

瑪哥威

Magozwe

 Lesley Koyi

 Wiehan de Jager

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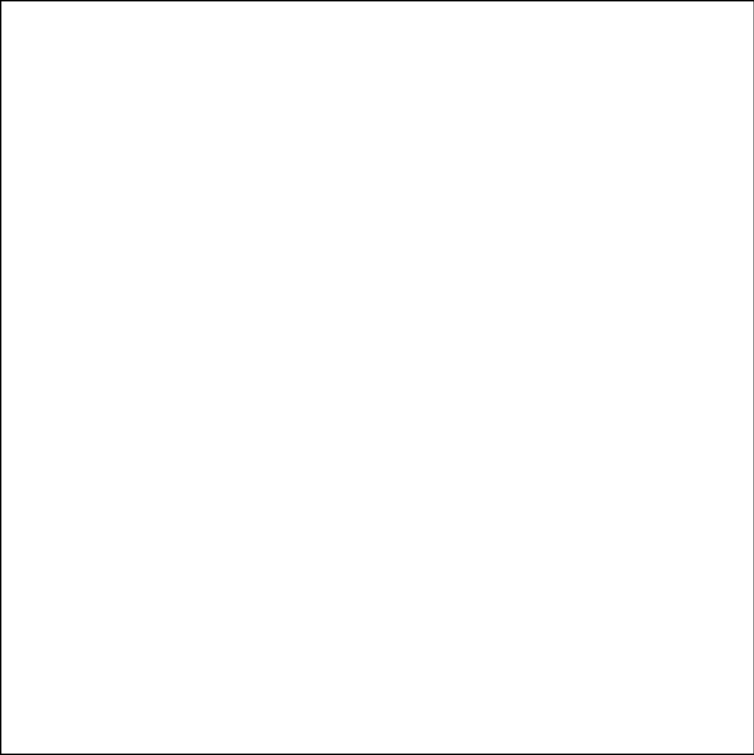
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內羅比係個繁忙嘅城市，嗰度有班流浪街頭嘅男仔，佢哋日復一日嘍過日子，從來都唔知道乜嘢叫做舒適安逸嘅生活。一日朝頭早，班男仔喺凍冰冰嘅行人路上面瞓醒，摺埋佢哋攤嚟瞓街嘅氈仔。天氣太凍喇，為咗驅寒，佢哋就要用執返嚟嘅垃圾點著堆火。喺呢班男仔裡面，年紀最細嗰個叫做瑪哥威。

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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.



瑪哥威嘅爹咁媽咪過身嘅時候，佢只得五歲咋，之後佢就搬去同佢阿叔一齊住。佢阿叔從來都有關心過瑪哥威。瑪哥威喺叔叔屋企度捱飢抵冷，仲要做好多粗重嘢添。

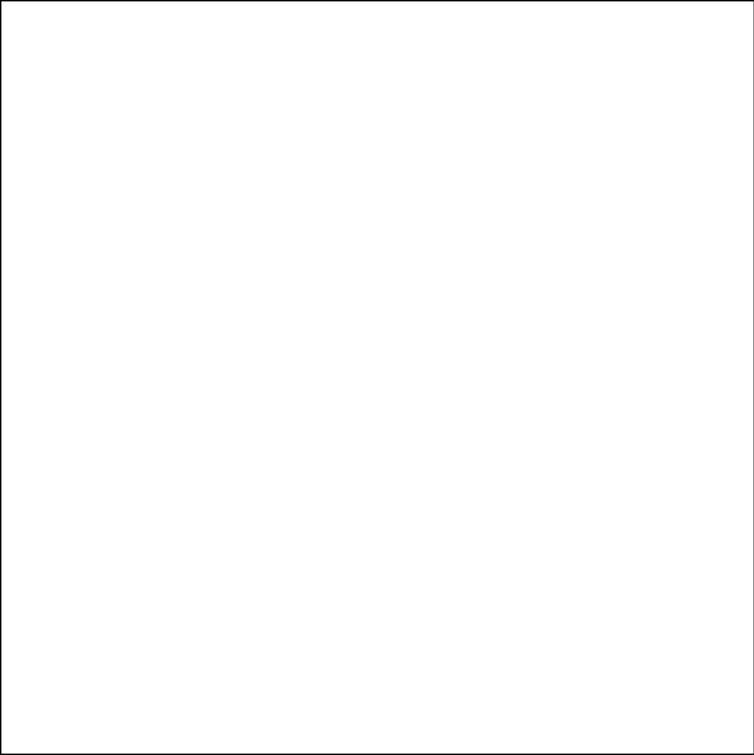
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When Magozwe's parents died, he was only five years old. He went to live with his uncle. This man did not care about the child. He did not give Magozwe enough food. He made the boy do a lot of hard work.

