## Nozibele ndi Sisi Litatu Nozibele and the three hairs

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- **il** 3
- Chichewa [ny] / English [en]

Kalekale, atsikana atatu anayenda kukathyola nkhuni.
A long time ago, three girls went out to collect wood.

Tsikuli linali lakupya ndipo iwo anaganiza kuti akamyaye kumtsinje. Anasowera ndikutaya manzi nakumyaya mumanzi.

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It was a hot day so they went down to the river to swim. They played and splashed and swam in the water.

Mwazizi, anaona kuti kwafipa. Anathamangila kumunzi.
Suddenly, they realised that it was late. They hurried back to the village.

Pamene anali pafupi na nyumba, Nozibele anaika kwanja yake pakhosi. Anaiwala ndendele mwina mkanda wovala pakhosi. Anapempha anzace kuti abwelele kumtsinje kukatenga ndendele. Koma anzace anati kwafipa kwambiri.

. . .

When they were nearly home, Nozibele put her hand to her neck. She had forgotten her necklace! "Please come back with me!" she begged her friends. But her friends said it was too late.

Nozibele anabwelera kumtsinje okha. Anaipeza ndendele nathamangila kunyumba koma anasowa mumudima.

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So Nozibele went back to the river alone. She found her necklace and hurried home. But she got lost in the dark. Kuyangana patali, anaona ungwelu ucokela pakanyumba kang'ono. Anathamangilako nagogoda pacitseka.

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In the distance she saw light coming from a hut. She hurried towards it and knocked at the door.

Anadabwa kuona galu isegula citseko ndiponso inati, "Ufuna cani?" "Ndasowa ndifunako malo kogona" anatelo Nozibele. "Ngena, ngati sungena nizakuluma" Inatelo galu. Nozibele anangena.

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To her surprise, a dog opened the door and said, "What do you want?" "I'm lost and I need a place to sleep," said Nozibele. "Come in, or I'll bite you!" said the dog. So Nozibele went in.

Galu inati, "Ndiphikile" "Sininaphikilepo galu mu umoyo wanga" anatelo Nozibele. "Phika, ngati suphika nizakuluma" Inatelo galu. Nozibele anaphika zakudya zagalu.

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Then the dog said, "Cook for me!" "But I've never cooked for a dog before," she answered. "Cook, or I'll bite you!" said the dog. So Nozibele cooked some food for the dog.

Galu inati, "Ndikonzele pogona" Nozibele anati, "Sindinakonzelepo galu pogona mu umoyo wanga" "Ndikonzele pogona, ngati sundikonzela ndizakuluma" Inatelo galu. Nozibele anakonza pogona galu.

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Then the dog said, "Make the bed for me!" Nozibele answered, "I've never made a bed for a dog." "Make the bed, or I'll bite you!" the dog said. So Nozibele made the bed.

Masiku yonse, anali kuphikira, kupyangila ndi kuwashila galu. Tsiku lina galu anati, Nozibele, ndizayendera anzanga. Pyanga munyuba, phika zakudya, ndiponso undiwashile zinthu zanga ndikalibe kubwelera.

. . .

Every day she had to cook and sweep and wash for the dog. Then one day the dog said, "Nozibele, today I have to visit some friends. Sweep the house, cook the food and wash my things before I come back." Pamane galu inacoka cabe, Nozibele anacosa sisi litatu kucoka kumutu wake. Anaika sisi limodzi pansi pa bedi, yimodzi kumbuyo kwa citseko ndi ina mosungila ng'ombe. Ndiponso iye anathamangila kunyumba mwansanga.

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As soon as the dog had gone, Nozibele took three hairs from her head. She put one hair under the bed, one behind the door, and one in the kraal. Then she ran home as fast as she could.

Pamene Galu inabwelera, inasakila Nozibele. "Nozibele ulikuti?" Anapunda galu. "Nilikuno kunyansi kwa bedi" Sisi loyamba linayankha. "Nilikuno kumbuyo kwa citseko" Sisi laciwiri linayankha. "Nilikuno kosungila ng'ombe" Sisi lacitatu linayankha.

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When the dog came back, he looked for Nozibele. "Nozibele, where are you?" he shouted. "I'm here, under the bed," said the first hair. "I'm here, behind the door," said the second hair. "I'm here, in the kraal," said the third hair.

Gulu inaziwa kuti Nozibele athawa. Gala anathamanga kuyenda kumunzi kwa Nozibele. Koma abale a Nozibele anali kuyembekeza ndi tumitengo tukulutukulu. Galu inabwelela nakuthawa ndiponso ikalibe kuonekelanso kucoka paja.

. . .

Then the dog knew that Nozibele had tricked him. So he ran and ran all the way to the village. But Nozibele's brothers were waiting there with big sticks. The dog turned and ran away and has never been seen since.



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