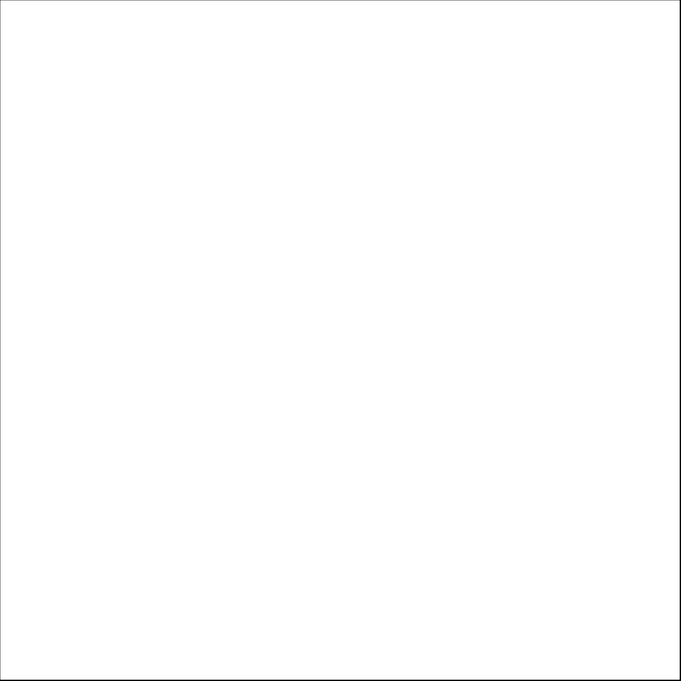


UMagozwe



✎ Lesley Koyi
✉ Wiehan de Jager
✉ Margaret Nokuthula Zondi
|| 5
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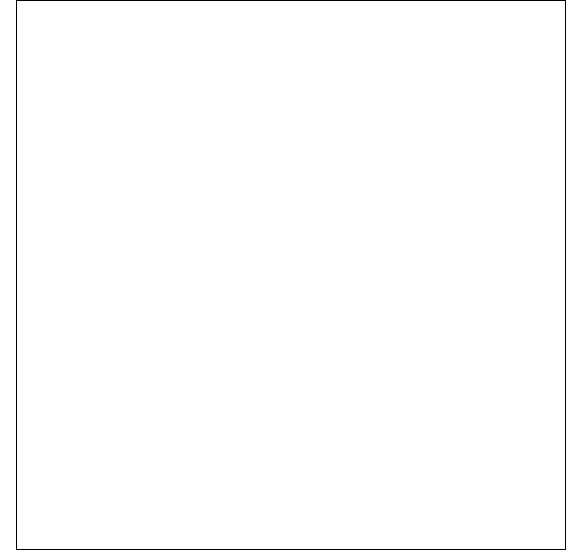
Edolobheni elinyamfukayo iNairobi, kude
le nempilo yekhaya enokunakekela,
kwakuhlala iqembu labafana
abangenamakhaya. Kubona usuku
lwalufana nolunye. Ekuseni ngelinye ilanga
abafana babeqoqa amacansi abo kade
belele onqenqemeni olubandayo
lomgwaqo. Babasa umlilo ngemfucuza
ukuze baxoshe amakhaza. Phakathi kwaleli
qembu kwakunomncane kubo bonke
uMagozwe.



Wayeneminyaka emihlanu kuphela, khathi!
abazali bakhe beshona.Waya kohlala
nomalume wakhe. Indoda le ayizange
iyinakelele ingane. Wayemncisha ukudla.
Wayemnzisa umsebenzi omingi
olukhuni.

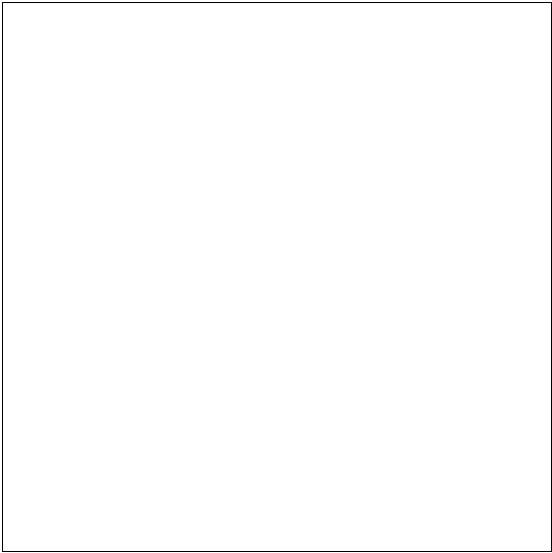


Uma ngabe uMagozwe ekhononda noma efuna incazelo, umalume wakhe wayemshaya. Uma uMagozwe ebuza ukuthi angaya yini esikoleni, umalume wayemshaya athi, “Uyisiduphunga kakhulu ukuthi kukhona ongakufunda.” Emva kweminyaka emithathu yokuphatheka kabi, uMagozwe wabaleka kwamalume wakhe. Waqala ukuhlala ezitaladini.

