



Djxa Zambezi n!ang

Swimming in the Zambezi

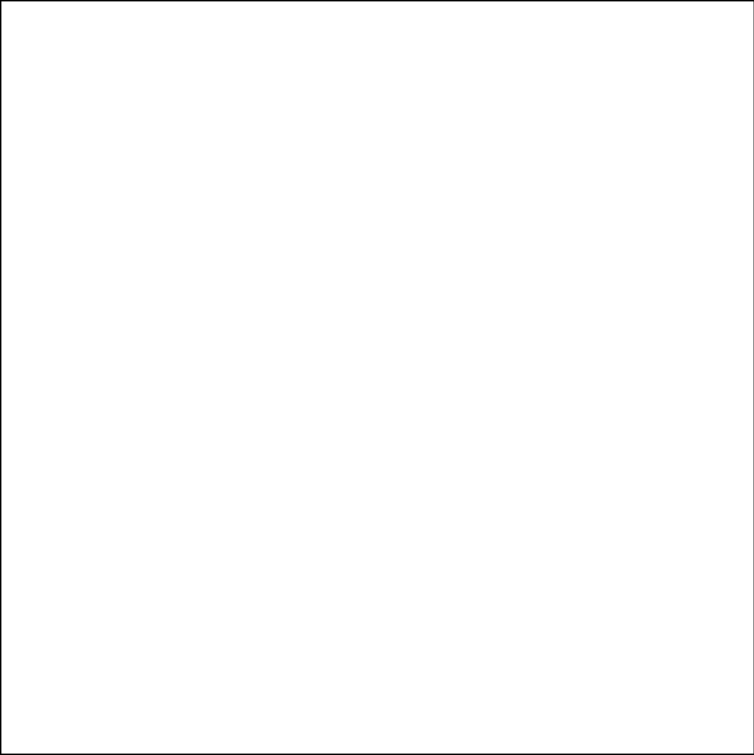
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 Kleopas Jambeinge

 Sylvia Fernandu

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 Ju|'hoansi ktz / English en



Ka koh o Sondah g!oa. Te ||'ohm sa o |useses koh ||xae||xaea
Musikili !ahina din ko Kaprivi.

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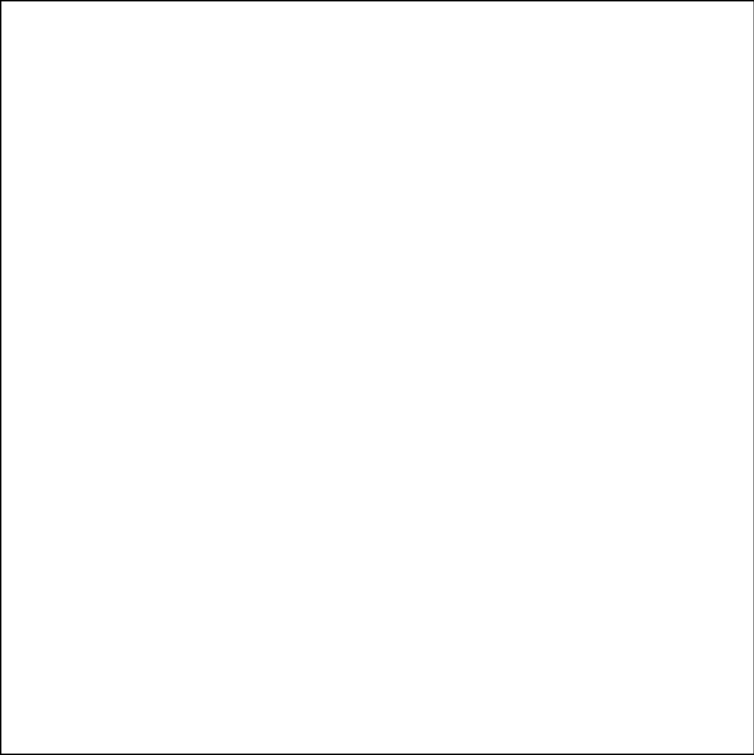
It was a bright sunny Sunday afternoon. The young girls in
Luseses were gathering under the branches of the biggest
Musikili tree in Caprivi.



Zoqin dohma sa o si gasi koh tsa'a ka !'ae ko tju|ho n!ang
waqnsi. Si koh !'au si ɬarasi. "Nakamwu, mi !'hai a." "Ko coa,
Chaze." "Silume! We!"

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The excited buzz of their voices was heard all over the village.
They called their friends. "Nakamwu, I'm waiting for you."
"Hurry up, Chaze." "Silume! Come on!"



Maria koh kxoa n||o Ntwala. Ntwala nṭai djxa si!a ko Sondah n|ui waqne. “Ntwala! Ntwalee! Ntwalaa! Ntwaloo!” ha koe !’au.

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Maria looked around for Ntwala. Ntwala took them swimming every Sunday. “Ntwala! Ntwalee! Ntwalaaa! Ntwaloo!” she called.



Ntwala !'au ||ama tju|ho !an n|ui te ko, "Mim he! Te !'hai a."
||'Hom waqn he !aah kxoa ha.

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Ntwala shouted from the other side of the village, "I'm here!
I'm waiting for you." All the girls ran to find her.



“I re toto |’an i!a |’aes i ko d|xa ko |ama he wa?” Ntwala tsitsa’a si!a. “Ehee.” Si|a !au |xoa !ka n|ang te ku khu taqm ka zoqin.

