




Erihera embutho: Omwatsi wa Wangari Maathai

A Tiny Seed: The Story of Wangari Maathai

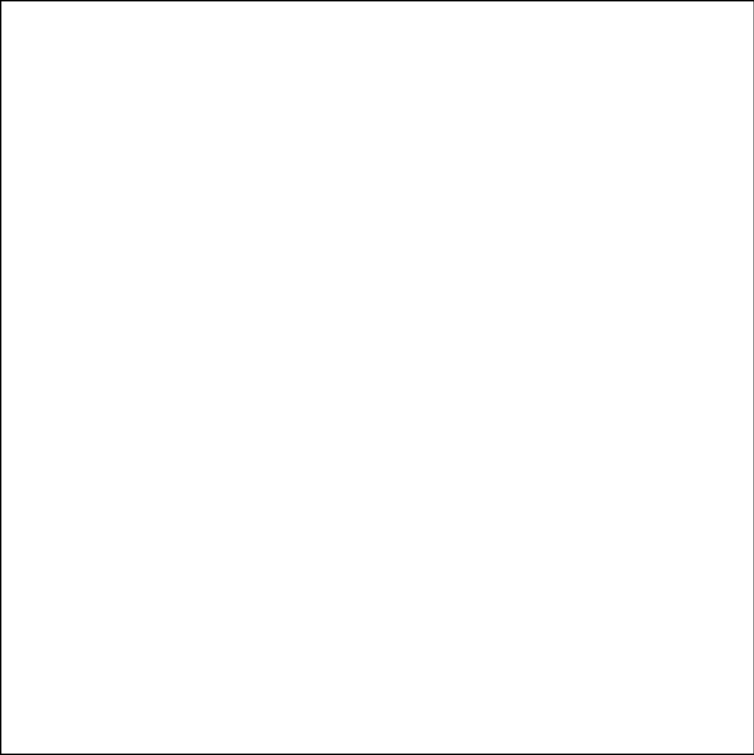
 Nicola Rijsdijk

 Maya Marshak

 Amos Mubunga Kambere

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 Olukonjo / English



Omwakyalo kighuma, okwamalambo
owokwakithwa ekye Kenya omwa Africa eyikasira
elyuba, yabya omumbesa inyakasiba omwirima na
mama wiwe, Erina liwe abya Wangari.

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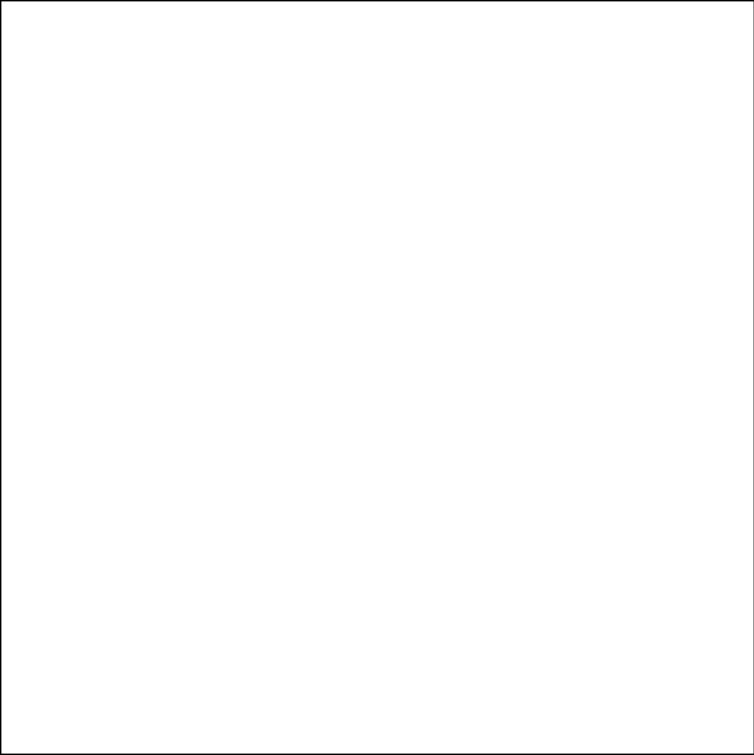
In a village on the slopes of Mount Kenya in East
Africa, a little girl worked in the fields with her
mother. Her name was Wangari.