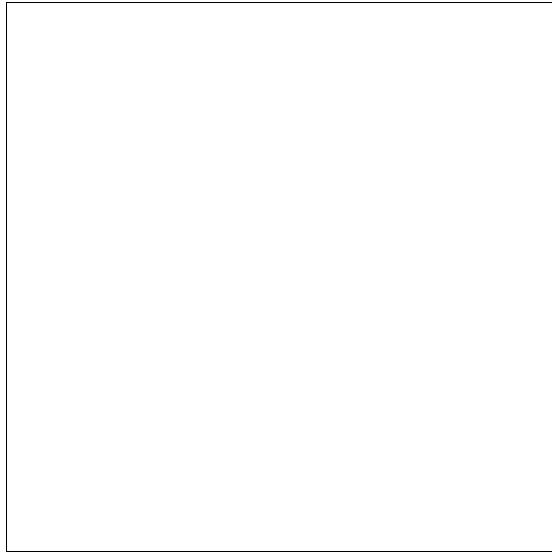


UMagozwe wayehleli egcekeni lendlu eyayinophahla oluluhlaza, efunda incwadi yezindaba yesikole. UThomas wafika wahlala eduze kwakhe. “Imayelana nani le ndaba?” kubuza uThomas. “Imayelana nomfana owaba uthisha,” kuphendula uMagozwe. “Ubani igama lakhe?” kubuza uThomas “Igama lakhe uMagozwe,” kusho uMagozwe emamatheka.

kwakunzima ukuhlala ezitaladini kanti
 abafana babezabalaza nsukuzonke
 ukuthola ngisho ukudla. Kokunye
 babeboshwa, bashaywe.
 kwakungenamuntu wokubanakakelela uma
 begula. Leli qembu lalisimamiswa
 imadlana elaliyithola uma liyicela
 kwabedlulayo, noma uma lithengisa
 ocwazi nokunye okungabuye
 kusebenziseke. Impilo yayibanzima
 kakhulu ngenxa yezimpi namanye
 amaqembu abangayo ayefuna ukuphatha
 izindawo ezithile edolobheni.

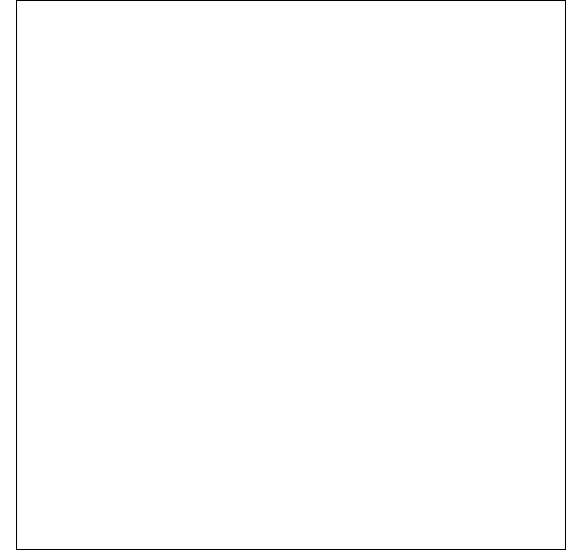


UMagozwe wasigala isikole kwabalukhuni.
 Kwakukuningi okwakufanele akwazi ukuze
 aficane nabanye. Kwakukkekuthi akayeke.
 Kodwa wayecabanga ngomqhubi wendiza
 nomdali webhola ezincwadini zakhe.