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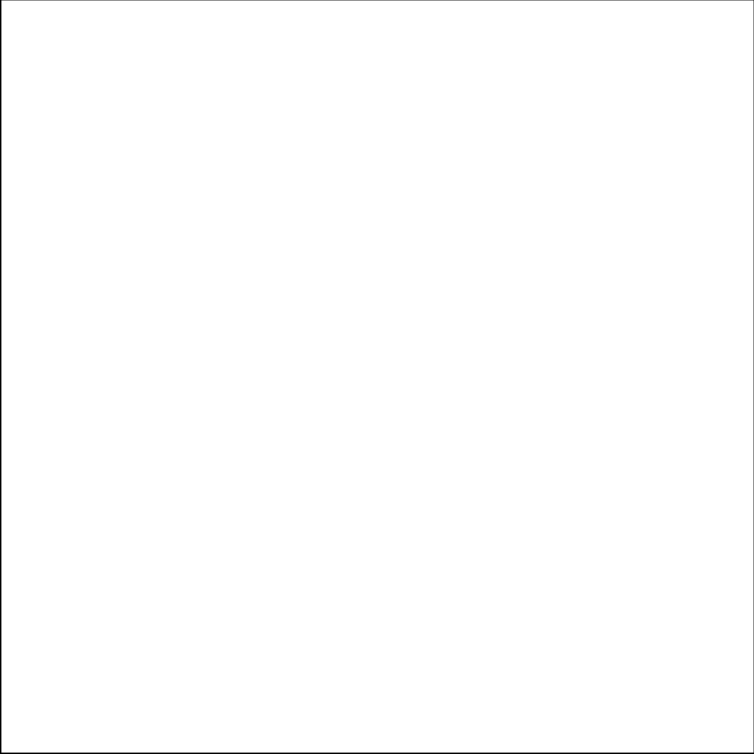
“Are you ready to go swimming today?” Ntwala asked them. “Yes,” they shouted happily as they hopped and jumped with excitement.



Ka si cu he ku n̄aoh ḡaeh a !xom Ntwala tsin te ku n̄oahn n̄oahnsi. “N̄oahn e!a ko ||’aea nere g!u n!a’an-n!a’an koh g!a’ama tju|ho n!ang,” Si!a koe n||ae. “N̄oahn e!a ko |Ari kota g|oahra tci ooa.”

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As they walked to the river Ntwala told them stories. “Tell us about when our village was flooded,” they called. “Tell us about the Jackal and the Baboon.”



!Xom !xa'ama kaqe !ahina n!a'an koh n|anga. Te ||'hom koh
kxoa |'an Ntwala ko kaqe n|ai n!a'an.

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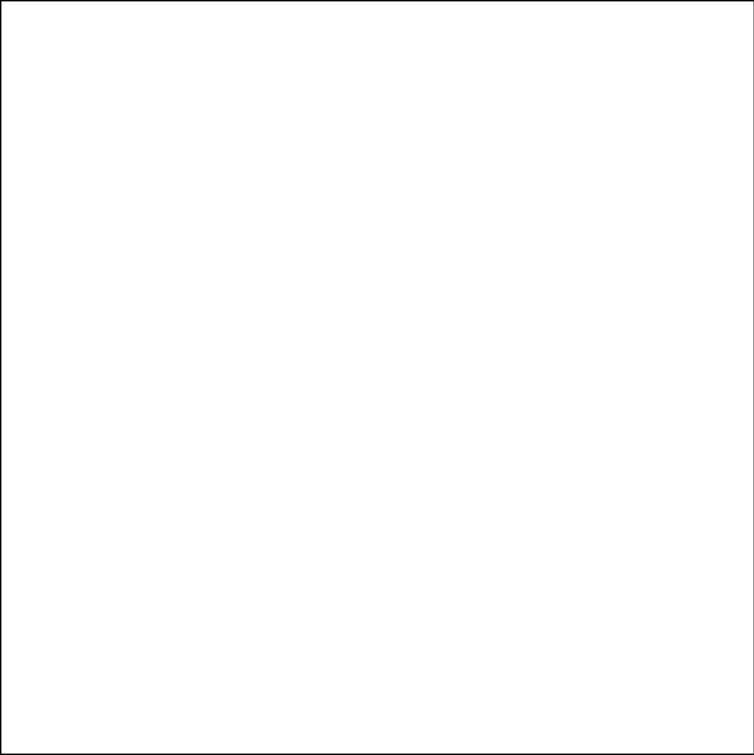
Beside the river there was an enormous Marula tree. The girls
looked for the biggest marula fruit for Ntwala.



“Mi ho ka n!a’an-n!a’an,” Joy koe n||ae. Te !’an ka ko Ntwala.

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“I’ve got the biggest,” shouted Joy. She gave her marula fruit to Ntwala.



“!a ka g|ae djxa,” Ntwala koe !oa ||’hom. Si!a wagnsi !aah
g!a’ama g!u !ka, si!a !au ka ||’aqi||’aqin tshi ka si!a tsa’a Zambezi
!xom g!ua ꞑ’aua ta’msi.

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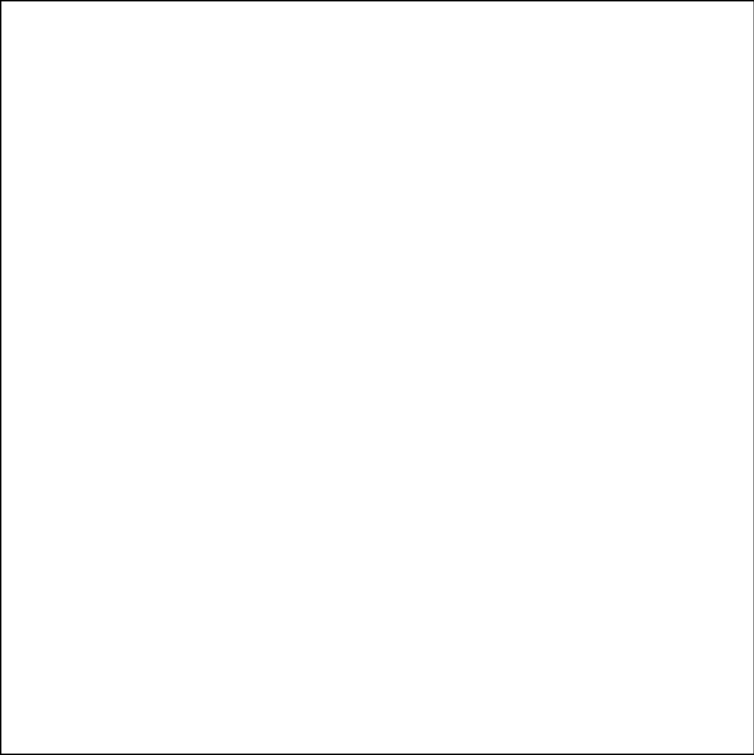
“Off you go and swim,” said Ntwala to the girls. They all ran
into the water, shrieking and giggling as they felt the cold
water of the Zambezi River.



Ntwala koh n!uan !an. Ha koh se ʔoqnisih. Ha se tca ||'hom !ae
!ae oo nɬuianakhoe. Ha se tca ||'hommh o kuia g!u kota n!aroh
djxa.

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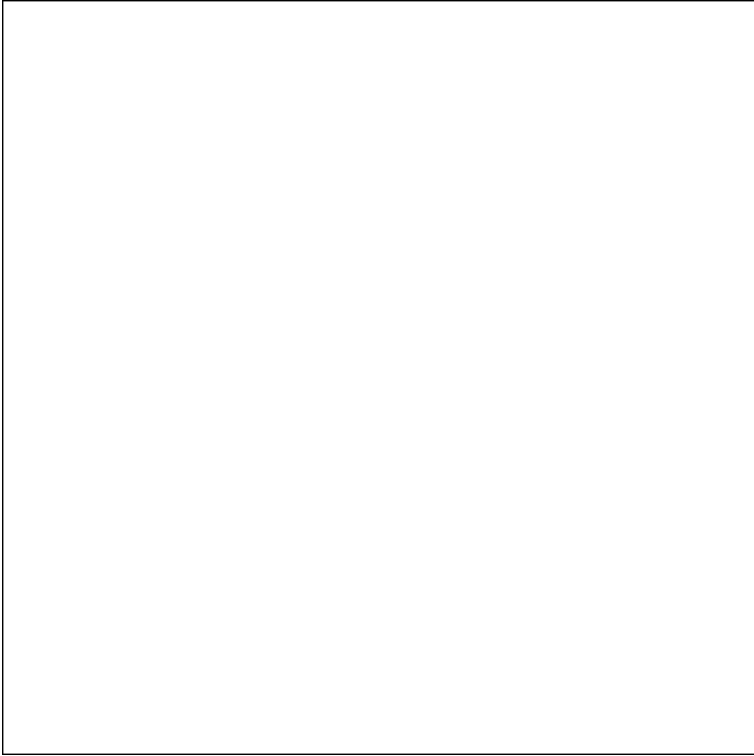
Ntwala stood on the bank. She watched for crocodiles. She
watched the older girls racing and diving. She watched the
younger girls splashing and learning to swim.



“Guua khoe ||’aea” ha koh koe !au !oa si!a. “G||a n|ae.” Ha koh ||’hai tsau kaqe n|ai n!a’an-n!a’an. Ha koh n!oa |’u Ɂxan ka ko g!u !ka.

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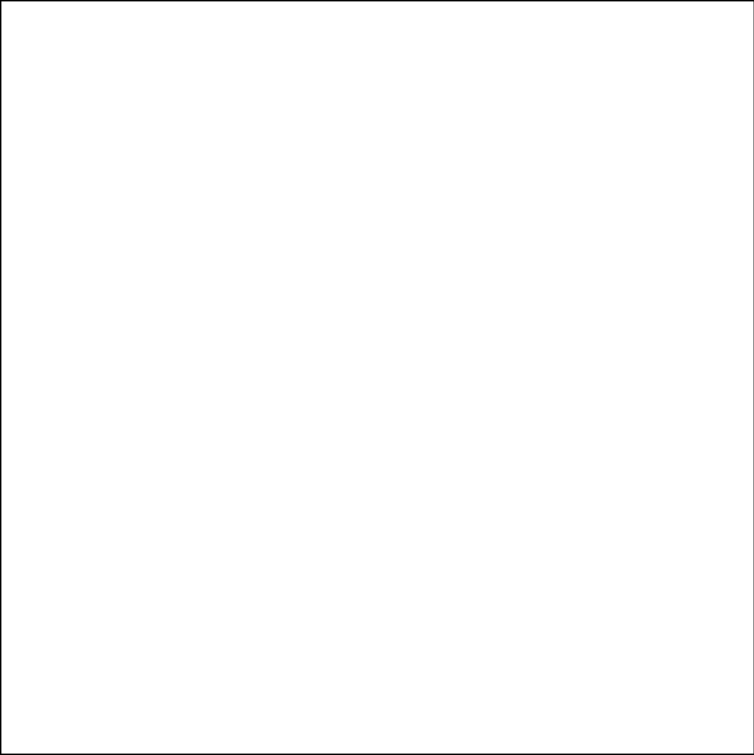
“Competition time,” she shouted at last. “Stand in a line.” She picked up the biggest marula fruit. She threw it as far as she could into the water.



“N|e’e, tsan, n!ani to’a!” ha koe n||ae. Da’abi !aah g!a’ama g!u
!ka te ku djxa ua kaqe n|ai. Ntwala koh se si!a.

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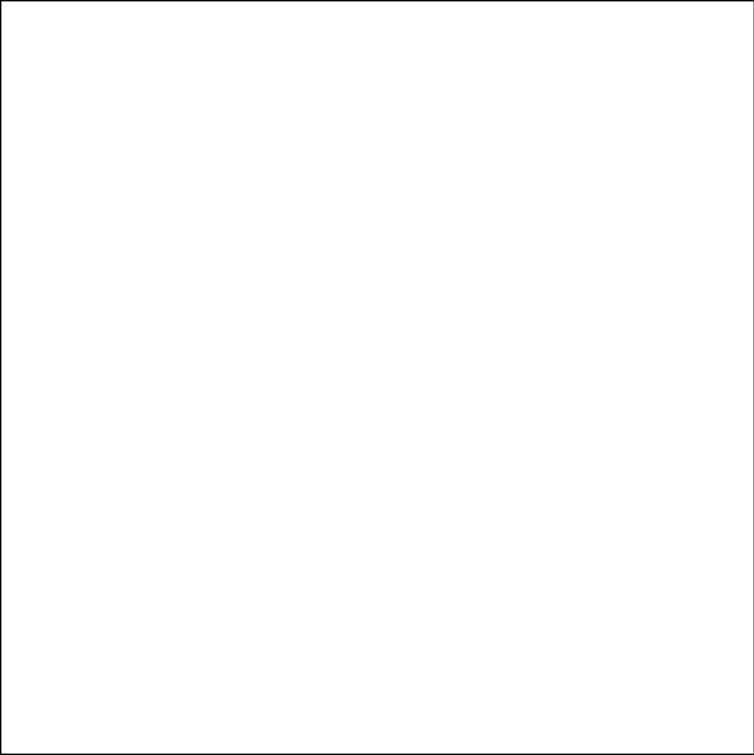
“One, two, three. GO!” she called. The children ran into the
water and swam to the marula fruit. Ntwala watched them.



“Mi ꞑ’an!” Maria sa Chaze koh !’au ꞑꞑxae. “Itsa waqnsi ꞑ’an,”
Ntwala koe nꞑꞑae.