一旦瑪哥威有少少抱怨，阿叔就會打佢。有一次，瑪哥威問吓阿叔可唔可以去返學，佢阿叔就好兇狠嘍打佢，仲話：「你咁蠢，讀幾多書都有用啦！」瑪哥威過咗三年嘅辛苦日子，卒之離家出走，無家可歸。

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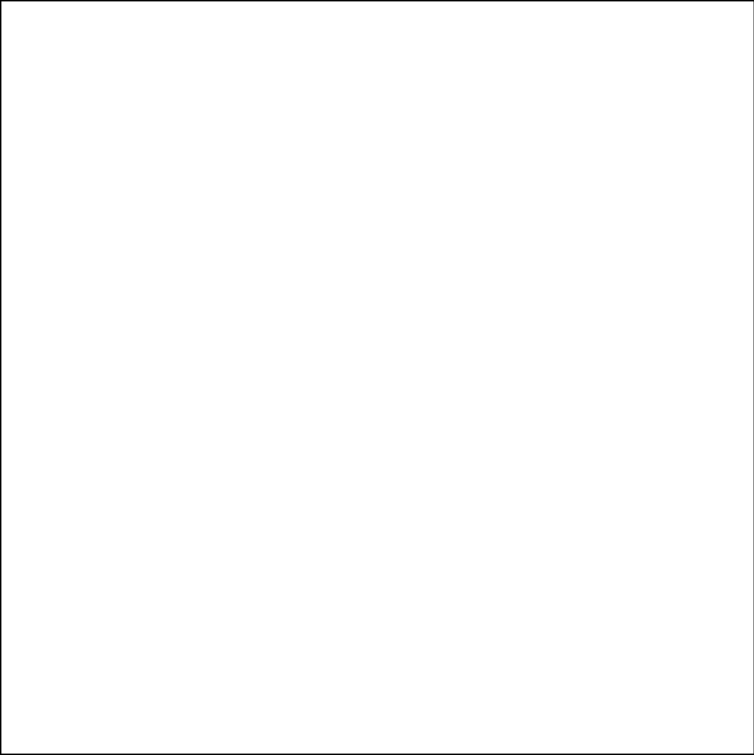
If Magozwe complained or questioned, his uncle beat him. When Magozwe asked if he could go to school, his uncle beat him and said, "You're too stupid to learn anything." After three years of this treatment Magozwe ran away from his uncle. He started living on the street.



流浪生活非常之艱難，每日班男仔好勉強先至可以搵到一餐晏仔。佢哋有時要俾差佬拉，有時又要捱打。當佢哋病嘅時候，仲冇人會照顧佢哋添。班男仔唯有靠揸兜乞食得返嚟嘅少少錢過活，有時亦都會賣啲膠品同舊嘢賺返少少錢。有時第二啲流浪漢會嚟撩交打，爭地頭，生活就更加辛苦。

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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.