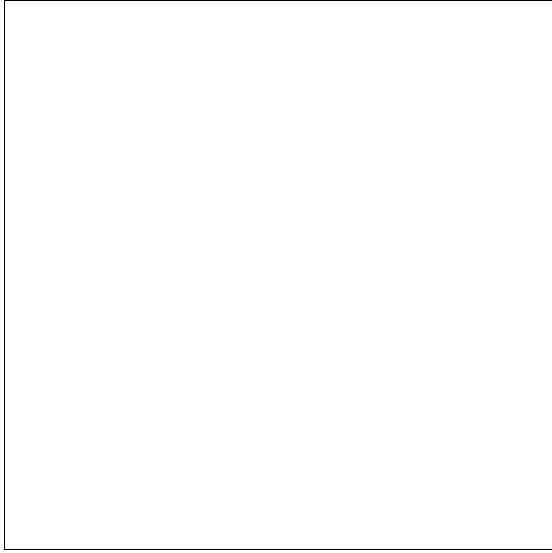




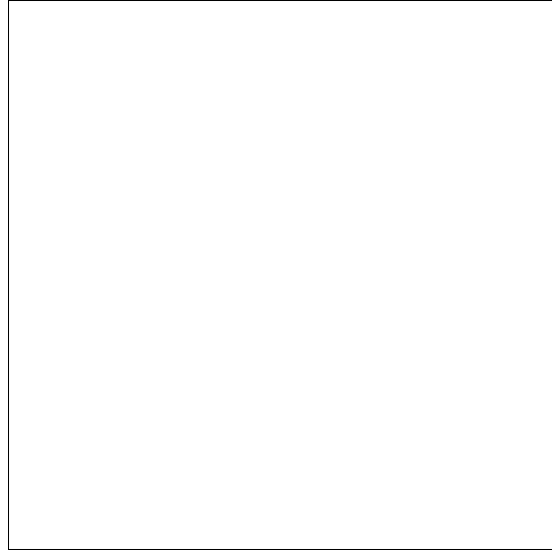
Ngelinye ilanga uMagozwe ecinga emgqonyeni kadoti, wathola incwadi endala negugile. Wayithintitha eyisusa ukungcola waseyifaka esikhwameni sakhe. Nsukuzonke emva kwalokhu wayeyikhipha incwadi abuke izithombe. Wayengakakwazi ukufunda amagama.



Kanjalo uMagozwe wathuthela ekameleni endlini eyayinophahla oluluhlaza njengotshani. Wayehlala nabanye abafana babili. Sebebonke ababehlala endlini kwakuyizingane eyishumi. Kanye noAnti Cissy, nomyeni wakhe, izinja ezintathu, ikati nembuzi endala.



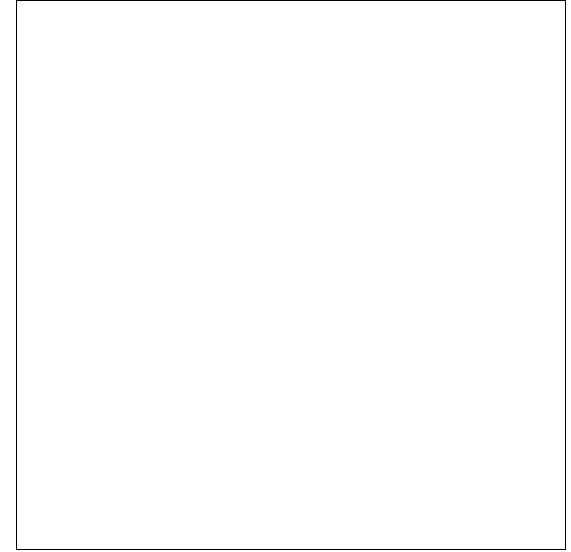
Izithombe zazixoxa indaba yomfana
owakhula waba umqhubi wezindiza.
UMagozwe wayehlala ephupha ngokuba
umqhubi wezindiza. Kokunye, wayezibona
eyilo mfana okuxoxwa ngaye endabeni.



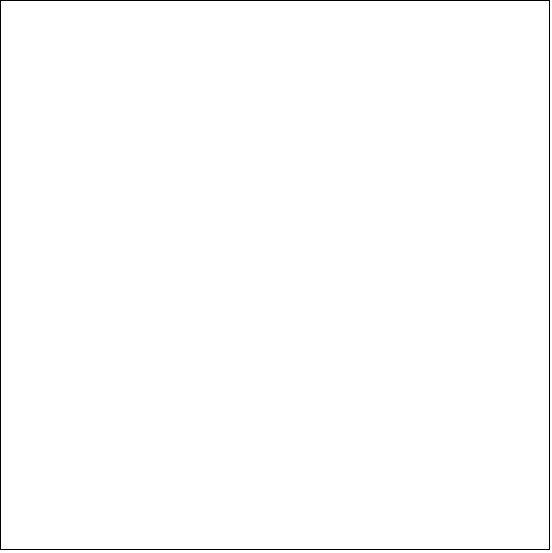
Wacbelela uThomas ngovalo analo.
Kaningi emmisa isibindi ukuthi impilo
yake ingabangcono.