Wangari inyanzire eribya eyihya. Omwirima
ly'ebyalya inyatakulha ekithaka omwa kipanga kiwe.
Neryo inyakahera embutho omwa mahya
omwamuthaka.

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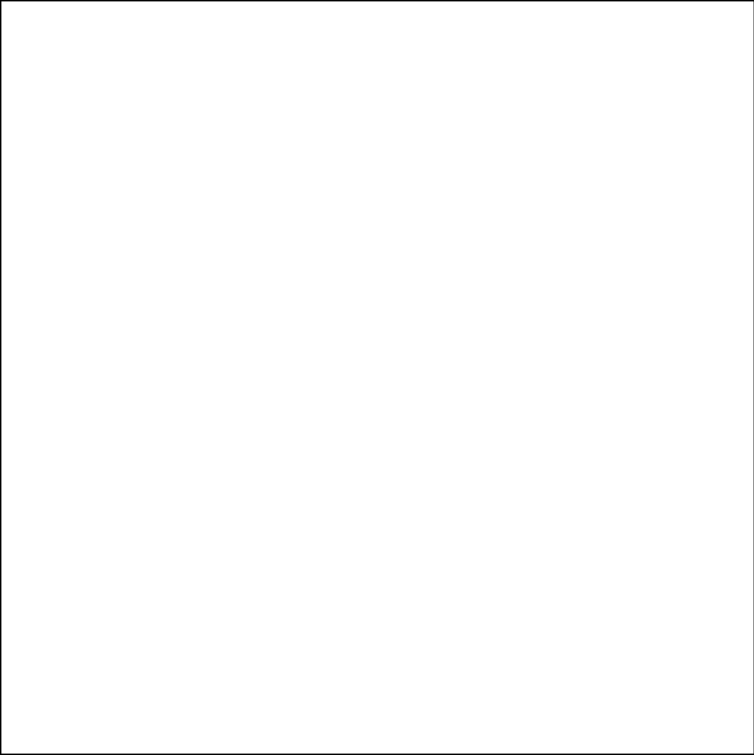
Wangari loved being outside. In her family's food
garden she broke up the soil with her machete. She
pressed tiny seeds into the warm earth.



Omusika inyanzire obuthuko bwenkyakya. Neryo bukira omwigholhogholho akamina athi esaha yerikulhuka yamahika. Neryo inyakakwama akayira akakalhaba okwamisike y'amalima, nerisoka esyanyusi.

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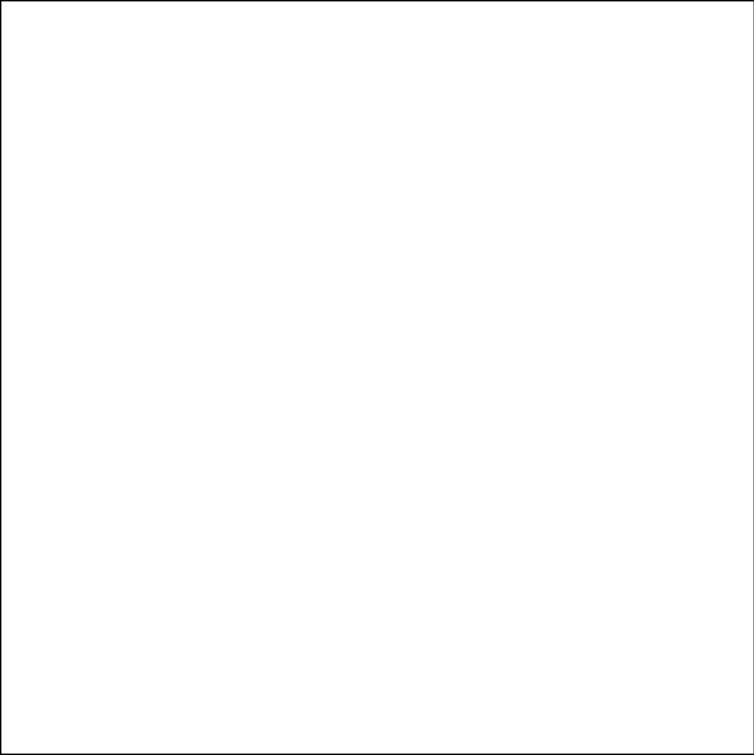
Her favourite time of day was just after sunset. When it got too dark to see the plants, Wangari knew it was time to go home. She would follow the narrow paths through the fields, crossing rivers as she went.