有一日，瑪哥威正喺度抄緊垃圾桶，佢搵到本甩皮甩骨嘅故仔書，就吹走咗書上面嘅塵，放入佢嘅袋度。以後每日得閒嘅時候，佢都會攤本書出嚟睇圖畫，只可惜佢睇唔明上面嘅文字。

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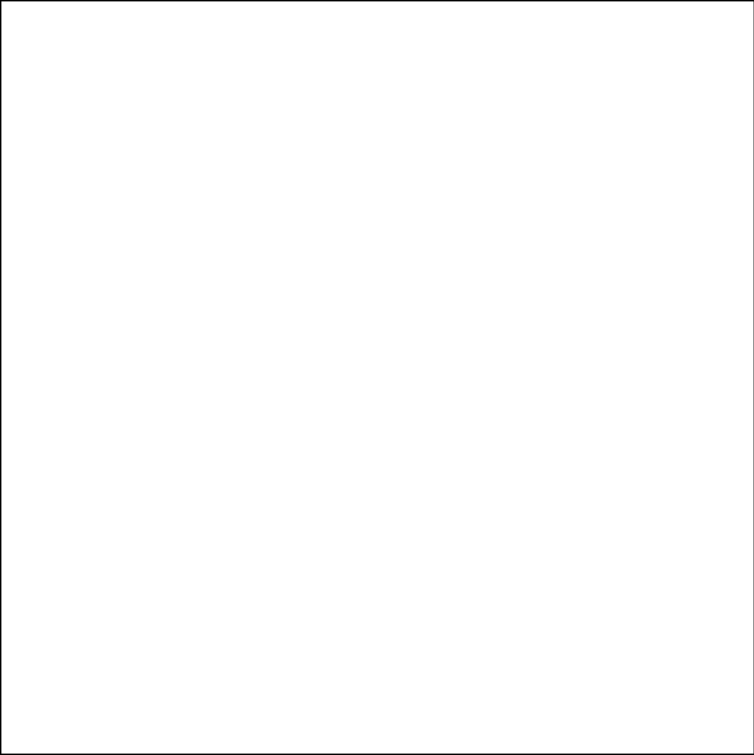
One day while Magozwe was looking through the dustbins, he found an old tattered storybook. He cleaned the dirt from it and put it in his sack. Every day after that he would take out the book and look at the pictures. He did not know how to read the words.



啲圖畫講嘅係一個男仔大個成為飛機師嘅故仔。瑪哥威有時會發白日夢想象自己都成為飛機師。有時，佢仲會想象自己就係故仔入面嘅男仔。

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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.



有一日，天氣好凍，瑪哥威企喺街頭乞食。一個男人走過嚟，同佢打招呼，就話：「你好，我叫湯瑪斯。我喺呢度左近打工，你得閒可以去嗰便擺啲嘢食。」佢指住間藍頂黃牆嘅大屋，「我希望你唔會嫌棄，去嗰便擺啲嘢食啦！」瑪哥威睇吓個男人，又睇吓間屋，就話：「或者啦！」然之後佢就走開咗嘞。

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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.

跟住落嚟嘅幾個月，班流浪男仔慢慢識咗湯瑪斯。佢好鍾意同人傾偈，特別係啲無家可歸嘅人。湯瑪斯會聽人哋講自己嘅經歷。佢雖然睇落去好嚴肅，但係非常之有耐心、有禮貌，尊重他人。班男仔開始每逢中午就去藍頂黃牆屋度搵嘢食。

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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.

有日，瑪哥威正坐喺行人路上面睇故仔書，湯瑪斯就坐低喺隔離。湯瑪斯問佢：「呢本書講咩嘢故仔呢？」瑪哥威答佢就話：「係一個男仔成為飛機師嘅故仔。」湯瑪斯又問佢：「男仔叫咩嘢名呢？」瑪哥威好細聲噉就話：「我唔知呀，我都唔識字。」

