nuu nεε hewalε akε shihilε yε shihilεhe hee lε baahi fe he  
ni eyoc lε.

• • •

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



Ené hewɔ ɛ Akamafio fa eyahi tsu ko mli ye shia ni abu yi enɔli ɛ. Eke gbekɛbii enyɔ komɛi ni hi tsu ɛ mli. Gbekɛbii nyɔŋma ni yɔɔ shia ɛ mli. Kɛfata amɛ he ɛ, Nyɛkwɛ Sisi kɛ ewu, gbɛɛi etɛ, alɔnte kome kɛ abotia momo ko hu hi shia ɛ mli.

...

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.

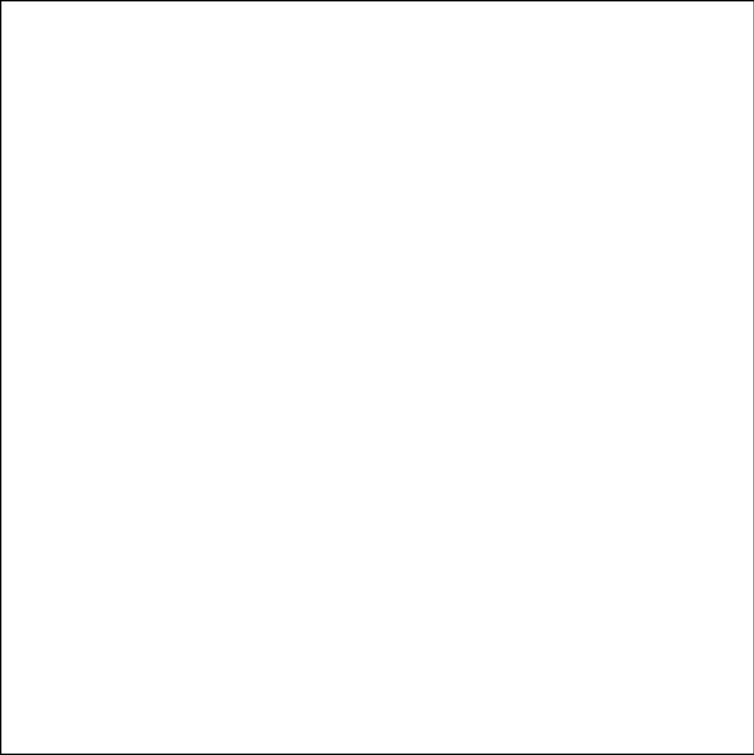


Magozwe bɔi skul yaa. Nikasemɔ ɛ wa naakpa ejaake nibii pii ye ni kpaako ebaakase. Bei komɛi ɛ enijian jeɔ wui. Shi esusɔ kɔkɔyɔkɔɔ ɛɛ kudɔɔ ke bɔɔlotswalɔ ɛ ni ekane amɛ sane ye adesa wolo ɛ mli ɛ ahe. Tamɔ amɛ fee ɛ, ɛ hu enijian ejeee wui.

...

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.





Magozwe ta yale ɛ mli ye shia ni abuyi enɔli ɛ mli eekane adesa wolo ni ekeje skul ɛ. Tɔmas bata emasɛi kraakpa. “Mɛni adesa ɛ keɔ?” Tɔmas bi. “Ekɔɔ gbekɛ nuu ko ni batsɔ tsɔɔɔ he,” Magozwe here nɔ. “Mɛni ji gbekɛ ɛ gbɛi?” Tɔmas bi. “Egbɛi ji Magozwe,” Magozwe keɛ ni enmɔ mugɛɛ.

...

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.




# Global Storybooks

[globalstorybooks.net](http://globalstorybooks.net)

**Magozwe**

**Magozwe**

 Lesley Koyi

 Wiehan de Jager

 Elizabeth Ocansey (OLE Ghana) (gaa)