Wangari abya mumbesa w'amange, isyangalinda erighenda omw'itendekero. Kyonga mama na thatha wiwe babyabanzire inyikalha eka eribawathikya. Abere ahika emyaka musangyu, mukulhu wiwe mwa sonasona ababuthi athi bamuleke aghende angatsuka erisoma.

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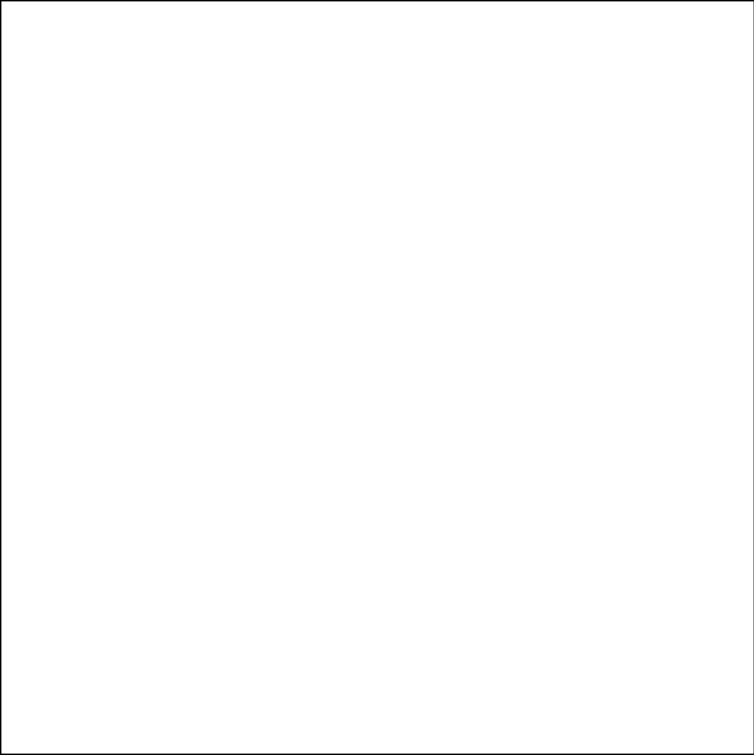
Wangari was a clever child and couldn't wait to go to school. But her mother and father wanted her to stay and help them at home. When she was seven years old, her big brother persuaded her parents to let her go to school.



Mwanza ekisoma! Wangari mwaminya bindu binene habwerisoma bitabu binene. Mwakolha ndeke omwa masomo neryo abakulhu bamamusaba eriyasomera omw'Amarica. Wangari mwabunyahirwa! Mwanza eriyitheghererya eby'ekihugho kyosi.