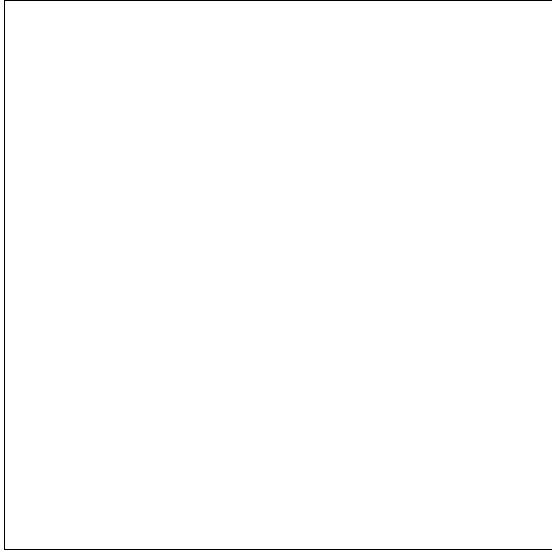
Kwakumakhaza uMagozwe emi emgwaqeni ecela imali. Kwafika indoda eyathi kuye, "Sawubona, nginguThomas. Ngisebenza eduze kwalapha, endaweni ongathola khona ukudla," Yakhomba indlu ephuzi enophahla oluluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka. "Ngethemba uzoya khona uzothola ukudla?" kubuza indoda. UMagozwe wayibuka indoda, wabuka nendlu wasethi, "Mhlawumbe." Wasuka wahamba.



UMagozwe wacabanga ngale ndawo entsha, nangokuya esikoleni. Kunganjani uma ngabe umalume wakhe wayeqinisile lapho ethi uyisiduphunga engeke sifunde lutho? Kwakuyothi wani uma eshaywa lapho? Wayesaba. "Mhlawumbe kungcono ngiqhubeke nokuhlala esitaladini," ecabanga.



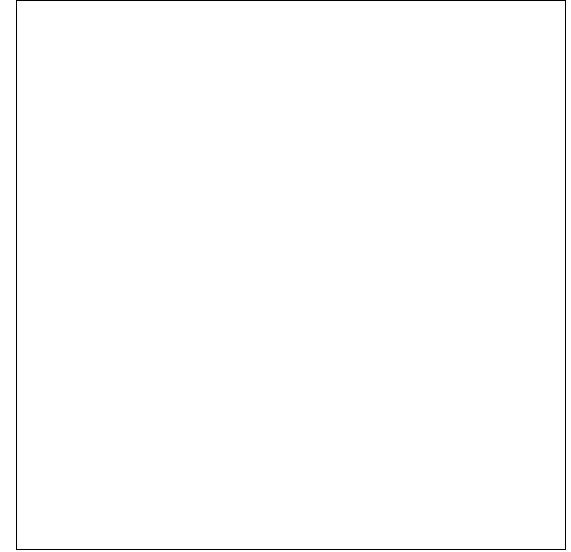
Eziyangeni eziningi ezilandelayo, abafana abangenamakhaya baze bajwayela ukubona uThomas endaweni. Wayethanda ukukhuluma nabantu, ikakhulu abahlala ezitaladini. UThomas wayelalela izindaba ngezimpilo zabantu. Wayezimisela enesineke futhi, wayengakaze abeluhlaza futhi engenayo indlelo. Abanye abafana baqala ukuya endlini ephuzi nokuluhlaza beyothola ukudla emini.



UMagozwe esezohlenganisa iminyaka eyishumi, uThomas wamupha enye incwadi. Kwakuyindaba yomfana wasedlobheni elincane owakhula waba umdlali webhola odumile. UThomas wafundela uMagozwe le ndaba izikhathi eziningi, kwaze kwathi ngelinye ilanga wathi, "Ngibona ukuthi sekuyisikhathi sokuthi uye esikoleni ufunde ukuzifundela. Ubona kanjani?" UThomas wachaza ukuthi kukhona indawo ayaziyo lapho izingane zingahala khona, futhi zifunde.



UMagozwe wayehlezi onqenqemeni lomgwaqo ebuka izithombe encwadini yakhe lapho uThomas efika ehlala eduze kwakhe. “Imayelana nani le ndaba?” kubuza uThomas “Imayelana nomfana obangumqhubi wezindiza,” kuphendula uMagozwe. “Ubani igama lomfana?” kubuza uThomas. “Angazi, angikwazi ukufunda,” kusho uMagozwe kancane.



Kwathi lapho behlangana futhi uMagozwe waqala ukuxoxela uThomas indaba yakhe. Kwakuyindaba kamalume wakhe nesizathu sokubaleka kwakhe. UThomas kazange akhulume kakhulu futhi kazange atshele uMagozwe ukuthi akenzenjani, wayegcina ngokulalela ngokucophelela. Kokunye babexoxa lapho bedla endlini enophahla oluluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka.