



Khalai akakanaya n'ebirimwa

Khalai talks to plants

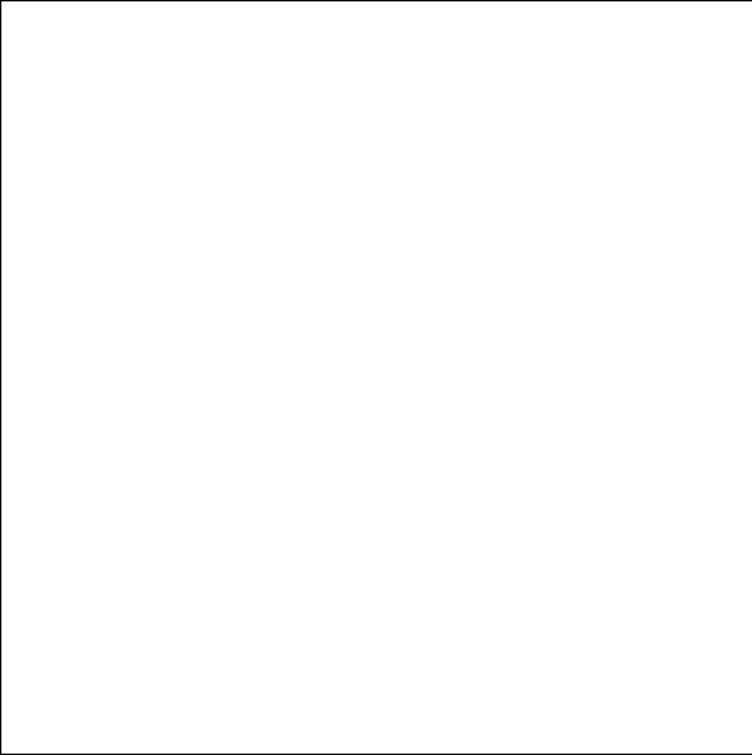
 Ursula Nafula

 Jesse Pietersen

 Amos Mubunga Kambere

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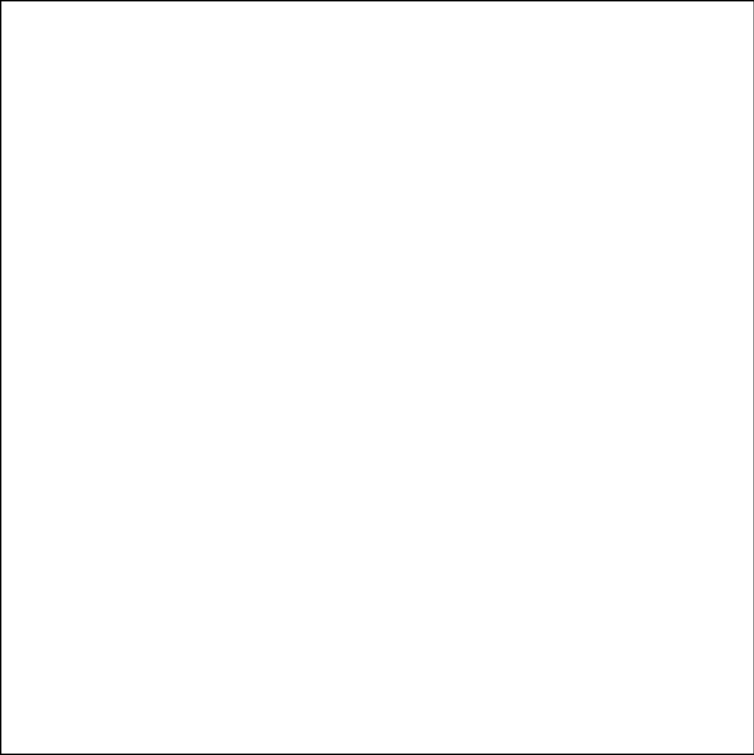
 Olukonjo koo / English en



Ono ni Khalai. Awithe myaka musangyu. Erina liwe omwalhulimi lwiwe, o'Lubukusu, limanyisaya "omubuya".

...

This is Khalai. She is seven years old. Her name means 'the good one' in her language, Lubukusu.



Khalai akabuka omwathulho neryo inyakania
nomuthi we mintsungwe athi, “kyisi muthi
wemitsungwe, kulha lhubalhuba
wangathuhererya ebiguma by'emitsungwe”.

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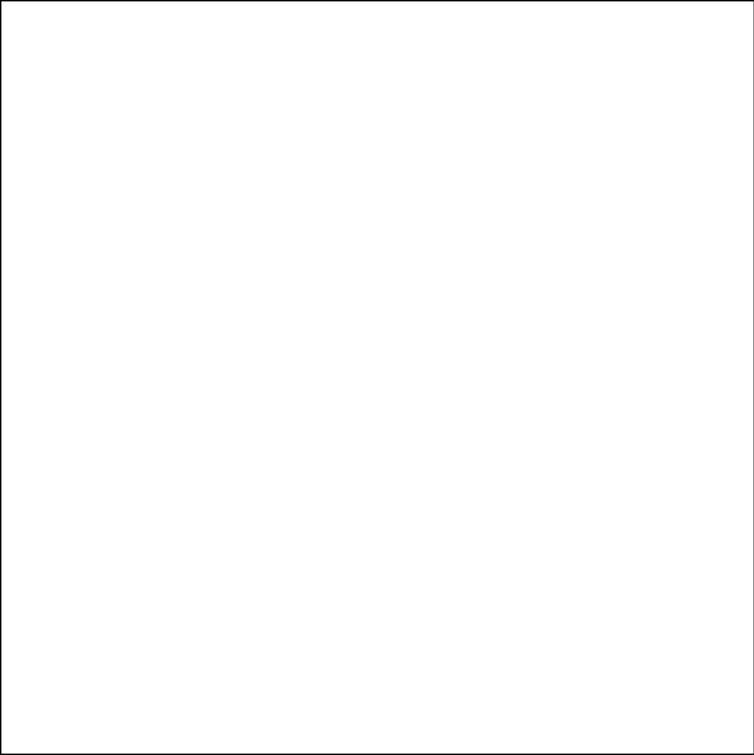
Khalai wakes up and talks to the orange tree.
“Please orange tree, grow big and give us lots
of ripe oranges.”



Khalai akaghenda omwabisando akayasoma.
Neryo akabugha nebithi athi, “kyisi bithi,
mukule, kandi muleke eryuma”

...

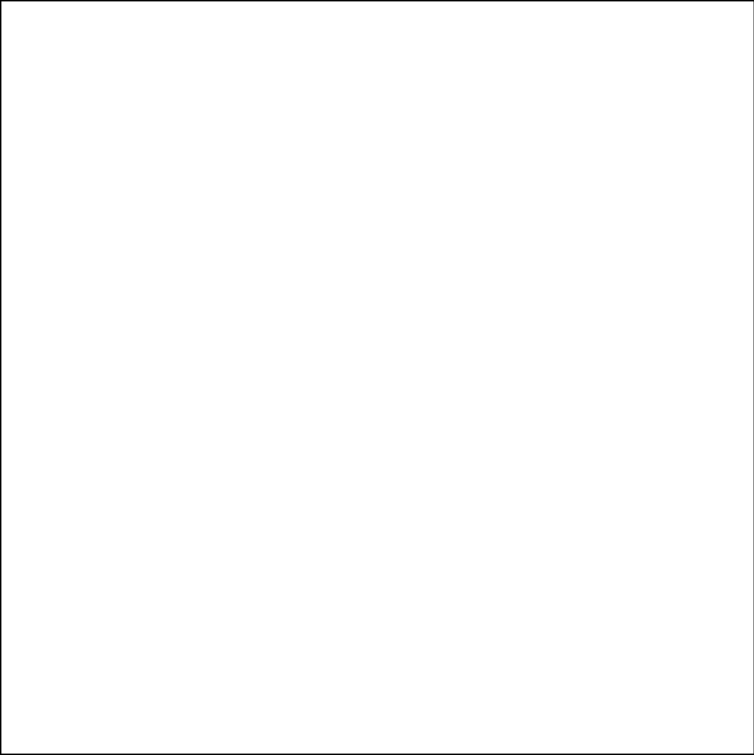
Khalai walks to school. On the way she talks to
the grass. “Please grass, grow greener and
don’t dry up.”



Khalai akalhaba okwa bimole “kyisi bimole,
musanzulhaye neryo nangabahira omwa
muthwe waghe”

...

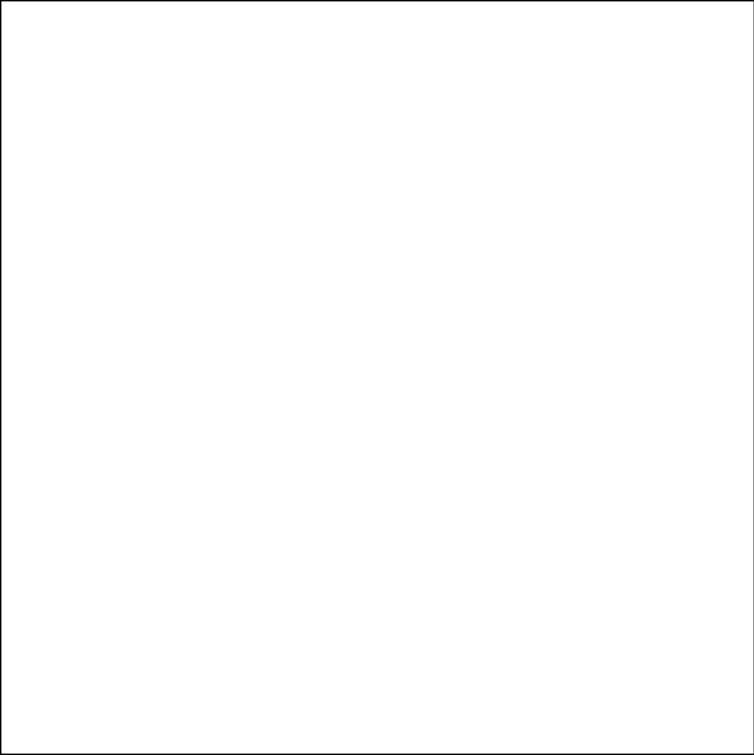
Khalai passes wild flowers. “Please flowers,
keep blooming so I can put you in my hair.”