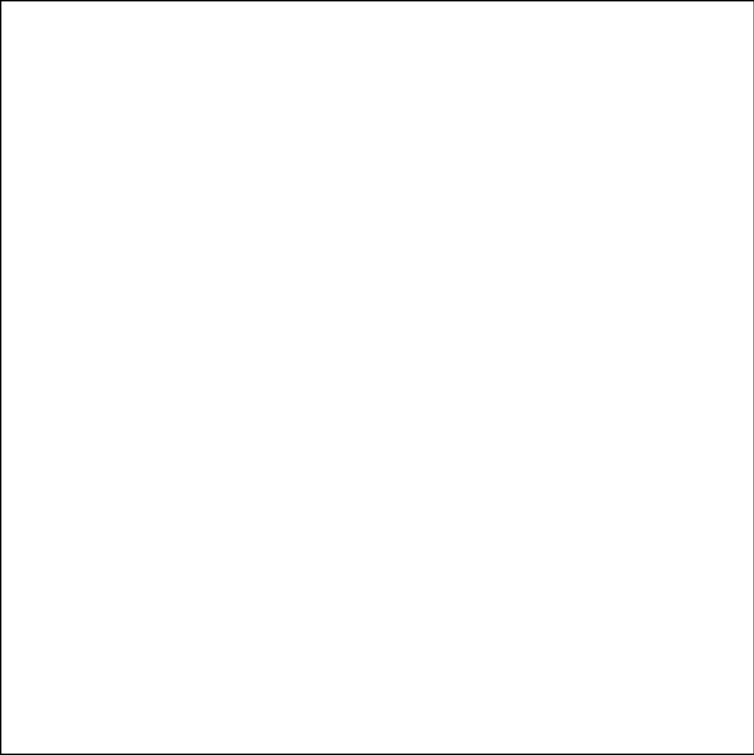
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Magozwe was sitting on the pavement looking at his picture book when Thomas sat down next to him. "What is the story about?" asked Thomas. "It's about a boy who becomes a pilot," replied Magozwe. "What's the boy's name?" asked Thomas. "I don't know, I can't read," said Magozwe quietly.

當佢哋再次見面嘅時候，瑪哥威開始同湯瑪斯講自己嘅經歷，佢叔叔係點樣對待佢，佢又係點樣逃離佢叔叔屋企。湯瑪斯乜都有講，亦都有講瑪哥威應該點做，但係佢成日都會好留心噏樣聽佢講嘢。有時佢哋會一路喺藍頂黃牆屋度食嘢，一路傾吓偈。

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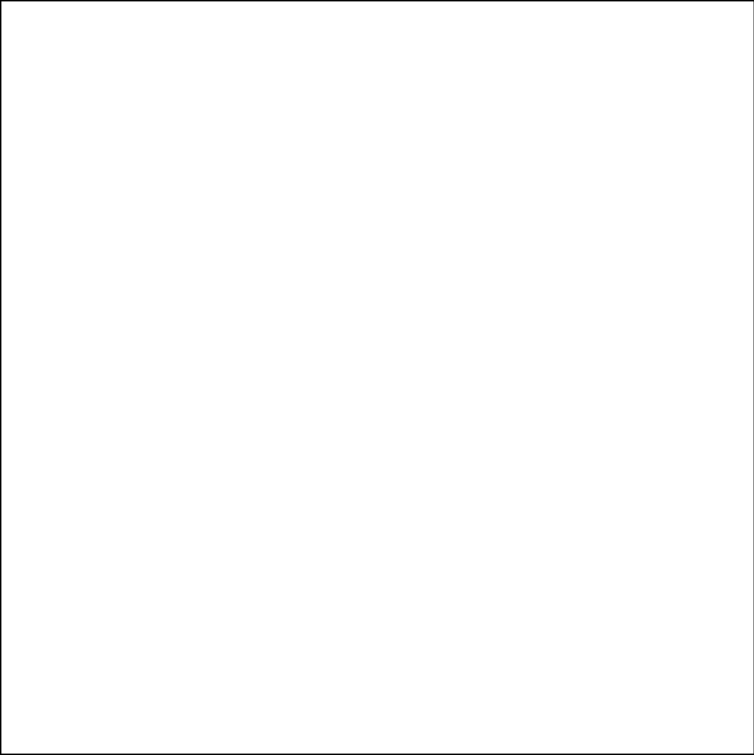
When they met, Magozwe began to tell his own story to Thomas. It was the story of his uncle and why he ran away. Thomas didn't talk a lot, and he didn't tell Magozwe what to do, but he always listened carefully. Sometimes they would talk while they ate at the house with the blue roof.