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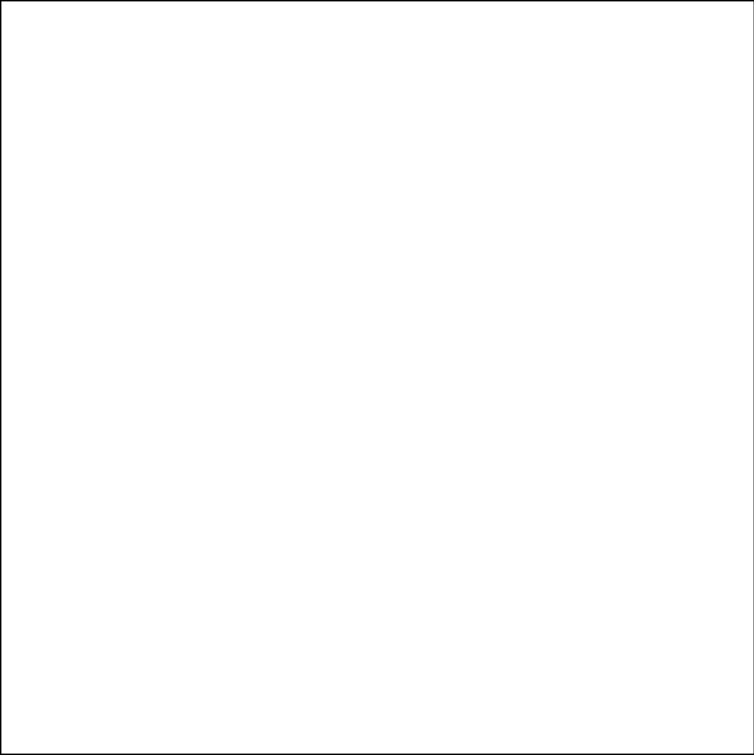
“I’m first!” shouted Maria and Chaze at the same time. “You are
both first,” called Ntwala.



“Mi kare gua khoe,” Maria koe n||ae. “Kaja’an!” Chaze koe n||ae.
“M!a xoana, ntwala?” Tsitsa’a dshaunmhi gesin.

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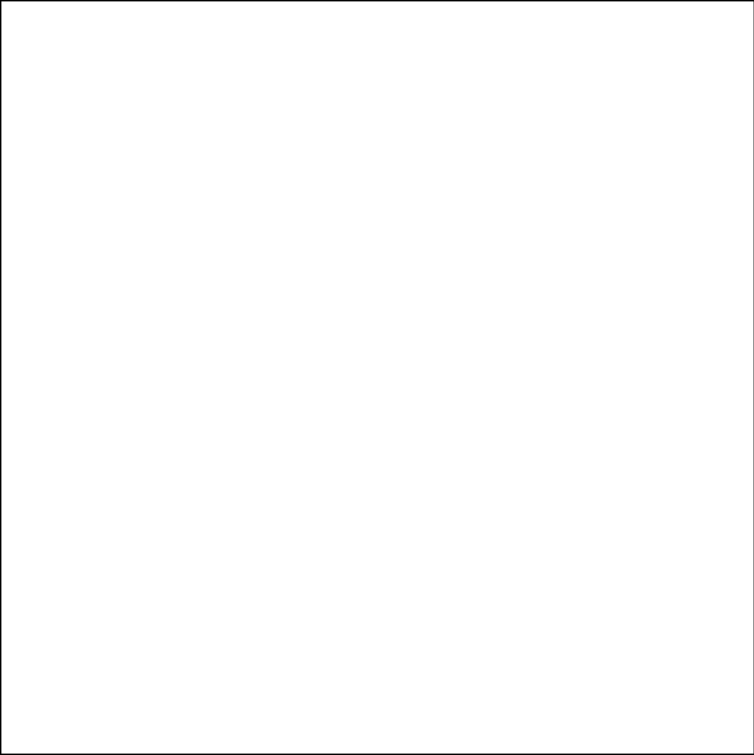
“I want to race again,” said Maria. “OK!” said Chaze. “Can we, Ntwala?” asked the other girls.



“Ce n|ang g||a n|ae” Ntwala !oa si!a. Ha gu tsau kage n|ai
n!a’an-n!a’an te n!oan ꞑxan ka.

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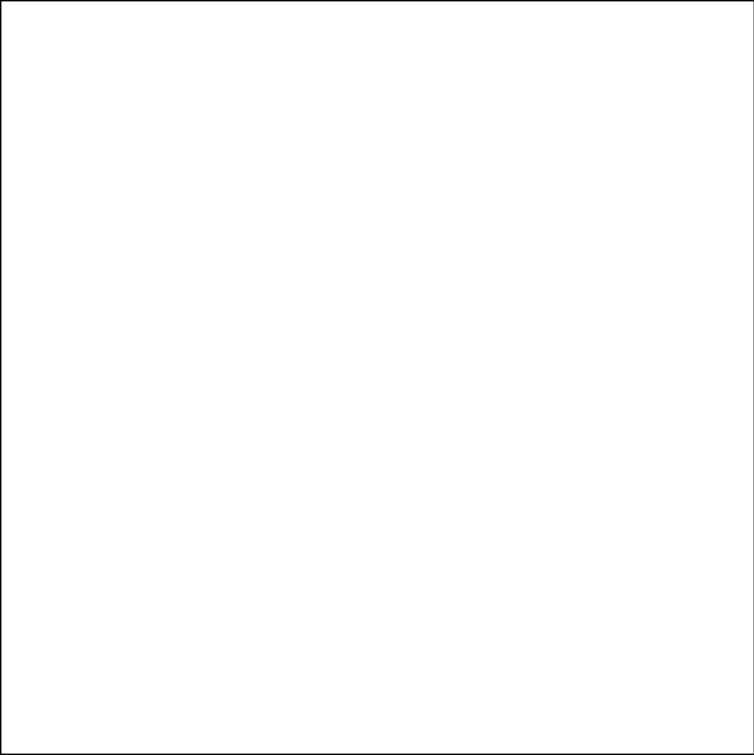
“Stand in line again,” Ntwala told them. She picked up a
marula fruit and threw it as far as she could.



“N|e’e, tsan, n!ani to’a!” ha koe n||ae. Da’abi !aah g!a’ama g!u
!ka te ku djxa ua kaqe n|ai. Ntwala koh se si!a.

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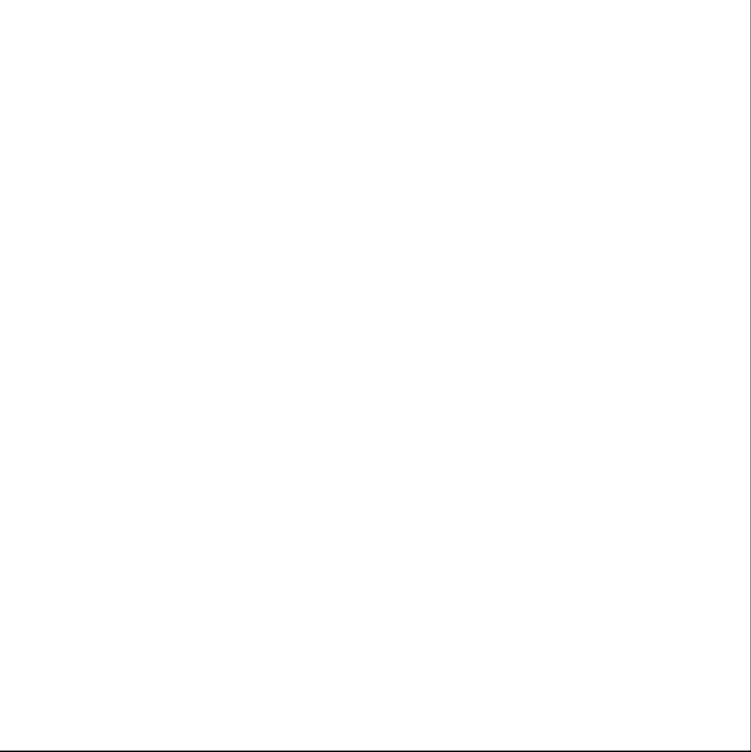
“One, two, three. GO!” she called. The children ran into the
water and swam to the marula fruit. Ntwala watched them.



“Mi ꞑ’an!” Chaze koh !au. Maria ꞑ’ani djxa. “Chaze o tahn kxao,”
Ntwala koe n||ae. “||Au du, Chaze. M!a ka g!a tju|ho.”

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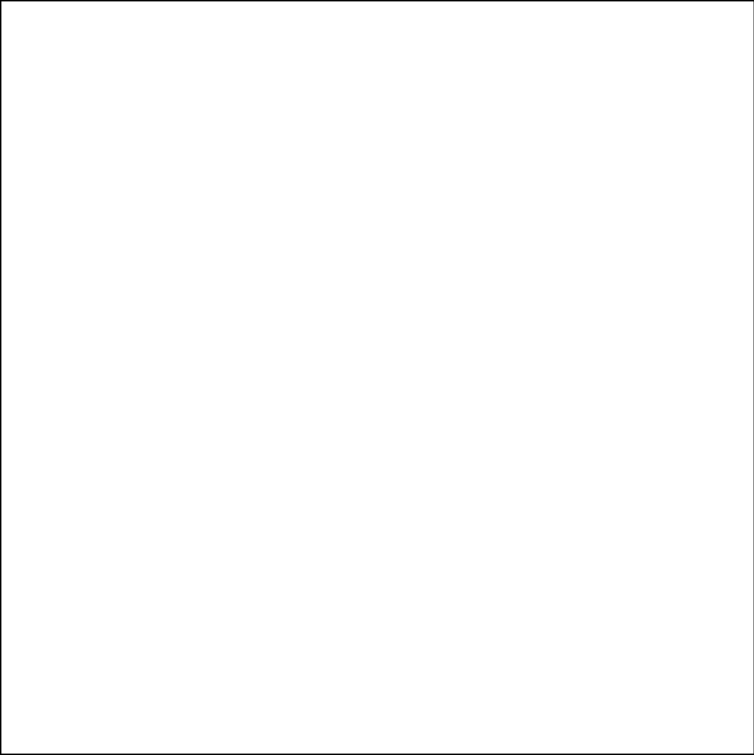
“I’m first!” shouted Chaze. Maria stopped swimming. “Chaze is
the winner,” said Ntwala. “Well done, Chaze. Let’s go home
now.”



Da'abi n̄aoh g!a |xoa Ntwala ko tju|ho. "N̄oahn e!a ko n̄oahnsi, Ntwala" si!a ḡara. S!a koh are ku ̄aēae ha n̄oahnsi.

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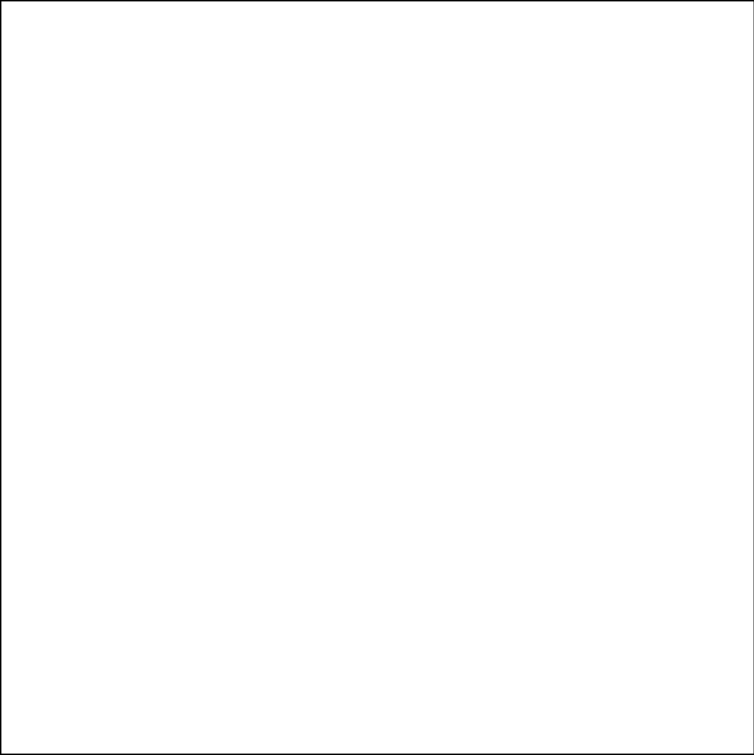
The children walked home with Ntwala. "Tell us a story, Ntwala," they asked. They loved to listen to her stories.



Maria ||ama !'o-n!ang te ||ahm !ao Chaze. Te Chaze koh coa te tjin. "Chaze ||'a taqe ku nɬam a," Joy koe !oa Maria.

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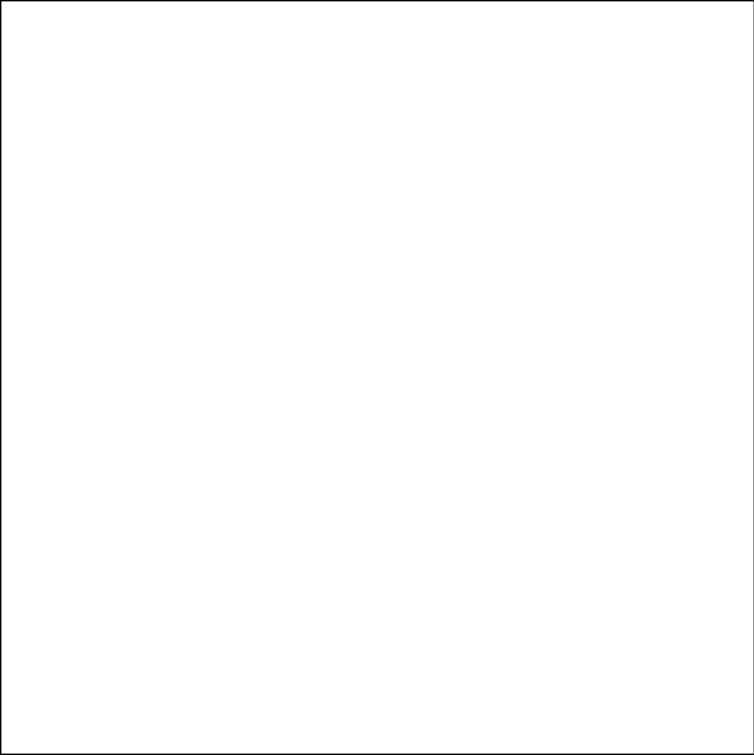
Maria crept up behind Chaze and pushed her to the ground. Chaze started to cry. "Chaze's mother will beat you," said Joy to Maria.



“Maria! Hatce khoea re a n̄am Chaze?” Ntwala tsitsa’a. “Ha tahn djxa. Ka koh |oa to,” Maria koe n||ae.

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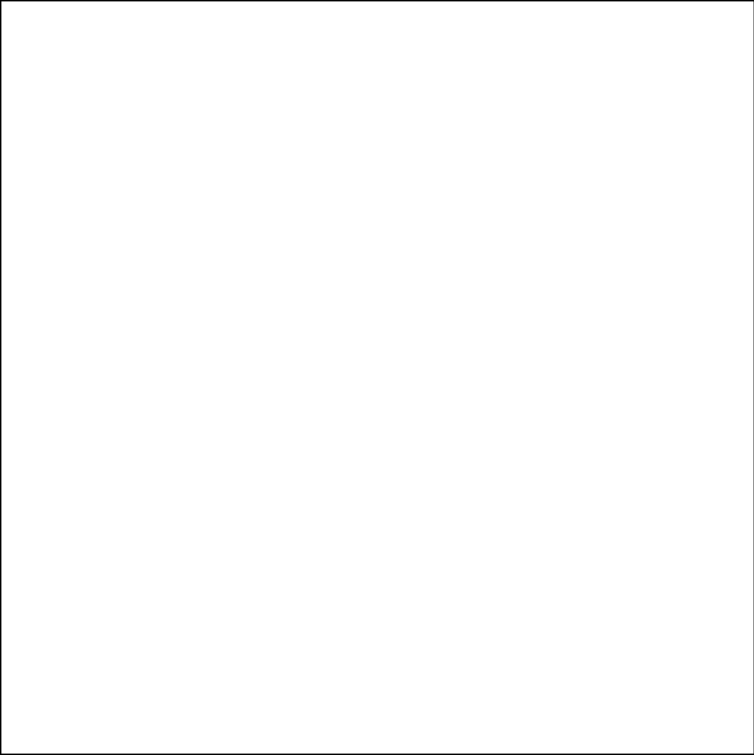
“Maria! Why did you hit Chaze?” asked Ntwala. “She won at swimming. It’s not fair,” Maria said.



Ntwala g̑ara ǁ'hom waqnsi n|ang si!a g!ooa nǁari n!ang.
“Skore ǁ'aiha re !oa m!a ko hatce?” Ha tsitsa'a. “Ka |oa jan ko
n!aih ǁ'aa. Jusa ǁ'aa n!aih ǂaun ǁxara hi |'aesi,” Nakamwa koe
nǁae.

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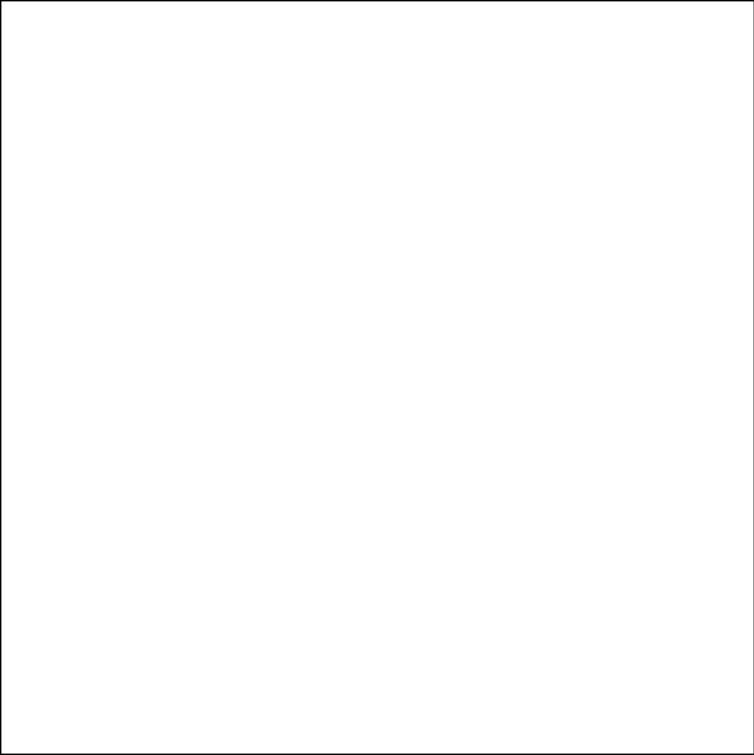
Ntwala asked all the girls to sit in a circle. “What did the
principal tell us?” she asked. “It’s bad to fight. People who fight
must be punished,” said Nakamwu.



“Maria ꞑ’aun gꞑara ꞑꞑae ꞑ’an,” Namasiku koe nꞑꞑa. “Chaze ꞑ’aun ꞑꞑam ce ha,” Joy koe nꞑꞑae. “A-an, ka, ka ꞑoa jan ke ꞑꞑama khoe,” Ntwala koe nꞑꞑae.

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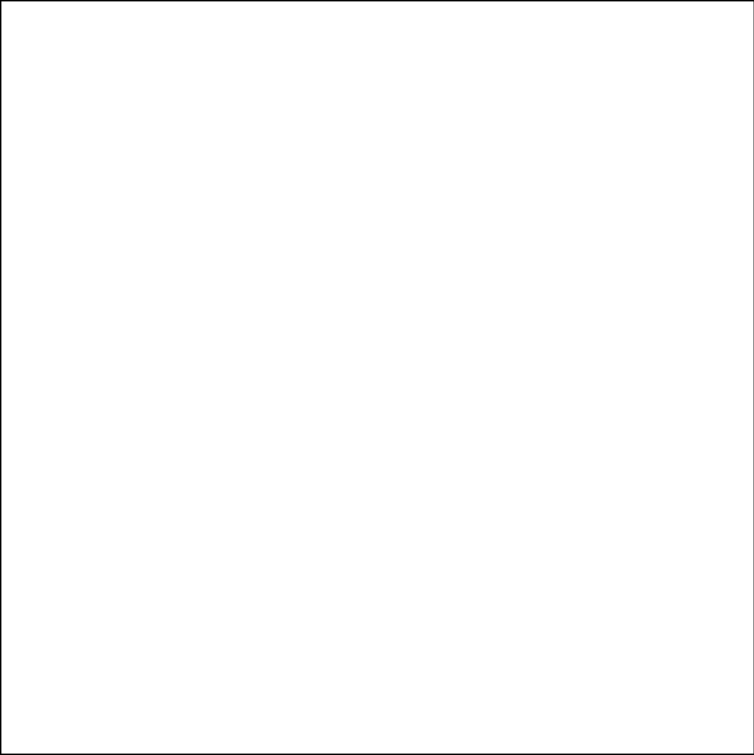
“Maria must say sorry,” said Namasiku. “Chaze must hit her back,” said Joy. “No, it is wrong to hit each other,” said Ntwala.



Ntwala ko “mi ɸ’ang te ko Maria te |oa djxa |xoa m!a ko Sondah ku tsi.” Maria tjin tcaq ha g|a’a !usi. “Mi... mi... ||ae na Chaze. ||Ae na ka ke mi nɸ’am a. Mi |oa ceka nɸ’am ju n|ui,” ha koe gɸara kxui.

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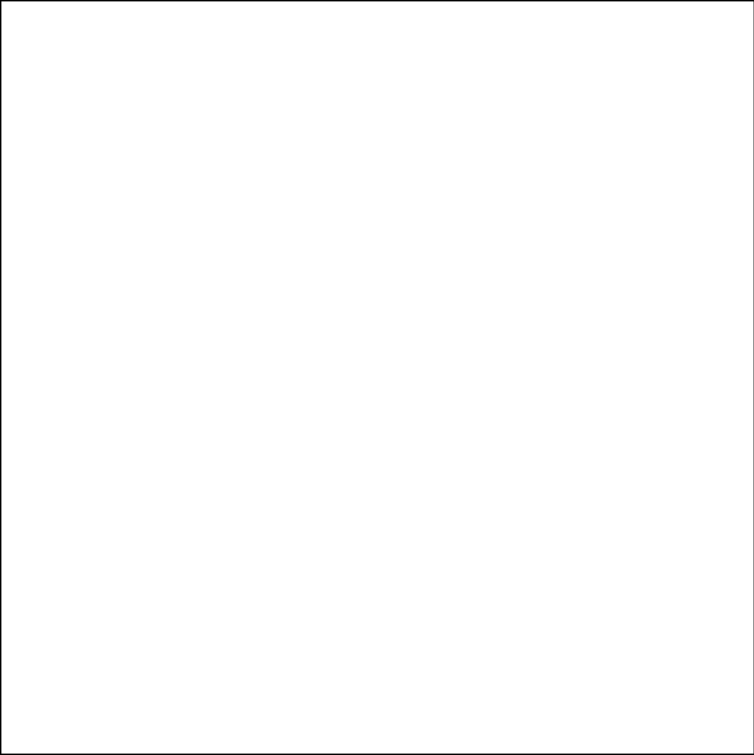
Ntwala said, “I think Maria should miss swimming next Sunday.” Maria cried a flood of tears. “I... I... I’m sorry Chaze. I’m sorry I hit you. I’ll never hit anyone again,” she apologised.



“Mi ||ae !’an a,” Chaze koe n||ae te n!ama Maria. “Etsa Maria ku g!a |xoa a ko tju|ho,” Ntwala koe !oa Chaze. “Maria ceka g!a g!ara a taqe ko ||ae !’an.”

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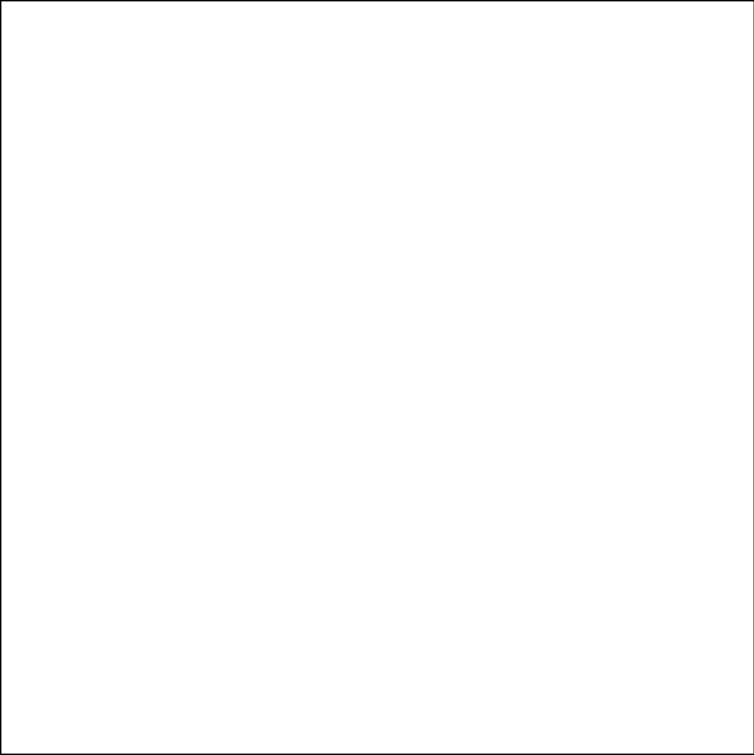
“I forgive you,” said Chaze and put her arm around Maria.
“Maria and I will come home with you,” said Ntwala to Chaze.
“Maria will apologise to your mother too.”



Maria !oa Chaze ||'a ha taqe, "mi nɣ'am Chaze khama ha tahn
djxa. ||Ae na. Chaze o mi ɣara, ka koh !oa jan ko ha nɣ'am."

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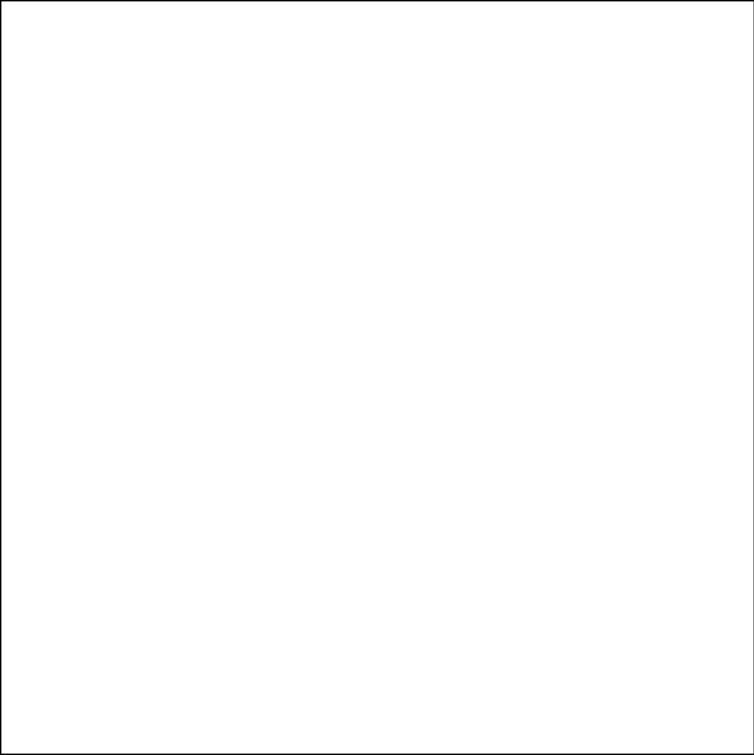
Maria told Chaze's mother, "I hit Chaze because she won the
race. I'm sorry. Chaze is my friend, it was bad to hit her."



Sibungo di n!a'an ǀaeǀae Maria. "Ka koh ǀoa jan Maria, ka ǀoa jan ko ju nǀ'am. Mi hui a ko ka ke a tsi gǀara mi ko ǁae ǀ'an. Mi ǁae ǀ'an a." Mrs Sibungo di n!a'an ǀoa Ntwala te ko, "A o ǁ'aiha jan."

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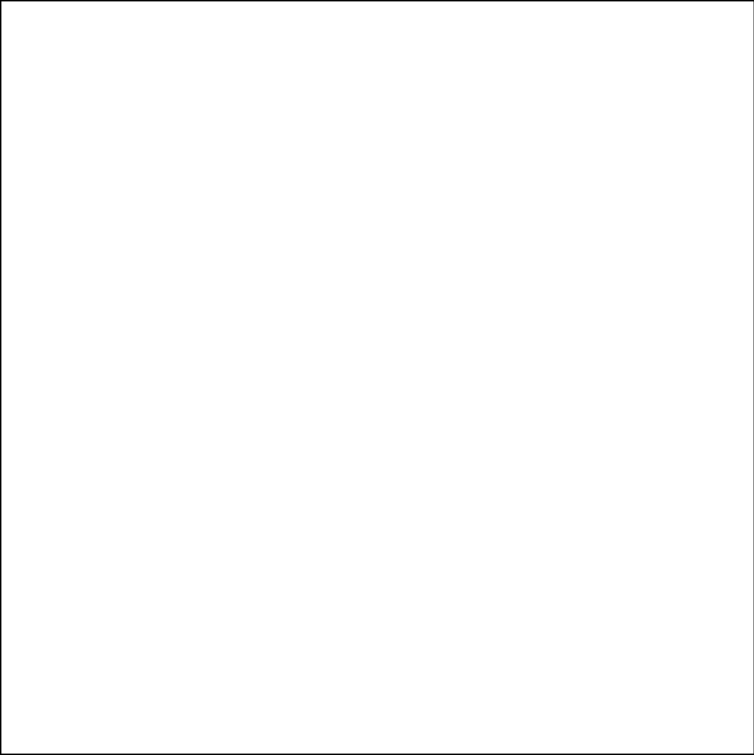
Mrs. Sibungo listened to Maria. "That was wrong Maria, it is bad to hit people. Thank you for apologising to me. I forgive you." Mrs. Sibungo told Ntwala, "You are a good leader."



Sibungo di n!a'an kokxui |xoa da'abi waqnsi. "Ntwala koh ₪'ang
|'an ||xara ja ko Maria. Ha n₪'am Chaze khama ha |oa tahn g!u
djxa. ||'Aike ha |oa xoana djxa."

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Mrs. Sibungo spoke to all the children. "Ntwala thought of a
good punishment for Maria. She hit Chaze because she lost
the swimming race. Now she will not be able to race."



“Aia,” Chaze zoma. “Mi |oa kare ka Maria sin gea tju|ho ko Sondah ka tsi g|ae. Mi kare ka etsa g|ae gua khoe ko bekea tsi g|ae cete!”

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“But Mum,” Chaze smiled, “I don’t want Maria to stay at home next Sunday. I want to race her at the swimming next week too!”



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