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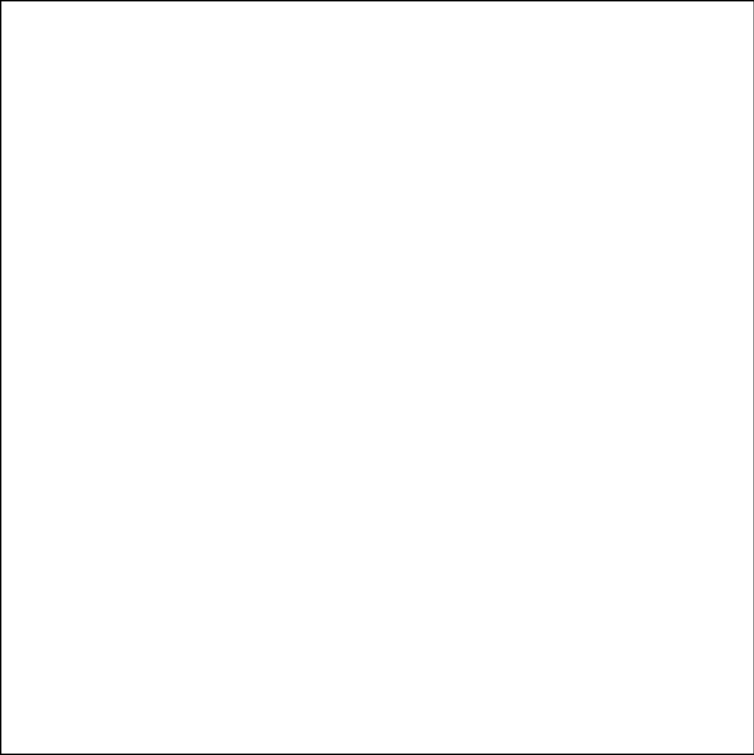
She liked to learn! Wangari learnt more and more with every book she read. She did so well at school that she was invited to study in the United States of America. Wangari was excited! She wanted to know more about the world.



Okwa University om'America Wangari mwasoma bindu binene. Mwasoma okwabithi ngokubikalhasa nerikulha. Neryo nayo amibuka ngokwakulha: erisatha emisatho haima nabaghalha babo ahisi yebitsutsu omwabibira by'emisithu ye'Kenya.

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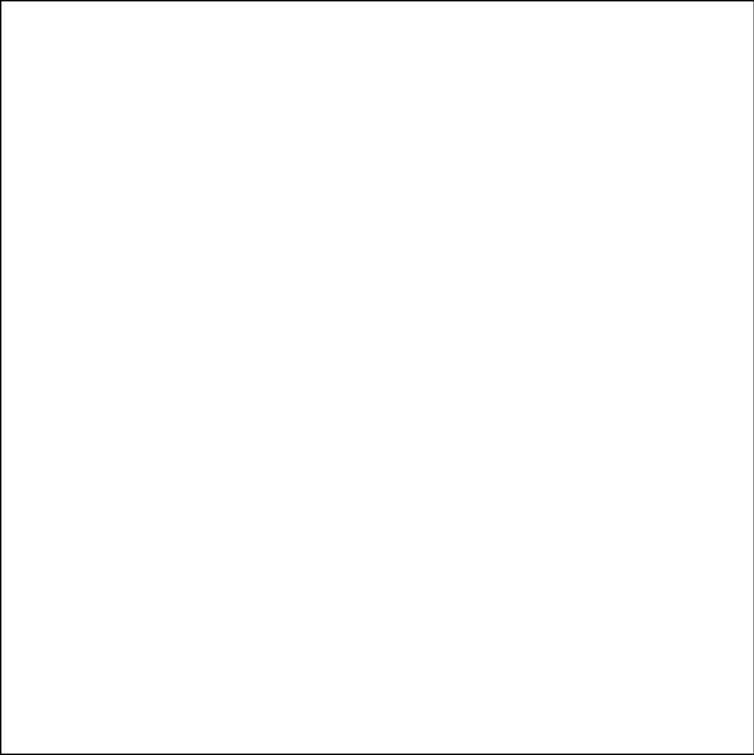
At the American university Wangari learnt many new things. She studied plants and how they grow. And she remembered how she grew: playing games with her brothers in the shade of the trees in the beautiful Kenyan forests.



Eyanasomera kutsibu mwasa akalangira kwanzire abandu be'Kenya. Mwanza erilhangira athi nabo bakayira obughabe, neribya netseme. Ekisomo kinene ikikaleka iny'ibuka abandu biwe ab'Africa.

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The more she learnt, the more she realised that she loved the people of Kenya. She wanted them to be happy and free. The more she learnt, the more she remembered her African home.