Okw'Isomero, Khalai akabwira omuthi athi,
“kyisi muthi iwe kulhaya emithahi minene
thwangatunga ekitsutsu”

...

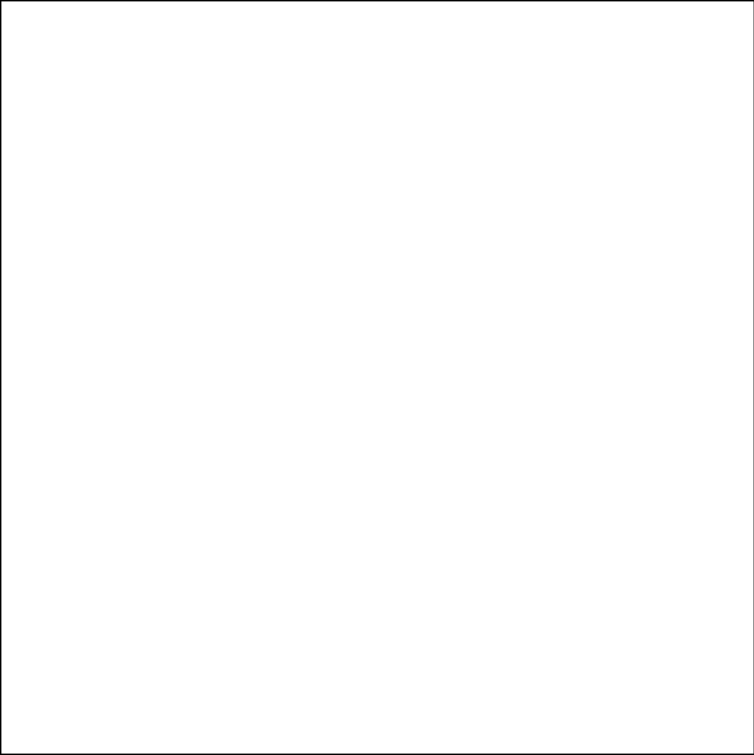
At school, Khalai talks to the tree in the middle of the compound. “Please tree, put out big branches so we can read under your shade.”



Khalai akabwira olhughuthu lw'okwisomero
athi, "kyisi lhughuthu ubye namani wangaleka
abandu babi erithendithwingirira.

...

Khalai talks to the hedge around her school.
"Please grow strong and stop bad people
from coming in."

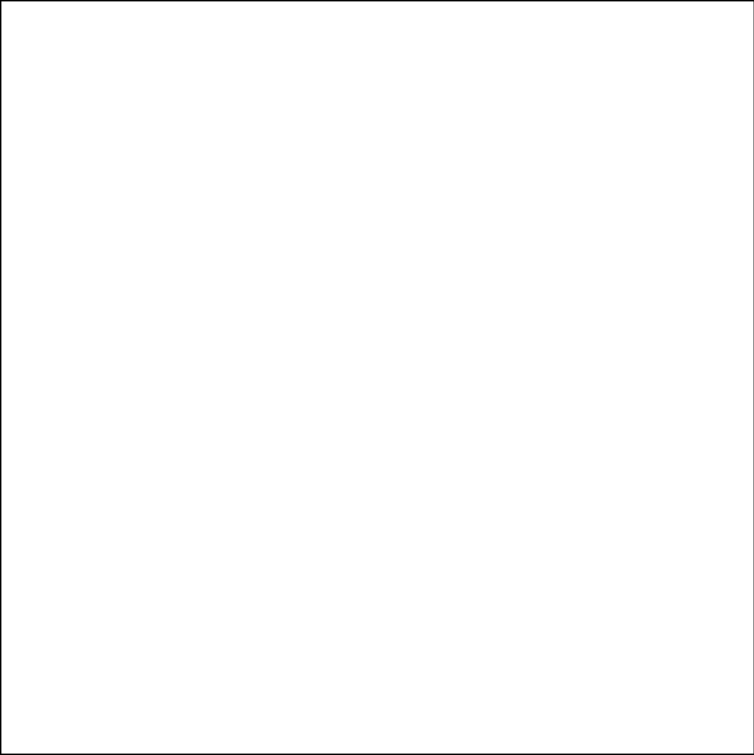


Neryo Khalai akabya akalhwa okw'isomero
akayalebaya omuthi wemitsungwe.

“emitsungwe yaghu siyiryanera kwehi?”

...

When Khalai returns home from school, she
visits the orange tree. “Are your oranges ripe
yet?” asks Khalai.



“Emitsungwe yikine makuke” uhmm...
“ngendisyakulebya omungya muthi
w’emitsungwe”. Khalai akabugha athia.
“Obundi lero ukendisyabya n’omutsungwe
owerire.”

...

“The oranges are still green,” sighs Khalai. “I
will see you tomorrow orange tree,” says
Khalai. “Perhaps then you will have a ripe
orange for me!”




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