瑪哥威十歲生日嗰陣時，湯瑪斯送咗本新故仔書俾佢，書入面係講一個鄉下男仔成為足球員嘅故仔。湯瑪斯講過好多次呢個故仔俾瑪哥威聽。有一日，湯瑪斯就話：「我覺得你應該去返學，去識字。你覺得呢？」湯瑪斯就話佢知道一個地方，可以俾細蚊仔住喺嗰便返學。

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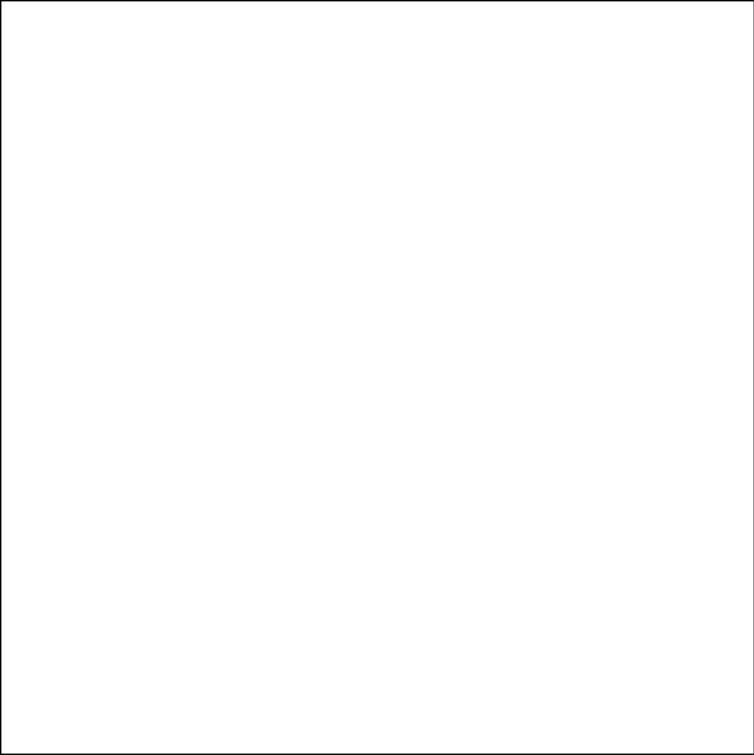
Around Magozwe's tenth birthday, Thomas gave him a new storybook. It was a story about a village boy who grew up to be a famous soccer player. Thomas read that story to Magozwe many times, until one day he said, "I think it's time you went to school and learned to read. What do you think?" Thomas explained that he knew of a place where children could stay, and go to school.



瑪哥威諗諗吓去新地方生活，返學。但係，如果佢阿叔講得啱呢，如果佢真係蠢到學乜都冇用嘅話點算呀？如果喺新地方，佢又要捱打嘅話點算呀？佢有少少驚，心諗：「可能我整定要瞓街㗎。」

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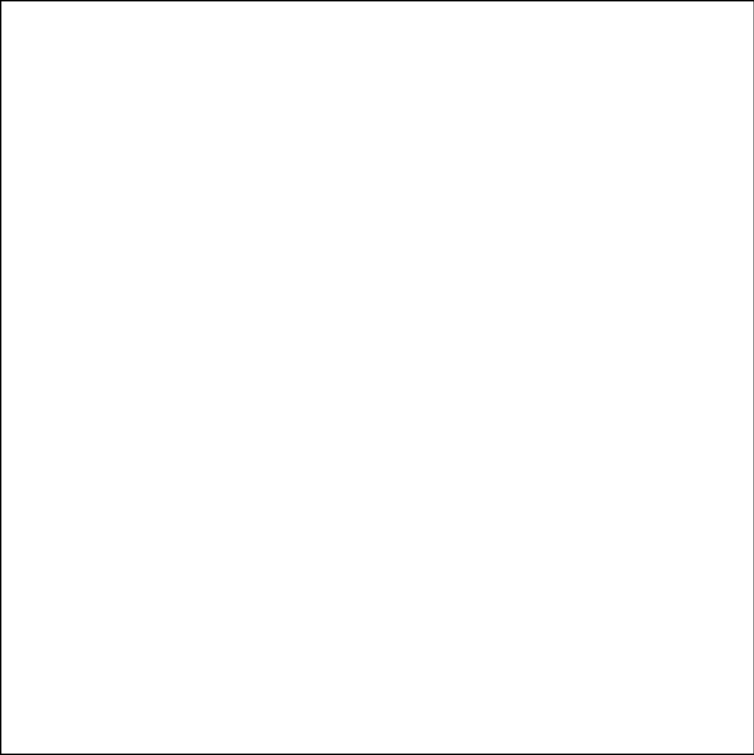
Magozwe thought about this new place, and about going to school. What if his uncle was right and he was too stupid to learn anything? What if they beat him at this new place? He was afraid. "Maybe it is better to stay living on the street," he thought.