Abere aghunza ekisomo kiwe, mwasuba ewabu e'Kenya. Mwasangana ekihugho ikyabirihinduka. Amalima inyabirikanya. Emithi eyesyangwe isiyikyiriyo. Abandu banene inibanaku n'abana ibakahwa n'enzalha.

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When she had finished her studies, she returned to Kenya. But her country had changed. Huge farms stretched across the land. Women had no wood to make cooking fires. The people were poor and the children were hungry.



Wangari mwaminya ekyerikolha. Mwatsuka erisomesya abaghole erihera emithi. Neryo yabirikulha mubatsuka erighuliayo, nerithunga esyambulho esyeriwathikya ebihanda byabu. Abaghole mubayisyetha. Wangari mwabawathikya eriyira amani neriyikolera.

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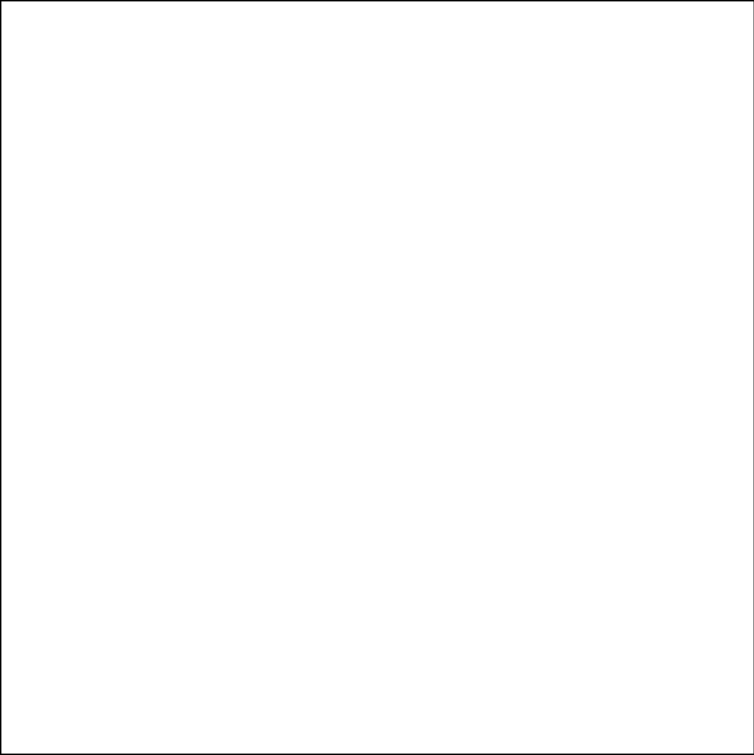
Wangari knew what to do. She taught the women how to plant trees from seeds. The women sold the trees and used the money to look after their families. The women were very happy. Wangari had helped them to feel powerful and strong.



Obuthuku bwamabya bwabirilhaba emithi
yaherawa yamahinduka misithu, kandi nesyanyusi
syamatsuka erisenda kutsibu. Omwatsi
w'omumbesa Wangari mwaminyikalha omwa Africa
yosi. Munabwire obuthabarika bwemithi
bwamabirihewa erilhwa omwambutho ya Wangari.

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As time passed, the new trees grew into forests, and
the rivers started flowing again. Wangari's message
spread across Africa. Today, millions of trees have
grown from Wangari's seeds.



Erikolha kutsibu lya Wangari mulyaminywa nekihugho kyosi. Neryo mubamuha ewasinjya eyembaghane. Mubamwambalya Omudali ow'Obuholho. Mwabya Mughole w'okubanza omw'Africa eriambalibwa omudali oyo.

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Wangari had worked hard. People all over the world took notice, and gave her a famous prize. It is called the Nobel Peace Prize, and she was the first African woman ever to receive it.



Wangari mwaholha 2011, Aliriryo thukabya
thukalangira omuthi owiwene, neryo thukibuka
omughole Wangari.

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Wangari died in 2011, but we can think of her every
time we see a beautiful tree.




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