佢將自己嘅諗法話俾咗湯瑪斯聽。湯瑪斯對佢循循善誘，終於說服咗佢，喺新地方生活一定會更加好。

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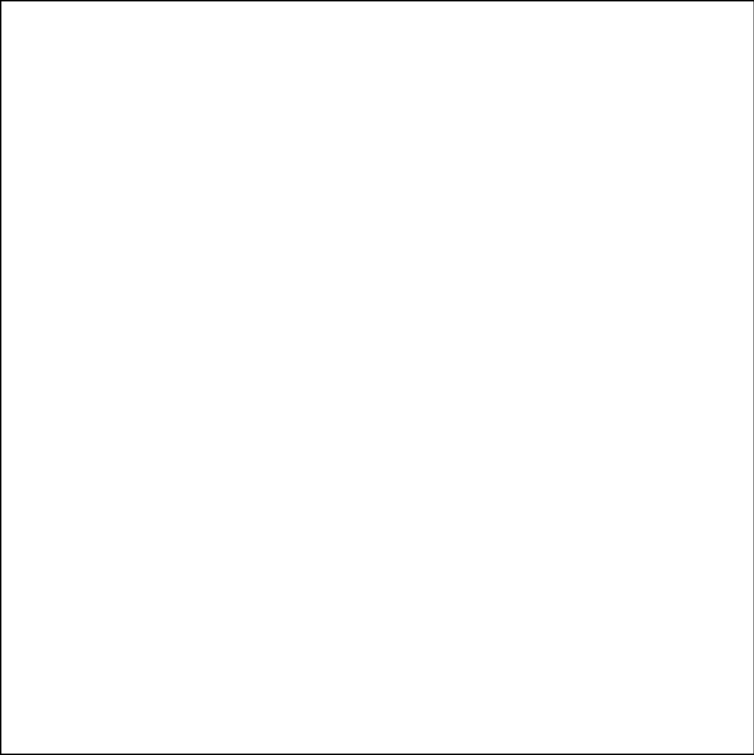
He shared his fears with Thomas. Over time the man reassured the boy that life could be better at the new place.



瑪哥威搬到咗新屋企，新屋企嘅屋頂係綠色嘅。佢同兩個男仔住埋同一間房。間屋入面一共仲有十個細蚊仔。同佢哋一齊住嘅係思思阿姨同佢老公，仲有三隻狗，一隻貓，一隻老山羊。

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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.



瑪哥威開始讀書，佢遇到唔少困難，好難先趕上班同學，有時佢幾乎想要放棄。但係佢每次諗返故仔書入面嘅飛機師同足球員，佢都會堅持落嚟，就好似佢哋一樣。

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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.

有一日，瑪哥威正喺間藍頂屋後院度睇緊書，湯瑪斯就嚟到坐喺隔離。湯瑪斯問佢：「呢本書講咩嘢故仔呢？」瑪哥威答佢就話：「係一個男仔成為老師嘅故仔。」湯瑪斯又問佢：「個男仔叫咩嘢名呢？」瑪哥威笑笑口噉話：「佢叫瑪哥威。」

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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.



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 Wiehan de Jager

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